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PM Sheikh Hasina resigns and leaves Bangladesh

Simmi Kaur Babbar

Dhaka, August 5: With Bangladesh descending into chaos, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina surreptitiously fled the country for London in a military aircraft on Monday and the Army stepped in to fill the power vacuum...

amid feverish speculation about where Hasina was headed. 'I'm taking all responsibility (of the country). Please cooperate,' Zaman added, signalling the end of Hasina's 15-year power run.

Air Force. She is likely to meet her daughter Saima Wazed, who is based in Delhi and working as the WHO's regional director for South-East Asia.



Back home in Dhaka, restive crowds, their protests giving way to jubilation that the Hasina rule had ended, swarmed the airport and even spilled into the runway.

The Bangladesh memorial museum - dedicated to Mujibur Rahman who was assassinated along with his wife and their three sons while serving as President in 1975 - was also vandalised.

Mamata Banerjee urges all to maintain peace in West Bengal, avoid provocation

ST Correspondent

Kolkata, August 5: Amid the ongoing unrest in neighbouring Bangladesh, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday appealed to the people of the state to maintain peace and avoid provocation.



the Ministry of External Affairs to respond. 'I would appeal to all citizens of West Bengal to maintain peace and avoid all forms of provocation,' Banerjee told reporters at the West Bengal assembly.

Two Arunachal Pradesh men missing for 2 years

New Delhi, August 5: Two men from Arunachal Pradesh, missing for nearly two years after they disappeared from a remote area along the India-China border, are believed to be in the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) custody but the Chinese military has not confirmed their presence.

Haryana Cabinet okays policy to provide job Agniveers

Navdeep Singh Sahni

New Delhi, Aug 5: Haryana Cabinet okays policy to provide job, entrepreneurship opportunities to ex-Agniveers Chandigarh, The Haryana Cabinet approved a policy aimed at providing employment and entrepreneurship opportunities to Agniveers after completion of their service in the armed forces.

Agnipath recruitment scheme for short-term induction of personnel in the Army, Navy and Air Force. The policy also offers a five per cent horizontal reservation for Group C posts and a one per cent horizontal



reservation for Group B posts in line with Agniveers' skill specializations, Saini said. Last month, the BJP government in Haryana made announcements about providing employment to former Agniveers. Oh

fish! Maharashtra marine production slips to 5th place Hindustan Times Kangana Ranaut calls Rahul Gandhi 'pasta with kadi patta tadka' amid his caste row with Anurag Thakur Hindustan Times Manish Sisodia entitled to seek bail in CBI, ED cases: Supreme Court Hindustan Times Multiple demands for division of north Bengal gives TMC a new handle against BJP Hindustan Times 'If there were no Muslims in India, BJP would not have opened its account: Congress MP in Lok Sabha Hindustan Times Morning briefing: PM Modi meets Manipur CM after 18 months; Kharge to pick new Bengal leader for Congress, and more Hindustan Times Pujya Khedkar obtains disability certificate despite physiotherapist's 'no' Hindustan Times 'Aajkal Mahabharat sunane ka...': Om Birla on MP's reference in Lok Sabha Hindustan Times In Group C and D posts, the government had announced a three-year relaxation in the upper age limit for such candidates. However, this age relaxation would be five years for the first batch of Agniveers.

Wayanad's 'super hero' rescuer, who risked his life to save many, now 'missing'

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

Wayanad (Kerala), August 5: Local lad Prajeesh drove his jeep up through the treacherous hill path twice and returned with many hapless people who were stranded atop after the deadly landslides hit Wayanad's high-range Mundakkai last week. Just before he could move to safety came a phone call for a third 'mission,' but the ever popular localite is now missing, his damaged jeep seen at Chooralmala, leading to both fears of the worst and hopes for good news.

astating landslides broke out in the hamlets here in the wee hours of July 30. With heavy heart and teary eyes, the people of Chooralmala village now call him their 'super hero.'

hill twice at his own risk and came back with many individuals who were stranded there. 'After that, he was about to shift to a safer place with his family members. Suddenly, he got another phone call, following which he again drove up the hill...but this time, he did not return,' he said.



Chooralmala, Prajeesh was already popular among the villagers for his ever-ready-to-help anyone attitude, local people said. A villager said that after hearing about the first series of landslides that hit Mundakkai hamlet, Prajeesh drove up the

helped me also a lot, especially during the marriage of my daughter,' he said. Prajeesh's friends said they warned him not to go to the hill when he began his journey for the third time. But he didn't heed them, saying there were more peo-

ple trapped in Mundakkai and that he wanted to save them. 'Prajeesh was the super hero of our land...But we have lost him now,' an emotional villager said.

NIA conducts spot inspection along with two accused

Bengaluru, August 5: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday brought two accused arrested in the Rameshwaram Cafe blast to the spot for inspection as part of its investigation into the incident that occurred on March 1, police sources said.

Supreme Court seeks quantifiable data on social, economic backwardness, inadequacy of representation in public

Sanjay Kumar

New Delhi, August 5: The Supreme Court on Monday asked the West Bengal government to furnish quantifiable data on social and economic backwardness, and inadequacy of representation in public employment of the castes included by it in the OBC list for extending reservation benefits.

of any of the 77 communities designated as OBCs; and if any consultation was done by the state for the sub-classification of the OBCs. The Calcutta High Court had on May 22 quashed the OBC status of several castes in West Bengal granted since 2010, declaring the reservation given to them in services and posts in the state as illegal.



Backward Classes (other than SCs and STs) (Reservation of Vacancies in Services and Posts) Act, 2012. 'Religion indeed appears to have been the sole criterion' for declaring these communities

before the Calcutta High Court over the inclusion of 77 castes, mostly Muslims, in the OBC list. It also issued notice on the West Bengal government's application seeking to stay the high court's verdict. The Bench - which also included Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra - directed the West Bengal government to file an affidavit explaining the process followed for classification of 77 castes as OBCs.

as OBCs, the high court had said. However, the high court had clarified that the services of citizens of the struck-down classes, who were already in service or had availed the benefit of reservation or had succeeded in any selection process of the state, will not be affected by the order. The high court had directed that the state's executive orders classifying several other classes as OBCs from March 5, 2010, to May 11, 2012, were also quashed, in view of the illegality of the reports recommending such classification. The directions will be given prospective effect, it clarified.

PM Modi terms abrogation of Article 370 'watershed' moment

Naresh Malhotra

New Delhi, August 5: On completion of five years of the abrogation of Article 370, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday described the step as a watershed moment in the nation's history that started a new era of progress in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. The principal opposition Congress criticised the BJP's policy for the region, saying it neither respects 'Kashmiriyat' nor upholds 'Jamhuriyat'.

security, dignity and opportunity for the women, youth, backward, tribal and marginalised communities who were deprived of the fruits of development. At the same time, it has ensured that corruption, which plagued Jammu and Kashmir for decades, has been kept at bay,' the Prime Minister said. The Modi government had on this day in 2019 annulled Article 370 and Jammu and Kashmir state was also bifurcated into two Union territories. The government also scrapped Article 35A which was conceived exclusively for the 'benefit' of Jammu and Kashmir through a Presidential order issued in 1954. It empowered the Jammu and Kashmir legislature to define the erstwhile state's 'permanent residents' and their special rights and privileges. Home Minister Shah said the abrogation of Article 370 ushered in a new era of empowerment for the marginalised sections and strengthened grassroots democracy in the region. He said the

region's youth have driven socioeconomic growth and cultural revival, making the Narendra Modi government's efforts to



foster peace and comprehensive development a grand success. 'Today marks five years since the historic abrogation of Article 370 and 35A under PM Shri @narendramodi Ji's leadership. This transformative decision has ushered in a

new era of empowerment for marginalised sections and strengthened grassroots democracy in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh,' he wrote on X. Meanwhile, the Congress demanded that elections in Jammu and Kashmir must be held according to the Supreme Court-set deadline of September 30. Party chief and Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge claimed that reality is starkly different from what is claimed by BJP and the central government. 'BJP's policy on Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh neither respects 'Kashmiriyat' nor upholds 'Jamhuriyat' (democracy),' Kharge said in a post on X. 'The Modi government had claimed that this move would help to fully integrate Jammu and Kashmir, boost the economic development of the region and prevent terrorism and separatism.'

India suspends train services to Bangladesh indefinitely

New Delhi/Kolkata, August 5: All train services between India and Bangladesh have been suspended indefinitely, Railway officials said on Monday following unrest in the neighbouring country. According to the Railway Ministry, Maitri Express, Bandhan Express and Mitali Express operated their last trips in mid-July this year and have been cancelled since then due to violent protests in Bangladesh. Both Maitri Express and Bandhan Express were initially cancelled from July 19, 2024, to August 6, 2024, they said. However, due to the prevailing situation in Bangladesh, the cancellation has been extended indefinitely, the officials said. The service of Mitali Express also stands suspended indefinitely, according to the Indian Railways. Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Monday resigned and left the country while Army Chief General Waqar-uz-Zaman announced an interim government was taking over in dramatic developments amid massive violent protests there. 'Mitali Express, which runs between New Jalpaiguri-Dhaka, went to Dhaka on July 17, 2024, but it didn't return after that,' the Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of Kathar told. He added, 'The train has 10 coaches owned by Indian Railways but since these coaches were used in that particular train only, there is no inconvenience of any sort to us. The train's loco used to be changed at the border. So when it enters Bangladesh, they attach their own engine to the train replacing ours' Maitri runs between Dhaka and Kolkata while the bi-weekly Bandhan Express operates between Khulna and Kolkata.

Death threat letter: Armstrong's family receives police protection



CHENNAI. The Ayanavaram police have made security arrangements and deployed personnel at the Ayanavaram apartment where former BSP state chief K Armstrong's family resides at present. This comes after an unidentified person sent a death threat letter to one of Armstrong's houses in Sembium, which is now unoccupied. Police have registered a case and inquiry is under way. A police source said, "Police personnel have been stationed outside the apartment complex in Ayanavaram and outside the residence in Sembium." After Armstrong's death, his wife Porkodi was made the state coordinator of BSP, while advocate Anandhan was appointed as the party's state president. On July 5, Armstrong was hacked to death by a gang at Sembium.

Cage fish farmers gearing up to restart cultivation in Kochi

Likely to start mid-September; small-scale farmers have already begun process

KOCHI. May 20 was a black day for the cage fish farmers in the district as the sudden increase in the pollutants in Periyar river led to major fish deaths. It caused a loss of Rs 31.25 crore for cage fish farmers and Rs 10.6 crore for capture fisheries. Yet, the farmers have decided to give another go at cage fishing that once brought them dividends.

"However, we need to wait until mid-September to restart it," said Swapnalal, a cage fish farmer and member of the Cage Fish Farmers Association. According to him, cage fish farming will also act as a deterrent to the industries functioning on the banks of the river from dumping pollutants into the water body. "Once the farming restarts, these errant companies will have to think twice before resorting to any such moves," he added.

Gratus, owner of the Gratus Fish Farm who lost Rs 14 lakh worth of fish, says, "At present, it is not the right time to restart the farming. The turbidity of the river water plus the possibility of flooding due to heavy rain does not make it conducive to put the fishlings in cages." The time towards September-end is more suitable, he adds.

Gratus pointed out that some farmers doing the fish cultivation on a small scale have already begun the process. "Those who



have more cages will be doing so later when the climate and weather are more favourable," he says. As to what makes them go back to cage fish farming, Swapnalal says, "It has been a means of livelihood for many farmers. Also, the returns compared to the investment have been very good. For an investment of Rs 64,000, including the cost of the cages, fish fries and feed, a farmer receives returns of about Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 2 lakh. Moreover, the state

government gives good subsidies for cage fish farming."

They highlighted that, unlike any other farming, the farmer can control when to harvest and sell the produce in cage fish farming. "Even if the fish becomes bigger, we won't be at a loss. So we time the harvest to coincide with festival season and trawling ban," says Gratus. However, they said that the compensation promised by the state government for the loss is yet to materialise.

In a decade, Gujarat's rainfall up by 11%, Kutch-Saurashtra by 19%

AHMEDABAD. The monsoon of 2024 is marked by heavy to very heavy rain lashing parts of Saurashtra and Kutch with several cities and towns in Devbhoomi Dwarka, Porbandar, Junagadh and Kutch experiencing deluge for several days with more than 150 mm rains in a few hours. But it is indicative of the changing regional rainfall pattern with Saurashtra and Kutch - known for frequent droughts - recording 15% and 25% rise in average rainfall in a decade! Cumulatively, they have recorded 19% decadal rise compared to 11% for Gujarat.

An analysis of data by the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) under the Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA) from 2015 to 2024 indicates that the state has witnessed 11% rise in overall seasonal rainfall in a decade - from 797 mm in 2015 to 883 mm in 2024, report Parth Shastri & Himanshu Kaushik.

"Rain has become more intense, but erratic" The average seasonal rainfall is calculated based on a 30-year moving average. Thus, the rise in average rainfall is indicative of better rains in the past three decades, indicate Met department experts. The decadal rise for Kutch is 25% - from 387 mm to 485 mm - whereas for Saurashtra it is 15% - from 643 mm to 738 mm. In fact, these are the only two regions that have above the state average rise in rains as south Gujarat, the region with the most rainfall, has recorded 10% rise, north Gujarat 8%, and east-central Gujarat mere 4%. Ashok Kumar Das, head of IMD Gujarat, said that several studies have indicated a rising rainfall pattern for Saurashtra and Kutch over the past few decades. "This year's rainfall trend should be seen in context of multiple systems activated over the region with Devbhoomi Dwarka getting all-time high rains," he said.

Has the improved rainfall resulted in improved conditions on ground? Experts are divided. Prof DV Karu, principal and dean of the College of Horticulture at Junagadh Agriculture University (JAU), said that the rainfall has become more intense, but more erratic, too. "There is an uneven distribution of rain over the region and perhaps it may be premature for the farmers to understand the pattern. Farmers who had cultivated cotton in past years are sowing more groundnut due to excess rains. But the same is not seen for papaya or dates," he said. On the other hand, several farmers are taking three crops a year due to better availability of water. Arvind Patel, a farmer from Amreli, said that in the 1990s, it was one crop a year, which improved to two crops in the mid-2010s with better availability of water. "Water levels went down very quickly, and only those in the vicinity of rivers were able to get more crops. But now we are taking soybean and groundnut so that the field is ready for winter crops such as cumin and gram. It was not the case earlier," he said.

Forsaken for decades, Nerkundram burial ground in Chennai raises a grave concern

CHENNAI. For the past eight decades, the cremation ground alongside Cooum River, one of the two crematoriums in Nerkundram, has been functioning without basic amenities. While a single streetlight caters to the entire stretch, the narrow approach road is in poor shape and the ground has no compound wall. Barring a sheltered cremation platform, there is nothing to suggest that the crematorium is regularly used.

This ground on PH Road near Cooum has been a final resting place for departed souls since the time Nerkundram was controlled by a panchayat administration. Due to its poor condition, residents have to carry the bodies through a damaged approach road, navigating through droves of pigs. As a result, the number of people using the facility has been on a gradual decline. Hence, the residents have been demanding proper maintenance of the crematorium.

The alternative burial ground in Valliammai Nagar, located a kilometre away, also lacks a cremation platform for the last many years. The authorities had dismantled the platform as it was located

within a residential area. Further, 13 cents of the ground was handed over to the Chennai Metro Water and Sewerage Board for constructing a pumping station. So, without a crematorium platform, the ground is solely used for burials now

Since both areas lack a proper cremation platform and basic amenities, residents from areas near PH Road like Pallavan Nagar, Selliamman Kovil Street, and other areas are forced to depend on Virugambakkam or Arumbakkam burial grounds for most cremations, which are at least 4-5 km, said residents.

The gravedigger in charge of both the burial grounds said if the facility near the Cooum River is maintained properly with appropriate facilities, it would be a huge relief to the residents. M Hari Kumar (45), a resident, said, "Whenever it rains, the PH Road burial ground area gets inundated, making it difficult to walk



through. There is no water supply, and it also doesn't have a toilet or a compound wall. We need the civic body to take immediate action towards its maintenance."

Speaking to Ward 145 Councillor T Sathyathan stated, "I have raised this issue multiple times in council meetings.

Despite the PH Road burial ground being in use for decades, the civic body has not taken appropriate measures. While they are willing to provide water and toilet facilities for the Valliammai Nagar burial ground, which now has a proper compound wall, no action has been taken for the PH Road ground. After multiple requests to corporation officials, one streetlight was installed in the area. The poor road condition and other monsoon risks remain unaddressed."

A corporation official told TNIE that the land used for cremations along the Cooum appears to belong to the Water Resources Department. "We have written to the revenue department seeking some clarifications and will initiate action as soon as we get a response," the official said.

City doctor duped of 23L by fake police & CBI officers

Mumbai. Cyber fraudsters, posing as police and CBI officers extorted Rs 23 lakh from a city doctor by threatening to arrest him in a money laundering, drug trafficking, and identity theft case. The doctor, a consultant at a city hospital, who is in his early 70s, told the police he had received a WhatsApp call from a person "from the telecom department" who said illegal activities were done using his phone and the number would be disconnected in an hour. He then connected him to "a Delhi police officer" who told the doctor that a case was registered against him. The fake cop suggested that the doctor speak to a "CBI officer in police uniform" who made a video call, and asked the doctor that a "serious" case which he referred to as "Sandeep Kumar money laundering, drug trafficking and identity theft" was registered against him. The doctor was threatened with arrest. The accused, through WhatsApp sent him a letter on a

fake CBI letterhead about a 'confidentiality agreement'. The accused sent an acknowledgement letter to the complainant which had names of an IAS and two IPS officers. The accused asked the doctor to transfer Rs 23 lakh, to an account number. The accused told the doctor that his money would be returned once the judgment in the case was out. The accused were watching his activities through the video call, the complainant has told the police. He sent Rs 23 lakh to the account number given and later realised he had been cheated. A case of cheating, has been filed. Mumbai homemaker duped of Rs 2.1 lakh by fake doctor An Andheri homemaker, Shilpa Chaurasiya, was defrauded of Rs 2.1 lakhs by an alleged doctor, Dr Firoz Merchant, and his aides. They promised to treat her knee pain without surgery. The couple later found out that no such clinic existed and numerous

others were similarly deceived. Vile Parle police are investigating the matter. 112269250 Doctor who saved 97 lives amid shelling Colonel Rajesh W Adhau, awarded the Sena Medal, administered first aid to 97 soldiers during the Kargil War, ensuring their survival until they reached the hospital. His efforts saved many lives, including Captain Naven Nagappa. Currently, he shares his combat trauma management experience with UN peacekeeping missions in Congo, aiding global troops with advanced medical practices. 112175499 Wayanad landslide: Body of Odia doctor found, another doctor missing The body of Dr. Bishnu Prasad Chinara, one of the missing Odia doctors in the Wayanad landslide, was recovered. Efforts were ongoing to locate Dr. Swadhin Panda. The Odisha government sent a team to assist. Chinara's family was being supported, and search efforts continued for other missing individuals.



the project will be taken up under 'National Clean Air Programme' and funds received under the programme will be utilised for the initiative.

Bhubaneswar municipal corporation to create urban forests using Miyawaki technique



BHUBANESWAR. With the state capital grappling with loss of green cover, rising temperature and pollution, the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) has decided to take up projects to create mini urban forests using the Miyawaki method of plantation. The plantation method, pioneered in the 70s by Japanese botanist and expert in plant ecology Akira Miyawaki involves planting native trees, shrubs and ground cover plants within every square metre.

BMC mayor Sulochana Das said, "Given the constraints of open space in the city, this technique will help us plant more trees within small spaces and create

small urban forests. Land for the purpose has already been identified in all three zones of the city." Sources said three locations - BDA store area in Jharpada, open space near Chitrukut Ashram and Sundarpada Haja - in southeast zone; four locations - Kalarahanga crematorium field, ODM field, Gadakana Sakti Vihar and Palasuni MCC, in north zone; and six locations including OJEE campus, Mahabir playground, K6A Laxmipuja ground, Nayapali Haja, Kalinga Studio Square and Dumduma Village football playground in southwest zone have been identified for the purpose.

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NEWS BOX

Gurgaon: Air you breathed overshoot annual pollution 'quota' in Jan itself, says report

GURGAON: The city surpassed the annual permissible limits of air pollution set by World Health Organization (WHO) in the first month of this year itself. It crossed the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for PM2.5 and PM10 by May and April, respectively, according to an analysis of pollution levels in the city.

Both PM2.5 and PM10 levels overshoot the pollution quota required to comply with WHO guidelines on Jan 16 and 24, respectively, as per an analysis by the Centre for Research and Energy for Clean Air (CREA). NAAQS standards for PM2.5 and PM10 were overshoot on May 17 and April 3, respectively.

The annual WHO guidelines for PM2.5 and PM10 are 5 g/m³ and 15 g/m³, respectively, while the annual NAAQS for PM2.5 and PM10 are 40 g/m³ and 60 g/m³, respectively.

The "overshoot day" is defined as a day when the average pollution levels preceding that day are so high that even a 0.1 g/m³ daily concentration of the pollutant for the remaining days of the year would ensure non-compliance of the city to the prescribed annual standard or guideline. The analysis, which studied data of six years, raises concerns as the pollution levels overshoot even before the onset of winter, when the city witnesses high pollution levels. During winter months, the city's air quality index (AQI) remains in the 'poor', 'very poor' or 'severe' category on most days. "Gurgaon overshooting WHO standards for both PM2.5 and PM10 in Jan and NAAQS in April and May underscores the severity of the hazardous air pollution levels in the city. This emphasises the urgent necessity for more stringent regulations at the airshed level, transitioning to an emission-load reduction-based approach, and efficiently utilising emission inventories, source apportionment studies, and technology for pollution control and regulation," stated Sunil Dahiya, an analyst at CREA. "While NAAQS has lenient standards compared to WHO, this leniency is resulting in prolonged exposure to harmful particulate matter. A recent study revealed that short-term PM2.5 exposure in India poses a significant risk of death even at concentrations well below current standards.

Years of delay and fund diversion probe leave homebuyers in Gurgaon in a fix

GURGAON: A group of homebuyers of ATS Marigold project in Sector 89A has been in a limbo for years as the developer is investigated for diverting funds and faces allegations of defaulting on pre-EMI payments. The project, initially licensed to three developers in 2013, was later transferred to ATS. Homebuyers approached the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission/Economic Offences Wing in 2021, seeking a refund of the amount they had paid along with interest. Four of the initial 24 complainants are still continuing with their case before NCDRC. One of them filed a complaint before Rera and after getting a favourable order on refund, withdrew from the NCDRC case. Six others withdrew as well, filing complaints before the real estate regulatory authority, and 11 complaints settled with the developer.

Two others are in the process of settling in return for immediate possession of flats.

According to the complaints, the developer collected funds from homebuyers even before a licence was granted to it. "Accused persons transferred the funds of the investors into their other accounts, creating layering of transactions. This shows the mala fide intention of diversion of the funds of the investors. The complainant had also alleged the diversion of their funds by the alleged persons for some other purposes. In view of the above, IPC Section 409 (criminal breach of trust) in the case has been invoked and is being investigated accordingly," the economic offences wing said in its status report submitted to Patiala House court on July 29.

The next date of hearing is in Sept. Homebuyers told TOI on Sunday that they have still not gotten possession of their flats while they have been paying EMIs for years. Sudhanshu Kanungo, one of the complainants, said he booked a flat in 2013 and paid Rs 1.1 crore with an expected possession date in 2018.

State govt contests GMC's report at NGT, admits part of park encroached

GHAZIABAD: A report submitted by UP govt in the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has admitted that 864.2sqm of a park in Rajendra Nagar industrial area is encroached by some factory owners, who have constructed an approach road through it. The tribunal was hearing a petition by environmentalist Sushil Raghav two years ago, alleging that it was the Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation (GMC) that was constructing the road and a drain, which had reduced the size of the park. In Nov last year, the NGT sought reports from GMC and a joint committee of senior officials from the district administration and UP Pollution Control Board. GMC, in its report, ruled out any encroachment in the park, saying it hadn't constructed any road or drain whatsoever. On the contrary, the civic body said, it had planted 21,000 saplings in the park. The joint committee filed its report on Feb 5 this year. The committee report merely said that 10,880 sqm of the park area had been freed of encroachment and that Babu Jagjivan Ram Colony had been built on another 7,120sqm. The NGT asked the chief secretary to carry out a detailed survey of the area. "We are surprised with the stand of the district magistrate that there is no material available relating to the existence of the park."

Gurgaon tailor bludgeoned worker to death, handed life term

GURGAON: A tailor from Sarhau was sentenced to life imprisonment by a local court on Saturday for murdering a migrant worker from UP in 2019.

Thirty-three-year-old Gabbar Singh was bludgeoned to death next to his rented house in Sham Chander Jha colony in Sikandarpur on the night of May 7, 2019. While returning home from a gambling den in DLF -1, the accused, Manoj Kumar (25), had an altercation with Gabbar. In a fit of rage, he bludgeoned Gabbar to death using slabs of stones and fled with his cell phone. Gabbar's brother Kalu Singh found him dead in an open space next to their room on May 8.

"After dinner on May 7, I went to sleep on the roof of the room. At that time, my brother was talking to someone on the phone. The next morning, at around 7.30 am, I woke up and found my brother lying dead next to our room with bleeding injuries to his head," Kalu Singh said in his complaint.

A case was registered under Section 302



(murder) of the IPC at DLF Phase 1 police station on May 8, 2019. Inspector Ashok Kumar said before the court that the call details records of the victim showed that calls were made to two phone numbers on May 9. One number belonged to Rajesh and another to Vinod, who is Manoj's brother. The duo confessed that Manoj had called them from a new phone number. "The accused was arrested from his house in Sarhau. The cell phone and earphones of the victim were recovered from his possession. Manoj confessed to have committed the murder," Ashok Kumar said in his deposition. Defence counsel, Hemant Gupta, contended that there were no eyewitnesses to the crime and even the victim's brother, Kalu Singh, had not identified the accused in the court. "The mobile phone and earphones of the deceased were planted by the investigating officer to implicate the accused. The prosecution failed to prove that it was the accused who had

committed the murder," the defence counsel contended. Assistant public prosecutor (APP), Abhishek Sanwaria, said, "RFSL report proves that the blood group of the deceased matches with the stains found on the clothes of the accused. A witness, Ved Prakash, saw the victim in the company of the accused on the night of May 7. There is no eyewitness to the occurrence, but the circumstantial evidence clearly proves that it was the accused who had committed the murder of Gabbar Singh with slabs of stones." After hearing the argument, Virender Malik, additional sessions judge said in his order, "The cell phone and earphone of the deceased were recovered from the accused based on his disclosure. The defence of the accused is that he had purchased the victim's phone for Rs 400. However, he had not disclosed from whom he had purchased the said phone. Moreover, the blood stains of the deceased were also found on his clothes. These are the material circumstances which prove that it was the accused who had committed the murder of Gabbar Singh. The testimony of prosecution witnesses proves the case beyond any doubt." The court held the accused guilty and convicted him under IPC section 302 (murder). On Saturday, Manoj was sentenced to life imprisonment and was fined Rs 10,000.

Gurgaon: Humidity to stay for two more days

GURGAON: Winds at 22kmph on Sunday did bring some breeze, but not enough to relieve from the muggy weather condition, which will continue atleast for the next two days. The forecast suggests minimal rain activity during the period. The nighttime temperature remained at 27.1 degrees Celsius on Sunday, against Saturday's 27 degrees while the maximum temperature was at 33.9 degrees Celsius, compared to Saturday's 33.2 degrees Celsius. The relative humidity index oscillated between 53% and 72% throughout the day. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has suggested that the sultry weather conditions will persist in the city and its surrounding areas for the coming days. The city may experience some respite in the form of light showers, but these will be sporadic and not widespread. The cloudy skies will continue to dominate, which will help



temperature. According to the IMD, a deep depression over northeast Madhya Pradesh and adjoining south Uttar Pradesh, along with a low-pressure area over southwest Rajasthan and adjoining south Pakistan, are influencing weather patterns in the area. "While the most severe effects of these systems will be felt in Rajasthan and central parts of the country, the NCR is expected to experience some impact, however less

Monday, the IMD forecast shows partly cloudy skies with the possibility of one or two spells of rain or thundershowers. The minimum and maximum temperatures are expected to hover around 28 and 33 degrees Celsius, respectively. Meanwhile, the city's air quality index remained satisfactory at 84, the same as the previous day. Delhi got very light to light showers on Sunday evening. There is a possibility of more intense rain from Tuesday to Thursday. Safdarjung, the capital's base station, logged 4.5mm of rainfall during this period. A Met official said very light to light rain may lash the capital on Monday. The maximum temperature on Sunday reached 36 degrees Celsius while the minimum temperature was 27.4

20kmph wind and light rain fail to bring down mercury in Haryana

NEW DELHI: The city got very light to light showers on Sunday evening. There is a possibility of more intense rain from Tuesday to Thursday. Although no rain was seen at any station in the city from 11.30am to 5.30pm, some parts of the capital reported rain between 5.30pm and 8.30pm. Safdarjung, the city's base station, logged 4.5mm of rainfall during this period. The rain was uneven as SPS Mayur Vihar received 4.5mm and Narela recorded 3.5mm, while Palam and Delhi University reported very light rainfall of 1.5mm each. A Met official said very light to light rain may lash the city on Monday. Strong surface winds at the speed of 25-35 kmph may blow during the daytime on Monday. The maximum temperature on Sunday reached 36 degrees Celsius, two degrees above normal and 1.3 degrees higher than Saturday's maximum. The relative humidity ranged between 61% and 85%. The minimum temperature was 27.4 degrees Celsius, one degree above normal, according to India Meteorological Department.

Life term for woman and brother-in-law for killing her husband

Gurgaon: A woman and her brother-in-law were awarded life terms by a district court in the city on Saturday for killing her husband in 2019. According to the case diary, Jyoti and Sandeep got married in 2014 after a few years of courtship. Since Sandeep - who worked with a transport company - had married against the wishes of his family, he would hardly visit his parents. But they would visit his maternal uncle. Over the years, Jyoti established a relationship with the uncle's son, Sachin. By then, she and Sandeep had a 4-year-old son. Sandeep's brother Mohanbir said that in March 2019, Sandeep allegedly found his wife and Sachin together in a room and slapped his cousin. Sachin then threatened to kill Sandeep, he added. In Nov 2019, Sandeep was on his way home from work when Sachin fired at him with an illegal gun. Sandeep, who took a bullet in the back, was rushed to Civil Hospital, from where he was referred to Safdarjung hospital in Delhi when his condition deteriorated. He succumbed to injuries at the hospital. Following a complaint by Mohanbir, a case was registered against Jyoti and Sachin at Sector 37 police station under sections 302 (murder) and 120B (criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and relevant provisions of the Arms Act. What made the prosecution's case stronger was a video statement in hospital by Sandeep, who named Sachin and Jyoti and accused them of orchestrating the attack on him. Jyoti was arrested the same day. Sachin was picked up almost a week later. While passing the judgment, additional sessions judge Tarun Singal observed that the prosecution had proved "beyond reasonable doubt that the accused Jyoti and Sachin were in an illicit relationship and had hatched a conspiracy to eliminate Sandeep". The court also noted there was no ground to doubt the dying statement of Sandeep, who named Sandeep and Jyoti. Sachin and Jyoti's lawyer argued that the case did not have any witness but relied on circumstantial evidence. The judge, however, rejected the argument, saying that the chain of circumstances "clearly pointed towards the guilt of the accused". The court also observed that Sachin had acquired an illegal weapon to commit the murder, which showed his premeditation and planning.

<p>Name Change I, Isha D/o Late Gauri Shanker Sharma R/o House No. 104 A, Sector 11, D Block, Faridabad, Sector 7 Faridabad, Haryana have changed my name to Isha Sharma for all future purposes.</p>	<p>Name Change I, Yogeshwar Dagar S/o Anand Prakash R/o H No. 129, Near Boys Primary School, Ujwa South West Delhi, Delhi - 110073 have changed my name to Yogeshwar Chaudhary for all future purposes.</p>	<p>Name Change I, KAVYATRI DEVI Wife of No. 1246220H Rank-NK Name-LATE MURARI LAL SHARMA (Retd.) Presently residing RZ 222, Sector NO-3, DURGA PARK, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110045 have changed my name from KAVYATRI DEVI to GAYATRI DEVI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>
<p>Name Change Bisma Naim D/o Mohd Naim Thakur R/o 783 Haveli Azam Khan Jama Masjid Delhi 110006 have changed my name from Bisma Naim to Bisma Naim for all future purposes.</p>	<p>Name Change I, Sushila Bhagmati Singh/ Kumari Sushila Bhagmatsingh Singh /Sushila B Singh W/o Aji Singh Lamba R/o F-50A, Sushant Lok III, Sector-57, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001, Have Changed My Name to Sushila Choudhary For All Future Purposes.</p>	<p>Name Change I, KAUSHALAYA Mother of No. 16131577Y, Rank-NK, Name-AJIT SINGH Residing at H NO-2, CHIRWARI, SHIV MANDIR, CHIRWARI(167), PALWAL, HARYANA-121102 have changed my name from KAUSHALAYA to KUSHELA DEVI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>
<p>Name Change I, Shrivani D/O of No 2804837L Sep Togaie Ranjit Ganpati A/P- Kirti TEH- Chandgade DIST- Kolhapur MAHARASHTRA, PIN CODE - 416508 have changed my name From Shrivani To Shrivani Ranjit Togaie for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated - 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>	<p>Name Change URMILA W/O my no - 2799036X HAV BHOSALE NANA ANAND R/O VILL- PANDHARPUR, POST- TUN-CAT TEH- PANDHARPUR, DIST SOLAPUR PIN - 433304 have checked my name from URMILA TO URMILANANABHOSALE for all future purposes vide affidavit date 05/08/2024 before notary public UP.</p>	<p>Name Change I, SHYAM SINGH Father of No 16131577Y, Rank-NK, Name-AJIT SINGH Residing at H NO-2, CHIRWARI, SHIV MANDIR, CHIRWARI(167), PALWAL, HARYANA-121102 have changed my name from SHYAM SINGH to SYAM SINGH for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>
<p>Name Change I, Meenakshi w/o of No.1557479L Hav Vikram vasant sawle R/o vil-choudhary nagar Post-dhanoti TEH-haveli Dist-pune Pin-411015 have changed my name Meenakshi to Meena Vikram sawle For all further purposes vide Affidavit dated 05/08/2024 Notary public, Delhi</p>	<p>Name Change I, S Exilarasi mother of No. 16123214A Rank- NK Name-SATHISH KUMAR S residing at 131, PENNAYAR ROAD, MANJAKUPPAM, CUDDALORE, TAMIL NADU- 607001 have changed my name from S EXILARASI to S EZHILARASI for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>	<p>PUBLIC NOTICE My client Shiv Shankar Patel S/o Sh. Jai Raut and Malvi Devi W/o Sh. Shiv Shankar Patel both R/o Village Budhwar Pur, Ward No.08, Post Pokhra, Binda, P.S. Gulabkhipur, Sitamarhi, Bihar-843327, also at No. GC-103, Upper Ground Floor, Right Side, Puli Pralahadpur, New Delhi-110044 have disowned and debarred their son Nishith Kumar and his wife Jyoti from their all movable, immovable properties and we have no relation with them in future. My client shall not be responsible for their any Act, Civil & Criminal acts, deeds & liabilities in future. Shakti Chand Jain ADVOCATE CH.No.580, SAKET COURTS NEW DELHI-17</p>
<p>Name Change I, MANDEEP SINGH S/O GURMIT SINGH residing at D-231, NIRMAN VIHAR, DELHI-110092 Declare that MANDEEP is my given name and my surname is SINGH</p>	<p>Name Change I, Sreedharan P Father of No-16134624M, Rank-SPR, Name-AMAL RAJ P Residing at KARTIL VEEDU VENGARACHAL THILLENKERI, KANNUR, KERALA-670702 have changed my name from SREEDHARAN P to PADUVILAN SREEDHARAN for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>	<p>PUBLIC NOTICE Be it known to all the concerns that my clients namely Subhash Chand son of Shri Jai Pal Singh and Smt. Munesh wife of Shri Subhash Chand both residents of E- 16, Gali No.2, New Jagat Puri, Delhi-110093 have severed all of their relations from and debarred their son namely Gaurav, his wife Smt. Priyanka and his legal heirs from their moveable and immovable properties, Any body dealing with them shall be at his own risks and consequences and my clients shall not be responsible for any act or activities of Gaurav and his wife Smt. Priyanka (Miss Palak Sharma) Advocate</p>
<p>Name Change I, Ashwini Ravi Ghadge W/O of No.2811624A Sep Ghadge Ravi Vilasrao R/O vil- Tandali BK POST-Tandali BK TEH - Patur DIST - Akola PIN COD - 444501 have changed my name from Ashwini Ravi Ghadge to Ashwini Ravi Ghadge For all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 05/08/2024 before Notary public, Delhi</p>	<p>Name Change I, hitherto known as BABU M alias M BABU alias BABU MADHAVAN PILLAI alias MADHAVAN BABU S/o MADHAVAN PILLAI residing at Flat No. - 138, Gangotri Apartment, F - Block, Vikas Puri, Tilak Nagar, West Delhi, Delhi-110018 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MADHAVAN BABU.</p>	<p>PUBLIC NOTICE My client Shri Upender Bhalla S/o Sh. Khazan Singh Bhalla R/O 471, Sunehri Bagh Apartments, Sector-13, Rohini Delhi would like to inform everyone that his elder brother Sh. Brijendra Singh Bhalla S/o Sh. Khazan Singh Bhalla R/O Flat No. 9041, Parks Laureate, Sector-108, Noida (U.P.) passed away on 27 July 2024 and now my client does not have any relation with Mr. Rajat Bhalla son of his late brother, Mrs. Richa Gulati Bhalla his daughter-in-law and their legal heirs R/O 708 Omxare Grand, Sector 93 B, Noida (U.P.) and my client himself and his legal heirs will not be responsible for any kind of financial loss, financial liability and anti-social and illegal activities done in the past, present and future by his late brother himself and his son, daughter-in-law and their legal heirs. Any person doing any kind of transactions with the above persons should do so at his own risk J S Jaiswal (Advocate) Ch. No. 723 Rohini Court Delhi,</p>
<p>Name Change I, Amrit Pal Singh Sodhi s/o Amarjeet Singh Sodhi R/O. G - 27/3A, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi - 110028 have changed the name of my minor Daughter from Triman Kaur Sodhi to Triman Kaur for all purposes. Her DOB is 22/02/2008.</p>	<p>Name Change I, No-15422873L Rank-HAV Name-PRABIR KUMAR JENA S/O NARANJAN JENA R/O VPO-BARTANA, TEHSIL-BHONGRAI, DISTT-BALASORE, ODISHA-756038 have changed my wife's name from BIJAY LAXMI JENA to BIJAYA LAXMI JENA for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>	<p>Name Change I, Suman Wife of H NO-69/5, GOPALAPURAM, PEIRYAKAI YAGAM, MUDUKU LATHUR, THERIVU ELI, RAMANATHAPURAM, TAMIL NADU-623711 have changed my minor daughter's name from B KIRISHKA to KIRISHKA B for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>
<p>Name Change It is for general information that I, ROSHAN HASDA S/O RASHIK LAL HASDA, R/O Flat No.1430, Pt-1, Sec-C, Vasant Kunj, Delhi-110075 declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as ROSHAN KUMAR and RASHIK LAL in my Aadhaar Card No.412132008116. The actual name of mine and my father are ROSHAN HASDA and RASHIK LAL HASDA, which may be amended accordingly</p>	<p>Name Change I, hitherto known as K PULKIT alias PULKIT KASIVISWANATHAN S/o K A S I V I S W A N A T H A N PALANISAMY R/O 52 Surya Kiran Apartment, D - Block, Vikas Puri, Tilak Nagar, West Delhi, Delhi - 110018 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as PULKIT KASIVISWANATHAN.</p>	<p>Name Change I, Amarjit S/o Teluram R/O Ward 2, Julana, Jind, Haryana-126101, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as AMARJEET in my minor Daughter namely KASHISH LATHER aged 17 years in her 12th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of mine is AMARJIT respectively, which may be amended accordingly,</p>
<p>Name Change I, GNANSHYAM Father of JC-314526W Rank-NB SUB. Name-RAJ KUMAR R/O GRAM-FULWARIYA, PO-SANDHI GRAM SAGARWA, KHALLABAD, DIST-SANT KABIR NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-221715 have changed my name from GNANSHYAM to GHANSHYAM YADAV for all future purposes and in my son's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 15/10/1967 my correct date of birth as 15/10/1967 vide Affidavit dated 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>	<p>Name Change I, Minaxi W/O of No.2804009A Hav Jadhav Arun Bhiva R/O vil- punavati POST- punavati TEH - Shirala DIST - Sangli PIN COD - 415408 have changed my name from Minaxi to Minaxi Arun Jadhav For all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 05/08/2024 before Notary public, Delhi</p>	<p>Name Change I, J.C-314826X Rank-NBSUB Name-BALU SENTHIL KUMAR M Permanent residing at H NO-6/9/5, GOPALAPURAM, PEIRYAKAI YAGAM, MUDUKU LATHUR, THERIVU ELI, RAMANATHAPURAM, TAMIL NADU-623711 have changed my minor daughter's name from B KIRISHKA to KIRISHKA B for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 05/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.</p>

News box

Robert F Kennedy Jr admits to dumping dead bear in New York's Central Park

Wilmington Independent US presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr said in a video posted online on Sunday that he dumped a dead bear in New York City's Central Park a decade ago and staged it to look like a bike had hit it.

Kennedy suggested in the video, which was posted on social media platform X, that he is trying to get ahead of a not-yet-published story from the New Yorker. "Looking forward to seeing how you spin this one, @NewYorkerKae" Kennedy posted on his X account with a video of himself at a kitchen table talking to comedian Roseanne Barr. Kennedy said in the video that he was driving to the Hudson Valley in New York state when a woman in a van in front of him hit a young bear and killed it. He put the bear's body into the back of his car because he was going to skin the bear and store its meat at his house, he said. But after a late dinner in New York City at the Peter Luger Steak House, he had to go straight to the airport and did not want to leave the bear in his vehicle. "I had an old bike in my car that somebody asked me to get rid of. I said, 'Let's go put the bear in Central Park and we'll make it look like he got hit by a bike,'" he said and then laughed, saying it would be "amusing" for whoever found it.

The Kennedy campaign did not immediately comment further on the incident.

In October 2014, the body of a black bear cub was found in the bushes of Central Park and police launched a criminal investigation into the death. Foul play was suspected in the case, Reuters reported at the time, and state wildlife officials later concluded it was likely struck and killed by a vehicle.

Kennedy said in the video that the New Yorker had asked him about the incident and was planning on doing a "big article" about him.

Missile attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels hits container ship in first attack in two weeks

DUBAI. A missile attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels struck a Liberian-flagged container ship traveling through the Gulf of Aden, authorities said Sunday, the first assault by the group since Israeli airstrikes targeted them. The Houthis offered no explanation for the two-week pause in their attacks on shipping through the Red Sea corridor, which has been similar slowdowns since the assaults began in November over Israel's war on Hamas in the Gaza Strip. But the resumption comes after the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Iran, the Houthis' main benefactor, amid renewed concerns over the war breaking out into a regional conflict. The rebels separately said they shot down another U.S. spy drone Sunday, later publishing imagery of the aircraft's wreckage on the side of the mountain. The attack on Saturday happened some 225 kilometers (140 miles) southeast of Aden in a stretch of the Gulf of Aden that has seen numerous Houthi attacks previously. It hit the container ship Groton just above its waterline, causing minor damage, said the Joint Maritime Information Center, a multinational coalition overseen by the U.S. Navy. An earlier missile attack missed the vessel, the JMIC said. "All crew on board are safe," the center said. "The vessel was reported diverting to a port nearby."

Australian probe into Gaza aid worker deaths 'omitted crucial details': Israel

SYDNEY. Australia "omitted crucial details" when presenting a report into the deaths of seven aid workers in Gaza, Israel's embassy in Canberra said Monday in a frank diplomatic rebuke. Australian national Lalzawmi "Zomi" Frankom was among a group of seven charity workers killed in April when their World Central Kitchen aid convoy was mistakenly hit by an Israeli air strike. A declassified Australian report last week blamed the lethal error on operational failures such as the "mistaken identification" of armed security staff as Hamas hijackers.

Israel's embassy hit back on Monday morning, saying the Australian government "regrettably included some misrepresentations and omitted crucial details", such as its military's willingness to cooperate. "The IDF (military) has taken full responsibility for the grave mistakes that led to the tragic incident of the night of April 1," the embassy said in a statement. The deaths -- of an Australian, three Britons, a North American, a Palestinian and a Pole -- triggered global outrage and a renewed push to ensure the safety of aid workers in Gaza.

Former Australian air force chief Mark Binskin was tasked with monitoring Israel's efforts to unravel what went wrong. His declassified report, released Friday, found three vehicles in the aid convoy were "struck in relatively quick succession" after they were tagged as suspicious. An Israeli surveillance drone flagged the vehicles after noticing some of the charity's security personnel were carrying guns, Binskin found.

US deploying additional forces in Middle East to de-escalate tensions: White House

Washington. The US is deploying additional military might in the Middle East as a defensive measure with a goal of de-escalating tensions in the region, a White House official said on Sunday. Regional tensions have increased following the assassination on Wednesday of Ismail Haniyeh, the leader of the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, in Tehran a day after an Israeli strike in Beirut killed Fuad Shukur, a senior military commander from the Lebanese group Hezbollah. Both groups are backed by Iran. There are mounting fears that Israel's war against Palestinian militants in Gaza, which began last October after attacks on the Jewish state, could escalate into a wider Middle East conflict. Iran and Hamas have blamed Israel for Haniyeh's killing in the Iranian capital, and they, together with Hezbollah, have vowed revenge. Israel has not claimed or denied responsibility. U.S. President Joe Biden will convene his national security team in the situation room on Monday to discuss

developments in the Middle East, the White House said, adding that he would speak with Jordan's King Abdullah as well. U.S. news service Axios reported that U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken told his counterpart from G7 countries that Iran and Hezbollah could start attacking Israel as early as Monday, citing three sources briefed on the call. But Blinken, according to Axios, said it was unclear how Iran and Hezbollah would attack and did not know the exact timing. When asked about the report, the State Department referred to a readout of the call, where it said the ministers discussed "the urgent need for de-escalation in the Middle East." The Pentagon said on Friday it would deploy additional fighter jets and Navy warships to the region. "The overall goal is to turn the temperature down in the region, deter and defend against those attacks, and avoid regional conflict," Jonathan Finer, the White House's deputy national security adviser, said on CBS' "Face the Nation" program. The U.S. and Israel are



preparing for every possibility, Finer added. There was a "very close call" of regional conflagration in April, Finer said, when Iran launched an attack on Israeli territory with drones and missiles after what it called an Israeli strike on its consulate in Damascus on April 1 that killed seven officers of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in the Syrian capital. The U.S. wants to be prepared should that situation rise again, Finer added. In a call with his Israeli counterpart, the Pentagon said U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin reiterated the United States' support

for Israel's security and "right to self-defense against threats from Iran, Lebanese Hezbollah (Hezbollah), Houthis, and other Iranian-backed terrorist groups." Blinken spoke with Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani on Sunday and emphasized "the importance of all parties taking steps to calm regional tensions, avoid further escalation, and advance stability," the State Department said.

'PRUDENT PLANNING' Biden on Saturday expressed hope that Iran would stand down despite its threat to avenge Haniyeh's killing. The U.S. on Wednesday urged its citizens who wish to leave Lebanon to start making plans immediately. "This is no prediction about future events. It is prudent planning for them and for our government," Finer said on CBS. The British government advised its nationals to leave Lebanon. Canada told its citizens to avoid all travel to Israel, saying the regional conflict endangers security.

Tropical storm Debby strengthens into Category 1 hurricane as it heads to Florida

UPDATED Debby strengthened into a hurricane late Sunday as it bore down on Florida's Gulf Coast with potential for history-making levels of rain and major flooding, prompting evacuation orders. Debby grew rapidly into a Category One hurricane, the lowest on a five-stage scale, thanks to unusually warm Gulf of Mexico and is expected to slam into Florida's Big Bend region around mid-day Monday. The National Hurricane Center warned there is a danger of life-threatening storm surges along Florida's Gulf Coast with six to 10 feet (1.8 to 3.0 meters) of inundation above ground level in some areas. The storm will probably cause catastrophic flooding with "potentially historic heavy rainfall" when Debby moves northeast across Georgia and South Carolina over the next few days, the NHC said. "We are looking at potentially really, really significant flooding that will happen, particularly in north-central Florida," Governor Ron DeSantis told an emergency briefing on



the storm Sunday. He and NHC deputy director Jamie Rhome have stressed that Floridians should be making and completing their final emergency preparations immediately. As of 11:00 pm (2100 GMT), Debby was about 100 miles (160 kilometers) west of Tampa carrying maximum sustained winds of 75 miles per hour and moving north at 12 miles per hour, the advisory said. As residents rushed to prepare, mandatory evacuations were ordered for part of Citrus County, Florida, with eight other counties under voluntary evacuation

orders, local media reported. "Take the situation seriously," Paul Hasenmeier, Hernando County fire chief and public safety director, told reporters late Saturday. "We know the water's going to come up as the storm passes." Debby is expected to dump six to 12 inches of rain in parts of Florida, and as much as 20 to 30 inches in coastal Georgia and South Carolina before the week is over, the NHC said. The governors of Georgia and South Carolina have declared a state of emergency ahead of the storm's arrival. Brennan predicted "multiple days of very, very heavy rainfall" -- at possibly record-breaking levels. He said there likely will be severe flash flooding "in areas that don't normally flood." President Joe Biden on Sunday approved an emergency declaration for Florida, allowing federal aid to be expedited. DeSantis has activated the state's National Guard, with 3,000 service members on standby to help with storm response.

Bangladesh government orders complete internet shutdown as protesters plan 'Long March to Dhaka'

DHAKA. The Bangladesh government on Monday ordered a complete internet shutdown as protesters asked the general public to join a "Long March to Dhaka", a day after nearly 100 people died in fierce clashes between demonstrators demanding Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's resignation and the ruling party supporters in different parts of the country. The clashes broke out Sunday morning when protesters attending the non-cooperation programme under the banner of the Students Against

Discrimination with the one-point demand of Hasina's resignation over a job quota system faced opposition from the supporters of the ruling Awami League, Chhatra League, and Jubo League activists. At least 98 people, including 14 policemen, were killed in clashes on Sunday, leading Bengali-language newspaper Prothom Alo reported. The violence forced authorities to cut off mobile internet and enforce a nationwide curfew for an indefinite period. The Anti-Discrimination Student

Movement has rescheduled their "Long March to Dhaka" to be held on Monday, a day earlier than initially planned. The decision was taken during an urgent meeting amid growing concerns in the country, Asif Mahmud, a coordinator of the movement, said in a press release issued on Sunday night. "In an urgent decision to review the situation, our 'March to Dhaka' program has been changed from August 6 to August 5. In other words, we are calling on students from all over the country."

Top Democrat wants Biden's face on Mount Rushmore: Such a consequential leader

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un oversaw the delivery of a new tactical ballistic missile system to troops on Sunday, state media KCNA reported on Monday. Kim also gave a speech at the ceremonial event in Pyongyang where 250 new tactical ballistic missile launchers were unveiled, according to KCNA. The launchers have been described by state media as a powerful up-to-date tactical attack weapon personally designed by Kim and ready to be transferred to KPA units. KPA refers to the Korean People's Army, the country's military forces. North Korea said it test-fired its new tactical ballistic missile last month. Pyongyang will have enhanced nuclear



readiness in the near future to deter nuclear threats and protect itself to respond to any challenges, the leader was quoted as saying in the speech to troops and military scientists. Kim reaffirmed his stance that stockpiling and improving the country's nuclear weapons was the best way to counter what he said were nuclear threats and pressure from the United States. The leader of the reclusive state also said peace was guaranteed by the "absolute and matchless self-defence capability," according to KCNA.

Kamala Harris strengthens against Donald Trump in new survey

Kamala Harris has a one percent advantage against Donald Trump in the latest polls, transforming the race for the White House. With the election approaching, Harris's choice of running mate is eagerly anticipated.

UPDATED. A new poll confirmed Sunday that Kamala Harris -- set to name her vice presidential pick imminently -- has drawn level with Donald Trump, transforming a White House race that the Republican had been increasingly confident he was going to win. As the November 5 election rapidly approaches, Harris has erased the growing lead that Trump was building before President Joe Biden dropped his re-election bid. According to the CBS News/YouGov poll released Sunday, Harris has a one percent advantage on Trump nationwide -- compared to Trump's previous five-point edge on Biden. In the swing states that decide the Electoral College contest in US elections, Harris and Trump -- who shocked the world with his 2016 presidential victory but was beaten by Biden in 2020 -- are equal. These are considered good numbers for a Democratic candidate who parachuted into the race only last month, when Biden bowed to mounting concerns over his mental acuity and ability at 81 years old to serve a second term. But Harris, who is Biden's vice president and the first Black and South Asian woman ever in the role, is in a sprint to define herself to voters before Trump does. A big moment in that process will be when Harris announces her choice for running mate in a



historic bid to become America's first female president. This could happen as early as Sunday or Monday. Expectations are that Harris will pick a white man to balance the ticket -- and likely a moderate Democrat who would help counterweight attacks on Harris from Republicans that she is too far to the left. The three figures seen as heading the short list -- Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro and Senator Mark Kelly of Arizona -- were all visiting Harris in Washington on Sunday, The Washington Post reported. "It's her first major decision that she's making as an executive, so it tells you about her thought process," Amy Walter, a polling expert from Cook Political Report newsletter, told CBS

News. The CBS poll, which echoes numerous other surveys indicating rapid gains by Harris, shows that Trump is still favored by voters on the key issue of the economy. Only 25 percent said they expected to be better off financially if Harris wins, compared to 45 percent who said so about Trump. However, when it comes to trust in the candidates' temperament, the poll shows voters prefer the former California prosecutor to Trump, a convicted felon who has made a career out of publicly insulting those who oppose him -- including while president. The issue of cognitive health, which used to bedevil Biden, is now a liability for 78-year-old Trump, the poll found. Only 51 percent of respondents thought Trump is mentally capable for the presidency, compared to 64 percent for Harris. The Democrats believe that if you "make this referendum on Trump rather than a referendum on the current state of the economy, then we have a real opportunity to win." Cook said Trump was riding high politically last month after surviving an assassination attempt at a rally, then using the Republican convention to highlight his image of vigor against the physically frail Biden. But with Biden's dramatic exit and Harris's fast start, he's scrambling to recalibrate.

Hurricane Debby to bring heavy rains and catastrophic flooding to Florida, Georgia and South Carolina

TAMPA. The center of Hurricane Debby is expected to reach the Big Bend coast of Florida early Monday bringing potential record-setting rains, catastrophic flooding and life-threatening storm surge as it moves slowly across the northern part of the state before stalling over the coastal regions of Georgia and South Carolina. Debby was located about 100 miles (161 kilometers) west of Tampa, Florida, with maximum sustained winds of 75 mph (120 kph). The storm was moving north at 12 mph (19 kph), the National Hurricane Center in Miami said Sunday evening. Debby is the fourth named storm of the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season after Tropical Storm Alberto, Hurricane

Beryl and Tropical Storm Chris, all of which formed in June. Forecasters warned heavy amounts of rain from Debby could spawn catastrophic flooding in Florida, South Carolina and Georgia. The storm was expected to make landfall around midday Monday in the Big Bend area of Florida, about 16 miles (26 kilometers) south of Tampa, the hurricane center said. A tornado watch also was in effect for parts of Florida and Georgia until 6 a.m. Monday. "Right now, we are trying to secure everything from floating away," said Sheryl Horne, whose family owns the Shell Island Fish Camp along the Wakulla River in St. Marks, Florida, where some customers moved their



boats inland. The sparsely populated Big Bend region in the Florida Panhandle also was hit last year by Hurricane Idalia, which made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane. "I am used to storms and I'm used to cleaning up after storms," Horne said.

Debby was expected to move eastward over northern Florida and then stall over the coastal regions of Georgia and South Carolina, thrashing the region with potential record-setting rains totaling up to 30 inches (76 centimeters) beginning Tuesday. Officials also warned of life-threatening storm surge along Florida's Gulf Coast, with 6 to 10 feet (1.8 to 3 meters) of inundation expected Monday between the Ochlockonee and Suwannee rivers. "There's some really amazing rainfall totals being forecast and amazing in a bad way," Michael Brennan, director of the hurricane center, said at a briefing.

New rule on EV charging stations

Ahmedabad. The civic body is contemplating a rule for all new residential and commercial buildings to incorporate EV charging stations in their construction plans. This move reflects the existing mandate for rainwater harvesting and tree plantation under the Comprehensive General Development Control Regulations (CGDCR). While the initiative aims to boost EV adoption, experts warn about safety concerns, especially if the charging stations are in basements.

Why thieves are targeting EV charging stations instead of cars in the US? Thieves in the US have been targeting EV charging stations, specifically stealing copper cables instead of the vehicles. Between January and May 2024, about 130 charging cables were stolen from Electrify America, a sharp rise from 2023. Copper theft remains rare in Australia, where vandalism is a more significant issue affecting public infrastructure, including EV chargers.

Bescom revises EV charging tariff by 11 paise per unit at its stations in Karnataka from today. Bescom revised its tariff for electric vehicle charging stations starting August 1, due to changes in fuel charges, GST, and service fees. New rates are 7.67/kWh for fast charging, 7/kWh for DC charging, and 6.86/kWh for AC charging. KERC also provided guidelines for installing EV chargers in apartments to address safety concerns. Don't chop century-old trees for police station: HC to govt. The Punjab and Haryana High Court restricted Haryana's government from cutting 150 century-old jaal trees for a police station and police lines in Sonapat. The court's order followed a petition by the National Environment and Forest Protection Trust, citing the Thaska gram panchayats resolution.

Group 'with secrets' to welcome public to tour its halls in south Mumbai

MUMBAI: Nestled within an inconspicuous heritage edifice in south Mumbai lies the headquarters of an enigmatic fraternity with an opulent 120-year-old history that dates back to Biblical times.

The Freemasons' Hall at Fort, situated opposite Sterling Cinema, is the convening place for members of this ancient brotherhood, and it is set to welcome the public for an extensive tour of its hallowed halls and commemorate one of its most distinguished members of founding fathers, oriental scholar and linguist, K R Cama, on Aug 10. He was a prominent Freemason and the first Indian to be bestowed with the title of Provincial Grandmaster.

KR Cama was a renowned figure among the Bombay Parsi reformers, celebrated for his pioneering efforts in promoting education for girls and advancing oriental studies. The Freemasons boast a roster of illustrious members, including luminaries like Sir Jamshetjee Jeejeebhoy, Sir Phirozshah Mehta, and Dadabhai Nowroji Tata. All over the world, there are around 50 lakh Freemasons. In India, there are about 20,000, and in Mumbai, the number is estimated at 4,000. "This edifice was built for Freemasonry in Mumbai, its foundation stone was laid by Lord Sandhurst, then Governor General of Bombay, on 5th June 1897. The 127-year-



old building has four temples which are four meeting rooms," said P Venkatraman, a Freemason for 30-odd years. For years, the Freemasons have piqued curiosity and interest of historians, academics, and public; from rumours of alleged devil worship to purported control over the US dollar. "All those are just myths and rumours. We are essentially a brotherhood, and we believe in making good men better and use stonemason's customs and tools as allegorical guides," said Noshir Godrej Paghdhiwalla, District Grand Secretary. The earliest records of Freemasons meeting were in the rooms above Kala Ghoda. They have often been called a secret society with special rituals, initiation ceremonies,

symbols, and handshakes. However, Kersi Limathwalla, the District Grandmaster, says, "We are not a secretive organisation, rather an organisation that has secrets. For example, if you went to big corporate companies and asked them for minutes of their meetings, would they give it to you? Or would Coca-Cola give you the recipe of their drink? Similarly, we have certain secrets."

Aside from the rituals and symbols, charity, equality, and morality are pillars of Freemasonry, say members. "To be a Freemason, it is essential to believe in God, irrespective of which religion you belong to and follow. In our meetings, our altar has all religious texts to symbolise that God is above all. Within our doors, we leave politics and religious debate outside as well as class or stature. In one such instance, there was once a king who was a member and had to salute his gardener who held a prominent role in the organisation," said Limathwalla.

Charity is a distinguishing characteristic of masons. "Charity is done by individual lodges, district or grand lodges. However, we believe in the idea that your left hand should not know what is in your right hand, and so we refrain from publicity," said Limathwalla.

Rs 40 crore fraud: IAF officer says a/c misused to park loot in Telangana



HYDERABAD. In a fresh twist to the Rs 40 crore IndusInd Bank scam, one of the four accused - an ex-IAF officer - has claimed that the other suspects illegally routed the funds by deceiving him to open an account in the bank. He also accused them of cheating him of his properties worth Rs 12.50 crore.

Uday Kumar Reddy, a former group captain and a Vishisht Seva Medal awardee, has filed a police complaint against the other accused, Tollywood producer Shaik Basheed and IndusInd Bank (Shamshabad branch) manager K Ramaswamy.

As per initial complaint filed on July 19 by IndusInd Bank, Cyberabad police registered a case against bank officials Ramaswamy and Rajesh, and Reddy for allegedly siphoning off Rs 40 crore Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd's (ABHFL) Mumbai account. As per police probe, the money was diverted into the account of Reddy from where it was transferred into multiple accounts across the country. Subsequently, police found the involvement of a fourth person - Basheed - and arrested him along with Rajesh and Ramaswamy on July 30.

It was after the trio's arrest that the ex-IAF officer filed a police complaint. "The IAF veteran came across Basheed a few months ago through a real estate agent while he was looking to sell his Jubilee Hills property," said a Cyberabad cop.

In his complaint, Reddy said Basheed projected himself as a wealthy man and expressed interest in buying the property. On knowing that the complainant was willing to sell another property in Yapral, Basheed convinced him that he'd buy both for 12.5 crore. "Under the pretext of this transaction, Basheed convinced the complainant to open an account in IndusInd Bank's Shamshabad branch. The former also called manager Ramaswamy who sent his staff to help the complainant with the process," the cop said.

Following an initial delay in execution of the sale deed and payment, Basheed informed the complainant that one of his business associates would credit 40 crore into his account and requested him to allow it.

"He asked the complainant to retain 12.5 crore as payment against the two properties and transfer the remaining amount to different bank accounts. He roped in Ramaswamy to convince the complainant," the cop said, quoting from the complaint. Subsequently, the complainant alleged he was made to execute the sale deed in a hurry without being given much time to go through the content. The ex-serviceman claimed he realised that he was cheated when his account was frozen by the bank which told him that the 40 crore credited to his account were proceeds of fraudulent transactions. "As per the complainant, both his money and properties are now inaccessible because of the fraud. We are verifying the allegations, and will take action accordingly," a police personnel from Cyberabad said.

Kerala State Human Rights Commission's ban on protests on city roads goes unheeded

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM . The Kerala State Human Rights Commission had in May ordered that processions and protests on main roads in Thiruvananthapuram should be controlled. The move came after Anilkumar Pandala, former MD of Thiruvananthapuram Road Development Company (TRDCL) raised the issue.

However, nothing has changed. Demonstrations and protests continue unabated in front of the Raj Bhavan. The KSHRC had issued the order on May 9, banning demonstrations and protests on the Kowdiar-Vellayambalam route. However, Anilkumar alleged several violations of the order have taken place since. He also said roads are closed without any intimation, causing hardship to people.

"I stay at Kowdiar and take the stretch daily. However, on many days, the traffic police block the route without prior intimation," he told.

In the event of a protest or demonstration in front of the Raj Bhavan, the traffic police divert vehicular movement through the Vellayambalam Jawahar Lane that passes through Jawahar Nagar and reaches Kowdiar. Local residents said they are fed up with the heavy stream of vehicles.



There have also been several instances where traffic police blocked the road with a rope. Such practices have led to several accidents, some of them fatal. Though the government and the police themselves had banned the same, the latter continue to use ropes to block the Kowdiar-Vellayambalam stretch. It's sheer luck that no

accident had taken place on the stretch so far. When contacted, Sheen Tharayil, assistant commissioner of traffic police (Thiruvananthapuram North) told TNIE that he took charge recently and was not aware of the SHRC order.

Rameshwaram cafe blast: NIA takes 2 terrorists to Bengaluru eatery for spot inspection

BENGALURU. A team of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) brought two suspected terrorist to The Rameshwaram Cafe in Bengaluru for spot inspection on Monday, TV reports said.

Abdul Matheen Taha and Mussavir Hussain Shazeb, who were arrested from Kolkata in April, this year, were brought to the popular city eatery where the NIA sluetis inspected the blast site.



The duo was taken to the cafe at around 5.30am. More than 50 policemen were deployed outside the cafe and barricades were erected in the surrounding area to prevent the movement of

public. During the course of its investigation into the blast which took place on March 1, the NIA has conducted extensive searches at several locations in the country. As many as 10 people were injured in the bomb explosion at the Cafe at Brookfield area of the city.

Just 4 cluster varsity proposals in 8 months

Mumbai. Eight months after the state govt released regulations for cluster universities, there have been only four proposals. Three are from private colleges, and one from Nagpur involves government-managed colleges. Despite the state's push for colleges to use new schemes and become independent, managements remain hesitant. For instance, the vertical university plan has also seen no interest since Malad's Atharva Educational Trust.

While TOI reported on the proposal from Malad-Kandivali Education Society's (MKES) Nagindas Khandwala College, two other proposals are from Kolhapur's Shree Warana Shikshan Sanstha and Wardha's Shiksha Mandal, with Bajaj College of Science as the lead college. An official said that another group from Latur is interested, but their proposal is not yet on paper. A Mumbai college that showed interest a few months ago has now delayed its plans to focus on improving its infrastructure.

Proposals from MKES and Kolhapur's Warana group are being reviewed by a state-appointed committee and will be presented to the cabinet for approval. The third proposal, involving government colleges in Nagpur, is also under consideration and will be the second government-managed cluster in the state after Homi Bhabha State University, which unified Sydenham, Elphinstone, Institute of Science, and ST Teachers' Training College. But it was formed under the central government's Rashtriya Uchchatar Shikshan Abhiyan scheme, not under the National Education Policy of 2020.

An MKES official said they've moved their school to a new location and are redeveloping their old building into a 12-storey structure for the cluster university. Additional plans are underway. When the state govt came out with its regulations, at least 15 college managements across the state showed interest. However, after the regulations were released in

December, many colleges took a step back to assess them. A principal from a city college said the cluster universities will be public universities under the chancellorship of the governor, which not many managements are seeing as a lucrative option. "Instead, colleges are exercising more flexibility under the empowered autonomy status, where degrees can be awarded jointly with the parent university. Colleges are free to collaborate with other institutions, offer innovative courses," said the principal.

Haryana government amended state award policy for teachers in universities and colleges. Haryana's chief minister, Nayab Singh Saini, approved an amendment to the State Award policy for university and college teachers, reducing the service evaluation period from 15 to 10 years. This change will make newer teachers eligible for the annual State Teacher Award, which recognizes outstanding faculty with a Rs.

When design meets history and architecture explores myths

Ahmedabad. The National Institute of Design (NID) presented an exhibition highlighting Vadnagar's ancient past with an archaeologist offering a glimpse into the lives of its inhabitants two thousand years ago.

The event was part of the science and liberal arts studies programme, where one of the electives offered is Sociology, Anthropology and Archaeology.

Prof Shilpa Das, activity chairperson (education) at NID and lead for the course, said that the students also get exposed to arts and aesthetics, architecture, music, critical theory, and environmental studies, among other subjects. "The courses are meant to build the students' conceptual framework, broaden their horizons and develop their worldview. It also helps them think differently. A module on the politics of food, for example, encourages students to make healthier choices," she said. While premier institutes in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar are known for their core



competence, a majority of them also offer a wide array of electives or minor specialties that help students explore their interests and cultivate interdisciplinary thinking in them.

For instance, at CEPT University, some of the electives include Befriending Plants, Folktales to Future, Elements of Calligraphy, Narratives in design, and even one on Rediscovering Ahmedabad. Prof Chirayu Bhatt, deputy provost (academics) at the university, said that the current batch has 33 electives, many of which are

available to both UG and PG students. "We create learning opportunities beyond the basic curriculum with subjects that mirror the diversity of the modern world. By incorporating electives that complement their core expertise, we are equipping our students to not only excel in their chosen fields but to also become versatile leaders capable of navigating an ever-changing global landscape," he said.

It is a step that keeps Mica students in sync with the times as some of the subjects include digital habits and ways to overcome procrastination. Prof Shubhra Gaur, registrar and associate dean (regulatory affairs) at the institute, said that it reflects the idea of holistic well-being for students.

"Other sessions are on topics such as digital well-being, time management and handling rejection," she said. While Pandit Deendayal Energy University (PDEU) has courses on Sanskrit and geospatial humanities, at IIMA, the electives cover topics like pandemic and influencer marketing.

Cherlapally railway station revamp nears completion in Telangana

HYDERABAD. Under development at an estimated cost of Rs 430 crore, the revamp of the Cherlapally railway station is in its final stages and the works are expected to be completed within a few weeks, said South Central Railway (SCR) zone officials.

An SCR source told that the higher authorities, a few days ago, reported to the Ministry of Railways that the works were near completion. According to the officials, the railway terminal, situated on the eastern side of Hyderabad, is being developed with the latest infrastructure.

The officials added that the station will be able to handle 15 pairs of additional train services upon completion. It will be provided with 10 additional lines. Moreover, the redevelopment station will have four additional high-level platforms, while the existing five platforms have also been extended to accommodate full-length trains.

According to the officials, the eastern region of the city, which comprises LB Nagar, Uppal and Malkajgiri, has been witnessing rapid development as it is situated near the Outer Ring Road. The station, once built, is

expected to facilitate commuting for people in these areas, they added.

"The station was identified for development as a terminal station, not only to reduce the congestion in other existing rail terminals in the twin city region but also to serve passengers in the eastern part of the city," the source said.

Cherlapally will be the fifth terminal in the city after Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Kacheguda and Lingampally railway stations.

Escalators, six booking counters and more. Built with state-of-the-art facilities, the station



building will house six booking counters, separate waiting halls for men and women, an upper-class waiting area and an executive lounge on the ground floor.

The first floor will house a cafeteria, restaurant and restroom facilities. The new design will feature spacious concourse areas and a modern elevation with illuminated facade lighting. Two new foot-over bridges, one 12 metres wide and another six metres wide, are also being constructed to facilitate seamless inter-platform movement. All nine platforms would get a total of seven lifts and six escalators to facilitate passenger movement. Moreover, the Cherlapally terminal will also have coach maintenance facilities, they added.

Heart attack among techies in 30s: How overwork, 70-hour week and stress can damage your heart



Just the other day, a 33-year-old executive, came to the emergency in the evening as he suffered a heart attack. I had to do an emergency stenting in all three of his arteries which were blocked well over 90 per cent. He worked from home but rarely detached himself from his laptop, logging in at 7 am and logging out at 8 pm. Then he took a 10-minute break and living alone, ordered food almost every day. He would have his dinner by 9.30 pm, would enjoy a smoke or drink occasionally, take work or personal calls and sleep by 11 pm. I recount this story to highlight how punishing 12-hour work days (assuming there is one weekly off) to meet the 70-hour work week rule being advocated by the likes of Infosys founder Narayana Murthy and now OLA CEO Bhavish Aggarwal can cost the body. The young executive's life is a perfect example of how a decade of long sedentary work hours, with the stress of delivery deadlines that left little time for him to unwind, amplified moderate risks or underlying conditions faster. Remember the young man slept the requisite hours but being on a wire during the most productive decade of his life, had poor sleep quality. I admitted another young patient with a blood pressure of 200/115 mmHg, without him feeling it (young people generally do not feel symptoms of elevated blood pressure). He did sports with a friend on weekends but that wasn't enough to offset his high-stress 14-hour five day week.

HOW DO LONG WORKING HOURS AFFECT THE HEART? Most of my patients are from the tech park in Bengaluru's Whitefield, between 20 and 35. All of them have a similar work profile — no less than 12-hour workdays or long night shifts, emergency duties, two hours of commute time through congested roads and crunching sleep, family time and recreation in about an eight to ten-hour window, often interrupted by work calls. Zero physical activity.

The body is clearly in a prolonged adrenaline rush because of too much stress and demands made on it. Excess adrenaline constricts the arteries that supply the heart with blood, reducing blood flow, hastening plaque buildup and inflammation. Stress hormones like adrenaline and cortisol cause the heart to beat faster, elevating blood pressure in the process. Over time that damages the heart, and even accelerates levels of blood sugar, cholesterol and triglycerides. No exercise means weight gain. Chronic stress results in irregular heart rhythms, which can cause blood to pool in the left atrial chamber of the heart, contributing to clot formation. The clot can then travel from the heart to the brain and result in a stroke.

For those with underlying conditions like diabetes, cholesterol or with a family history, even short-term stress can dislodge plaques from the arteries it narrows down, resulting in a blood clot that, in its attempt to repair the torn wall of the arteries, could grow large enough to block blood flow completely and cause a heart attack. During angioplasty procedures among the young, I have often found that the plaque may not have been big enough but the stress-induced thickness of the blood has led to quicker clot formation.

Finepoint | Israel's Assassination Spree Forces Iran to Choose: Total War or Total Humiliation

It remains to be seen whether Iran will go all in or make a symbolic attack like it did in April. Ultimately, Iran will lose face if it doesn't respond but it will lose much more if it does

Iran's 'Axis of Resistance' is in a crisis. If Iran is the mothership, the Houthis, Hamas and Hezbollah are its proxies, extending far and wide into the West Asian region. These extensions of Iran have allowed it to project power across the Middle East, tackling its enemy Israel and keeping Arab powers in check. But Israel attacked all three of these heavily armed militant offshoots within days, and it has not even spared Iranian territory in the process.

News of the assassination of Hamas political chief Ismail Haniyeh in the Iranian capital of Tehran has sent shockwaves across the world and has embarrassed Iran. After all, he was a guest of Iran to attend the inauguration of its new President Masoud Pezeshkian, when he was killed in a blast. Before this, Israel struck a building in another capital city, Beirut in Lebanon, eliminating Fuad Shukur, Hezbollah's most senior military commander and a right-hand man to the Shia militant group's leader Hassan Nasrallah. This was apparently in response to a rocket attack by Hezbollah which killed 12 children in the Golan Heights, a Syrian territory controlled by Israel since the 1967 war. Israel also declared that Mohammad Deif, the military leader of Hamas in Gaza, was also killed in an air raid last month. And this is not it. The Houthis also got a taste of Israeli retaliation when a crucial Yemeni lifeline, the Hodeida port, came under attack. The massive air strike on this Red Sea Port was an answer to a drone attack by the Houthis. Israel is prepared for any further escalation, it says, and is on high alert anticipating a response from Iran. Meanwhile, Iran is trapped in its own web. Israel has killed one of Iran's dearest guests in its capital city. Haniyeh was a guest of the Iranians. He attended the inauguration of the new Iranian President, met Supreme Leader Khamenei with a warm hug and posed with the victory sign with other Iranian leaders. That was the last the world saw of him as he was killed before dawn in his special residence in Tehran.

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) reported it as a "Zionist raid" that took his life. It was initially theorised that it was an Israeli missile attack, and it raised serious questions about Iran's air defence capabilities. But it is now being reported that it was actually a bomb placed inside the guesthouse where Haniyeh was staying. And it was placed almost two months before the attack. For two

months, the security apparatus in Iran failed to track this bomb. When Haniyeh was finally inside, the bomb was detonated remotely. This raises serious questions about Iran's security and intelligence capabilities. This was a lapse at many levels, if it was a lapse at all. After all, how could it be so easy to take Haniyeh out? This Hamas leader had been evading the Israelis for decades, enjoying safe haven in



Qatar. Israel had been trying to take him out for years. Haniyeh was no small target— he was the political chief of Hamas since 2017, representing the group in diplomatic conversations with Arab and Western leaders. He shuttled from Turkey to Qatar and Iran to secure funding for Hamas. This is why some media reports will tell you that he was seen as a so-called "moderate" face of Hamas. This is not because he did not subscribe to the radical extremist ideology of Hamas but because leaders engaged with him behind closed doors to keep tabs on the Palestinian movement in Gaza.

The truth is that Haniyeh was responsible for the intense militarisation of Hamas during his time in Gaza and was even accused of diverting humanitarian aid to the Hamas armed wing. He is also believed to have amassed a wealth of \$4 billion while being a leading face of Hamas. Israel believes that he was involved in the gruesome October 7 Hamas attack which killed over a thousand Israeli civilians. But the hunt is not over yet, as Israel has hinted that its next target could be Yahya Sinwar, the leader of Hamas within the Gaza Strip. With Haniyeh gone, Hamas is searching for a new leader. Some say

that it could be Khaled Meshaal, who had previously lost Iran's favour when he supported a rebel movement against Syria's Bashar Al Assad. Meshaal has already survived an assassination attempt by Israel. In 1997, he was injected with poison by Israeli agents in the Jordanian capital of Amman. But the mission was botched, the agents were captured and the then-king Hussein was so furious that he threatened to hang the agents, and scrap Jordan's peace deal with Israel unless it shared the antidote.

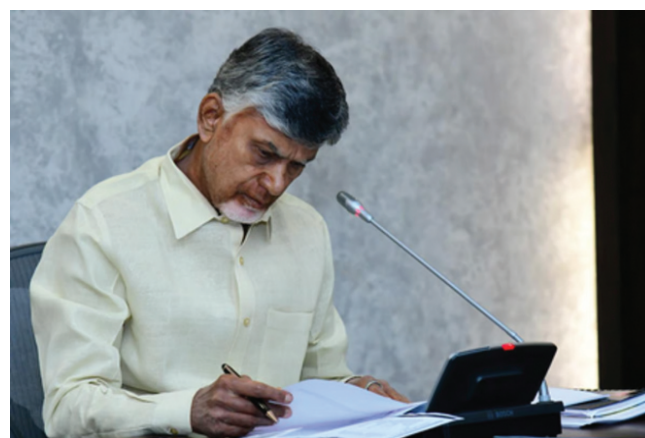
Under Netanyahu, who was in his first term at the time, Israel agreed to hand over the antidote and Meshaal was saved. If he returns to the paramount position in Hamas, he will surely need to watch his back or perish like his predecessor. Coming back to Haniyeh's death which has caused serious embarrassment for Iran. Everyone wants to know whether Iran will respond. After all, all its proxies and its own sovereign territory are under attack. Israel's message is pretty clear. No one is safe. So, will Iran sit back down, take the loss and lose face as a result—or will it strike back? If you go by the reactions of Iran's leaders, then revenge is right around the corner. President Pezeshkian said, "I raised his victorious hand and today I have to bury him on my shoulders. Iran will make the terrorist invaders regret their cowardly action."

Meanwhile, Ayatollah Khamenei said, "The criminal, terrorist Zionist regime martyred our dear guest in our territory and has caused grief, but it has also prepared the ground for a severe punishment... It is our duty to take revenge." Khamenei has even ordered a direct attack on Israel, according to reports. But it's not as simple as it looks. Iran's words are failing to match its actions. In April this year, Israel attacked the Iranian embassy in Syria and killed several IRGC officers. Iran retaliated but it seemed like it did not want a war. It rained down missiles over Israel, almost all of which were intercepted by the Iron Dome air defence systems. The damage was little and by no means a major escalation. Moreover, reports said that Iran had notified countries in the region, indirectly tipping Israel off about the attack and letting it prepare its defences in advance. Could it be that Iran does not want to be dragged into an all-out war with Israel.

AP needs more from centre to keep promises

Chief Minister Naidu reveals alarming debt figures and outstanding liabilities, raising concerns about the state's ability to manage new welfare schemes and major projects.

In a departure from tradition, instead of presenting a full-fledged budget, the Chandrababu Naidu-led Andhra government promulgated an ordinance for vote-on-account with an estimated expenditure of Rs 1.29 lakh crore for a period of four months. The reason was that the state finance department was still finalising the liabilities and resources. It sounds reasonable as the new government assumed charge in the second half of June. The government is likely to present the full budget in September. What is of concern is not the vote-on-account, but the chief minister's remarks that the state's finances are in a terrible shape. He released a white paper on the issue that paints a bleak picture. The white paper says the overall debt stands close to Rs 10 lakh crore and outstanding bills are at over Rs 1 lakh crore. The state's own resources are not enough to meet essential expenditures like salaries and pensions. The paper has been disputed by the opposition YSR Congress. What cannot be disputed though is that the state is on a sticky wicket. Revenues have gone up over the last decade



barring the Covid years, but so has expenditure, with welfare schemes accounting for a lion's share. All avenues to incur debt have already been explored, which leaves Naidu with little elbow room. He has promised much

more than his predecessor Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy. New schemes such as free bus travel for women, higher investment for farmers, dole for the unemployed and education subsidy for each child would cost the exchequer more than the Rs 2.7 lakh crore spent on welfare in the last five years. On top, the mandate to complete the Polavaram irrigation project and develop capital Amaravati would increase the financial burden. Naidu is riding a tiger, in the sense that there appears to be only one way forward. The Centre's announcement of Rs 15,000-crore aid for Amaravati must be renegotiated to make it a grant. The Polavaram project's terms must be amended as the Centre had set a condition of paying at 2014 prices, whereas the AP Reorganisation Act clearly states it is the Centre's responsibility to build the project. The implementation of schemes could be staggered, which might invite a backlash; but the government must be bold enough to prioritise them. Without changes, the state could end up staring at a debt trap.

Caste reservation fabric needs new pattern

Begin at the beginning, the king said, very gravely, and go on till you come to the end: then stop."

Lewis Carroll, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
For millenniums, caste has been cast in stone in the Indian psyche. Ironically, the legacy of discrimination was carried forward when India became a democracy, muddying the pristine playground of liberation. The social pyramid was turned on its head and generous generations scrambled up the ladder of power as a genetic journey to pelf. It also allowed uninterrupted caste-led parivarvaad to thrive without facing challenges.

The legacy of the bloodlines of India's rich and powerful in politics and bureaucracy sustains the system. However, a Supreme Court ruling last week could derail the gravy train. The current katzenjammer on caste—in parliament, elections and institutions—agitated a seven-member Constitution bench of the top court. Four of them led by Justice B R Gavai felt that caste-based reservations are meritocratic, nor bureaucratic or plutocratic.

Gavai, who could be the chief justice next year, wrote: "The State must evolve a policy for identifying the creamy layer even from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so as to exclude them from the benefit of affirmative action. In my view, only this and this alone can achieve the real equality as enshrined under the Constitution... The question that will have to be posed is whether equal treatment to unequals in the category of Scheduled Castes would advance the constitutional objective of equality or would thwart it. Can a child of an IAS, IPS or Civil Service officers be equated with a child of a disadvantaged member belonging to the Scheduled Castes studying in a gram panchayat or zilla parishad school in a village?"

If the Bhagavad Gita is the soul of India, caste is its curse. What began millenniums ago as professional identification was perverted through the ages to

create a parti pris paradigm to win elections. Caste-based reservations began almost 125 years ago. Considering the plight of Scheduled Castes and Tribes, the Constitution-smiths added affirmative clauses for proportionate representation of underprivileged castes in the executive and the legislature—a temporary provision for just a decade.

Indian politics revels in status quo and subverts change into stasis. No party has altered the clause or dropped it. So it's discussion over. Instead, they've reserved the weltschmerz-laden caste system for election manifestos. Reservations were meant to raise the social and economic status of India's first post-independence generation's underclasses. Instead, it has filtered down as a third-generation prerogative. Reservation was meant as an equaliser. Now it is a combo of oligopoly and monopoly of the social elite. By their sheer control over their part of the establishment, Dalit and backward monarchs constructed a fortress-like exclusive armature that denied right of entry to those who were at the bottom of the pyramid.

While the establishment has sedulously secured the advantages for itself, the constitutional principle of checks and balance has come into play. Making a powerful case for creaming the creamy layer, Justice Gavai felt, "It is also commonly known that disparities and social discrimination, which is highly prevalent in the rural areas, start diminishing when one travels to the urban and metropolitan areas. I have no hesitation to hold that putting a child studying in St Paul's High School and St Stephen's College and a child studying in a small village in the backward and remote area of the country in the same bracket would obliterate the equality principle enshrined in the Constitution." Gavai wasn't alone in his views. Justice Pankaj Mithal added,



"Reservation, if any, has to be limited only for the first generation or one generation, and if any generation in the family has taken advantage of the reservation and have achieved higher status, the benefit of reservation would not be logically available to the second generation." If the judicial stand is accepted by the states and the Centre, a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe family will lose reservation status if any member has availed it in the past. The Supreme Court has diluted the quota enjoyed by subjectively- and selectively-listed castes by making it inclusive; bringing in more deserving sub-castes that were left out. The creamy layer was already eligible for OBC reservation. It excludes

people whose family income exceeds Rs 8 lakh a month. The unfairness lies in agricultural income not being included in the total income. Hence, the landed backward-class peasantry enjoys reservation's benefits. Politicians are unlikely to heed the judicial advice. Since the categorising of reservations falls under the legislature, it is highly improbable that the political and bureaucratic nexus will yield to fair play. Rural India is still an area of darkness—a Naipaulian nightmare of unpunished humiliation, bondage, rape and murder. In the past three decades, politics, civil services and business have become hereditary institutions. Successive successors continue to replace powerful progenitors. Caste-based reservations are grossly misused by caste leaders, too.

Though no official data exists about the number of SC and ST youth entering the IAS, IPS, IFS or IRS, a sample of current legislators in the states and the Centre reveals every fourth member got his or her seat from their parents. Over the past two decades, the kin of at least 20 percent of services officers were from the same Cosy Cub Club. Recently, a few youngsters from poor backgrounds made the cut, but the overwhelming majority of the marginalised classes don't have access to good education or skill development that will empower them to compete with upper-caste spawn.

V P Singh, prime minister during 1989-90, wanted to restrict senior government jobs to one person per family, irrespective of their caste. He felt that the recruitment mechanism heavily favoured the affluent. The joke doing the rounds in the power circles then was about the unsaid convention of children of senior officers appearing before a panel of UPSC interviewers made up of 'uncles and auntsies'.



Beauty rituals from around the world

Do not dismiss your granny the next time she gives you an earful about the virtues of a good old champi.

There is wisdom in those words. Beautiful skin, hair and nails do not have to be synonymous with lighter wallets and wasting hours on end. We bring you a compilation of some amazing beauty techniques from around the world. Not only are they intriguing, but also completely natural. From soothing a flaky scalp to getting lustrous skin, there's a way to have it all.

Spanish circles
You surely must have tried cucumber slices to lighten dark circles around your eyes. And there's also a range of haemorrhoidal creams to treat under-eye circles. Weird as it sounds, it is supposed to work like a dream! Not brave enough

to try it? Then follow Spanish women and use very thin potato slices over your eyes. Keep them on for ten minutes. You will notice that they actually lighten the skin reducing the blueness of the veins under your eyes.

Kiss cellulite goodbye, the Brazilian way
Cellulite is every woman's despair and there seems to be no way to shooing it away. Here's a thing to learn from Brazilian women, who rub sand on their bodies. When it comes to cellulite, dry brushing is the best, natural and probably, the only way to getting rid of them. So, use sand to kiss cellulite goodbye.

Greek TLC for lips
Beauty regimens need not mean spending a bomb on products or devoting a lot of time to it (unless you are greatly inspired by Cleopatra). Some of the most easily available things straight off your kitchen shelves can be used for beautifying your self. Greek and Italian women use olive oil to soothe and repair chapped lips. It is the best treatment to heal dry and irritated skin. It also conditions skin and lips while making it glow beautifully.

Chinese anti-ageing
Want skin that defies age-related problems? Sip on white tea like the

Chinese do. It protects your skin from free radicals and you don't need to worry about Botox, fillers, collagen and the likes.

Australian dandruff cure
Suffering from dandruff? Add a few drops of eucalyptus oil or tea tree oil to your shampoo and kiss those flakes goodbye. This is a foolproof trick from down under to getting rid of dandruff. Be careful with the essential oils though. Massage your scalp with a few drops to see the change.

Scandinavian skincare
They aren't called the world's most beautiful women for nothing.

Scandinavian women are credited with flawless skin and aging gracefully. Water plays an essential role in their skincare regime, drinking lots of spring water along with treating their face to it. Steaming your face while in the shower helps open the pores and unclog all the impurities lodged in them. You can also use a hot towel to cover your face for a few minutes for this purpose. Then splash your face with ice cold water. Cold water closes the pores and tightens the skin. It also helps eliminate

puffiness. A good 20 splashes with cold water should do the trick.

Dominican way to stronger nails
So what is the secret to the super strong nails of women from the Dominican Republic? Garlic. It is the natural way to strengthen your nails and to ward off vampires! Want sturdy nails? Chop fresh garlic pods and add them to a bottle of clear nail polish. Leave them in there for seven to eight days. Paint your nails with this concoction. Although it will smell initially, it is a small price to pay to getting rid of brittle nails.

Be scorching hot at Parties this summer



With Mumbai summer refusing to bow out, we are left to deal with a rather long stint of heat and humidity. But are you letting it affect your social life, or rather, 'look'? Here are a few tips to keep in mind when stepping out for a party this summer...

Keep it simple

Beauty consultant Manasi Bhakade states, "Always begin day makeup with a sunblock (at least SPF 30), followed by a light oil-free foundation or BB/CC cream. Shadow and mascara on your eyes and a nourishing lip tint later, you are good to face the day." According to

senior makeup artiste Sonic Sarwate, one should choose makeup that blends well with the skin and doesn't feel heavy.

Use concealers
Dr Geeta Oberoi, dermatologist, says, "Use mineral-based makeup and keep your base to a minimum. Rather than using heavy foundation, use concealers to get a flawless face."

Do a double cleansing
Removing makeup is a must before you hit the sack. "Do a double cleansing procedure to unclog pores — a cleanser followed by medicated face wash," says Dr Oberoi. If you have oily skin, do not work your skin too much because it will end up making your skin more oily.

Close pores
You must use an alcohol-free toner after every wash to close open pores.

If you sweat a lot...
"Use lotions containing aluminium chlorohydrate. It works as an antiperspirant. However, in some cases, it can cause skin irritation. So, ask your dermatologist first," Dr Oberoi explains.

Use the right makeup
Dr Sama Rais, dermatologist and cosmetologist, advises using makeup that is 'non-comedogenic' or 'non-acnegenic' — it won't clog pores or cause pimples.

Dr Poonam Wadhvani, cosmetic dermatologist, suggests, "Wear dark colours that hide sweat patches. For dark circles, try home remedies like applying cool tea bags on the eyes for 15 minutes or applying cucumber juice and potato juice."

Get this look

- Use a concealer and then apply a hydrating base that matches your skin tone.
- Use a light-brown or coral-toned blush.
- Apply highlighter on your brow bone, cheeks and in the inner corner of your eyes.
- A warm eye-shadow will enlarge and brighten your peepers.
- Line your eyes with smudge-proof kohl.
- Curl your lashes; apply a coat of mascara.
- Now apply a bright lipstick.

Hair care becomes a difficult and time-consuming job in the monsoon season. But it is also important for healthy hair to stay away from chemicals and outside treatments as much as possible. Well, here are some easy home remedies that can answer your tress woes -

For dry, frizzy hair, apply a paste of two bananas and honey and leave it for about an hour. This will help moisturize hair and keep it soft.

Apply lemon juice on your scalp for 15 minutes and then wash it off. This will



ensure an oil-free scalp. Soak fenugreek (methi) seeds in water overnight. Mix two spoons of curd

with an egg and apply it on your hair for 15-20 minutes. Use this mixture as a conditioner after you shampoo your hair. It will make your hair soft and shiny.

Home remedies for hair-care in Monsoon

Here are some easy home remedies for the smooth and silky hair in monsoon.

Home remedies to cure dry, Flaky skin

Dry skin is a horrible problem to have. People suffer from stretchy, white looking skin that may even crack and bleed. Not only that, dry skin causes itchiness and discomfort too. Here are a few home remedies you can use to solve the problem.



Banana pack -
Mash one ripe or over ripe banana until it forms a paste and mix one teaspoon of honey with it. Apply a thick layer of this mixture on face and leave it on for 20-30 minutes. Wash it off with cold water and repeat the process twice a week to get moist fresh skin.

Almond pack -
Grind soaked almonds to make a paste. Add some cold milk, lemon juice and besan (gram flour) to this mix and apply a thick layer on the face and other dry areas. Scrub it off once dry and wash face with lukewarm water.

Yogurt pack -
Make a pack by mixing cold yogurt, lemon juice and honey and apply on face. Leave it on for 20 minutes and wash it off with cold water.

Aloe Vera Gel -

Apply a generous amount of Aloe Vera gel all over the face and leave it on until it dries. Wash it off with cold water. This not only provides moisture to the skin but also prevents ageing and acne.



J&K BJP to mark 5th anniversary of abrogating Article 370, Opposition to protest

New Delhi: Security has been beefed up across Jammu and Kashmir as the BJP is set to hold an 'Ekatma Mahatsav' rally commemorating the 5th anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370 today. Five years ago, on August 5, Article 370, which gave a special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, was repealed. Following this, the state was split into two Union Territories. Slamming the BJP for organising a rally to celebrate the revocation of Article 370, the opposition bloc, including Congress and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), termed August 5 a "black day." A local PDP leader stated that the protest would be held outside the party headquarters in Gandhinagar.

Speaking with news agency PTI, a spokesperson for the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) stated that the party will also hold a protest at Maharaja Hari Singh Park to condemn the abrogation of Article 370. On

Monday, the 'Ekatma Mahatsav' rally will take place at Bana Singh Stadium in R S Pura, commemorating the complete integration of Jammu and Kashmir with the rest of India on August 5, 2019, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stated J-K BJP General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta. "The day of August 5, 2019 is a very important day in our lives. On this vital day five years ago, a historic blunder was corrected, and we, the people of Jammu and Kashmir, united completely with the rest of India. We are now able to enjoy all the rights and liberties and are progressing on the path of development," Gupta was quoted as saying by PTI in its report. Lambasting the BJP over celebrating the abrogation of Article 370, J-K Congress chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma said, "What was achieved in five years, the BJP should answer to the people, especially Dogras, instead of rubbing salt on their wounds."

Hitting out at the J-K BJP for its "shamelessness and compulsion to celebrate the day of J-K's destruction," Sharma stated that the party is "celebrating the downgrading" of the historic Dogra state, taking away the status, dignity, identity, and rights of the people of J&K.

Amarnath Yatra Suspended For A Day

In the wake of the 5th anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370, the Jammu and Kashmir administration has suspended the Amarnath Yatra for a day. As a precautionary measure, no fresh batch of pilgrims was allowed to leave the Bhagwati Nagar base camp. This year, over 4.90 lakh pilgrims have paid their respects at the 3,880-meter-high cave shrine till now. "The yatra has been halted for the day as a precautionary measure. No fresh batch was allowed from Jammu to Kashmir today," an officer told PTI. The Amarnath Yatra began on June 29 and will conclude on August 19.

The BJP is set to celebrate five years since the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir. The Opposition, however, has announced plans to protest against this move. Meanwhile, as a security measure, Amarnath Yatra has been suspended for a day.



"Strange Coincidence": Court On Deaths In Delhi Home For Mentally Challenged

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Monday remarked that the recent deaths of 14 inmates in the city government-run Asha Kiran shelter home for the mentally challenged was a "strange coincidence" and directed the social welfare secretary to visit the premises on August 6 and file a report. Noting that "nearly all" the dead suffered from tuberculosis, a bench headed by Acting Chief Justice Manmohan directed the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) to test the quality of water in the shelter home as well as the condition of water and sewer pipelines and



file a report. The bench, also comprising Justice Tushar Rao Gedela, emphasised that "curative measures" were needed in the matter and said if the shelter home was overcrowded, the authorities would decongest it and move some inmates to another facility. The court, hearing a PIL seeking a probe into the deaths, listed the matter for further hearing on August 7. Since February, 25 inmates have died at the centre, currently housing 980 "intellectually disabled" persons, including men, women and children, according to official data.

"Coaching Centres Have Become Death Chambers": Top Court On Delhi Tragedy

New Delhi: Coaching centres have become "death chambers" and are playing with the lives of children, the Supreme Court said today, issuing notice to the Centre and the Delhi government over last month's death of three Civil Service aspirants. They drowned after the basement of a coaching centre in Delhi's Rajendra Nagar - operating in violation of civic and fire safety rules - was flooded due to heavy rain. During the hearing the Supreme Court, which had taken suo moto cognisance of the tragedy, accused the coaching centres of "playing with the lives of children". The court also demanded to know what rules, if any, had been laid down for coaching centres, of which there are hundreds, potentially, in Delhi alone, many of which charge exorbitant fees to prep students for the IAS entrance exam and yet operate in unsafe environments. "These places have become death chambers. Coaching institutes can operate online unless there is full compliance of safety and basic norms for a dignified life. Coaching centres are playing with the lives of aspirants..." Justice Surya Kant and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan said. These norms should include proper ventilation and safe entrances and exits, the court said. The Supreme Court also imposed a fine of ₹1 lakh on a petition - the Coaching Institute Federation - for challenging a Delhi High Court order to shutdown all such business that have not passed civic and fire safety checks; nearly three dozen such centres were closed. The students' deaths - the result of drains failing to clear stagnant rainwater that was washed back into the basement with sewage - have triggered a row over infrastructure in the city. The Delhi High Court ripped into police and city officials last week; "Some officer has to be liable... these people must be alive," the court said before it transferred inquiries to the CBI. A furious court asked serious questions of the Municipal Corporation and its ability to plan and maintain city infrastructure, particularly in times of crises like floods.

Indians in Bangladesh advised to exercise 'extreme caution' amid protests

New Delhi: India on Sunday night strongly advised all its nationals presently residing in Bangladesh to exercise "extreme caution" and restrict their movements in the wake of fresh waves of violence in the neighbouring country. In its latest advisory, India also asked its citizens not to travel to Bangladesh till further notice. At least 90 people, including 14 policemen, were killed on Sunday in fierce clashes between security forces personnel and anti-government protesters in different



The protesters are demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. "In view of ongoing developments, Indian nationals are

strongly advised against travelling to Bangladesh till further notice," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in the advisory. "All Indian nationals presently in Bangladesh are advised to exercise extreme caution, restrict their movements and remain in contact with the High Commission of India in Dhaka," it said. The student protests in Bangladesh started last month against a controversial job quota scheme. The protests now have turned into an anti-government agitation. On July 25, the MEA said around 6,700 Indian students returned from Bangladesh in view of the situation in that country.

Air Force approves production of 200 Astra missiles

New Delhi: The Indian Air Force (IAF) has given clearance to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) to produce 200 Astra air-to-air missiles for its Su-30 and LCA Tejas fighter aircraft. The clearance was given to the DRDO and public sector firm BDL, during a recent visit by Indian Air Force Deputy Chief Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit to Hyderabad. While DRDO is the development agency for the project, BDL is the production agency for it, senior defence officials told India Today TV.

The programme was cleared by the Defence Acquisition Council for the IAF and Indian Navy, under which 248 missiles were expected to be produced for both services in 2022-23. These series of air-to-air missiles are part of the Astra program, which aims to enhance the aerial combat capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces. The Astra



Mark 1 missile, a predecessor to the Mark 2, has already been successfully inducted into both the IAF and the Navy. Senior defence officials informed India Today TV that work is currently underway on the Astra Mark 2 missiles and the first test of this 130 km strike range missile is scheduled to take place in the upcoming months. DRDO is focusing on developing a special motor to extend the missile's range, they said. The existing Astra Mark 1 missile has a range of up to 100 kilometres, with the potential for further extension. The journey towards developing an indigenous air-to-air missile system began in 2001, when the DRDO initiated discussions with various stakeholders. The aim was to design and develop a missile system capable of engaging adversary targets beyond visual range. Hyderabad's Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) was subsequently identified as the nodal lab for this project. A dedicated task force was formed to undertake preliminary studies and drive the project forward.

"Won't Apologise To Any Official, But...": Bengal Minister Resigns

Kolkata: A day after the Trinamool Congress leadership asked him to step down from the ministry and apologise to a forest department woman official for threatening and verbally abusing her, West Bengal Correctional Services minister Akhil Giri on Monday said he had sent his resignation to the Chief Minister's Office. The TMC MLA from Ramnagar, however, said that he would not apologise to any official but to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. "I have tendered my resignation through chief secretary to the Chief Minister's Office. But I will not apologise to any official. I may apologise to the chief minister," Giri told reporters while coming out of the MLA hostel in the southern part of the



city. "I lost my cool that day seeing people's sufferings and how the forest department people were torturing

small-time businessmen had paid forest department officials bribe to start shops on department land near the Tajpur sea beach in Purba Medinipur district. Giri, who has been with the TMC since it was founded in 1998, said he would write in detail to the CM regarding the events that led to his losing cool. Asked about his plans on whether he would join the BJP, Giri said, "What would I be doing? My term is till 2026, I will be working as an MLA as per the requirement of my party. On Sunday, Giri, flanked by locals was seen in videos threatening forest ranger Manisha Sahu, warning her of reducing her tenure after she and her team removed encroachments on forest department land near Tajpur beach.

Heavy rain alert in 5 states, river water level rises in Jharkhand, Bengal

New Delhi: The India Meteorological Department issued a red alert for western Madhya Pradesh, eastern Rajasthan, Gujarat, the Konkan region, Goa, and central Maharashtra on Sunday, saying that the states and the region would receive "heavy to extremely heavy rainfall" for coming few days. On the other hand, river water levels are rising in Pune, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. Authorities are monitoring the situation closely and have advised residents to take the necessary precautions. Speaking with news agency ANI, IMD scientist Dr. Naresh Kumar said, "The monsoon is in its active phase. There is a deep depression in North East MP. There is low pressure in southwest Rajasthan. We expect extremely heavy rainfall in western Madhya Pradesh, eastern Rajasthan, Gujarat, the Konkan region, Goa, and central Maharashtra, for which we have also issued a red alert. There will be no

rain in Delhi-NCR in the next two days. "Kerala, coastal Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu are expected to witness heavy rain in the coming days, he stated. "When the monsoon trough comes to its



near position, light to moderate rainfall is expected in Delhi," he added. On Monday, the National Defense Response Force rescued seven people who were stranded in Hinglaj village in Gujarat's Valsad district in wake of the heavy rain and high tide in the Auranga river. According to the official, the stranded

people were fishermen. In light of the significant water discharge from the Khadakwasla, Mulshi, Pavana, and other dams in the Pune region, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has directed authorities to remain vigilant. He emphasised the importance of relocating residents from hazardous areas to safer locations with the support of the NDRF, SDRF, and the Army, if necessary. According to officials from Maharashtra's irrigation department, 35,000 cusecs of water have been released from the Khadakwasla dam due to heavy rainfall in the catchment areas over the past two weeks. The ghat section of Pune district has experienced particularly intense rainfall in the last two days. In response to the heavy downpours and water discharge from the Khadakwasla dam, army personnel have been deployed to assist in an inundated residential area in Pune, Maharashtra, officials stated.

On Sunday, heavy rains swept across western and central India, while a cloudburst in Jammu and Kashmir forced the closure of the vital Srinagar-Leh national highway. This disruption has severed the Kashmir Valley's connection to Ladakh and rendered the Baltal base camp for the Amarnath Yatra inaccessible. The recent landslides in Kerala's Wayanad and Himachal Pradesh have resulted in a tragic loss of life, with the death toll rising to 358 and 13, respectively. In addition, over 370 individuals, including pilgrims, who were stranded along the rain-damaged trek route to Uttarakhand's Kedarnath, have been successfully evacuated. In the wake of the rising water level of the Godavari River due to heavy rains, the Nashik district administration has urged people to stay alert. An official stated that a total of 4,000 cusecs of water were released from the Gangapur dam, leading to a spike in the water level of the Godavari.



Can your Beauty Salon harm you?

If you're planning on some post party indulgence, here's why you should think twice

The quickest way to pamper yourself is to indulge at the salon. However, a recent study claims that a simple fish pedicure that involves tiny toothless carp nibbling away at dead skin could spread deadly infection and disease. And that's just the tip of the proverbial iceberg. So, if you have intentions of stopping by the salon for a beauty treatment, read on.

Skin-tillating? ...not at all! If you have a weak immune system, or condition like diabetes and psoriasis in particular, experts advise you to stay away

from your local beauty parlour. They warn of the dangers of contracting Hepatitis C from the use of unsterile scissors (through a nick during a haircut or even a manicure). A website even reports how American singer Paula Abdul suffered a long and painful thumb infection she picked up at a Los Angeles nail salon and testified before legislators in support of a bill to increase nail salon health standards.

"If a person is already infected with a bacterial or

fungal infection and warts or molluscum (viral) and bleeds into the water in the tank, then there definitely is a very chance this could be passed to another client, either via the fish or contaminated tank water; if this not taken care of it can be harmful," says skin expert Dr Krupa Amonkar. In addition, there is a danger of contracting the Hepatitis c virus from unsterile scissors either through a nick during a haircut or during a slip that



draws blood in a manicure. A website reports how singer and American Idol judge Paula Abdul suffered long, painful thumb infection that she apparently picked up at a Los Angeles nail salon and testified before legislators in support of a bill to increase nail-salon health standards. Mike Comins, chairman of the British Association of Cosmetic Doctors, says: "Hepatitis C is a robust virus that can live outside the body for quite a long time and may not display any symptoms at all. It can linger for decades, increasing your risk of cirrhosis and liver cancer. It's very contagious and not routinely tested for." Adds skin doctor Rita Shah, "One has to be careful. If the instruments are not sterilised properly, there's a risk they could spread blood-borne infections." Hair and now! Ever thought a simple blow dry could nix it for you? That's apparently that case.

You can actually suffer 'asphyxiation' from a Brazilian Blowdry as a major ingredient in the straightening treatment d u b b e d t h e Brazilian, or permanent, blowdry is said to be formaldehyde. And inspite of certain restrictions on the amount of the chemical that can be used, and new formaldehyde-free formulations, certain firms are still selling products that can cause breathing difficulties and other unpleasant side-effects. That's a scare, not counting smaller woes like head lice from dirty brushes! And don't forget hot wax has the potential to be seriously dangerous if it's not handled properly or even a stroke from a washbasin! If you have managed to just end up with a crick in your neck and shoulder after a shampoo, count your blessings. Research indicates that the position in which you have to hold your



neck while being shampooed over a basin could, in a few cases result in a stroke, known as Beauty Salon Stroke Syndrome. The result can be dizziness, facial numbness, and even a blood clot in the brain. This is especially dangerous for those with high blood pressure. The warning signs are out, next time you might want to do a re-think before your hairdo or manicure.

Finding a good tattoo artist is half the job done, yet there are things even the most professional ones might withhold from you. Here are some of them:

Tattoos hurt... a little The pain you will experience while getting a tattoo is relative, and a lot of it is in the mind. Says tattoo artist Lama, "I've had body builders who start crying once the needle pierces the skin and middle-aged women who doze off while they are getting a tat." If you are confident in your artist and excited about the design, experts say that you're more relaxed and the pain is miniscule. It also boils down to the skill of the artist. If he doesn't know the levels to push the needle, is too rough or doesn't know the level of thickness of the skin's layers, it could cause bleeding and scarring. The tattoo needle shouldn't make you bleed.

Asking for the shop minimum is an insult



Tattooing

etiquette and tips for newbies

The shop minimum at a tattoo parlour is the overhead costs that it takes to get you tattooed. Keeping the equipment clean and sterile costs money. This includes needles, ink and workstations. Asking your tattoo technician a question like, "What's your shop minimum?" can dampen his mood.

Never get a tattoo in summer

Tattoo ink is made up of pigments that can fade easily when exposed to the sun's ultraviolet rays. With the weather hot all year-round in Mumbai, you can't deprive yourself of tattoos.



So, while your tattoo is healing, cover it up. Wear clothing while walking in direct sunlight and avoid the beach.

White tattoos are a waste

Transparent and white tattoos are a growing trend that will almost always leave you with regret. Says tribal tattoo expert Mo Naga, "You're going through the pain and healing for something that is sort of invisible. White ink falls out, gets splotchy and yellow over time. It usually ends up looking like a scar or birthmark." You don't want to go through the entire process of healing for something that looks good only for a day.

Machine users aren't tattoo artists

"There are many people around calling themselves tattoo artists because they know how to use the equipment," says tattoo artist Sunny Bhanushali. A tattoo machine is just a tool, knowing to use it doesn't make a person tattoo artist. While choosing the tattoo artist, always ask to see his finished work. A good tattoo artist will be very good at drawing, painting or any other art form. So the easiest way to find the right artist around you is to look at his tattoo portfolio and drawings. Don't tattoo the name of anyone besides your parent or child. Tattooing the girlfriend's name on your arm is risky business so hold off on name tats. Brash youthfulness, saving broken relationships, and even branding a partner as yours makes name tattoos a cover-up job. After his split with long-time girlfriend Winona Ryder, Hollywood actor Johnny Depp had to change the tattoo on his right arm from 'Winona Forever' to a weird 'Wino Forever'. The bottom line is: Young love ends, the tattoo stays.

All inks should be in disposable caps Ink, cream and other materials must be divided into separate containers for each client. Visit a tattoo parlour and you will see rows of tiny white caps on a tattoo artist's work station. Tattoo ink is placed into

If you belong to that shrinking breed of people who've never been inked, you're probably still contemplating that oft-repeated question of tattoo virgins: Does it hurt? Get past the temporary pain once you've set your mind on getting inked, and decide on the design.

these caps because throughout the tattooing process, the artist has to constantly dip the tattoo needle into the colour of ink. Like old fountain pens, tattoo needles retain a tiny amount of ink on the tips that have to be constantly replenished. If they were to keep dipping the tattoo needle into a central, main pot of ink, it would cross-contaminate every client.

Have your concept ready

Says Sunny, "You need to have some concept for your tattoo. The artist will convert your idea into a creative design. If you don't have any idea about what exactly you want on your body, the artist will be at a loss about what to suggest and you might get something you regret." Also, amateur tattoo artists in the city download ready designs from internet. Don't settle for clones. Demand a custom design. It's your right to ask your artist to draw something specially for you.

Indian economy likely to grow at 7-7.2 per cent in FY25, says Deloitte

New Delhi. India's economy is expected to grow at 7-7.2 per cent in the current fiscal year driven by robust economic fundamentals and continuity in domestic policy reforms, Deloitte India said on Monday.

The August update of Deloitte's India Economic Outlook said several initiatives in the Union Budget 2024-25 toward improving agriculture productivity, creating jobs for the youth, and in manufacturing and addressing the challenge of access to finance for micro, small, and medium enterprises, would help improve supply-side demand, curb inflation, and prop up consumer spending, especially in rural areas.

Deloitte India Economist Rumki Majumdar said, India would witness robust growth in the second half after a period of uncertainty in the first six months of the year.

"Key contributing factors include the continuity in domestic policy reforms, reduced uncertainties in the US post-elections, and more synchronous global growth within a low inflation regime.

"Additionally, improved global liquidity conditions, as central banks in the West ease their monetary policy stance, will enhance capital flows and drive higher investments, particularly in the private sector," Majumdar said.

IndiGo launches 'IndiGoStretch' business class with fares starting at Rs 18,000

New Delhi. Leading airline IndiGo is all set to sell business class tickets from mid-November on a handful of domestic flights, its CEO Peter Elbers said on Monday.

The airline's CEO announced while introducing the airline's business class offering, 'IndiGoStretch', with fares starting from Rs 18,000. "We are launching a tailor-made business product on the busiest and business routes of the country," Elbers said at an event in Delhi, organised ahead of the airline's 18th anniversary. The business class seats will be first offered on the Delhi-Mumbai route, as it seeks to tap a growing



number of premium flyers. The no-frills carrier's introduction of business class represents a strategic shift from its previous all-economy model, reflecting an increasing demand for premium services in the country. The airline will debut its business class on 12 routes, including those to major cities such as Bengaluru, Chennai, Kolkata, and Hyderabad.

"It's going to be a real good business class," Elbers said. The move is expected to cater to the growing preference for enhanced travel experiences among consumers.

Japan's Nikkei 225 stock index sinks 10%, registers worst crash since 1987

The last time the Nikkei experienced such a severe drop was on "Black Monday" in October 1987, when it plunged 3,836 points, or 14.9%.

Japan's Nikkei 225 share index plunged as much as 10% on Monday, driven by heavy selling amid concerns that the U.S. economy may be in worse shape than previously expected. By midafternoon in Tokyo, the Nikkei index was down more than 3,500 points at 32,385.01. The index had already dropped 5.8% on Friday, and it is now headed for its worst two-day decline ever. The last time the Nikkei experienced such a severe drop was on "Black Monday" in October 1987, when it plunged 3,836 points, or 14.9%.

The drop follows the Bank of Japan's decision to raise its



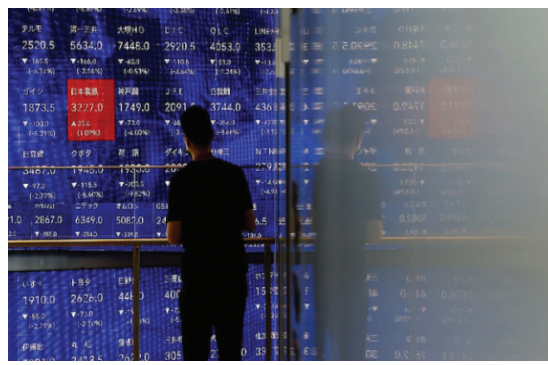
benchmark interest rate on Wednesday, bringing it to around the same level as a year ago.

Share prices have been falling in Tokyo since the announcement. Adding to the turmoil, Asian equities plummeted to multi-year lows on Monday as investors rushed out of risky assets and into safe-haven bonds, driven by fears that the Federal Reserve's prolonged fight against inflation might have pushed the United States into a recession. Meanwhile, the benchmark Indian stock market indices, Sensex and Nifty, crashed 3% each. While the crash in the domestic markets wiped out significant amount of investor wealth, the situation was better than in other Asian stock markets.

US recession fears to Middle East crisis: Decoding global stock market crash

New Delhi. Stock markets around the globe, especially those in Asia, crashed on Monday on fears of a recession in the US economy and rising geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. The global stock market meltdown was triggered by widespread sell-offs, as investors hurried to move their risky assets into safer havens such as bonds and gold. Asian stock markets took the biggest knock, plunging to multi-year lows, with Japan and the tech-focused markets of Taiwan and Korea experiencing the heaviest losses. It may be noted that Japan's Nikkei 225 plunged the most since 1987 due to the sell-off sparked by US recession fears on Monday. Taiwanese stocks are down approximately 18% since their peak in mid-July but remain up over 11% for the year. South Korean shares, which had been marginally positive earlier in the year, are now 6% below their starting point. While the Indian benchmark stock

market indices, Sensex and Nifty, crashed 3% each, they were still in a better position than other Asian markets. Factors behind global market meltdown Last week's disappointing US economic data raised doubts about the Federal Reserve's ability to engineer a soft landing for the world's largest economy and whether more aggressive rate cuts might be necessary to prevent a slowdown. The uncertainty, combined with rising tensions in the Middle East and concerns over tech earnings, intensified the global sell-off. Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, said, "The rally in the global stock markets has been driven mainly by consensus expectations of a soft landing for the US economy. This expectation is now under threat with the fall in US job



creation in July and the sharp rise in US unemployment rate to 4.3%," he said. "Geopolitical tensions in the Middle East also are a contributing factor," he added. On Japan's stock market crash, he said the bigger reason was "the unwinding of the Yen carry trade which is bleeding the Japanese market", indicating that the Japanese market is in crisis.

Santosh Meena, Head of Research, Swastika Investmart Ltd, said, "The global market is reeling as bears enter with a cocktail of bad news. The fear of a reverse Yen carry trade, following an interest rate hike in Japan, was the initial catalyst." "This was compounded by fears of a recession in the USA after extremely poor job data, which spooked market sentiment. China and Europe are already grappling with slowdowns, and escalating geopolitical tensions are adding further pressure on the markets," he added. "We are witnessing signs of the first meaningful correction in global markets after an extended bull run. Investors and traders should be cautious and avoid rushing in immediately, as better entry levels may emerge," he said, adding that the "the outlook for our market remains very bullish".

Rupee hits all-time low amid global stock sell-off and US economic worries

NEW DELHI. Rupee reached an all-time low on Monday as fears of a sharp slowdown in the United States led to a sell-off in global stocks and a pullback from local equities. The rupee (INR) fell to a record low of 83.82 against the US dollar. By 11:20 AM, it was trading at 83.8125, which was a drop of about 0.1% from its previous close of 83.75 on Friday. The decline in the rupee came as Indian stock markets also suffered losses. Both the benchmark indices, the BSE Sensex and Nifty 50, were down by about 3% each.

Asian stock markets were down across the board following a disappointing US jobs report from Friday. The report showed an unexpected rise in the unemployment rate for July, raising concerns about the

economic outlook.

Investors moved away from risky assets due to worries that the Federal Reserve's decision to delay lowering interest rates might push the US



economy into a recession. The delay is seen as part of a broader effort to combat inflation. On Monday, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) intervened to support the rupee.

Sebi amends mutual fund rules to curb front-running, insider trading

NEW DELHI. Capital markets regulator Sebi has amended mutual fund norms requiring Asset Management Companies (AMCs) to put in place an institutional mechanism to identify and deter front-running and insider trading in securities. Additionally, the management of AMCs will be responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of the institutional mechanism. Also, the regulator has directed AMCs to have a whistle-blower mechanism. This came in the wake of Sebi's passing two orders regarding front-running cases involving Axis AMC and Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

In a gazette notification dated August 1, Sebi said, "Asset management companies shall put in place an institutional mechanism, as may be specified by the Board, for the identification and deterrence of

potential market abuse including front-running and fraudulent transactions in securities." Front-running refers to an illegal practice, where an entity trades based on advanced information from a



stock broker or analyst before the information has been made available to clients. As per the notification, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or Managing Director (MD) or such other person of equivalent or analogous rank

and Chief Compliance Officer of the asset management company will be responsible and accountable for the implementation of such an institutional mechanism. "The asset management company shall establish, implement and maintain a documented whistle-blower policy that shall provide for a confidential channel for employees, directors, trustees, and other stakeholders to raise concerns about suspected fraudulent, unfair or unethical practices, violations of regulatory or legal requirements or governance vulnerability, and establish procedures to ensure adequate protection of the whistleblowers," Sebi said. To give these effects, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has amended mutual fund rules, which will come into force from November 1.

PV sales rise 10 per cent in July on new launches, enhanced discounts: FADA

NEW DELHI. Passenger vehicle retail sales in India witnessed a 10 per cent on-year jump in July driven by new model launches and enhanced discounts, industry body FADA said on Monday.

Total passenger vehicle retail sales rose to 3,20,129 units in July, as compared to 2,90,564 units in July 2023. "Dealers reported benefits from good product availability, attractive schemes, and a wider range of products," the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) Vice President C S Vigneshwar said in a statement. Heavy rains, low consumer sentiment, and intense competition posed challenges but dealers managed to sustain sales through strong promotions and incremental discounts, he added. Vigneshwar, however, noted that the growth is accompanied by high inventory levels which has surged to a historic high of 67-72 days, equating to Rs 73,000 crores worth of stock.

"This poses a substantial risk for dealer sustainability, necessitating extreme caution. FADA urges PV original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) to be

vigilant about potential dealer failures due to these high inventory levels," he stated. It is also crucial for the Reserve Bank of India to mandate financial institutions to implement stringent checks before releasing inventory funding, preferably requiring dealer consent or collaterals to prevent the escalation of NPAs, he added.

Two-wheeler retail sales last month stood at 14,43,463 units, an increase of 17 per cent over 12,31,930 units in July 2023. The segment experienced notable growth due to a thriving rural economy, positive monsoon effects, and the government's support programs enhancing rural incomes, Vigneshwar noted. "The introduction of new products and better stock availability also contributed significantly, despite market slowdowns in certain regions, excessive rains, and increased competition," he added.

Commercial vehicle retail sales grew 7 per cent year-on-year to 80,057 units last month. "Positive factors included growth in the construction and mining sectors,



while challenges such as continuous rainfall, negative rural market sentiment, poor finance availability, and high vehicle prices were also noted," Vigneshwar said. Tractor sales declined 12 per cent year-on-year to 79,970 units in July.

FADA, which collated vehicle registration data from 1,568 out of 1,645 RTOs across the country, noted that the near-term outlook across the auto retail segments shows a blend of optimism and caution. Two-wheeler sales are expected to be buoyed by factors such as a growing rural

economy, positive monsoon impacts and the introduction of new products.

The festive season beginning after the Aadi festival and favourable agricultural conditions are also likely to contribute to increased sales. However, heavy rainfall, ongoing agricultural activities and inconsistent monsoon patterns may dampen demand in certain areas.

FADA noted that the PV segment could see mixed results in the near-term.

While the festive season, attractive schemes and good monsoon are expected to boost sales, concerns over low consumer sentiment, heavy rainfall and a lack of new product launches persist, it said. High inventory levels pose a significant risk and it is crucial for PV OEMs to avoid further increases in stock to prevent financial strain on dealers, FADA said. The CV segment faces a modest outlook, with positive factors including improved market reach and the festive season, tempered by challenges such as bad freight rates and ongoing rainfall, it added.

Sensex falls over 2,500 points, Nifty crashes; Rs 18 lakh crore wiped out

New Delhi. Benchmark indices, Sensex and Nifty, tumbled sharply for the second consecutive session today, mirroring global market fears of a potential recession in the US economy.

Investor wealth declined by Rs 18 lakh crore, with the market valuation dropping to Rs Rs 443.29 lakh crore from the previous session's Rs 457.16 lakh crore. The S&P BSE Sensex was down 2,345 points lower at 78,636.37 at around 12:09 pm, while the NSE Nifty50 plunged 698.70 points to trade at 24,019. The market downturn was broad-based, with small and midcap stocks experiencing significant declines.

Several top multibagger stocks declined sharply during the session. Volatility surged as global market uncertainty took its toll. All major sectoral indices suffered substantial losses in realty, IT, banking, and financial services stocks.

Factors behind today's stock market crash Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, highlighted US job data, which led to a global sell-off, was the key factor behind today's steep fall in Sensex and Nifty. He explained that expectations of a soft landing for the US economy is now in jeopardy due to a decline in job creation in July and a sharp rise in the US unemployment rate to 4.3%.

Geopolitical tensions in the Middle East are also exacerbating market fears, Vijayakumar noted.

Another critical factor is the unwinding of the Yen carry trade, which has significantly impacted the Japanese market. The Nikkei index's crash by over 4% this morning signals a crisis in the Japanese market. Vijayakumar also pointed out that valuations in India remain high, particularly in the mid and smallcap segments, driven mainly by sustained liquidity flows. Overvalued sectors such as Defence and Railways are expected to face pressure. He advised investors against rushing to buy during this correction and to wait for market stabilisation. Amid the ongoing sell-off, Sameet Chavan, Head of Research, Technical and Derivatives at Angel One, highlighted the importance of staying vigilant and monitoring global developments. He advised observing these trends thoroughly over the weekend to be well-prepared to respond effectively. Meanwhile, Tanvi Kanchan, Head - UAE Business & Strategy, Anand Rathi Shares and Stock Brokers, said, "The broader indices traded at a negative zone, emulating the global indices after the Nasdaq and the S&P lost 3.2% in 2 trading days, post the federal reserve decided to hold interest rates.

NEWS BOX

Virat Kohli flaunts his dance moves after completing catch in SL vs IND

New Delhi. Virat Kohli continued to entertain the fans with his on-field antics after his return to ODI cricket for India after eight months. Kohli, known for breaking into impromptu dancing, was yet again the centre of attraction at the R. Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on August 5, Sunday. Kohli broke into dancing when he completed the catch of Sri Lankan batter Sadeera Samarawickrama during the 2nd ODI match between India and Sri Lanka. This time, Kohli's dance moves seemed familiar. It looked similar to Riyan Parag's Assamese Bihu dance moves. Parag, who hails from Assam, had performed a step from their traditional dance when RR completed a thrilling victory over SRH during IPL 2020. The 18-year-old's dance moves went viral on the internet and the batter was spotted performing the step quite often. Kohli was spotted performing a similar step when he completed the catch. Interestingly, Parag has hailed Kohli as his idol. Kohli returned to his animated best as many of his on-field videos have gone viral



on the internet. He was spotted having a fun and goofy chat with Shubman Gill during the 1st ODI match. However, the 35-year-old is yet to step-up with the bat in the three-match ODI series. Sri Lanka take series lead After the first ODI match between India and Sri Lanka ended in a tie, the hosts managed to win the 2nd ODI match by 32 runs in Colombo. Kohli has managed the scores of 24 and 11 so far in the first 2 ODI matches. In the 2nd match, the hosts Sri Lanka, managed to outplay India in every way to take an unassailable lead in the series. The loss also ended India's sequence of 11 consecutive bilateral series wins in the ODIs against Sri Lanka.

Turkey's Yusuf Dikec shot even without glasses in 2011, video goes viral

New Delhi. With one hand in his pocket and wearing regular glasses, Turkey's Yusuf Dikec became a fan favourite at the Paris Olympics 2024. His casual appearance with not much professional equipment has been all over the internet. However, it turns out the 51-year-old had much swagger to himself as he did not even need glasses back in 2011 for shooting. A video has gone viral where Dikec did not even wear glasses and was in his usual casual style with no ear protection at the shooting range. Despite that, Dikec managed to win the gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event. The ISSF released where Dikec was shooting in an international competition held by the global shooting body. A decade later, Dikec managed to maintain his uber-cool to win Turkey their second medal and his first-ever Olympic medal at the Paris Games 2024. He bagged a silver medal in the 10m



air pistol mixed team event. However, Paris is far from Dikec's first rodeo. The Turkish shooter made his Olympic debut at Beijing 2008 at the age of 35, and returned four years later at London 2012. It was there where he recorded his previous best result of 13th in the men's 50m free pistol event. Dikec also competed at Rio Olympics in 2016 and Tokyo 2020. Although always shy of medal content or a top-10 finish.

Dikec's swagger continues

He was already a multiple national champion and a seven-time European champion, but an Olympic shooting silver is a first for both him and the nation. Apart from the Olympic Games, he has two World Championship titles to his name, both in 2014, where he was victorious in the men's 25m centerfire pistol and the men's 25m standard pistol events.

India to face Germany in Olympic semis: H2H, all you need to know

India are all set to face Germany in the Paris Olympics 2024 hockey semifinal, which will be a rematch of the bronze medal tie from Tokyo 2020. Both teams are giants of the game and will be aiming to serve another thriller for the hockey fans.

New Delhi. India are all set for their semifinal clash in hockey, and they will be facing none other than the world champions Germany in the clash. The Indian team had made secured a miraculous win on August 4, Sunday as they literally defied the odds to go past Great Britain. In a match that was marred by controversy, India were reduced to 10 men as Amit Rohidas was given a red card by the referee. Forced to play more than 45



minutes with just 10 men, it seemed like the task was going to be impossible for the Indian side as Great Britain launched attack after attack. However, PR Sreejesh and the Indian defence stood their ground and thwarted every single attack as Great Britain were unable to take the lead as the game ended 1-1. Then came the dreaded penalty shootout, where Sreejesh once again proved why he is the best in the business. India won 4-2 as Sreejesh pulled

off a fine save as the Indian players all converted their chances. Now, they will be facing Germany, who went past Argentina in the other quarterfinal. Gonzalo Peillat, an Olympic gold medal winner with Argentina, came back to haunt his former side on Sunday as he was one of the goalscorers for Germany in a thrilling match that would end 3-2. The other quarterfinals saw both Belgium and Australia, finalists from Tokyo, get

knocked out of the competition by Spain and Netherlands respectively. The field is now set for the semifinals and India and Germany have some history when it comes to such knockout games.

India vs Germany: Head to Head

India and Germany have played 18 matches so far, with India leading the head to head 8-6. 4 matches have finished in draws. India has scored 41 goals while Germany has hit 37 in these matches. The most famous encounter in recent times between these two giants was the Bronze medal match in Tokyo Olympics. India secured a thrilling 5-4 win, thanks to last-gasp stop by Sreejesh from a PC in the final moments of the match. In the last 6 meetings between these sides, India has won 5 of them. The last game between the two was in the FIH Pro League where Germany edged past with a 3-2 win.

Olympics 2024, Hockey Schedule

When and where to watch India vs Germany live? The India vs Germany Paris Olympics 2024 hockey semi-final will be played on August 6, Tuesday at 10:30 PM IST. The match can be viewed live on Sports 18 1 and Sports 18 2 channels and livestreamed on JioCinema app and website.

Lakshya Sen's bronze medal match vs Zii Jia Lee in Paris: When and where to watch

New Delhi India's star shuttler Lakshya Sen will be in action on day 10 at the Paris Olympics 2024. The 22-year-old will fight it out for the bronze medal against Malaysia's Zii Jia Lee on August 5, Monday. He will be vying to bring India their 4th medal at the Paris Games when he will take part in the men's singles third-place match. History beckons Lakshya as he has chance to become the first Indian to win an Olympic medal in the men's badminton category. If he wins, he will become only the third Indian to win an Olympic medal in badminton after Saina Nehwal and PV Sindhu. The world No. 22 enjoyed a sensational run in the lead-up to the semifinals in the men's singles event. The unseeded player ended his group stage at top as he also defeated world No. 4 Jonatan Christie of Indonesia. He overcame his Indian counterpart HS Prannoy in round of 16 and overcame China's Chou Tien-chen in the quarter-final. However, he lost the semi-final battle against Victor Axelsen in straight sets.

However, Lakshya Sen holds an edge against his Malaysian opponent in the head-to-head battle. He has faced Lee Zii Jia five times so



far and won four of those matches. Paris Olympics 2024: India Schedule | Full Coverage | Medal Tally Here's all you need to know about catching Lakshya Sen live in action: When will Lakshya Sen's bronze medal match take place at the Paris Olympics 2024? Lakshya Sen's bronze medal match at the Paris Olympics 2024 will take place on August 5, Monday. What time will Lakshya Sen's bronze medal match at the Paris Olympics 2024 start?

Lakshya Sen's bronze medal match at the Paris Olympics 2024 will start at 6 PM (IST).

Where will Lakshya Sen's bronze medal match at the Paris Olympics 2024 be broadcast?

Lakshya Sen's bronze medal match at the Paris Olympics 2024 will be telecast on the Sports 18 1 SD and Sports 18 1 HD TV channels. Where to watch the live-streaming of Lakshya Sen's bronze medal match at the Paris Olympics? Lakshya Sen's bronze medal match at the Paris Olympics 2024 will be streamed live on the JioCinema app and website.

How call to therapist helped Noah Lyles claim Olympics gold in Paris

New Delhi After years of rebuilding his mental health, Noah Lyles reached the pinnacle of his sport, clinching the Olympic gold in the 100 meters on Sunday. A crucial phone call with his therapist after a tense semi-final round was instrumental in his victory. Lyles delivered a stellar performance, winning the 100 meters gold by a mere five-thousandths of a second with a time of 9.79 seconds. The final was intensely competitive, with Jamaican sprinter Oblique Seville finishing last despite clocking 9.91 seconds. In the semi-final, Seville had outpaced Lyles, necessitating a shift in mindset for Lyles ahead of the final. Speaking after the win, as quoted by Reuters, Lyles detailed how he had a call with his therapist who told him to let go, relax and be himself in the final race.

"I wouldn't say nervous - I'd say I was extremely curious as to what was going to happen. That's how me and my therapist phrase it. I'm curious as to what I'm going to do, how am I going to pull this off," he told



reporters. "I came in third-fastest from the semis. I'm like 'This is going to be serious, this is not going to be easy'. And I had said OK, my therapist said 'You need to let go, you need to relax and you need to be yourself'."

Did this against the best of the best

The U.S. sprinter, who has openly shared his mental health journey, knew the importance of being mentally prepared. Lyles' familiarity with the highs and lows of his sport stems from a personal journey of

overcoming depression, a struggle he faced three years ago. The three-time 200m world champion's journey hit a low point in 2021 when he failed to qualify for the 100 meters at the U.S. Olympic trials. Determined to become the fastest man on earth, he focused on rebuilding both his body and mind.

This victory in Paris marks the culmination of Lyles' relentless effort and dedication to his mental and physical well-being, underscoring the importance of mental health in achieving athletic excellence.

"I did this against the best of the best, on the biggest stage, with the biggest pressure," Lyles said. "And I wasn't even entered in the 100 in 2021. You know, here I am, first Olympics in the 100, going around now the Olympic champion." Lyles will now be in action in the 200 m event as he bids to complete a rare sprint double at the Olympics. The opening rounds of the event is set to be held on Monday, August 5.

Rohit Sharma first Indian, second overall batter to hit 300 sixes in ODI cricket

Rohit Sharma has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the first Indian and second overall batter to hit 300 sixes in One-Day Internationals. Despite India's 32-run defeat against Sri Lanka, Rohit's accomplishment was a standout moment.

New Delhi. Indian captain Rohit Sharma etched his name into the record books again, becoming the first Indian and second overall batter to hit 300 sixes in One-Day Internationals (ODIs). Rohit achieved this remarkable feat during India's 32-run defeat against Sri Lanka in the second ODI in Colombo on Sunday. Rohit's blistering knock of 64 runs from just 44 balls included four towering sixes and five elegant fours. Despite the team's loss, his milestone was a standout achievement in the match. This innings brought his career tally of sixes as an



opener to an impressive 302 from 177 matches, making him the second opener in history to cross the 300-sixes mark in ODIs. He trails only the legendary Chris Gayle, who has smashed 328 sixes in 280 games. Sanath Jayasuriya, the current Sri Lankan coach and a former explosive opener, ranks third on the list with 263 sixes

from 388 ODIs. Rohit Sharma's career as an opener has been nothing short of phenomenal. With 8,801 runs from 177 matches, he has amassed 29 centuries and 55 fifties, maintaining a stellar average of 55. These statistics highlight his consistency and dominance at the top of the order. In the overall list of most sixes in ODIs, Rohit stands third with 330 sixes in 264 matches. He is surpassed only by Pakistan's Shahid Afridi, who tops the list with 351 sixes from 398 games, and Chris Gayle, who is just one six ahead with 331 sixes from 301 matches. Rohit also holds the record for the most sixes by an Indian in ODIs, surpassing notable names like Mahendra Singh Dhoni (229 sixes from 297 matches) and Sachin Tendulkar (195 sixes from 463 games). Moreover, across all three formats in international cricket—Tests, ODIs, and T20Is—Rohit Sharma leads the charts for the most sixes with a staggering 619 sixes from 482 matches.

Novak Djokovic aims to play LA 2028 Games after gold medal win in Paris Olympics

Novak Djokovic is already aiming to play in the Los Angeles Olympics 2028 after his gold medal win at the Paris Olympics 2024.

New Delhi. Novak Djokovic ended his 16-year-long wait to win a gold medal at Paris Olympics 2024 in what he called "probably the biggest sporting success". The Serbian is also eyeing to play the Los Angeles Olympics in 2028, when he would turn 41. The 37-year-old already became the oldest to win an Olympic gold in the history of singles tennis event. Djokovic beat Spain's Carlos Alcaraz 7-6 (7/3), 7-6 (7/2) in an enthralling final at the Court Philippe Chartier in Paris. "This is probably the biggest sporting success I have

ever had and the most special feeling," the 37-year-old Serb said. "I want to play in Los Angeles, I enjoy playing for my country in the Olympic Games, in the Davis Cup," he added. Djokovic won a bronze medal in the Beijing Olympics 2008 and lost three semifinals before clinching the gold medal at the Paris Games.

Djokovic wins gold in Paris

With the historic win, Djokovic joined Andre Agassi, Rafael Nadal, Steffi Graf and Serena Williams in an elite club. These are the only players to win all four Grand Slam tournaments and Olympic singles gold, completing the career Golden Slam. "I thought carrying the flag at the opening ceremony for my country at the 2012 Olympics was the best feeling an athlete could have until today." Djokovic, who has won a men's record 24 majors and swept up every title there is in tennis, finally clinched



Olympic gold at his fifth Games. He also managed to beat Alcaraz, who got the better of him in two consecutive Wimbledon finals. The 37-year-old said that he was not assured of a win until the final shot and gave his everything thinking that this could be his last shot at the Olympic gold. "Now at the age of 37 and facing a 21-year-old who is probably the best player in the world right now, winning Roland Garros and Wimbledon

back-to-back, I can say that this is probably the biggest sporting success I have ever had." How Wimbledon loss worked in Djokovic's favour? "We almost played three hours, the final shot was the only moment when I was sure I could win the match," said Djokovic. "I knew that this could be my last chance of a gold medal," added Djokovic at his post-final press conference still draped in his country's flag and with his medal hanging proudly around his neck. "I did everything I possibly could to prepare myself for this period. The injury sidetracked me a little bit. But coming into the Olympic Games, I felt like a different player in terms of how I moved, how I played. Alcaraz, 21, was also in tears after the match, but became the youngest to win a silver medal in the tennis event on his Olympic debut. "In a way losing heavily to Alcaraz at Wimbledon probably worked in my favour as I knew I couldn't play any worse than that."



Bigg Boss OTT 3

Shraddha Kapoor

Sings At Finale, Sana Makbul-Armaan Malik's Reactions Go Viral

Anil Kapoor's Bigg Boss OTT 3 concluded its successful run on August 2 with Sana Makbul lifting the trophy this year. However, the night was made more special after Shraddha Kapoor and Rajkumar Rao joined Anil on stage to promote their upcoming film, Stree 2. Shraddha even serenaded the audience and the contestants with a rendition of the song, Teri Galiyaan. Shraddha Kapoor sang live on stage for the contestants and the studio audience, who seemed mesmerised by her performance. While Sana Makbul couldn't stop smiling and swayed along as Shraddha sang, Armaan Malik was seen praising and clapping for the actress. One fan commented, "You go Babudi!!" Another added, "She is trained in classical music and this song is also sung by her. Her mom was also a singer." One person commented, "She has a wonderful voice. Miss her Aashiqui times." One fan of the actress wrote, "Man this movie and the songs were top-notch!" Another added, "Her voice is so soothing, like babudi sing me to sleep." One fan even wrote, "Ok I totally get why she's considered the national crush, she's like the perfect partner a man desires... she's like the girl you can bring home to your mom and even she'd love her." Meanwhile, the grand finale showcased fierce competition between Sana Makbul and rapper Naved Shaikh, also known as Naezy. After a suspenseful wait, Anil Kapoor declared Sana Makbul as the winner of the third season. The actress, who had garnered significant support from the audience, not only won the trophy but also a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh. The finale was a spectacular event, marked by impressive performances and heartfelt moments. All the contestants, including Armaan Malik, Payal Malik, Ranvir Shorey, and others, gathered to celebrate the occasion. When Anil Kapoor announced Sana Makbul as the winner, the crowd erupted in cheers, honouring her triumph. Despite facing criticism from some contestants and viewers who labelled her as manipulative, egotistical, and selfish, Sana managed to reach the finals. Throughout the season, she was nominated for elimination almost every week and was often considered the 'villain' of the house. The show featured contestants such as Chandrika Dixit, Sai Ketan Rao, Armaan Malik, Kritika Malik, Payal Malik, Deepak Chaurasia, Sana Sultan Vishal Pandey, Lovekesh Kataria, and Shivani Kumari. As for Stree 2, the film will be released on August 15, clashing with Akshay Kumar's Khel Khel Mein.



Amir Khan On The REAL Reason He Was Removed From Shah Rukh Khan's Darr: 'Jab Ek Se Zyada Hero Ho...'



Bollywood director-producer Yash Chopra's 1993 film Darr remains a classic in Indian cinema. With Shah Rukh Khan in a standout role as the obsessed villain, the romance thriller struck a perfect chord with audiences. Starring Sunny Deol and Juhi Chawla in the lead, Darr made it impossible to imagine anyone else playing the iconic role of Rahul Mehra. SRK's intense performance and memorable dialogue delivery stole the show, even as he played the film's antagonist. Before the filmmaker decided to cast Shah Rukh as the villain, he tried his hands at convincing Amir Khan. But he did not succeed in roping in the actor. Earlier, in an interview with Sushma Dutt in Vancouver, Amir Khan, who was touring Canada at that point, had opened up on it. Amir said that he liked the story of Darr and was keen on working with Yash Chopra once again. "I really liked the story, and Yash Chopra is a very good director. I have worked with him on Parampara and was very keen on working with him again. But, I have a principle, or you could say a policy, that if I'm working on a film with two heroes or more on one hero, I request the director for a joint narration. I prefer the director to narrate the story to both heroes together," he said. Recalling another two-hero film that he did, Amir said in Hindi, "Even during Andaz Apna Apna, Salman and I received a joint narration. This approach ensures that both of us are satisfied with our roles and helps prevent any issues later on. This is how I like to work. But in this case, it was not possible. Yash ji did not feel that he should give a joint narration. On that basis, I was removed from the project."

Vicky Kaushal Teases His Chemistry With Rashmika Mandanna in Chhava: 'Can't Wait For...'



Vicky Kaushal and Rashmika Mandanna are soon going to share screen space in an upcoming drama Chhava and fans are excited for their new jodi. Well, recently both walked the ramp also together which only increased the excitement level. However, Vicky has penned a sweet note for Rashmika which has gone viral. Taking to his Instagram handle, Vicky shared a series of photos and wrote, "An evening spent in honouring and celebrating our cultural heritage! Thank you @falgunishanepeacockindia @swadesh_online @fdciofficial for making us a small part of such an incredible show. @falgunipeacock & @shanepeacock ... you geniuses!!! What stunning pieces you guys created. Hats off to team #Swadesh for bringing traditional handwoven fabrics to the forefront of fashion. We thank the lovely people who turned up for the show for their love and warmth. @rashmika_mandanna and me, truly can't wait for the world to see a lot more of us together very soon!" Fans also reacted to this post. One of the fans wrote, "Why this man fit with every other girl!" Another wrote, "Beautiful Togetherness." The movie will star Vicky as Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, while Rashmika Mandanna will step into the role of Yesubai Bhonsale. Vicky Kaushal penned an emotional note about the film wrap. Calling the shoot 'passionate and incredible', he wrote, "The incredibly passionate and dramatic journey of filming Chhava couldn't have ended without some drama. The rain Gods really put up a show today, immediately after we rolled our final shot." Chhava is a historical drama that revolves around the life of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, the son of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. In the film, Vicky Kaushal is set to portray the character of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, the eldest son of the Maratha empire's founder. On the other hand, Rashmika Mandanna takes on the role of Yesubai Bhonsale in the film. The film also stars Akshaye Khanna, Ashutosh Rana, and Divya Dutta in key roles. According to a report by Pinkvilla, actor Neil Bhoopalam has also been roped in to portray the character of a Mughal prince in the film.

Taapsee Pannu

Drops Another Thrilling Video Ahead Of Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillruba Release

Taapsee Pannu, Vikrant Massey, and Sunny Kaushal starrer Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillruba is all set to release on the OTT platform on August 9, 2024. The makers have already released the trailer and it is getting an overwhelming response. Well, today Taapsee shared another thrilling video on her handle and left fans excited. Taking to her Instagram handle, Taapsee shared the video in which all three characters are seen getting into a bloodshed romance. Jimmy Shergill is also seen. "Phir aa rahi hai Hasseena, jiske kayi hai deewaane, magar dillruba sirf ek Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillruba, coming on 9 August, only on Netflix," read the caption here. One of the fans wrote, "This is one of best movies, too underrated." Another wrote, "Fantastic." The tumultuous journey of ill-fated lovers Rani and Rishu unfolds on August 9, taking audiences on an exhilarating ride. Helmed by Jayprad Desai, penned and co-produced by Kanika Dhillon, the film also stars, Sunny Kaushal and Jimmy Shergill. With Aanand L Rai's Colour Yellow Productions and Bhushan Kumar's T-Series Films at the helm, this sequel promises a whirlwind of romance, suspense, and unexpected twists in the signature style of the fictional Indian Pulp writer Dinesh Pandit. Picking up where the first film Hasseen Dillruba left off, the story follows Rani Kashyap and Rishabh Saxena as they seek a fresh start in the vibrant city of Agra. With authorities on their trail and drops of blood marking their path, their quest takes a dramatic turn with the arrival of Sunny Kaushal's character, Abhimanyu, introducing a fresh layer of intrigue to the drama. The lovers find new enemies with Jimmy Shergill and many more who want to foil their plans of 'happily ever after.' In December 2023, Taapsee Pannu, Sunny Kaushal and Vikrant Massey wrapped up shooting for the sequel of Hasseen Dillruba. At the announcement event, Taapsee said, "Hai toh sequel. Toh, continuation hota hai ek taariki se. Main yahi kahungi ke Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillruba ki Rani mein thora zyada pyaar hai, thori zyada himmat hai aur thora zyada pagalpan hai. Kyunki jo pagalpan ke hadh se na guzre woh pyar hee kya? Hosh mein toh rishte nibhaye jaatey hai (If there's a sequel, it's like a continuation. I'll say this: in "Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillruba ki Rani," there's a bit more love, a bit more courage, and a bit more craziness. Because what's love without a little madness? Relationships are built in consciousness)."

