## THE FINANCIAL WORLD Read & Lead

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#### REGION



**CM ARVIND KEJRIWAL MEETS FAMILY OF SONALI PHOGAT IN** HISAR

#### **BANKING & FINANCE**



**RUPEE HAS HELD ITS OWN DESPITE SHARP DEPRECIATION IN OTHER CURRENCIES, SAYS RBI GOVERNER** 

#### POTPOURRI



NAGESH KUKUNOOR **TO DIRECT SERIES ON RAJIV GANDHI'S ASSASSINATION** 

# Union Finance ministry to kick-start budgetary exercise from October 10

#### FW DESK

Union finance ministry will kick-start the exercise to prepare the annual budget for 2023-24 from October 10, in the backdrop of revival of the Indian economy and fears of recession in developed countries. The budget for the next year

will have to address critical issues of high inflation, job creation, boosting demand, and putting the economy on a sustained 8 per cent-plus growth path.

On Wednesday, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said inflation is no longer "redlettered" and the priority for the government now is job creation and boosting growth. "Some of course are red-

lettered (priorities), some may not be. Red-lettered ones

#### would of course be jobs, equitable wealth distribution and making sure India is moving

on the path of growth. "In that sense inflation is not red-lettered. I hope it doesn't surprise many of you. We have shown that in the past couple of months that we were able to bring it to a manageable

level," she said. It will be the fifth budget of the Modi 2.0 government and Sitharaman and the last full budget before the general elections slated in April-May 2024. During the election year, the government presents Vote on Account for the limited

period. Usually the budget is cleared till July. "Pre-budget meetings

FW DESK

chaired by the secretary (Expenditure) shall commence on



24) of the Budget Division of erly entered. Hard copies of the Department of Economic Affairs dated September formats should be submitted 6, 2022. "Financial advisers should ensure that the nec-October 10, 2022," according essary details required in the

the data along with specified for cross-verification," the circular added. The Budget Estimates for

Must face together forces that attack mutual trust: Modi to Hasina

to the Budget Circular (2023- appendices I to VII are prop- 2023-24 will be provisionally

finalised after the completion of pre-budget meetings, it said, adding, RE (Revised Estimate) meetings will continue till around mid-November, 2022. "All the ministries/departments should submit details

of autonomous bodies/ implementing agencies, for which a dedicated corpus fund has been created. The reasons for their continuance and requirement of grant-in-aid support, and why the same should not be wound up, should be explained," it said.

As a follow up action on the National Monetisation Pipeline, it said, departments may be required to explain progress in asset monetisation.

The Budget 2022-23 is likely to be presented on February 1 during the first half of the Parliament's Budget session which usually begins in the last week of January every year. The Budget for the current

fiscal had projected a growth rate of about 7 to 7.5 % in real terms, while the fiscal deficit was pegged at 6.4 % of the gross domestic product (GDP).



SATISH HANDA

After forming government in Delhi and Punjab states, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) supremo Arvind Kejriwal Chief Minister Delhi now dreaming to form next government in Harvana state has decided to contest coming Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha polls in Haryana also and have announced to launch 'Make India No. 1' campaign in Haryana at Adampur Vidhan Sabha constituency also holding 'Tiranga Rally' where Vidhan Sabha bi-polls are likely to be held shortly after resignation of Kuldeep Bishnoi from Congress.

also contest in these bi-polls in order to assess party's image as well as influence in the state enabling to contest 2024 Vidhan Sabha polls. As indicated by AAP Haryana state convener Dr Susheel Gupta also a Rajya Sabha member recently during a press conference at Chandigarh that Kejriwal along with Punjab Chief Minister visiting Haryana to launch campaign and rally. Meanwhile, a media survey reveals that AAP have no network in Harvana state so far to compete other political parties in the state including ruling BJP, Congress, INLD and JJP functioning in the state since past several years. Dr. Susheel Gupta told media persons that AAP will contest coming polls in

Haryana state on the basis

of prime issues: increasing

crimes, drugs smuggling

and drug addiction among

youths, fast rising prices and

increasing unemployment in

the country as well as state.

## BJP takes swipe at opposition parties



BJP on Thursday mocked the Congress' "Bharat Jodo Yatra" and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's unity pitch for the Opposition as attempts to build their own political profiles, and said it is basically an internal affair of its rivals. These parties and leaders be it Mamata Banerjee, Nitish Kumar or K Chandrashekar Rao or the Congress have neither capability nor strength to form government, BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi said, adding that their efforts are entirely aimed at building their own politica

#### Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India and Bangladesh should jointly face terrorist and fundamentalist forces that threaten to attack mutual trust between the two countries.

Modi made these remarks after bilateral talks with visiting Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who made a strong pitch for early conclusion of the Teesta water

sharing agreement. "Today we also stressed on cooperation against terrorism and fundamentalism. To keep the spirit of 1971 alive, it is also very necessary that we face such forces together, who want to attack our mutual trust,' Modi said. India and Bangladesh signed seven agreements linked to the livelihoods of the



and Hasina, including one on for centuries.

sharing of waters of Kushi-"I recall that the two counyara river which is expected to tries have resolved many issues benefit the regions of southin the spirit of friendship and ern Assam and Bangladesh's cooperation. We hope that all Sylhet region. Modi noted that 54 rivers pass through the borders of

outstanding issues, including Teesta water sharing agreement, will be concluded as an India and Bangladesh and are early date," Hasina said at a joint media interaction at the after the talks between Modi people of both the countries Hyderabad House here.

## B'desh PM Hasina offers prayers at Ajmer dargah

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Thursday afternoon paid obeisance at the dargah of Sufi saint Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti in Rajasthan's Ajmer.

She reached the shrine amid tight security arrangements and was extended a red-carpet welcome. Saiyad Kalimuddin, a khadim at the shrine, said a chadar was of-

fered on behalf of Hasina and prayers were performed for peace and prosperity in both countries. She spent nearly a

hour in the dargah. According to the protocol, there was no other devotee on the dargah premises and the market in its vicinity was closed. Before leaving the city, Hasina staved for some time at the circuit house. Earlier, Hasina along with her delegation reached the Jaipur international airport in a special aircraft. She was received by state Education Minister BD Kalla and top officials. Folk artistes performed dance to welcome her at the airport. She could not stop herself and danced with the artistes at the airport.

## India bans export of broken rice

After imposing 20 per cent export duty on non-basmati rice, the government has banned the export of broken rice with an aim to increase domestic availability, according to a government notification. "Export Policy of broken rice ... is amended from Free' to Prohibited'," the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) said in a notification dated September 8, 2022. The notification comes into effect from September 9, 2022. Provisions under the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 regarding the transitional arrangement shall not be applicable to this notification, it added. The government on Thursday imposed a 20 per cent export duty on non-basmati rice except for parboiled rice to boost domestic supplies amid a fall in area under the paddy crop in the current Kharif season.

#### Direct tax collection surges by 35% to Rs 6.48 lakh cr FW DESK

Direct tax collection, including personal income tax, rose by 35.46 per cent to Rs 6.48 lakh crore in per cent higher than the gross the current fiscal up to Septem- collections for the corresponding ber 8. reflecting an u economy

it said. "Direct Tax collections up to September 8, 2022, show that gross collections are at Rs 6.48 lakh crore, which is 35.46 ptick in the period of last year," it said. So fai

#### **Delhi LG inaugurates** Asita East project on **River Yamuna**



Delhi Lt Governor V K Saxena on Wednesday inaugurated the Asita East project on Yamuna river which aims at restoring ecological character of the flood plains and provide breathable public green space, the DDA said.

The project is spread over 197 hectares of land, out of which 90 hectares is with Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and the remaining falls under the jurisdiction of Uttar bouring Bihar and Jharkhand Pradesh's irrigation department, it said in a statement.

The project aims at "restoring ecological character of the flood plains and provide breathable public green space", the urban body said

## PM Modi unveils 28-ft-tall Netaji statue at India Gate

The black granite statue has Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday unveiled a 28-ft-tall been carved from a monolithic statue of Netaji Subhas Chan- block of granite weighing 280 dra Bose at India Gate. The metric tonne. The block of granstatue is part of the Centre's Rs ite picked for the statue was

13.450-crore Central Vista project, which will have a new Parliament building, new

office and residences for the prime minister and vice-president and new ministry buildings. The North and South Blocks, the secretariat buildings flanking Rashtrapati Bhavan,

will be converted into museums.

Lok Sabha polls.



the statue was carved out of it in over two months

Modi also interacted with some workers involved in the redevelopment work of the Central Vista avenue and told them they will be invited for the Republic Day parade, officials said

## Online sales during festive month to reach USD 11.8 bn: Report

**MUMBAI**: E-commerce firms are expected to log a 28 per cent year-on-year growth in sales at USD 11.8-billion during the festive month this year, a report said on Thursday.

The festive month is generally defined as a period starting from the first sales event and lasting roughly till the Diwali week, including non-sale or business-as-usual days in between, according to Redseer.

This growth is expected to be driven by the doubling of online shoppers during festive sales as against 2018, Strategy Consulting firm Redseer said in its

2024, she said.

report. "As the festive season is set to kickstart across the country, Redseer forecasts the online sales during the festive month to reach USD 11.8 billion, a 28 per cent increase from last year, it said. Moreover, the category mix has been evolving differently in pre-festive months which will impact festive category mix as

well, Redseer said in its report. Redseer further said that in the first week itself, the sales are estimated to reach USD 5.9 billion, projecting a 28 per cent increase from last year, when they stood at USD 4.8-billion.

Noting that this year, the fashion category will see robust growth driven by an increasing shopper base from Tier 2+ cities and first-time shoppers who generally tend to begin their online shopping journey with fashion, it said, there will also be an increasing participation of fashion-led players in the festive sales this year.

The country recorded a GDP growth of 13.5 per cent during the first quarter ended on June 30, 2022. Direct tax collection, net of refunds, stands at Rs 5.29 lakh crore which is 30.17 per cent higher than the net collections for the corresponding period of last year, according to the data released by the Income Tax Department.

This collection is 37.24 per cent of the total Budget Estimates of Direct Taxes for 2022-23, it said. Refunds amounting to Rs 1.19 lakh crore have been issued from April 1 to September 8, 2022, which are 65.29 per cent higher than refunds issued during the same period in the preceding year,

as the growth rate for Corporate Income Tax (CIT) and Personal Income Tax (PIT) in terms of gross revenue collections is concerned, the growth rate for CIT is 25.95 per cent while that for PIT (including STT) is 44.37 per cent. After adjustment of refunds, the net growth in CIT collections is 32.73 per cent and that in PIT collections (including STT) is

28.32 per cent. In the last fiscal ended March 31, 2022, India's direct tax collection rose by a record 49 per cent to Rs 14.10 lakh crore. The government has estimated to collect Rs 14.20 lakh crore from direct taxes this fiscal. This includes Rs 7.20 lakh crore from corporate taxes and Rs 7 lakh crore from individual taxpayers.

Delhi govt bans

till Jan 1, 2023

production, sale,

use of firecrackers

Delhi Environment Minister

Gopal Rai on Wednesday said

the production, sale and use of

all types of firecrackers will be

banned in the national capital

till January 1. He said the ban

extends to online sale of firecrackers. "Production, storage, sale and

use of all types of firecrackers are

being completely banned so that

#### Opposition will unite to oust BJP from power in 2024, says Mamata Banerjee India-US agree to further polls last year, in which the party side and the BJP on the other. The

West Bengal Chief Minister Ma- claimed that the BJP mata Banerjee on Thursday said would face a rout beshe and her counterparts in neighcause of its arrogance and people's anger. I, Nitish Kumar, will join hands with several

other opposition parties to oust Hemant Soren and the BJP from power in the 2024 many others will come together in While addressing a party pro-2024. All opposition

gramme here, Banerjee, also the



(game is on) had gramme here, Banerjee, also the parties will join hands to defeat been the battle cry of the TMC Trinamool Congress supremo, the BJP. All of us will be on one during the high-octane Assembly

defeated the BJP to storm back to power for the third consecu-BJP's arrogance of 300 seats will be its tive term. nemesis. There will

Banerjee claimed that the arrest of Jharkhand MLAs with be Khela Hobe' in hordes of cash by Bengal police 'Khela Hobe recently stopped the horse trading in the neighbouring state and prevented the fall of the Hemant Soren government.

strengthen bilateral ties



**NEW DELHI:** India and the US on Wednesday agreed to Senior officials from the India-US strategic partner-

The objective of the meeting was to deepen the US-India Comprehensive Global

Strategic Partnership. India, the US and several there will also be other world powers have been talking about the need sale and delivery to ensure a free, open and of firecrackers in thriving Indo-Pacific in the Delhi. The restricbackdrop of China's rising military manoeuvring in the resource-rich region.

China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, while Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea.



tion will remain in force till January 1, 2023. "Online sale/delivery of firecrackers will also be banned

in Delhi this time. The restriction will remain in force till January 1, 2023," he said. Rai said an action plan will be drawn up with the Delhi Police, Delhi Pollution Control Committee and Revenue Department to ensure strict enforcement of the ban.

## A robust charging infrastructure is essential for widespread adoption of electric vehicles; believe experts from TERI & ICCT

WORLD EV DAY

**EXPERTS FROM TERI** AND ICCT LAUD DELHI'S **GOVERNMENT'S ACTION** PLAN TO INSTALL 18,000 **NEW CHARGING STATIONS** BY 2024, AND SAY THAT SIMILAR STRATEGIES CAN BE **REPLICATED IN OTHER STATES** 

#### **FW DESK** New Delhi

A robust public charging infrastructure can go a long way in fast-tracking EV adoption

in the country, believe experts. On World EV Day is observed on September 9 every year, experts from The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and The International Council for Clean Transportation (ICCT) lauded Delhi government's action plan to install 18,000 new charging stations by 2024 and say that similar strategies can be replicated in other states for supporting widespread adoption of electric vehicles.

Delhi and Maharashtra,

along with many other cities

and states, are currently tak-

ing the lead in establishing

are several battery swapping charging stations. Currently, approximately 191 charging stations that have already been stations have been installed in setup and many more are ex-Delhi, and around 184 charging pected to be deployed in the stations have been installed in near future. These initiatives Maharashtra. Besides, there are collectively a step in the

right direction for transitioning to cleaner modes of transport and securing a sustainable and energy secure future for India. IV Rao, Senior Visiting Fel-

low, TERI, said, "An effective way to facilitate higher EV adoption at the city and state level can be to constitute a dedicated EV Cell to augment decision making and provide support to private entities in establishing EV-related businesses. In addition, dedicated funds to support the customers and EV ecosystem are going to be critical in the near

future.

further strengthen the bilateral relationship to support a free, open, connected and secure Indo-Pacific region. ministries of External Affairs and Defence, and the US departments of Defence and State met here for the India-US 2+2 Inter-Sessional meeting. "Reviewed outcomes of

the 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue of April 2022 with the aim of further strengthening the

ship," Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said.

## **REGION**

# CM Arvind Kejriwal meets family of Sonali Phogat in Hisar

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday met family members of BJP leader Sonali Phogat and demanded that a CBI probe be ordered into her death.

Phogat had died in Goa last month and her death is being treated as a case of murder.

Kejriwal along with Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann went to the farmhouse of Phogat and expressed grief over the death. Both leaders spoke to Phogat's brother-inlaw Kuldeep Phogat.

Talking to the media, Kejri-

AAP leaders in Himachal **Pradesh to make** 

electoral promises



FW DESK

AAP leaders Bhagwant Mann and Manish Sisodia are likely to announce on Friday fresh poll promises for voters in Himachal Pradesh where elections are scheduled later this year. Punjab Chief Minister Mann and Delhi Deputy CM Sisodia will also address a public meeting in Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur's home district Mandi, state AAP spokesman Gaurav Sharma said. As part of its poll guarantees, the AAP has already promised free and quality education and medical treatment for Himachal residents. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which is trying to make a foray into the state's political landscape with the elections, is currently ruling neighbouring Punjab and Delhi.

#### Delhi : Man held for using national flag to cleañ scooter



wal said the family members being made to save the culprits were not satisfied with the in this case. The case be handed over

ongoing investigation. He said they were feeling to the CBI for an impartial that somewhere an attempt is probe, Kejriwal said, adding was brought dead to a hospi-

that various doubts are emerging in the probe. Kejriwal said there is a BJP

government in Goa and Haryana and it is not difficult to order a CBI inquiry. The family members of Pho-

gat have already been pressing for a CBI probe. Phogat, 43, had died some

hours after her arrival in Goa. Phogat and her aides had

partied at the Curlies restaurant in Goa on August 22 night

Phogat, a former TikTok star and a contestant on the reality TV show "Bigg Boss",

tal in North Goa district on August 23, a day after arrival in the coastal state.

Her two aides have been charged with murder by the Goa Police.

Phogat was administered methamphetamine, and some left-over drug was recovered from the restaurant's wash-

room, police had earlier. The Haryana government had earlier written to the Goa government, requesting it to ecommend a CBI probe.

Haryana's move came after Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar assured Phogat's family members in this regard.

Kumar on Tuesday met his Delhi counterpart Arvind Kejriwal on the second day of his visit to the national capital with an aim to unify the Opposition in run up to the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and JD(U) leader Sanjay Jha were also present in the meeting.

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish

Before Kejriwal, Kumar met CPI(M) General Secretary Sitaram Yechury and CPI General Secretary D Raja at their respective party offices. Later in the afternoon, Ku-

mar will meet with former Haryana chief minister and INLD supremo Om Prakash Chautala.

Arvind Kejriwal in Delhi

The JD(U) leader is trying to bring opposition parties together, with a special emphasis on those with socialist background, to fight against the BJP in the 2024

Bihar CM Nitish Kumar meets

elections. Kumar, who snapped ties with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) last month, Sunday

units in Haryana our prime issues: CM Khatter

योजनाओं का

नान्यास समारोह

तरीय

said his only goal is to worl for uniting the Opposition to unseat the saffron party from power at the Centre.

Kumar's visit to Delhi comes amidst the buzz the JD(U) leader may emerge as the Opposition's prime ministerial face in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

## UP Perfume trader Piyush Jain released on bail Wiping out corruption & developing 34000 MSME the BJP calling the Kan-

#### **FW DESK**

SATISH HANDA

Perfume businessman Piyush Jain, whose premises were raided last year and around Rs 200 crore in cash and 23 kg of gold were seized by central agencies, was released on bail on Thursday after spending eight months in jail here, officials said.

His arrest just before the Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls had led to a row, with

Haryana police busted a gang of

six persons of a family at Kaithal

in Haryana allegedly involved

in large number of robberies in

religious 'Dera' in Haryana and

Punjab states a couple of days ago

while planning for a robbery at

Kaithal. Among those arrested

by the police were identified as

mastermind in the racket fa-

ther Karoda Ram (55) resident

of Bhadson in Patiala district

his two sons Naseeb (25) and

Ladee (35), son-in-law Manga

(32) resident of Ahmedgarh

in Punjab and two sons of his

brother-in-law Sawar and Vinod

of age around 30 and 35 both

residents of Shahzadpur in Am-



pur-based perfume trader a "friend" of the Samajwadi Party (SP). But the opposition party had alleged that Jain belonged to the BJP. "Piyush Jain was released from jail following the release order issued by the special Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM)," said Kanpur Jail Superintendent Bidhu Dutt Pandey. The release permit

CJM after Jain's bail plea was accepted by the Allahabad High court last week.

The Special CJM directed to file two sureties each of Rs 10 lakh which were made by his family members. Jain was arrested on December 26 after the raids at his residence led to the recovery of huge cash and other valuables by the Directorate General of was issued by the Special GST Intelligence (DGGI).

#### SATISH HANDA

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khatter addressing a gathering at Karnal announced developmental projects for amount worth Rs 2038 crore in Haryana which included proposal for developing 34000 Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSME) in the state, which will not only bring prosperity but also create sources of employment opportunities for nearly three lakh youths in the state. Khatter said, out of total amount of budget worth Rs 2038 crore to be spent over developments more than one third amount, about 40.34% will be spent on reforms in basic necessities in industry, education, health, security and other important sectors to create infrastructure in the state,

Chief Minister said, among nearly 175 developmental programs in the state on which amount worth Rs 2038 crore has to be spent apart from prime proposal for developing 14000 MSME units in the state, there is a future vision for developments in education, health, security, employment and other sectors for the welfare of residents in the state. Information reveals, this

is the fifth occasion in Manohar government rule in the state such a large number of developmental schemes have been announced

in Haryana state. Pointing at the recent incident of demolishing of two towers at Noida, Khatter expressed deep regrets over issues as regard fast increasing prices of all essential commodities and increase in corruption in government offices as well as private sectors for which Haryana state government has launched Quality Control Authority in the state to have a check over all on-going government projects, corruption there in enabling corrupts to be punished.

While talking to media persons Chief Minister expressed deep concern over fast increasing corruption in our system since past many years for which decision has been taken to introduce Quality Control Authority to have surprise checks by raiding teams and to bring transparency in all government projects as such decision taken now all government tenders will be invited on line under a transparent process to avoid corrupt practices in government as well as private sectors and those found involved in corrupt cases will have to face action by State Vigilance Bureau (SVB) and criminal case will be registered against them.

## JNU first in research, first in nationalism, says VC Haryana : Three including Tehsildar trapped in vigilance net after 5 yrs

SATISH HANDA

Heroine of value worth Rs 5 crore seized



Homeless woman gang raped near Gorakhpur railway station GORAKHPUR: A 25-year-

Harvana and Punjab. The mas-

#### phone during a robbery and used to snatch mobile phones from all those present in 'Dera' before leaving. Arrested accused during bala district. SP Kaithal Maqsood a long time and during police

preliminary police investigation told that they committed six robberies at different 'Dera' remand they admitted more than in Kaithal district, besides large 20 robberies in past sometime in number of robberies at religious 'Dera' in Ambala, Karnal, Yamunanagar and Kurukshetra district termind in the racket Karoda Ram told that they used to plan in Haryana and at Barnala, Patial robbery during day time and and Ludhiana districts in Punjab.

JNU Vice-Chancellor Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit on Thursday old homeless woman was reaffirmed the varsity's commitment to Prime Minister



State vigilance Bureau Harv-

ana registered a case against

three persons identified as

prime accuse Rohtash then

Tehsildar at Narnaul in Hary-

ana accepted bribe worth

lakhs trapped in state also

having dual charge for Mo-

hindergarh tehsil allegedly ac-

cepted bribe worth over Rs 71

lakh in registration of property

cases along with revenue loss

to the government for amount

worth Rs over Rs 22.50 lakh

towards registration fee and

stamp duty about five years

ago in 2017. Among two other

arrested were a property dealer

Ramkishen alias Jeevan and a

'Numbardar' verified the deal

both residents of Narnual dis-

During audit after years,

suspecting a foul play the in-

vestigation of case was handed over to state vigilance depart-

ment, which detected that

then Tehsildar Rohtash had

accepted Rs 300 each yard

bribe on the registration of 19

kanal 8 marla (nearly 23835

yards land) accepting nearly

Rs 71,50 lakh bribe in this deal

apart from heavy revenue loss to the government towards

registration fee and stamp

duty. Investigation also re-

vealed that Rohtash had also

finalized nearly 20 property

registration cases illegally

on the same day late evening

when tehsil office was closed.

According to information,

trict

SATISH HANDA



Eight of a family involved in 20 'Dera' robberies in Haryana & Punjab arrested attack 'Dera' during mid night, severely beating 'Dera' head and caretakers, snatch money as well as gold and silver jewellery during attack threatening to kill them. The gang robbers disclosed that they were not using mobile

A 52-year-old man was apprehended for allegedly using national flag to clean his two-wheeler, police said on Wednesday. The incident took place in northeast Delhi's Bhajanpura area, they said, adding the man is a resident of North Ghonda area. The matter came to the fore after a purported video of the incident, shot by locals, was uploaded on social media. In the purported video, the person is seen cleaning and dusting his white scooter with the national flag that is folded. "In this matter, legal action has been initiated and a case has been registered under section 2 of Prevention of Insult to National Honour Act, 1971 at Bhajanpura police station," said a senior police officer. The flag used by the person and his scooty have also been recovered, he said. The accused has been asked to join the investigation. He said it wasn't deliberate and he did it by mistake.

1 kg of heroin from a car and arrested four persons including two women whilepatrolling near Shastri Colony Ambala Cantt. While giving this information to media persons SP Ambala Jashandeep Singh Randhawa said that the arrested accused have been identified as Anwar alias Abhi, Anjali and Rekha, all residents of Deha Colony, Ambala city and car driver Rajbir alias Raju, a resident of Shambhu in district Patiala Punjab whose father working as class IV employee in railways.

Ambala

While 400 grams of heroin was recovered from the possession of accused Anwar alias Abhi, 300-300 grams of drugs was recovered from accused partner.

Aniali and Rekha, According Randhawa, police team had received information that the accused were involved in drug smuggling and supply business since a long time brought the same from Delhi in a Swift Desire car bearing



Ahmed told media persons that

armed members of gang carry-

ing rods, sharp-edged weapons

were conducting robberies at

religious 'Dera' in Haryana and

Punjab during mid night since

Punjab registration number. Acting swiftly, the police team established a blockade near Parao police station on national higwayand stopped car. While checking the suspicious vehicles as well as persons in the car including two females and during search a total of 1 kg heroin of value worth Rs crore was recovered from their possession which included 300 gm each from the ladies purse of both females and 400 gm from the pocket of their male

During interrogation, it was revealed that the accused car driver Rajbir alias Raju taking Rs 15,000 per round from them for this work. The accused were arrested and a case was registered against them under NDPS Act.

by three men near Gorakhpur railway station in Uttar Pradesh, police said on Thursday. The woman reached the Government Railway Police (GRP) station on Wednesday night and narrated her ordeal. The police registered her complaint and rushed her to a hospital

evedly abducted and raped

for medical attention. SP (Railway) Awdhesh Singh said the woman, resident of Maharajganj district, was living near the Dharamshala Bazar bridge outside platform number 1. She alleged that she was abducted by three vouths who took turns to rape her near Dharamshala Bazar Mandi railway line, Singh said.

When the woman tried to raise an alarm, the accused beat her up and fled the spot, he said.

"The woman complained of gang rape at the GRP police station. Her statements were recorded and she was admitted to BRD Medical College,' the SP said.

Narendra Modi's vision of setting all Indians on the path to development and nationalism. Speaking at an event at the

varsity, Pandit said, "JNU is first in academics, first in research and first in nationalism and in paying our tributes to freedom fighters, unsung heroes of this great nation." "On the occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, JNU

reaffirms its commitment to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's paradigm shift. This paradigm shift has been in getting all the Indians towards development and nationalism ... a vision with a mission," she added.

The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) vice-chancellor was addressing the foundation stone-laying ceremony of a 'Tribute Wall' to commemorate the unsung heroes of the Indian Independence. The Tribute Wall is being built in collaboration with Chakra Foundation.

The 60-foot-long and sevennames of 1,040 freedom fighters

inscribed on granite stones with QR (Quick Response) codes. People can go to the Chakra app and scan the code to read about a freedom fighter.

"Through the Tribute Wall. we join tradition with modernity... A forgotten history into living memory. We, the people, who have taken our freedom for granted should remember the great heroes. Please rededicate yourself to the nation in the spirit of these unsung heroes," Pandit said. Pandit's speech was greeted with slogans of 'Bharat Mata ki Jai' and 'Vande Mataram' from students in the audience. The event was also attended by Puducherry Assmebly Speaker Embalam R Selvam, Lok Sabha MP Ramesh Bidhuri, foot-high wall will have the and Chakra Foundation Founder Chakra Rajasekar.

when vigilance department registered a case with police on 21st August this year against alleged accuse Rohtash, who applied for a anticipatory bale in the court which was rejected when Rohtash moved application to Punjab and Haryana High Court seeking anticipatory bale which was also rejected by the court a couple of days ago and the alleged accuse was advised to present in hearing of case on next date State Vigilance team col-

lected report no. 287-90/ SA/2017 dated 10th October 2017 from Stamp Auditor Devinder Singh confirming that precious land useful for agriculture was sold at much lesser rate than the collector rate of land caused heavy loss to government. According to vigilance department investigation officer Tehsildar office Mohindergarh vide letter no. 805/RC dated 11th September 2018 also stated that released deed does not come under article 55-B. Information reveals. the case was produced before J.P. Dalal Haryana Agriculture Minister presiding District Grievances Committee meeting ordered suspension of Rohtash.

## Crusher plant in Haryana's Nuh robbed of Rs 1 lakh

Some unidentified men on Thursday robbed Rs 1 lakh from a crusher plant in Biwan village here, said police.

Sonu, an accountant at the plant, stated in his complaint that around seven to eight men barged into the plant with one of them carrying an axe.

They took away Rs 1 lakh cash kept in the locker.

Before fleeing, they also broke an LED screen, a computer, and CCTV cameras installed there, he said. Superintendent of Police Varun Singla, who inspected the crime scene, said the three accused have been identified as Aflatoon, Muskaan, and Shamshu. Police said raids are being conducted to nab them he said.

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## Jamaat-e-Islami Hind expresses dismay at the release of those convicted in the Bilkis Bano Rape Case SYL canal: SC drops contempt proceedings against Badals

#### **FW DESK**

Jamaat-e-Islami Hind (JIH) expresses dismay at the release of those convicted in the Bilkis Bano Rape Case. She was a victim of the 2002 Gujarat carnage. JIH condemns the role of the Gujarat government in ensuring the release of those convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment in the Bilkis Bano gang rape case and the murder of seven members of her family. Such decisions that are aimed at reaping political dividends to appease a particular constituency are highly objectionable. We condemn the decision and hope the apex court intervenes in the matter to reverse this grave injustice carried out under the guise of official government policy.

The remission policy should be applied to those languishing in jails for petty crimes not for heinous crimes like rape and murder. If state governments are allowed to free criminals of their choice through a remission policy despite being convicted for crimes like rape and murder, then this will make a mockery of our justice dispensation system and the citizens will lose hope in the supremacy of the law. This is bound to embolden criminals and their masterminds as they will be confident of being bailed out by the system sooner or later despite committing the most heinous crimes. The manner in which these convicts are being felicitated and lauded is quite reprehensible. Jamaat-e-Islami Hind has requested the



saved from becoming para-President of India to intervene in the matter and give direclyzed and ineffective.

According to the latest data tion to the Guajrat Government through the PM and released by the National Crime the Home Minister to reverse Records Bureau (NCRB), 1.63 the decision of releasing those lakh people committed suicide convicts so that the system of in India in 2021. That makes justice and governance can be it one suicide every four min-

utes. The number of suicides in 2020 and 2019 was 1.53 lakh and around 1.3 lakh respectively. The 2021 figure shows an increase of 7.2% from 2020. At 120 deaths per million population, 2021 also saw the highest rate of deaths from suicide since 1967. Data shows the economically weaker sections of society (whose annual income is less than Rs 1 lakh) make up nearly two-thirds of all suicides. Categorizing suicides according to the profession of the person, we find that suicide rates were highest

among self-employed (entrepreneurs), students, farmers, and agricultural laborers. The largest share of suicides was found among the daily wage earners. They make up nearly a fourth of all suicides in 2021.

Supreme Court of India has closed contempt proceedings against Punjab's former Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal and his son and ex-deputy CM Sukhbir Singh Badal in a matter related to the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal issue. The matter came up for hearing on Tuesday before a bench of Justices S K Kaul, A S Oka and Vikram Nath.

The apex court observed that one of the prayers in the contempt petition "has worked itself out by which the Punjab Assembly Special Session was sought to be restrained from holding the proposed session on November 16, 2016.

# Rahul Gandhi to visit Rajiv Gandhi Memorial in Sriperumbudur ahead of kickstarting Bharat Jodo Yatra

said the sources

the Sustainable Development

Goals. In 2020, the RNTCP

has renamed the National TB

Elimination Program (NTEP)

to emphasize the aim of the

Government of India to elimi-

Union Health and Family

Welfare Minister, Dr. Man-

sukh Mandaviya, Minister of

State for Health and Family

by 2025, five years ahead of Welfare, Dr. Bharati Pravin cies".

Revolution in Indian Higher the most remote area. So, we

Education (IHE)', informed that have signed up with MeitY as

Agniveer army recruitment begins in Nagaland

nate TB in India by 2025.

#### FW DESK

As a Congress' "masterstroke" to take on the Narendra Modi government in the upcoming 2024 elections, the party is launching the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' on Wednesday, in which Rahul Gandhi will start the 3, 570 km journey lasting about 150 days from Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

According to the program shared by the party, Rahul Gandhi will attend a prayer meeting at the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial in Sriperumbudur on the morning of September 7, where his father Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated in a bomb blast while he was campaigning for the Lok Sabha polls. After his visit to the memorial, Gandhi will proceed to Kanyakumari where Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin will present him the Tricolour. The

Hemant Soren govt wins confidence vote amid walkout by BJP MLAs



#### FW DESK

Jharkhand Assembly on Monday passed the confidence motion tabled by Chief Minister Hemant Soren amid a walkout staged by BJP legislators. As many as 48 MLAs voted in favour of the confidence motion in the 81-member Assembly. Speaking during the one-day special session, Soren said the need for trust vote was felt as BJP was "attempting to destabilise democratically elected governments" in non-BJP ruled states, including Jharkhand. He alleged that the BJP was trying to create a "civil war-like situation in country by fuelling riots to win elections".

#### Wearing of seat belts on rear seat in car compulsory, will invite fines if not complied : Nitin Gadkari FW DESK

Transport Minister Nitin Gad- **KOHIMA**: Around 4,000 kari has said that wearing of seat Naga youths are participating from all districts of Nagaland, belts while sitting on rear seat in in the first-ever Agniveer army he said, adding that the candi-

Congress leader will address a rally while officially kickstarting the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

As the party begins the nationwide yatra, some pertinent questions arise about the lodging and flooding of Rahul Gandhi. However, the party has made it clear that he will not stay in any hotel but rather will complete the entire journey in a simple manner.

Rahul Gandhi is going to stay in the container for the next 150 days. Sleeping beds, toilets and AC are also installed in some of the containers. During the journey, the temperature and environment will differ in many areas. The arrangements have been made keeping in view the intense heat and humidity with the change of places.

"About 60 such containers have been prepared and sent that Rahul Gandhi considers to Kanyakumari where a vil- the Bharat Jodo Yatra journey

towards TB elimination in the

spirit of Jan Bhaagidari on a

The National Tuberculo-

sis Elimination Programme

(NTEP), previously known as

the Revised National Tuber-

culosis Control Programme

(RNTCP), aims to strategically

reduce the TB burden in India

Prof. Mamidala Jagadesh Ku-

Grants Commission (UGC)-

GoI, who was the chief guest

at the roundtable - 'Enhancing

**Competitiveness and Quality** 

war footing.

FW DESK

New Delhi



lage has been set up in which as a way to connect with the all these containers have been common people. placed. The container will be "So he wants to complete

parked in a new place every this entire journey in a simple way away from the glitz and day in the shape of a village for night rest. Full-time Yatris glamour. Rahul Gandhi calls who stay with Rahul Gandhi it a journey but political anawill eat together and stay close, lysts consider it a preparation for 2024, "the sources added. The sources further said Priyanka Gandhi Vadhra,

the Congress party's general secretary, on Tuesday asserted

that through the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' people will be united on issues like inflation, and unemployment among other matters of public importance.

"We are starting a positive politics. We want to hear from you, we want to solve your problems. We want to unite our beloved country. Let's unite India together, Priyanka said in a Facebook video.

Politics today has turned a blind eye towards people and their issues, she added. "Political discussion today

isn't focusing on the people of the country, it has taken a different turn altogether. Politics today has turned a blind eye towards people and their issues. Through this yatra' we want to bring out the problems and concerns of the common man, " Privanka said.

#### **NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday inaugurated the newlychristened Kartavya Path, the stretch of road from Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate earlier known as Rajpath.

According to the Union housing and urban affairs ministry, the new stretch will be more pedestrian-friendly because of the new red granite walkways spreading 15.5 km that have been created, replac-

ing bajri sand that lined the ground earlier.

Four new pedestrian underpasses have been built at busy junctions to segregate vehicular traffic from pedestrian movement, making the street safe to cross.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurates Kartavya Path

According to an official, 74 historic light poles and all chain links have been restored, upgraded and reinstalled on the site and more than 900 new light poles have been add-

ed where necessary to ensure that the space is always safe for visitors.

The revamped stretch is part of the Modi government's ambitious Central Vista redevelopment project, which also envisages a new triangular Parliament building, a common central secretariat, a new prime minister's residence and office, and a new vice-president's enclave.

ED summons Bengal

min in coal scam case

Enforcement Directorate

(ED), which is probing the

coal pilferage scam, Wednes-

#### President Droupadi Murmu launches 'Pradhan Mantri Congress high command may repeat action similar to Punjab also in Haryana TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan' to eliminate TB by 2025 SATISH HANDA

Pawar were present at the launch event along with Union Ministers, Governors and Lt. Governors, State Health Ministers, and other dignitaries. The virtual event was also

attended by state and district health administrations, representatives from corporates, industries, civil society, NGOs, and TB Champions.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya stated that "the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan is an extension of Hon'ble Prime Minister's citizen-centric politween both political leaders

Digital University Will Lead To Exponential Growth Of Online Education: UGC Chairman

## Few Congress leaders are rais-

ing hue and cry over recent meeting between former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda and former senior Congress leaders Gulam Nabi Azad former Chief Minister Jammu-Kashmir resigned from Congress few days ago and going to launch his own independent political party. Controversy as regard meeting between both political leaders is seen after former Union Minister and HPCC president Shelja's letter to Congress high command raising a question mark over this meeting be-



ted resignation to the party suspecting doubts over this meeting, whereas Bhupinder Singh Hooda has already clarified that he is and will remain sincere to party as well as Gandhi family till last. Situation turning bad after several Congress leaders also intervened into the matter raised question over this meeting between Hooda and Azad without seeking permission in Vidhan Sabha.

from Congress high command dhi and his family.

between former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda and former party president Kumari Shelja was going on since a long although both have been posing as if they are united when Congress was not in power in Haryana state. It was due to Hooda when Congress in Haryana state was able to win 30 seats in Haryana Vidhan Sabha out of total strength of 90 and Hooda was declared leader of opposition

when Azad after submitting resignation from party made statements against Rahul Gan-

day summoned West Bengal In Haryana politics, a rift Law Minister Moloy Ghatak and asked him to appear before the agency's officials in Delhi on September 14, ED sources here said. The summons were sent on a day CBI searched five houses belonging to the minister - three in Asansol in Paschim Bardhaman district and two in Kolkata. including his official residence near the Raj Bhavan, in connection with the multi-crore coal scam in which he is allegedly

involved. After Jammu, sticky bombs surface in **Kashmir Valley** 



FW DESK

#### Security forces in the Kashmir Valley recovered three magnetic sticky bombs from a Lashkar-e-Taiba operative in North Kashmir's Sopore area. The suspect has been identified as Saqib Shakeel Dar. He was apprehended in a joint operation by security forces. Dar nd hidden the bombs at Chal

Any student can walk into those centres, pay a nominal monthly fee, and access digital universities," he said. The event was organised by the apex industry body, Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).

Prof Kumar gave insights into the various initiatives un-

India to expand and enhance higher education in the country. "The introduction of Com-

dertaken by the Government of only next to NEET (National

mon Universities Entrance Test Undergraduate (CUET-UG) 2022 has been well-received by the students and the stakeholders. A huge number of students, around 14.9 lakhs registered for this examination, which is

Test)," he said. Speaking on the possible merger between the national-level engineering and medical entrances NEET and JEE, he added, "That's an idea that we are floating so that there is wider discussion among the stakeholders. There is no formal decision that we have taken on this.

NCRB Report: Murder, kidnap, rape and suicide cases increasing victims recorded as 98,860 as tered in the country in year against 84,805 kidnapping cas- 2020 and number of such es registered in 2020. Accord- cases increased to 31677 in

vear 2021 on an average 65

Eligibility-cum-Entrance

#### UGC has tied up with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to ensure that students from remotest mar, Chairman, University areas can have access to online education facilities. "We are working on a multi-dimensional way to make sure that education reaches to the last student in

they have a large number of common service centres (CSCs).

According to National Crime

report cases of murder, kid-

napping, rape and suicide has

sory and if not complied, it will invite fine. He said that motive of imposing fine is to inspire

people to wear seat belts in rear seat also. He said that if travelers sitting on rear seat will not wear seat belt, then alarm will ring in the car. His comments have after businessman Cvrus Mistry lost his life in a car accident while sitting on rear seat.

#### Sonali Phogat case: Goa court extends police custody of two accused

A Goa court on Tuesday extended by two days the police custody of two accused arrested in connection with the alleged murder of BJP leader Sonali Phogat. Judicial Magistrate First Class at Mapusa extended the police custody of Phogat's associates Sudhir Sangwan and Sukhwinder Singh by two days. The duo was arrested in the last week of August and remanded to police custody for 10 days. Their custody expired on Tuesday, after which they were presented before a local court.

### Eight packets of drug smuggled from Pakistan seized at Indo-Pak border in Amritsar sector

#### **JAGMOHAN SINGH**

Eight packets of drug smuggled from Pakistan seized at Indo-Pak border in Amritsar sector Amritsar, September 6 - Border Security Force (BSF) here seized eight packets of drugs which were smuggled to India from Pakistan. In an official statement here today BSF official informed that during morning hours, on specific input BSF troops while carrying - out Special operation noticed a suspicious bag of cloth (multicolor) ahead of border security Fence, in Amritsar Sector



Dimapur and will continue for lease issued by PRO (Defence), Kohima, Lt Col Amit Shukla. Initially, the recruitment is being done for general duty, which will be followed by soldier

tember 15. Meanwhile, PRO the advised all candidates

Candidates are registered

n allotted specific

dates to appear for the

to beware of false promises the next few days, stated a re- made by various frauds and touts. The entire recruitment process is automated and no person can influence the result of any candidate, he said, while also encouraging them to have faith in their own capabilities.

rally till Sepwitnessed fast increase in our country since past couple of vears. According to information. 29272 murder cases were registered in the country in 2021as compared to 29193 cases regis-

SATISH HANDA

tered during previous year 2020 thus on an average 92 murder cases were reported daily. The number of murder cases ware identified maximum in five states in the country identified as 3825 persons were killed in 3717 murder cases registered in



Utter Pradesh, 2826 persons were killed in 2799 murder cases registered in Bihar, 2381 persons killed in 2330 murder cases in Maharashtra, 2075 persons killed in 2034 murder cases in Madhya Pradesh and 1919 persons killed in 1884 murder cases registered in Bengal.

As regard kidnappings, police registered 1,01,707 cases registered in the country during year 2021 having number of

kidnapped included 69,014 children comprising of 10956 male and 58,058 female child, 35135 adults which included 6649 male and 28485 female. In case of kidnapping cases Delhi topped having registered 5527 cases in various police stations with number of victims identified as 5888. The total number of kidnapping cases registered in U.P.was identified as 14,554 in U.P, 10198 in Bihar and 10502 in Maharashtra.

he report among those

According to NCRB report, 28046 rape cases were regis-

rape cases reported daily. As regard registration of crimes against women, drastic increase in such cases was witnessed in a year when as against 3,71,503 crime cases against women registered during 2020 and number of these cases increased to 4,28, 278 in 2021 on an average 49 cases were registered every hour. Utter Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Bengal, Assam and Odisha were some of the states had maximum number of crimes against women cases.

Barat Orchards. The security forces launched a search of the orchards to recover three IEDs and seven detonators. Sticky bomb is the short name for Magnetic Improvised Explosive Devices. They are stuck to vehicles, timed to blow up and destroy the vehicle, killing the passengers. During the Amarnath vatra, the magnetic IEDs emerged as a huge threat to the safety of the yatris. The Jammu and Kashmir police advised people across the Union Territory to thoroughly check their vehicles for any foreign object before starting them.

## NEET suicide victim's family meets Rahul Gandhi

Gandhi, who has embarked on the Bharat Jodo Yatra, on Thursday met the family of S Anitha, who had allegedly died by suicide five years ago after failing to crack NEET. Congress MP from Karur

Rangapahar in

tradesmen, he said.

in Tamil Nadu, S Jothimani tweeted a picture of Anitha's family meeting Gandhi.

Senior Congress leader Rahul in his TN leg of the 3,500 km Kanyakumari to Kashmir footmarch, launched on Wednesday from here. "Leader Rahul Gandhi met the family of Anitha. who committed suicide for not able to clear NEET," Jothimani said in the tweet.

In an apparent reference to his sister's death, Anitha's brother S Manirathinam said She accompanied Gandhi his family was "personally af-

fected" due to the National Entrance-cum-Eligibility Test (NEET). "Rahul Gandhi has embarked on the footmarch to protect India and the Constitution. This march is for all the affected persons. We were affected personally due to NEET and wanted exemption," he told

a Tamil news TV channel. The state has been affected due to NEET and the Tamil

Nadu Assembly's bills seeking exemption for the qualifying test "have not been accepted," apparently by the Centre, he said. Gandhi gave the family a

patient hearing" and he was happy to join" the Congress leader, Manirathinam added. NEET is a sensitive issue in

Tamil Nadu and is being opposed to by all political parties barring the BJP.

#### Prez Droupadi Murmu bats for teaching in mother tongue



President Droupadi Murmu on Monday emphasised that talent development in science, literature and social sciences can be more effective if taught

arousing indignation and abhorin one's mother tongue. She was addressing the gathering at National Teachers Awards ceremony where she recalled the contribution of her school teachers due to which she became the first girl from her village to go to college.

"Talent development in science, literature and social sciences can be more effective if taught in mother tongue, she said. Murmu also noted that India's school education is counted among the world's largest education systems. She presented the National Awards to Teachers, 2022 to 46 select awardees to honour their unique contribution to school education.

## Seven killed as 2 cars plunge into stream in J&K's Doda

Seven people were killed after two cars veered off a mountain road and plunged into a stream in separate incidents in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district on Monday, police said.

One more person was injured in the two accidents that occurred on the Doda-Bhaderwah road within a span of six hours, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Doda, Abdul Qayoom said, adding that the victims included two married couples. Around 6.30 am, a car plunged into the Neeru stream, near Galgandhar, after rolling down about 400 feet, resulting in the death of four people on the spot and

critical injuries to another who died later. the officer said

The deceased were identified as Naseeb Singh (62), his wife Satya Devi (58), son Vikram Singh (22), Lekh Raj (63) and his wife Satisha Devi (60) all residents of Shiva



village, who were on their way to Bhaderwah as part of a marriage procession, he said. Earlier, another private car fell into the stream from a height of about 300 feet at Mughal Market, two km from the site of the second accident. The accident occurred around 12.30 am and the bodies of Sajad Ahmad (38) of Tangorna-Bhaderwah and Ravinder Kumar (33) of Himote-Bhaderwah were retrieved from the vehicle, the SSP, who supervised both the rescue operations, said.

Pivush Kumar of Chinta was rescued in a critical condition, he added. The latest deaths in road accidents came just a week after eight residents of Bonda village were killed when their taxi plunged into a 300-foot gorge in the Chatroo area of adjoining Kishtwar district. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed grief over the loss of lives in the two accidents.

#### Allahabad HC upholds death sentence of man for killing 6, including wife, children Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court has upheld the death sentence awarded by a CBI court to a man convicted

of killing six people, including his wife and their three children. in 2009.

The convict, Sarvan, had also killed his neighbour and her son. The bench on Tuesday also

upheld the four-year rigorous imprisonment awarded to Sarvan's sister-in-law Suman for tampering with evidence. Sar-

van killed his wife Santoshi (35) and children Ravi (1), Sumiran (4) and Ramroop (6) after she objected to his extra-marital affair with his sister-in-law. He also killed the neighbour Madhuri (50) and her son Rajendra (11) when they tried to intervene.



Earlier, public prosecutor Vimal Srivastava argued that Sarvan had committed a massacre in a fully conscious state and hence deserved nothing less than the death penalty. Describing the case as rarest of the rare, the bench of Justice Ramesh Sinha and Justice Saroj Yadav

rence of society which calls for an exemplary punishment," it said. Dismissing Sarvan's appeal for acquittal, the bench said, "We find no remorse on the part of convict Sarvan. Rather he admitted his guilt that he had an illicit relationship with his sister-in-law Suman and his wife objected to this." Besides upholding the death

said, "The manner in which the offence was committed and also the magnitude of the crime. in our view, places the present matter in the category of anti-social or socially abhorrent nature of the crime." "Six persons were murdered by Sarvan in most brutal and grotesque manner

sentence of Sarvan, the court also dismissed Suman's appeal and directed her to undergo the jail term as awarded by the trial court. The CBI court had on August 29, 2017, awarded the death sentence to Sarvan. It also held Suman guilty in the case. It had sent the reference to the HC for its confirmation.

## Warm relations with Taiwan need of the hour

he shooting down of a Chinese drone by Taiwan's military on September 1 has marked a new phase in the already simmering tensions across the Taiwan Strait, highlighting the growing risks of escalation, even if unintended. Over recent weeks, China's military has carried out unprecedented military drills surrounding Taiwan, following the visit last month of U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Some manoeuvres crossed the median of the Taiwan Strait and were declared by China's military to have also taken place in territorial waters claimed by Taiwan. Taiwan soberly chose not to engage the PLA vessels. In the wake of the drills, the Chinese military has subsequently sought to continue asserting Beijing's territorial claims by sending drones into Taiwan's airspace. Photographs taken up close of Taiwan military personnel were subsequently shared on social media, raising pressure on Taipei to show a response. While most observers expect that a Chinese invasion remains too risky a prospect for the Communist Party leadership in the immediate future, an unintended escalation no longer remains a remote possibility. Most countries, including India, have preferred to stay out of the Taiwan issue, considering the One China Policy and the needs of the complicated relations with China. But sooner rather than later, they will need to assess the implications to their own security interests of a serious crisis. Taiwan's status as a lynchpin in the global semiconductor industry is a case in point. While India's recent reference to the "militarisation" of the strait is not a reflection of a major change in its approach, New Delhi has appeared to show greater willingness to do more with Taiwan particularly in the economic realm, such as setting up an alternative base for semi-conductor manufacturing in India. These are, even if long overdue, steps

#### AMEYA PRATAP SINCH ON HOW THE FAILURE TO MANAGE THE DOMESTIC AUDIENCE IN PAKISTAN IS HURTING PEACE BIDS

## The difficult path to Indo-Pak peace In the 1950s

fter the unceremonious ouster of Imran Khan from the seat of government in Pakistan and the promulation of Shehbaz Sharif as Prime Minister, there have been signs of a thaw in India-Pakistan relations. It was reported that the Pakistan Army chief, General Qamar Bajwa, had countenanced backchannel talks and a "limited trade resumption package' with India. This was to help alleviate some of the stresses on Pakistan's flailing and cashstrapped domestic economy that was veering on the edge of a default in the face of a widening current account deficit and high inflation brought on by the after-effects of a global novel coronavirus pandemic, unprecedented floods, and decades of poor planning.

As a respite, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently agreed to a one-year extension for Pakistan's 39-month, \$6 billion Extended Fund Facility programme begun in 2019, and further added an additional \$1.17 billion to its coffers. To ease its situation further, especially considering the devastating impact of the floods on food supply in Pakistan, Pakistan's Finance Minister Miftah Ismail had indicated his openness to import 'vegetables and edible items from India". However, Mr. Sharif had to quickly retract Mr. Ismail's suggestion and restate his government's commitment to prioritising a resolution of the Kashmir dispute before normalisation of bilateral relations could take place. There has been no official confirmation of India's proposal to provide food aid to Pakistan, nor of any Pakistani request for the same.

#### **Domestic pressures**

e Sa

It is abundantly clear that Mr. Sharif, despite the obvious economic benefit of seeking trade in essential commodities with India, is unable to overcome the pressures of domestic public opinion in Pakistan. His predecessor's controversial and unpopular departure via a vote of no-confidence and upcoming general elections in Pakistan has swayed Mr. Sharif's decision-making. Mr. Khan's party, the Paki-



stan Tehreek-e-Insaaf, won a convincing victory in the hugely important Punjab by-polls earlier this year. Meanwhile, the stock of the Sharif-led coalition is sinking as he has been forced to introduce austerity measures and rollback public subsidies to meet the IMF's demands.

A simple application of rational choice heory would suggest that Mr. Sharif's choice is fairly straightforward. Pakistan should ask India, a large agricultural producer in the neighbourhood, to provide it essential aid in its moment of crisis. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi had even tweeted that he was 'saddened to see the devastation caused by the floods in Pakistan". This suggests an implicit willingness to provide food aid if required. It is worth noting that India provided essential vaccine supplies to Pakistan during the CO-VID-19 pandemic and there is precedence for cooperation between the two nations when faced with such emergencies. But still, Mr. Sharif could not muster the political will to serve Pakistan's short-term interests, despite the fact that such trade would not create long-term dependencies on India, or require extreme concessions, or entail a compromise of principles.

#### Leader equations

This episode sheds light on the enduring nature of India-Pakistan relations. Due to the

deep securitisation of the Kashmir dispute in Pakistan's social imaginary, it is quite challenging for Pakistan's leadership to sustain any sort of peacemaking with India, even if strong material incentives are present. It is known that the electoral costs of such an undertaking would be suicidal, making Pakistani peacemakers susceptible to popular backlash.

In my research on conflict termination, I have found that the personal reputations of leaders as well as moments of weakness can be useful to trust-building processes between rivals. Mr. Sharif and Mr. Modi have reputations that are conducive. Mr. Modi, as former Prime Minister A.B. Vajpayee's successor, was seen by Nawaz Sharif, Shehbaz Sharif's brother and former Pakistani Prime Minister, as a populist leader capable of countenancing an Indian compromise on the Kashmir dispute. It is likely that this view still holds sway.

Similarly, the Modi government in India has long seen the Sharif regime in Pakistan as supportive of stability in bilateral ties. Mr. Modi had even made a surprise visit to Lahore in 2015 to meet Nawaz Sharif and demonstrate his sincerity in resolving pending disputes. Pakistan's weakness and need for food aid is also apparent in the given circumstances. India too would like to refocus its overstretched defence capacities on handling China. Still, a breakthrough remains elusive.

In the circumstances, much will depend

**EDITORIAL** 

**S**OPINION

peace (or in this case, trade) forces Pakistan's leaders to choose between their survival as political agents and the larger interests of the state, the answer is likely to disappoint.

Ameya Pratap Singh is a doctoral candidate at the University of Oxford and Managing Editor at Statecraft Daily. Views are personal

## AMAR PATNAIK A TREATY UNDER WHO WILL BUILD COHERENCE AND AVOID FRAGMENTATION The outline of an essential global pandemic treaty

OVID-19 would count as being among some of the most severe pandemics the world has seen in the ast 100 years. An estimated 18 million people may have died from COVID-19, according various credible estimates, a scale of loss not seen since the Second World War. Further, with over 120 million people pushed into extreme poverty, and a massive global recession, no single government or institution has been able to address this emergency single-handedly. This has given us a larger perspective of how nobody is safe until everybody is safe.

Health-care systems have been stretched beyond their capacity and gross health inerved in the distribution equity has been o



countries were at the "back of the queue" when vaccines were rolled out. Even six to eight weeks after the PHEIC

diagnostics even when it was experiencing a vaccine shortage for domestic use. There eriod of weeks during the ountries, except for

tinue the shipment of vaccines and other

peak of the second wave in India when the

vaccine mission was halted. As of 2021, India

shipped 594.35 lakh doses of 'Made-in-India'

COVID-19 vaccines to 72 countries - a clas-

sic example of global cooperation. Among

these, 81.25 lakh doses were gifts, 339.67

lakh doses were commercially distributed

and 173.43 lakh doses were delivered via

the Covax programme under the aegis of

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Further, the long

tussle with the pharma majors over vaccine

patents, especially in the African countries,

held back the global vaccination drive. But

India stood as a global leader, moving a

proposal with South Africa in October 2020

to ask the World Trade Organization (WTO)

'to allow all countries to choose to neither

grant nor enforce patents and other intel-

lectual property related to COVID-19 drugs,

manufacturing COVID-19 vaccines after rigorous efforts.

#### Lessons learnt, path ahead

In the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen a multitude of initiatives to address the pandemic and to do better in the future such as the Vaccine Alliance. These are all valuable, but a treaty under the umbrella of WHO would, as highlighted by the journal BMJ, build coherence and avoid fragmentation. For example, as a document by the University of Groningen shows, among high-income countries and low- and middle-income countries, while the difference between the number of reported cases was relatively similar until late March 2021 (65.3 61.2 million, respectively), high-income countries shared on average 16.5-fold more sequences per reported case (1.81% and 0.11%, respectively). Thus, as mentioned in the BMJ, such a treaty should cover crucial aspects such as data sharing and genome sequencing of emerging viruses. It should formally commit governments and parliaments to implement an early warning system and a properly funded rapid response mechanism. Further, it should mobilise nation states to agree on a set of common metrics that are related to health investments and a return on those investments. These investments should aim to reduce the public-private sector gap. Finally, a global pandemic treaty will not only reduce socioeconomic inequalities across nation states but also enhance a global pandemic preparedness for future health emergencies. India must take the lead in this

#### as the disapproval of his cabinet colleagues were insurmountable. Such failure to manage domestic audience costs in Pakistan and insulate the peace process from spoilers has been a recurrent trope and has derailed several India-Pakistan peace dialogues.

This was also the case in 1953 when Moham-

med Ali Bogra and Jawaharlal Nehru negotiated the Kashmir dispute. Bogra was a Bengali

and desirably seen in New Delhi as lacking

Punjabi sentimentality on Kashmir. Nehru

on the other hand was considered a strong,

popular, and secular leader who was able to withstand the crosscurrents of public opinion

in India. Then too, Pakistan faced economic

distress. Bogra and Nehru made reciprocal

visits to New Delhi and Karachi. They got

close to an agreed solution on Kashmir, but

each time, Bogra's inability to foster domestic coalitions to support the peacemaking process

with India overrode the negotiations. The

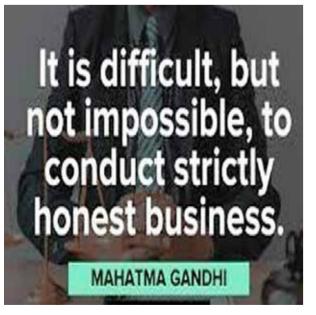
ire of domestic publics against Bogra as well

on the outcome of the next general elections in Pakistan and the choice of Gen. Bajwa's successor. If the Sharif-led coalition government returns to power and a similar-minded army chief is appointed, there may indeed be renewed opening for a sustained backchannel dialogue and trade. However, these talks too are likely to remain unfruitful until there is bipartisan support in Pakistan on the need to normalise ties with India and the two states enter a long period of de-securitisation. This may be too much to ask for. But, without it, the price of peace with India will be too high for Pakistan's leaders. As long as the option of

in the right direction.

#### LETTERBOX

Readers' feedback adds value to the newspaper. Please email comments on reports, features and columns to fwletters@gmail.com. We will publish them on this page.



## **THE FINANCIAL WORLD**

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(\*RESPONSIBLE FOR SELECTION OF NEWS UNDER THE PRB ACT)

of vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics across the world. Now, with the World Health Organization (WHO) having declared the monkeypox outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) with over 32,000 cases from over 80 countries (August 2022), the world faces the risk of another health crisis.

While high-income economies are still recovering from the after-effects, the socioeconomic consequences of the novel coronavirus pandemic are irreversible in low and low middle-income countries. The monopolies held by pharma majors such as Pfizer, BioNTech, and Moderna created at least nine new billionaires since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and made over \$1,000 a second in profits, even as fewer of their vaccines reached people in lowincome countries. As of March 2022, only 3% of people in low-income countries had been vaccinated with at least one dose, compared to 60.18% in high-income countries. The international target to vaccinate 70% of the world's population against COVID-19 by mid-2022 was missed because poorer

**BOOKS: REVIEW** 

not take the requisite precautions. Similarly, when world leaders pledged €7.4 billion (\$8.07 billion) in a digital fundraiser for developing a coronavirus vaccine and treatments, the United States did not send any representative Thus, inequality has also been prolonging the course of the pandemic. And, it is in this backdrop that the creation of a Global Pandemic Treaty was proposed at the Special Session of the World Health Assembly (WHASS). The underlying logic was that as global governance had failed during the pandemic, we needed political commitment to mitigate future challenges.

#### India's lead role

India's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and reinstating global equity by leveraging its own potential has set an example to legislators worldwide. India produces nearly 60% of the world's vaccines and is said to account for 60%-80% of the United Nations' annual vaccine procurement — "vaccine diplomacy" or "vaccine maitri" with a commitment against health inequity.

India was unfettered in its resolve to con-

## New book documents Singapore's progress

ingapore's former Indianorigin diplomat and businessman Gopinath Pillai, who helped strengthen Singapore-India ties, on Saturday came out with a book that frames episodes of personal struggles and accomplishments against milestones in the country's progress as a nation.

Titled 'More Than the Eye Can See', the memoir was launched by Singapore's Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong at a private ceremony amongst a small group of about 40 guests at the University Cultural Centre, National University of Singapore (NUS).

In his address, Goh described the 85-year-old Indian-origin Singaporean diplomat as, "an upstanding member of the pioneer generation

who made significant contributions to Singapore".

'Gopi's (Gopinath Pillai) life story is also rich archival material for the Singapore Story. It is a remarkable journey of learning, determination, achievements, and contributions," said the 81-year-old former prime minister of Singapore.

The book launch was organised and hosted by the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) of NUS. Pillai was the founding chairman of ISAS, an appointment that he held for 17 years, till last year. He is currently the senior advisor to the think tank that pioneers the study of contemporary South Asia in this region.

"I hope Gopi's book will inspire Singaporeans to step forward to serve the country in whichever capacity. It will be a mistake if each

vaccines, diagnostics and other technologies for the duration of the pandemic, until global herd immunity is achieved'. Even though this proposal was stonewalled by some of the leading countries, it was only in June 2022, that the WTO finally decided to water down intellectual property restrictions in MORE THAN 'This book contains

for not only people

fascinating life'

to lead a fulfilling and

of us believes that our personal

interests can be realised without our

contributing to the larger interests

of the country. That applies to coun-

tries too. A country cannot advance

its own interests without advancing

Professor Tan Tai Yong, chair-

"We are all very fond of him.

man of ISAS, said Pillai has led

Ambassador Pillai's memoir shares

his life experiences straight from the

ISAS with foresight and care.

the world's, too," Goh said.

Amar Patnaik is a Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha from Odisha, a former Principal Accountant General, and currently, an advocate. Views are personal

about his childhood years in Kerala and his many pursuits in adulthood. After much persuasion, he decided to write his colourful memoirs for his friends and family, especially his two grandsons," said Pillai's wife Shyamala Pillai. John Vater, the co-author of the

book, was similarly enchanted by Ambassador Pillai's storytelling ability when he first met him as a research associate at ISAS in 2019. They started work on Pillai's memoirs in 2020. The book is published by World Scientific Publishing.

"Ambassador Pillai's charisma as a storyteller, and his sharp memory of Singapore's early history, were strong reasons for why I wanted to work with him on this book. He brought manifold talents to the writing process. Perhaps from his journalism, he had a natural ability to frame his life engagingly," said Vater. Structured into three parts, the book narrates Pillai's early life experience and the trajectory of his international career.

More Than The Eye Can See: Memoirs Of THE EYE Gopinath Pillai By Gopinath Pillai & John CAN SEE Vater World Scientific excellent learning lessons Publishing Co Memoirs of Gopinath Pillai Pte Ltd 300 pages; \$38 aspiring to make a mark in public service but also

heart. This book contains excellent learning lessons for not only people aspiring to make a mark in public service but also to lead a fulfilling

and fascinating life," Tan said. Born in Singapore to Malayalee parents in 1937, Ambassador Pillai spent his early childhood in India throughout the Japanese Occupation, where he witnessed the Communist Movement in Kerala firsthand. When he returned to Singapore in 1946, he grew up in a multi-racial society taking its fledgling steps as a democracy.

"My husband has always regaled his family with fascinating stories

## CORPORATE **GINDUSTRY**

# Swaraj Tractors crosses 20 Lakh production milestone

#### FW DESK Mohali

Swaraj Tractors, part of Mahindra Group rolled out its 20th Lakh tractor from the company's Plant in Mohali, Punjab on Tuesday. This milestone is a testament to the customers' trust and confidence in the brand Swaraj

Harish Chavan, CEO, Swaraj Division, M&M Ltd rolled out the 20th lakh tractor in a special ceremony attended by employees. Speaking on the occasion he said, "This achievement has further cemented brand Swaraj's reputation of being reliable and one of the fastest growing brands in the domestic

**Max Life launches** 

tractor market over the past few years. We are thankful to all our customers and stakeholders for their wholehearted support to-

wards the growth of this brand." Since its inception in 1974, the first milestone of 10 lakh tractor production was achieved in 2013. Now within a span of just nine years, we have accomplished 20 Lakh tractor

production in 2022, which is a testimony of the faster growth of the brand Swaraj. What makes this achievement more remarkable is the fact that this has come when the industry was going through unforeseen challenges due to the pandemic in the last couple of years Hemant Sikka, President,



Farm Equipment Sector, M&M Ltd said, "This journey to reach the 20 Lakh production mark today has been challenging and exciting for us. We are happy

that over the years Swaraj has been able to make a significant contribution to the lives of Indian farmers. Going ahead we look forward to providing

FW DESK

more agri-based solutions and enabling mechanisation. This achievement is another stepping stone towards living our purpose of Transform farming and enriching lives".

Swaraj manufactures tractors in the range of 15HP to 65HP and provides complete mechanisation solutions. The tractor major has also become a pioneer in horticulture mechanisation by recently introducing CODE by Swaraj, a multi-purpose farm machine. Currently, Swaraj has two fully functional tractor manufacturing plants, its

own Foundry & R&D all located in Punjab, while another new manufacturing plant of Swaraj is also coming up in the state.

Flipkart brings Bebe & its global fashion to millions of consumers in the lead-up to the festive season FW DESK

In the run-up to the festive season, Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has announced the onboarding of Bebe, a San Francisco-based contemporary fashion brand, to bring a wide range of global fashion to fashion shoppers across India. Bebe's stylish catalogue of almost 1,000 unique styles will be available to millions of Flipkart customers across metros and Tier 2+ cities across the country. With the introduction

of Bebe on its platform, Flipkart is also gearing up for several exciting launches lined up for customers this festive season. This comes at a significant juncture, as people, especially shoppers in the mass premium segment, who are seeking stylish fashion options.

Flipkart would enable Bebe to reach out to a new set of shoppers through

Flipkart's reach in smaller towns and cities in the country. This launch aligns with Flipkart's priority to continuously expand its fashion portfolio and make the latest trends accessible to fashion-seekers across the country. Customers can choose from a range of chic styles across apparel and accessories



## 🥙 pepsico 🔊 airtel

#### FW DESK

Ahead of the festive season, PepsiCo India and Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), India's leading provider of telecommunications services, have joined hands to bring an innovative offer for the consumers. With every purchase of Pepsi®, Mountain Dew®, 7UP®, Mirinda®, Slice®, and Tropicana® PET bottles consumers get Airtel Recharge coupons worth INR 10\* to INR 20\*. An Airtel Thanks App discount coupon code will be printed on the reverse side of the labels of PET bottle to provide consumers with an access to avail the offer.

Demand for connectivity and internet access continues to grow in India with consumers increasing their time spent online be it gaming, entertainment or content streaming. As per Airtel's quarterly report ended June 30, mobile data consumption surged by 16.6 percent from a year ago, with consumption per mobile data consumer at 19.5 GB per month.

Concurrently, out-of-home beverage consumption has also witnessed a spike with consumers stepping out more frequently to celebrate moments of togetherness, resuming work and travel. As the mobility and movement increase, there has been an escalation in the demand for

while 100 per cent of European

sales will be all-electric by then.

said the automaker. «Driven by

the success of our electrified 4xe

portfolio in North America and

Europe, we are designing and

#### Nissan India announces senior 'Smart Flexi Protect management appointments

#### **Solution FW DESK**

Max Life Insurance Company Ltd. announced the launch of Smart Flexi Protect Solution, a three-in-one offering that provides health and enhanced life cover, along with market-linked investment returns. A combination of Max Life Flexi Wealth Plus (UIN:104L115V02), and Max Life Critical Illness and Disability Secure Rider (UIN:104A034V01), this unique



with comprehensive protection against death, disability and critical illness

wealth

Prashant Tripathy, MD & CEO, Max Lifesaid, "Max Life's Smart Flexi Protect Solution is designed as a go-to choice for earning individuals, especially for self-employed profiles. The solution is also a hallmark of Max Life's product innovation strength, driven fundamentally by consumer behavior and constantly endeavors to deliver tailored, flexible product offerings keeping speed and simplicity principles in mind."

## **Realme introduces realme** 9i 5G realme 9i and realme TechLife Buds T100

#### FW DESK Nissan India has announced senior management appointments to strengthen its management structure. The leader-

ship changes effective from 01st September'22. Amit Magoo, currently General Manager, Zonal Head (South & West) has been ap-

pointed Director Sales for Nissan Motor India. He will report to Rakesh Srivastava, Managing Director of Nissan Motor India and will be based out of Gurgaon, India. In his new role, Amit will be responsible for leading business operations. Nissan India's Regional Sales Managers will report to Amit Magoo Ashish Anand, currently

General Manager, Zonal Head (North & East) has been appointed as Director Dealer Network Development, Customer Quality and Training for Nissan Motor India. He will report to Rakesh Srivastava, Managing Director of Nissan Motor Gurgaon, India. In the new san's presence in India'

FW DESK New Delhi

Upholding its commitment to



structure Functional Heads of Dealer Development, Customer Quality & Training leads will report to Ashish.

Commenting on their appointments, Rakesh Srivastava, MD, Nissan Motor India, said We are pleased to announce the appointment of Amit and Ashish to senior leadership team as part of the transformation and growth strategy of Nissan India. Amit and Ashish bring strong experience of multiple functions in Nissan over many years, have been instrumental in Nissan India's growth journey with the launch of the Big, Bold, Beautiful Nissan Magnite. We welcome them to their new roles, which are focused to enable Nissan to exceed customer India and will be based out of expectations to strengthen Nis-

## **Microsoft Announces Future Ready Application** Hackathon for Developers and Digital Natives

#### tinues to unfold, the benefits of tourism are spreading further afield across India and empowering locals to earn a living and make ends meet, new analysis by Airbnb reveals. With people continuing embracing flexible new approaches to travel and living,

communities that have traditionally missed out in the past are increasingly well-positioned to secure a bigger slice of the tourism pie, according to new Airbnb report Further afield: Spreading the benefits of the travel revolution.

As the travel revolution con-

That's presenting fresh opportunities for locals looking for new ways to supplement their income as they grapple with rising costs of living.

In India, the non-urban nights booked have increased by about 140 percent when comparing the second quarter of 2022 with the pre-pandemic second quarter of 2019.

Internal Airbnb data comparing Q2 2022 with pre-pandemic Q2 2019, shows that a number of destinations outside major cities have seen considerable growth in searches. In India, Haldwani, Utta-

rakhand recorded a growth of about 330 percent during

this period, Jibhi, Himachal

Airbnb's new analysis examines how tourism has dispersed over the past 3 yrs in India

Pradesh showed more than 270 percent growth followed by more than 240 percent growth in both Bir, Himachal Pradesh and Varkala, Kerala,

Flipkart

The typical non-urban Host earnings in India grew by almost 40 percent in the second quarter of 2022 when compared to the same period in 2019.

On Airbnb, non-urban nights booked for long-term stays (28 days-plus) in India were more than double when

comparing the second quarter of 2022 with the pre-pandemic second quarter of 2019.

Among destinations outside the major cities in India that proved popular on Airbnb for long-term stays in the second quarter of 2022 were Arambol, Naggar, Kullu, Agonda and Almora

Many people across India are turning to hosting as a way to harness the travel revolution in a way that directly benefits them and their families. Through hosting, they're working to secure their financial independence and making a tangible economic contribution to their local community.

beverages

# Nation stunned as young tycoon Cyrus Mistry perishes in Maha road crash

MUMBAI: Renowned industrialist Cyrus P. Mistry, of the multinational Shapoorji Pallonji Group and former Chairman of Tata Sons, was killed in a road accident on the Ahmedabad-Mumbai national highway in Maharashtra>s Palghar on last Sunday afternoon.

Mistry, 54 is survived by his wife Rohiqa, their two sons, an elder brother Shapoor Mistry and other family members. Also killed in the accident was Jehangir D. Pundole, of the famed <Dukes> soft drinks and foods company and the Punle Art Gallery in Mumbai



Pundole and wife Dr. Anahita Darius Pundole - were critically injured and rushed to Rainbow The young industrialist

ther, Pallonji Shapoorji Mistry, the Chairman Emeritus of the Group, passed away, aged 93, Hospital in Vapi in south Gu- on June 28 in Mumbai. Taking jarat, said an official of Palghar serious cognisance, the state government has ordered a probe

## Jeep enters EV market, to introduce 4 all-electric SUVs by 2025

**FW DESK** 

Jeep brand, owned by Stellantis, on Thursday announced to introduce four new all-electric SUVs in North America and Europe by the end of 2025.

Jeep showed the first images of two fully electric SUVs the allnew Wrangler-inspired Jeep Recon and a new electric Wagoneer, codenamed Wagoneer S. Jeep Avenger, first-

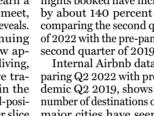
Europe, will debut at the Paris Motor Show on October 17.

As part of an ongoing comve product p



the leading zero-emission SUV brand in the world, « said Christian Meunier, Jeep brand CEO. Building upon

ever fully electric Jeep SUV for the success of the Jeep Wrangler 4xe, the best-selling plug-in hybrid vehicle (PHEV) in the US, and the recently introduced Grand Cherokee 4xe. the brand Another couple in the vehicle Mistry>s abrupt death comes into the incident that stunned cent of Jeep brand sales in the is developing a comprehensive electrified product range



#### Chandigarh

Realme, India's fastest growing smartphone brand, has been constantly working towards expanding its offerings by bringing in products that feature the perfect amalgamation of technology and design. In line with the same, the brand today introduced its latest smartphone along with an addition to its hearables portfolio - realme 9i 5G and realme TechLife Buds T100. While the realme 9i 5G features alaser light Design and is powered by MediaTek Dimensity 810 5G chipset, the realme TechLife Buds T100 are realme's most affordable stem design TWS.

ture Ready', Microsoft today

announced the Future Ready Applications hackathon for Microsoft customers and the developer community. The hackathon aims to provide developers a platform to showcase innovative solutions and solve real-world business challenges using the Microsoft Azure platform.

The hackathon will be held across six cities -Delhi NCR, Bangalore, Chennai, Pune, Hyderabad, and Kochi on September 24, 2022. The top three winners of the hackathon from each city will receive cash rewards of INR 50,000, INR

spectively. The hackathon aims to bring the best of developers together to devise solutions that address diverse business needs for industries like fintech, e-commerce, retail, and others. The hackathon will enable developers to build solutions using developer velocity

tools and devise innovative solutions for environmental challenges across India Using services provided by

the Microsoft Azure platform, participants of the hackathon will need to build an application that addresses a business 30,000, and INR 20,000 re- problem for the industry.

- Pundole>s brother, Darius D. barely two months after his fa- the country>s corporate world. US will be fully electric by 2030,

## DP World announce five global beneficiaries for container that gives golf balls a second life

**FW DESK** New Delhi

As the official title partner of the DP World Tour, DP World has joined forces with several golf organisations to support initiatives that provide a platform for the game of golf to grow around the world, making golf more accessible to all.

Unveiled in January, DP World created a revolutionary shipping container to collect

and redistribute used, lost and unwanted golf balls, giving them a second life in grassroot golf projects. The golf balls have been collected in numerous ways, with donations from DP World Tour players, fans, professional golf ball divers, ball-collecting dogs, and children on golf ball hunts. Following the season-

ending DP World Tour Championship, Dubai in November, DP World will use its expertise



solutions to redistribute the golf balls to five organisations around the world. DP World has focused on three key areas of growth for the sport – golf for as aleader in global supply chain the disabled, junior golf, and

women's golf - hoping to inspire and encourage more people to take up the sport. Each organisation will receive a proportion of the tens-of-thousands of golf balls that are currently filling up the second life container. Across the 2022 DP World Tour season, a revolutionary DP World Container has been transported around the world to collect and redistribute golf balls to give them a second life in grassroots golf.

AGC Biologics & Evax Partner to Advance **Promising Equine Allergy** Vaccine Candidate



FW DESK

## Talking Points

### Narvijay Yadav

Every word written on WhatsApp or any other app can be further evidence against the user. Always assume that there is someone other than the receiver who is reading your messages. Remember, whatever goes on in the internet world, stays there forever.

Social media plays the role of an effective communication these days, but one should keep mechanism in the modern only those apps in the smartworld. Most of the people in the country use smartphones. On the other hand, the use of of apps on mobile. Never grant mobile and net banking, debit cards, and credit cards has increased for transactions of money. With this, the pace of tos and videos. Your mobile apps cyber crimes has also increased. are thieves and spies who steal These include cases like fraud, your confidential information fake news, character assassination on social media, and blackmailing through objectionable viral videos. The personal data stolen by the apps is being sold to brokers, aggregators, and life is under constant watch.

legal firms. Ad agencies are part of the game that start sending

Mobile apps are in demand phone that are trustworthy. Keep the minimum number permission that is not necessary for the functioning of the app. Do not allow access to your phoand data all the time. The apps will track your habits, places visited, lifestyle, and health condition means each and everything about your personal life. Your

Similarly, the use of WhatsApp has increased tremenads based on the location and dously nowadays. Its chat can be preferences of the mobile users. used against a person who has deal with such offenses. Avoid

## Mobile apps constantly track users' life

indulged in illegal activities. This is a great tool for investigating agencies to track illegal activities in depth. In the case of Aryan Khan or the drug abuse case as-

sociated with the actor Sushant Singh Rajput, it was noticed that NCB (Narcotics Control Bureau) had been relying on WhatsApp chats of the Bollywood stars and

drug suppliers.

Every word written on WhatsApp or any other app can be further evidence against the user. Always assume that there is someone other than the receiver who is reading your messages. Remember, whatever goes on in the internet world, stays there forever. People think that if they delete what they write on social media, they will be saved. It is not so, deleted chats can be found in the backup server or another person>s history.

Never forward or transmit communally sensitive or obscene material from your mobile phone or computer devices. There are specific provisions under the IPC and the IT Act to

coming in contact with fake and suspicious people. Do not answer their queries. Do not download, forward, or save fake, false, defamatory, and character assassination kind videos on WhatsApp. Similarly, never post or tweet anything of defamatory nature, or else it may create a serious problem for you. Remember the FIRs lodged against actor Kangana Ranaut, poet

Kumar Vishwas, and recently against the notorious filmmaker KRK, who got arrested on his arrival at the Mumbai Airport for tweeting bad words about Rishi Kapoor and Irrfan Khan after their demise.

to online fraud, inform the police immediately or within 24 hours on toll-free number 112 or 55260. The police try to recover the missing amount as soon as possible. Jamtara area in eastern Jharkhand is considered a major hub of cyber crimes in India. There is poverty, and there is no electricity, but there is a lot of cyber fraud in hundreds of villages in that area.



at cheating on mobile phones. They operate from their huts in a discreet manner.

Experts suggest that one should check the privacy set-In case of financial loss due tings regularly. Don>t keep your profile open to everyone. Do not accept requests from unknown people on Facebook or any other social media platform. If someone has created a fake account in your name, report to that platform and cyber crime cell in your region. Fake accounts come into existence because people allow different apps to access their photos and contact lists. Fake social media accounts

are a big threat. Always crosscheck if you are getting friend ing in the job market. More requests from someone who employment opportunities are is already on your friend list. If someone asks for money on social media, do not give it, nor give your bank account details to any unknown person. Similarly, never do personal work on the office computer, nor save the data in a pen drive. Doing so can put the employee in serious trouble.

In the next five years in India, the demand for employees with technical knowledge will increase in the job market. According to a human resource management firm called Team-Lease Digital, 12 million new jobs will be created in the engineering, telecom, and healthcare sectors in the next few years. Job opportunities in these sectors are expected to grow at the rate of 27 percent per annum as these sectors are undergoing a major transformation. At present, 42 million people have got employment in these sectors. Due to the increasing use of

digital technology, the demand

for IT professionals is increase being created in the technology, health, e-commerce, and manufacturing sectors. Even in technology, the doors of jobs in the field of Information Technology (IT) are opening more rapidly. The way experienced professionals are in demand in the IT sector, according to that, qualified candidates are

not available in the market. In the last few months, there has been a rapid increase in the recruitment process in information technology companies. Four top IT companies in the country recruited more than 48 thousand new employees in April-June, 2021. During the second quarter, i.e. July-September 2021, the number of new appointments increased to about 54 thousand. Overall, more than one lakh youth got jobs in IT companies in the last part of 2021. The four companies intend to create about the same number of new jobs in the next few months.

AGC Biologics, a leading global Biopharmaceutical Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO), today announced a new partnership with Evax, a developer of equine vaccines to treat cĥronic diseases, respiratory disorders and allergies. Through this partnership, Evax advances its Antigen VLP Conjugate product into the clinical stage, and AGC Biologics will supply cGMP support for the pivotal studies.

AGC Biologics is providing services at its Heidelberg facility using microbial-based protein biologics systems. The project covers Process Development and Clinical Manufacturing for the Evax Antigen-VLP Conjugate product.

The Evax drug candidate is focused on treating summer eczema, also called sweet itch or insect bite hypersensitivity (IBH), which is one of the most prevalent allergic skin diseases in horses. It manifests as chronic relapsing seasonal allergic dermatitis (inflammatory reaction of the skin).

"For many equine diseases only limited therapeutic treatment options are available with sometimes poor efficacy," said Dr. Antonia Gabriel, CEO and Founder of Evax.

These illiterate thugs are adept

## BANKING S FINANCE

## **Rupee has held its own despite sharp** Punjab wants amalgamation of DCCBs **depreciation in other currencies: Das** with Punjab State Cooperative Bank FW DESK 1.5 per cent of this subvention,

Despite extreme volatility in global stock markets, especially after US Federal Reserve chairman Jerome Powell's Jackson Hole symposium remarks last week Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Monday that the Indian rupee has "held its own" and moved in an "orderly manner at a time

of sharp depreciation in other currencies" "The recent commentary from the US Fed at Jackson Hole on the future trajectory of US monetary policy has infused substan-

tial volatility into global financial markets, with large spillovers and knock-on effects on emerging market economies (EMEs). " Das said while delivering a speech during the annual event of Fixed Income Money Market and Derivatives Association of India (FIMMDA). He, however, quickly went on to add that the RBI has intervened in forex markets to



prevent excessive volatility in ally be encountering recession or the exchange rate. "RBI's policy considerable moderation in their growth momentum. is to prevent excessive volatility of the rupee, or the exchange

Referring to Powell's comrate and also anchor expectaments on keeping up with rate tions around the currency's dehikes, Das said that financial preciation. "he said. Das further markets in India have recovered from the lows that they fell to indicated that the central bank's monetary policy, going forward, in the immediate aftermath of will be "watchful, nimble-footed the Jackson Hole event. "In this and calibrated". He also said that turbulent global environment, India is widely perceived to be the the resilience exhibited by Indian fastest growing economy in the financial markets reflects the roworld this year at a time when bust macroeconomic fundamenother major economies may actutals of the economy, " he added.

#### FW DESK Chandigarh

Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Thursday urged the Centre to impress upon the Reserve Bank of India to approve the state's proposal of amalgamation of district cooperative central banks with Punjab State Cooperative Bank.

He also urged the Union government for reinstating 2 per cent interest subvention to Punjab State Cooperative Bank (PSCB), reducing rate of interest on refinance of shortterm agriculture loans from NABARD, infusing capital in cooperative banks on the pattern of commercial banks, reversing Capital to Risk Assets Ratio (CRAR) norms to 7 per cent, according to an official release here.

The state government also sought reduction in goods and services tax on milk and milk

products to minimum tax slab, and setting up a national institute for new product development expertise in the state.

Addressing a conference of state cooperation ministers in Delhi, Cheema said for Punjab with 50,362 square km of area, 20 district cooperative central banks (DCCBs) were not feasible and this three-tier structure if converted to twotier structure by amalgamation of DCCBs with PSCB would

bring in efficiency and help in better administrative culture. This will also help in a big way to utilise local capital available with some DCCBs with higher CRAR in a more equitable manner for the benefit of people in other geographical areas in the State, heema added.

Urging the Union government to convince the RBI for approving the state proposal of amalgamation on priority, Cheema said that this would

के आधेटिर वेव 🖓 Depatrie

ment of maintaining Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) at both the levels and to have separate 21 CBS licenses in a small state, while adding that the state has already submitted the proposal to RBI by fulfilling all statutory requirements. The minister also raised the issue of 2 per cent interest subvention to cooperative banks which was stopped by the Centre with effect from April 1, 2022.

state as well as in the country. net's decision to reinstate the

#### **SBI Card Launches** First-Of-Its-Kind 'CASHBACK SBI Card'



**KULBIR SINGH KALSI** 

SBI Card, India's largest pureplay credit card issuer, today announced the launch of 'CASH-BACK SBI Card'. the first-ofits-kind and the most comprehensive Cashback credit card in India. CASHBACK SBI Card is the industry's first Cashbackfocused credit card that enables cardholders to earn 5% Cashback on all online spends without any merchant restrictions. Targeted at customers across all categories, from mass to premium, the card offers a simple, seamless, and completely digital joining experience. Consumers across India, including tier 2 & 3 cities, can easily get CASHBACK SBI Card instantly from the comfort of their homes in just a few clicks through digital application plat-

form 'SBI Card SPRINT'. The contactless card is free for the first year till March 2023 as a special offer. Owing to its strong proposition, CASHBACK SBI Card customer will earn unlimited 1% cashback on all spends, cashback will increase to 5% on all online spends for up to maximum of INR 10,000 per monthly statement cycle. It's merchant agnostic nature ensures that the customers are not restricted to shopping with

#### Delhi HC refuses to interfere with order granting Gold worth Rs. 36 lakh seized at SGRDJI International interim bail to businessman in DHFL bank fraud case

#### Airport, Amritsar **JAGMOHAN SINGH**

Amritsar

During night shift on Tuesday in the SpiceJet flight arriving from Dubai at Shri Guru Ramdas Ji (SGRDJI) International Airport, based on profiling, a passenger was intercepted by official staff. In an official statement issued here today said that during his personal search and interrogation, he admitted to have concealed two capsules of gold paste in rectum. The two capsules with gross weight of 755 gms with packing were recovered and Gold weighing 690 gms valued Rs. 36 lakh was extracted by refining the gold paste. Further investigation is in progress, said the official.

#### I-T dept conducts survey on **Centre for Policy Research**

The Income-tax department on Wednesday conducted a survey operation against Delhi-based think tank Centre for Policy Research (CPR), official



located close. near



Finance Limited (DHFL), on hospital in Mumbai and thus allowed him to travel there for three days with prior intimation to the investigating officer.

The court added that the ground to interfere with the investigating officer shall be at liberty to keep a vigil on the acorder. Justice Sudhir Kumar Jain noted that the documents cused during his stay in Mumbai. The documents submitted by receiving treatment from a the counsel for the respondent

getting treatment from Leelavati Hospital, Mumbai. Accordingly, the respondent is also permitted to go to Mumbai for his medical treatment for three days with prior intimation to the concerned Investigating Officer. "The Investigating Officer is also directed that during the period of stay of the respondent for his medical treatment at Mumbai, the investigating officer shall be at liberty to keep a vigil on the respondent at Mumbai. There is no ground to interfere in the order dated

reflect that the respondent is

**FW DESK** According to the Pulse of Fintech H1' 2022 – a bi-annual report published by KPMG highlighting global fintech investment trends - Global fintech investments in H1 2022

recorded \$107.8B with 2,980 deals. Investors in all key jurisdictions continued to flock to the payments space in H1'22, investing \$43.6 billion in paymentsfocused companies. Given the increasing macroeconomic challenges, investment in the payments space could taper off a bit heading into H2'22, particularly with respect to early-stage deals. M&A activity is expected to remain strong as a result of increasing consolidation among payments firms and as the number and size of add-in transac-

tions rises. While the crypto space experienced significant challenges during the first half of 2022, crypto-focused companies attracted \$14.2 billion during H1'22. Going forward, we could 2B solutions aimed at improvement of infrastructure or on the optimization of operational activities like AR/AP and a continued focus on embedded solutions, including payments, finance, and insurance.

#### gradually been increased to 4.5 percent over the last 15 years. also do away with the require-The upper limit for extending the loan to farmers is placed at 7 percent. This leaves a margin of only 2.5 percent for three levels; PSCB, DCCBS and PACS. This rate is critical in mitigating losses incurred by a three tier-structure while providing low-cost loans to the farmers , said Cheema. He also stressed upon the need

mercial banks to strengthen Welcoming the Union Cabithe cooperative structure in the

## RIL to acquire US SenseHawk for \$32 mn FW DESK



In a regulatory filing late and other customary closing conditions and is expected to be completed before end 2022.

Cheema requested to reinstate

it further to 2 per cent. Raising a demand for reducing the

rate of interest on refinance

of short-term agriculture loans

from NABARD, Cheema said

the rate of interest on refinance

of short-term agriculture loans

from NABARD was 2.5 per-

cent till 2006-07, which had

to infuse capital in cooperative

banks on the pattern of com-

The California-based Sense-Hawk is a developer of soft-SenseHawk for \$32 million ware based management tools growth, commercial rollout for the solar energy generation industry

According to Reliance Industries, SenseHawk helps accelerate solar projects from planning to production by helping companies streamline processes and use automation, just a few merchants to avail Reliance Industries said. the benefits

## Kaloom Secures \$21M in Funding to Accelerate Network Transformation and 5G-Edge Deployments

#### FW DESK Montreal

for \$32 million.

Monday, Reliance Industries

said it has inked an agreement

to acquire majority stake in

including funding for future

f products, and research and

The turnover of SenseHawk

for FY 2022, FY 2021 and FY

2020 was \$2, 326, 369, \$1,

165, 926, and \$1, 292, 063,

respectively. The transaction

is subject to certain regulatory

development (R&D).

Kaloom announced it secured an additional USD 21 million ties from the Quebec government and current investor. Alternative Capital Group (ACG), who matched the government of Quebec's investment. This latest investment will sup- its vision. In addiport Kaloom's go-to-market tion to financial ategy and extend its current

global service provider custom-Kaloom's continued busiers benefit from burgeoning ness growth as the company realizes the vision it set out Network transformation and 5G-Edge market opportunito achieve," said Nicolas Beauchamp, ACG. "Kaloom's

ACG's participation in this innovative solutions help network providers overcome latest financing round is a strong vote of con-

fidence in Kaloom's ability to execute on (kaloôm) ACG bring support, a wealth of experience and resources that are invaluable to Kaloom's continued busi-

the major challenges of Network Transformation and 5G-Edge deployments. With Kaloom's help, nrovide networl can deliver the highspeed, low-latency performance that users demand. We look forward

## Rupee rises 8 paise to 79.61 against US dollar on Friday

FW DESK Indian rupee appreciated 8 paise to 79.61 against the US dollar in opening trade on Friday, tracking the dollar's decline versus its major peers

account of his medical condition

and permitted him to travel to

Observing that there was no

showed that Nawandar was

Mumbai for his treatment.

and foreign fund inflows. At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 79.66 against the dollar, then touched 79.61 in initial deals, registering a gain ted" to fighting inflation. of 8 paise over its previous

FW DESK

On Thursday, The rupee terest rates by an unprecedented ose by 26 pais Marg in central Delhi are be- week's high of 79.69 against "ECB raised interest rates by 75 bps, taking the euro higher and the dollar index lower at The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength 109.08 levels. Brent oil remains against a basket of six currenbelow USD 90 per barrel. Asian crore on Thursday, according to cies, fell 0.72 per cent to 108.92, currencies gain against the dol-



as markets digested yet more hawkish Fed

The US Federal Reserve barrel Chair. Jerome Powell on Thursday said he is "strongly commit-

Meanwhile, the European Central Bank raised its key in-

August 31, 2022, passed by the court below, the court stated in its order dated September 5.

lar," said Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury, Finrex Trea-

The rupee will stay in a range of 79.40 to 79.80 for the day, Bhansali added.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, advanced 0.22 per cent to USD 89.35 per

In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex was trading 291.14 points or 0.49 per cent up at 59,979.36. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty rose 104.65 points or 0.59 per

#### **Global fintech market** resilient in H1′22 - \$107.8 billion in investment

ing covered, they said. The the American currency.

exact reason for conducting the survey, where only business premises are covered by the taxman, was not known.

Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) were net buyers in

provisional data.

the capital markets, as they purchased shares worth Rs 2,913.09 heterogeneous hardware strategy by supporting additional platforms like SmartNICs and Servers. The latest cash infusion will also allow Kaloom to ramp up sales, and help its

ness growth. "ACG is proud to support

to supporting Kaloom in this next growth phase."

## **Discussion on digital economy** will build trust among IPEF member countries: USTR

US Trade Representative Katherine Tai has said the discussion on digital trade and economy at the meeting of the Indo-Pacific trade ministers will seek to build connectivity and trust among the member countries.

The trade ministers of 14 countries, including India and the United States, are here for the first two-day physical meeting of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF). In her welcome remark kicking off the Ministerial, Tai said the IPEF will discuss issues like digital economy, labour, environment, agriculture and trade facilitation. Let me say a couple words on the digital economy. We want to build connectivity and trust between key markets, including standards on cross border data flows and data localisation. We are also working to address related issues such as online privacy and

artificial intelligence, Tai said on Thursday.



To address the serious vulnerabilities in supply chains exposed by the coronavirus pandemic, the IPEF is pursuing an accelerated implementation of the World Trade Organ-

isation's trade facilitation

agreement, she added. The USTR said the IPEF will work on streamlining the movement of goods across borders and supporting agricultural trade through science based decision making and the adoption of transparent regulatory practices. This will help our farmers, ranchers and fishers deliver their products to markets throughout the region. And critically, we will continue establishing strong labour and environmental standards and corporate accountability provisions to build the foundation for sustainable growth, Tai said.

In her remark, US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo said the 14 countries together are creating a roadmap for cooperation, aligning objectives to meet our economic goals for workers, businesses and communities. The success of IPEE will fuel economic activity and investment across borders and throughout the Indo-Pacific region, she said. The IPEF is a grouping of 14 countries in the Indo-Pacific region, which account for more than 40 per cent of the world's GDP.

The IPEF was launched jointly by the US and other partner countries of the Indo-Pacific region on May 23 at Tokyo.

#### Sensex reclaims 60k level in early trade, Nifty tests 17900 Yield 4 Finance comes

MUMBAI: Benchmark indices began the trade on a firm note on Friday, extending their previous day gain, amid foreign fund inflows and a positive trend in global markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 431.58 points to 60,119.80 in early trade. On similar lines, the broader NSE Nifty went higher by 127.2 points to 17.925.95. From the Sensex pack of firms, IndusInd Bank. State Bank of India, Tata Steel, Hindustan Unilever, NTPC, In-

Under the Prime Ministers lead-

ership, the focus is on Women

led empowerment rather than

women empowerment. This is

a sea change from the earlier

approaches. In decision making

levels in Industry or politics or

government, there are still few

women in these positions. We

need more women at the top so

that things can really change on

the ground, said Rekha Sharma,

Chairperson, National Commis-

sion for Women (NCW) in the

3rd Diversity & Inclusion Excel-

lence Awards & Conclave-2022

organized by The Associated

Chambers of Commerce and

Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)

women working but in indus-

try just 28% of the workforce

In MNREGA, there are more

in New Delhi

FW DESK

New Delhi

fosys, Dr Reddy's, Sun Pharma and ICICI Bank emerged as the biggest gainers. Bharti Airtel, Bajaj Finserv, Nestle India and Bajaj Finance were among the laggards. Elsewhere in Asia, markets in Shanghai, Tokyo and Hong Kong were trading in the green in mid-session deals The US markets had ended higher on Thursday. On Thursday, the BSE benchmark climbed 659.31 points or 1.12 per cent to settle at 59,688.22. The Nifty



per cent to 17,798.75. Meanwhile, the international oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.26 per cent to USD 89.38 per barrel. Foreign dex are likely to help maintain institutional investors (FIIs) optimism," Tapse said.

were net buyers as they bought shares worth Rs 2,913.09 crore on Thursday, as per exchange data. Local equity benchmark indices opened firm in tandem with the buoyancy seen in the Asian pack and overnight surge in the US markets," said Prashanth Tapse - Research Analyst, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd. "Positive catalysts such as plunging oil prices and easing US dollar in-

## against scam and fraud in financial sector KULBIR SINGH KALSI

scammers instead of reliable company partners. People tend to believe and

The fake sellers, payments

for fake documents, and ser-

vice providers are spoiling the

market globally, despite banks

and other financial institutions

The financial instrument industry has constantly been easily fall for the misleading a target of several fakes and information given by fraudscammers, especially the SBLC sters, lending them to probproviders. Yield Group of Filematic situations. In these nance, a global cross-border circumstances, financial finance company, shares the firms become the ultimate toughest part of being in this scapegoats as customers raise industry. Since a significant queries with the firm instead number of financial firms are of the frauds they indulge offering bank instruments, with. fraud cases are rising at pace.

According to the Chairman of Yield4Finance, Sanjeev Chadha, currently, there are no direct solutions for companies

or banks from such fraudsters trying to defame you over issues out of your control. Company Vice President

Ms Javela Macalalad said that in such cases, we could only try to explain to the client or take our legal stand. Adding more to this, she said, 'It is more important to focus on serving as many clients as possible to your best intentions and not think the factors you cannot control which can affect your servicing to any client." There are several issues in

the trade finance sector, but one major problem leading to scams is the lack of direct customer communication with the firm. The clients usually come in contact with

trying to bring the best services to their clients. The fraud actors claim to have connections with reliable cash flow providers, to have

ease of access to a huge amount of money as legitimacy to draw in investors.

Another fraud is using the lack of understanding of victims in the finance industry. The scammers use it to brainwash people as they are not fully aware of it.

SBLC (Standby Letter of Credit) is a flexible financial tool for performing secure transactions and payments. It is generally issued by banks and institutions for their customers, serving as a transaction guarantee.

advanced 174.35 points or 0.99

is women. Women are still not enjoying equal opportunities; we are receiving complaints of gender discrimination and pay parity among others. The film industry is another example of such discrimination. A mindset change is much needed, women have to think twice and seek permission before joining the workforce. India is now the 5th largest economy and aim to be the 3rd largest economy in the economy by 2030 will happen with greater inclusion of women who constitute 48% of the population into the workforce: Rekha Sharma, Chairperson NCW

world by 2030. Without giving equal opportunity to women how do we expect to achieve that as women constitute 48% of the population. The government has brought laws such as POSH but many companies still do not have an Internal committee (IC's) as mandated by the act. Awareness on the provision of the act too is quite low among companies. Complaints of gender discrimination in recruitment and unfair treatment at workplace are also too common". Susan Ferguson, UN Women Representative for

quite an enabling environment to create an inclusive culture in the workplace, such as allowing women to work at night, enhancing paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks, which is extraordinary and rare around the world. The provision for mandatory crèche facilities in establishments with more than 50 employees and the right to persons with disabilities act which provides 4% reservation in Government jobs for certain class of people with disabilities and also the transgender persons act which says that no government or private entities can discriminate against transgenders in employment matters including recruitment and promotion are all forward thinking and unique legislations around the world"

Achieving the target of becoming the 3rd largest economy by 2030 will happen with greater inclusion of women who constitute 48 per cent of the population into the workforce: NCW India, UN Women India in her Achieving the target of becoming the 3rd largest special address said, "The Government of India has created

## **INTERNATIONAL**

# **Queen Elizabeth II:** a moderniser who steered the British monarchy into the 21st century



When the late historian Sir Ben Pimlott embarked on his 1996 biography, his colleagues expressed surprise that he should consider Queen Elizabeth II worthy of serious study at all. Yet Pimlott's judgement proved sound and, if few academics have followed his lead, the political role of the monarchy has received thoughtful treatment in the creative arts.

Stephen Frears's 2006 film,

## Sanjay Verma India's next High Commissioner to Canada

Seasoned diplomat Sanjay Kumar Verma was on Tuesday appointed as India's next High Commissioner to Canada, while Amit Kumar, currently Consul-



the phone from a male caller ate General of who even asked her to go back India in Chito India cago, has been named as the Jayapal posted a collection of next ambasfive such audio messages. sador to the Republic of of which have been redacted

Korea. Verma, a 1988-batch IFS officer and presently India's Ambassador to Japan, is expected to take up the assignment shortly, the Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement

#### Five Pakistani soldiers, 4 terrorists killed in a raid on terrorist hideout

At least five Pakistani soldiers and four terrorists were killed in a shootout when the security forces raided a militant hideout in a tribal district in a former Taliban stronghold near the border with Afghanistan, the Army said on Tuesday. The Army conducted an operation based on prior intelligence on Monday in the Boyya area of North Waziristan district, according to a statement released by ISPR, the media wing of the Pakistani military.

### **ASSOCHAM signs cooperation** pact with B'desh top trade body

**FW DESK** 

her shoes.

Elizabeth's reign was a delayed result of the abdication crisis of 1936, the defining royal event of the 20th century. Edward VIII's unexpected abdication thrust his shy, stammering younger brother Albert onto the throne as King George VI. Shortly thereafter he was thrust into the role of figurehead for the nation through the second world war. The Queen, showed her dilemma

The war was the most imafter the death of Princess Diana; portant formative experience Peter Morgan's stage play The for his elder daughter, Princess Audience showed the monarch's Elizabeth. Her experience as weekly meetings with her prime a car mechanic with the ATS ministers. And she has been (Auxiliary Territorial Service the shown in a generally positive women's army service) meant and sympathetic light by both that she could legitimately claim Netflix's acclaimed drama series to have participated in what has been called the people's war.

The Crown and even in Mike Bartlett's speculative play King The experience gave her a Charles III, about the difficulty more naturally common touch her heir would have in filling than any of her predecessors

tatives

at the age of 96.

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had displayed. When, in 1947, of 99) her wedding was seized she married Philip Mountbatten on as an opportunity to brighten who became Duke of Edinburgh a national life still in the grip of (and died in April 2021 at the age post-war austerity and rationing.

Paper artist Gurpreet Singh makes a model of the London Bridge as he pays tribute to

the late Queen Elizabeth II, on the outskirts of Amritsar on Friday. Queen Elizabeth II, the

longest-serving monarch in British history and an icon instantly recognisable to billions

of people around the world, died at her Scottish Highland retreat on September 8, 2022

m

PHOTO-PRABHJOT GILL

## Indian-American Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal receives threat messages

she is being asked to go back to her country of origin India. Javapal, 55, is the first-ever Indian-American Congresswoman who represents Seattle in the US House of Represen-

with a pistol had shown up outside the Congresswoman's house in Seattle. The man, iden-tified by police as Brett Forsell, 49, was arrested later.

dent of hate crime against the Indian-American community in the US.

## Rock on which modern Britain was built: PM Truss pays tribute to Queen

LONDON: Britain's newlyelected Prime Minister Liz Truss has paid tribute to the Queen as the rock on which modern Britain was built, soon after Buckingham Palace announced the death of Queen Elizabeth II in Scotland.

Truss, who had been anointed by the 96-year-old monarch just days before on Tuesday at Balmoral Castle, stepped out at 10 Downing Street in London on Thursday to reflect upon the legacy of Britain's longest-reigning called her own first and last monarch. She described her as a champion of the Commonwealth and a source of stability and strength over

the course of 70 years of her appointed me as her 15th Prime Minister. Throughreign. She was the very spirit of out her life, she has visited Great Britain and that spirit more than 100 countries and will endure, said Truss. she has touched the lives of

Queen Elizabeth II was millions around the world, the rock on which modern Britain was built. Our country has grown and flourished under her reign. Britain is the great country it is today because of her, she said.

She has been our longestever reigning monarch. It is an extraordinary achievement to have presided with such dignity and grace for 70 years. Her life of service stretched beyond most of our living memories. In return. the passing of the second she was loved and admired by the people in the United Kingdom and all around the history of our great country, world, she added.

exactly as Her Majesty would Describing her as a perhave wished by saying the sonal inspiration, Truss words God save the King.

#### Indian ambassador to US pays obeisance at Sachkhand Sri **Harmandar Sahib**



Amritsar praised her devotion to duty Indian ambassador to the United as an example to all and re-

meeting as Prime Minister.

she remained determined

to carry out her duties as she

Looking ahead to the fu-

ture, she added: It is a day of

great loss, but Queen Eliza-

beth II leaves a great legacy.

as it is has done for more

than a thousand years to

our new monarch, our new

head of state: His Majesty

King Charles III. With the

King's family, we mourn the

loss of his mother And with

Elizabethan age, we usher in

a new era in the magnificent

Today the Crown passes

she said.

Earlier this week, at 96.

States, Taranjit Singh Sandhu expressed his devotion by paying obeisance at Sachkhand Sri Harmandar Sahib September 3. On this occasion, Singh espe-

cially visited the headquarters of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC). Teja Singh Samundri Hall, which is established in the name of his grandfather, to freshen his memory. At the SGPC office, Singh was honoured by additional secretary Pratap Singh. On this occasion, Singh said that he visits every year to pay obeisance at Sri Harmandar Sahib and this time, he got the opportunity to see the gathering hall established in the name of Teja Singh Samundri. He said after seeing the commemorative hall, the hard work of Teja Singh Samundri was freshened in his memory. He said Teja Singh Samundri contributed greatly to the foundation of SGPC and he participated in several morchas (fronts). He said it was the dedication of Teja Singh Samundri towards the Qaum (community) and it is a matter of pride for the family.

This is the latest such inci-

On September 1, An Indian-American man has been racially abused by a compatriot in California who hurled racist slurs that he is a "dirty Hindu" and

a "disgusting dog'.

## Australian and Indian commercial space links take flight

India and Australia elevated their space relationship as six new industry-to-industry memorandums for collaboration between the two countries were signed at the seventh 'Bengaluru Space Expo 2022" on Monday.

Indian-American Congress-

woman Pramila Jayapal has

said that she has been receiving

On Thursday, Chennai-born

In all the messages, portions

because of obscene and abusive

content, the male caller is heard

threatening her with dire con-

abusive and hate messages over

Australia continues to look at new ways to enhance its space collaboration with India, said the Head of the Australian Space Agency (ASA), Enrico Palermo, in his address to the international conference and exhibition.

The establishment of a Consulate-General in Bengaluru from 2023 will allow us to fur-

ther develop the space relationship, he said. We also recognise the signifiprogramme and are glad to be summit.



supporting the inspirational 'Gaganyaan' human space flight nission, Palermo added.

Highlighting the strong commercial links in space between Australia and India, six separate Australia-India space industry memorandums were exchanged cance of India's national space at the inauguration of the space launch services, spacecraft avionics and components to Aus-

tralian Space Initiatives. Perth-headquartered QL Space will also partner with Skyroot Aerospace to further develop launch facilities in Australia and support joint mineral exploration missions in space. Perth is known as Australia's resources, mining and mining

QL Space will partner with Chennai-based GalaxEye to develop a hybrid optic and Radar payload to reduce the adverse environmental impact of critical mineral exploration in Australia and beyond. QL Space and Bengaluru-

based SatSure will work together

Skyroot Aerospace to provide to build satellite and AI-based solutions to support the agriculture, mining and defence industries, and apply this technology

to the outer space environment. Australia's SABRN Health, Altdata and India's DCube will work together on the development and integration of hardware, sensor technology and software to provide health support to astronauts, it was stated.

"They (Australia) were able to attract (Indian) startups to work together. This shows that Australia is also open to launching our satellites from their land sometime, and vice versa", Secretary in the Department of Space and Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation, S Somanath said.

## N Korea says it will never give up nukes to counter US

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un stressed his country will never abandon the nuclear weapons it needs to counter the United States, which he accused of pushing to weaken the North's defenses and eventually collapse his government, state media said Friday.

Kim made the comments during a speech Thursday at North Korea's rubber-stamp parliament, where members passed legislation governing the use of nuclear weapons, which

Kim described as a step to cement the country's nuclear status and make clear such weapons will not be bargained. The law included a provision that requires North Korea's military to automatically execute nuclear strikes against enemy forces if its leadership comes under attack.



Kim also criticised South Korea over its plans to expand its conventional strike capabili exercises with the United States to counter the North's growing threats, describing them as a dangerous military action that raises tensions. Kim has made increasingly provocative threats of nuclear conflict toward the United States and its allies in Asia, also warning that the North would proactively use its nuclear weapons when threatened. His latest comments underscored the growing animosity in the region as he accelerates the expansion of his nuclear weapons and missiles programme. The purpose of the United States is not only to remove our nuclear might itself, but eventually forcing us to surrender or weaken our rights to self-defense through giving up our nukes, so that they could collapse our government at any time, Kim said in the speech published by the North's official Korean Central News Agency. Let them sanction us for 100 days, 1,000 days, 10 years or 100 years, Kim said. We will never give up our rights to self-defense that preserves our country's existence and the safety of our people just to temporarily ease the difficulties we are experiencing now. Kim also addressed domestic issues, saying North Korea would begin its long-delayed rollout of COVID-19 vaccines in November. He didn't specify how many doses it would have, where they would come from, or how they would be administered across his population of 26 million people.



development and joint-space missions

Australia's Space Machines Company will collaborate with Bengaluru-based aerospace and defence manufacturer Ananth Technologies on product integration, testing, technology

technology capital.

Australian startup HEX20 will work with Hyderabad-based

I chose to do so here because we cannot accept violence as our new norm. We also cannot accept the racism and sexism that underlies and propels so

Typically, political figures don't show their vulnerability. much of this violence, Jayapal from the Democratic Party, said in a tweet. Early this summer, a man

# sequences and in one instance

Coinciding with the ongoing visit of Bangladesh Prime Minister H.E. Sheikh Hasina to New Delhi, top industry organisations of India and Bangladesh - ASSOCHAM and FBCCI - have signed an MoU for wider business-to-business cooperation between the two countries with a common objective of boosting bilateral trade and investment. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) was signed in the presence of H.E. Mr. Tipu Munshi M.P. Hon>ble Commerce Minister of Bangladesh at India-Bangladesh Business Forum jointly organised by ASSOCHAM & FBCCI.

Bhushan, a 1994 batch officer, is currently Additional Secretary in-charge of Central Europe in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

Bhushan succeeds Muktesh Pardeshi, who was promoted to the rank

of secretary in the External Affairs Ministry last month and is tasked with India's G-20 Secretariat.

## Neeta Bhushan appointed India's new envoy to New Zealand

Senior IFS officer Neeta A career diplomat, Bhushan was on Thursday Bhushan's overseas assignnamed as the High Commis- ments include Head of the sioner of India to New Zealand. Press, Culture and Informa-

tion Wing in Indian



director in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and as joint secretary (parliament & coordination) in the MEA

## Putin attends joint military drills with China

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday attended sweeping war games in his country's far east involving troops from China and other nations, in a show of military muscle amid the tensions with the West over Moscow's action in Ukraine.

The weeklong exercise that began Thursday is intended to showcase growing defense ties between Russia and China and also demonstrate that Moscow has enough troops and equipment to conduct the massive drills even while its forces are engaged in fighting in Ukraine.

The Russian Defense Ministry said that the Vostok 2022 (East 2022) exercise that runs until Wednesday at seven firing ranges



in Russia's Far East and the Sea of Japan involves more than 50,000 troops and over 5,000 weapons units, including 140 aircraft and 60 warships. It engages troops from several ex-Soviet nations, China, India, Laos, Mongolia,

Nicaragua and Syria. Beijing sent more than 2,000 troops along with more than 300 military vehicles, 21 combat aircraft and three warships to take part in the drills, according to Chinese news reports.

## China's export growth sinks in August, imports shrink

China's export growth weakened in August and imports shrank as high energy prices, inflation and anti-virus restrictions weighed on global and Chinese consumer demand.

Exports rose 7% over a year ago to USD 314.9 billion, barely one-third of July's 18% expansion, customs data showed Wednesday. Imports contracted by 0.2% to USD 235.5 billion, compared with the previous month's already weak 2.3% growth. Demand for Chinese exports has softened as economic activity in Western markets slowed and the Federal Reserve and central banks in Europe and Asia raise interest rates to



cool surging inflation. At home, repeated closures of cities to fight virus outbreaks has weighed on consumer spending. The slowdown in China's export sector is adding to headwinds for the Chinese economy, said Rajiv Biswas of S&P Global Market Intelligence

in a report. Lack of import growth highlights continued weakness of Chinese domestic demand.

Growth in the world's second-largest economy fell to 2.5% in the first half of 2022, less than half the ruling Communist Party's 5.5% annual target, after Shanghai and other industrial centers were shut down to fight virus outbreaks. Factories have reopened, but temporary closures in areas including the southern business center of Shenzhen and a dry summer that left reservoirs in China's southwest unable to generate hydropower have weighed on activity. The International Monetary Fund and private sector forecasters have trimmed their already low growth forecasts.

## Russia sends more energy to Asia as Europe cuts back

Russia sent significantly more oil and coal to India and China over the summer compared with the start of the year, while European countries that long relied on Russian energy have cut back sharply in response to the war in Ukraine, said a report published Tuesday.

The Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air said Russia received about 158 billion euros (158 billion) in revenue for the sale of oil, natural gas and coal from February to August, more than half of which some 85 billion euros worth was exported to the European Union. Within the EU, Germany was the biggest importer, buying 19 billion euros worth of fossil fuels from Russia during the six-month period.

The single biggest importer worldwide, however, was China, which bought 35 billion euros worth of Russian energy, the Helsinki-based group said.



rose, overall export volumes dropped by 18% compared with when the country invaded Ukraine, the report said.

The EU has cut its imports from Russia by 35% since the war began, with Russian coal now banned in the 27-nation bloc and a halt to oil sales due to take effect at the end of the year. Russia itself has sharply cut flows of natural gas to the While Russia's revenue EU, indicating this week that

they would not resume unless Western sanctions are lifted. Germany's economy minister, Robert Habeck, said Monday that his country doesn't expect gas imports from Russia to resume anymore.

Meanwhile, India and China imported significantly more coal and crude oil from Russia in July and August than in February and March, the group said.

UN agency calls for safety zone around Ukraine nuclear plant

The UN atomic watchdog agency has urged Russia and Ukraine to establish a nuclear safety and security protection zone around amid mounting fears the fighting could trigger a catastrophe in a country still scarred by the Chernobyl disaster.

We are playing with fire, and clude a commitment by Russian

something very, very catastrophic could take place, Rafael Grossi, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency

warned the UN Security Council, days after leading an inspection visit to the plant. In a detailed report on its visit, the IAEA said shelling around the Europe's largest nuclear power plant should stop immediately.

This requires agreement by all relevant parties to the establishment of a nuclear safety and security protection zone" around

the plant, it said. At the Security Council meeting, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres likewise demanded that Russian the Zaporizhzhia power plant and Ukrainian forces commit to halting all military activity around the plant and agree on a demilitarised perimeter.

Guterres said this would in-



forces not to

move into it. Russian state media quoted Vasily Nebenzya, Russia's UN ambassador, as saying that Russia does not see the IAEA's proposal regarding a safety zone around the Zaporizhzhia NPP as serious. The Ukrainian government had no immediate comment on the proposal, though it, too, has called for the demilitarisation of the nuclear site.



**Rallies show Pakistan's** ex-PM Imran Khan

Since he was toppled by parliament five months ago, former Prime Minister Imran Khan has demonstrated his popularity with rallies that have drawn huge crowds and signaled to his rivals that he remains a considerable political force.

On Tuesday, he addressed some 25,000 supporters in the northwestern city of Peshawar. the capital of deeply conservative Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province bordering Afghanistan.

Imran Khan said he would soon organize a mass march to the capital, as a culmination of his campaign to force the government of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif to hold a snap election, which some analysts say Khan might win due to his growing popularity.

## Nagesh Kukunoor to direct series on Rajiv Gandhi's assassination



final hideout.

A series detailing the assassination of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi is under development with acclaimed filmmaker Nagesh Kukunoor attached as director.

Content studio Applause Entertainment has greenlit "Trail of an Assassin", which is based on former journalist Anirudhya Mitra's book "Ninety Days: The the show. True Story of the Hunt for Rajiv Gandhi's Assassin".

The forthcoming crime procedural series will be a blow-by-



#### KULBIR SINGH KALSI

Along with the story of a film, its songs make all its elements more special, such as those woven into the upcoming film Teri Meri Gal Ban Gayi, presented by Priti Sapru under Sai Sapru Creations. All the songs of this film have been presented under the Times Music label, the music of which has been given by the famous composer Jitinder Shah. If we talk about the lyrics of the songs, they are written by Maninder Kailey, Babu Singh

**MUMBAI:** Actress Rashmika Mandana, who is set to make her Hindi film debut with the upcoming film 'Goodbye', was totally in awe of the puppy that features in the film. In fact, she had a friendly fight with her co-actor in the film, the veteran superstar Amitabh Bachchan, over who would take the puppy home after the film's wrap up.

Interestingly, the pup has a rather surprising name: Stupid, which is quite unusual for dogs who are known for their wit and intelligence.

blow account of how the CBI's for Rajiv Gandhi's Assassin'.

Special Investigation Team "It has always been an encracked the assassination plot, riching and creatively satisfying identified the assassins and experience collaborating with Applause Entertainment and exchased the mastermind, to his cited to see how this one unfolds," the two-time National Award Nagesh Kukunoor, who previously created "City of Dreams" for winner said in a statement.

Applause Entertainment, said he Sameer Nair, CEO, Applause is looking forward to working on Entertainment said the studio is pleased to once again collaborate "I look forward to taking on with Kukunoor to bring this gutthis gritty and thrilling piece of wrenching story to a contempostorytelling, adapted from 'Ninety rary audience. Days: The True Story of the Hunt

"Driven and guided by our

### Rashmika has fallen in love with the pup who appears in 'Goodbye'



Speaking to the media at the trailer launch event of the film, Rashmika said, "I was completely in love with Stupid. We would spend a huge part of the day in the company of Stupid.'

Opening up on her friend-ly tiff with Big B, the actress further said, "I and Amitabh Bachchan sir had a little nokjhonk (tiff) over, who would take Stupid home. He wanted to take him to Jalsa but eventually, I kidnapped Stupid and brought it home.'

## **Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra scripts another** history, becomes Diamond League champion

Olympic gold medallist javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra on Thursday achieved yet another historic feat as he became the first Indian to win the prestigious Diamond League Finals title here.

Maan and Veet Baljit

Chopra began with a foul but to the top spot with impe throw of 88.44m -- his fourth career best -- in his second attempt, and that turned out to be his winning effort. He had 88.00m, 86.11m, 87.00m and

Julian Weber of Germany was third with a best of 83.73m.

The 24-year-old Indian superstar is now the Olympic champion, World Championships silver medallist and

Bollywood veteran star Neetu Kapoor will be seen sharing screen space with actor Sunny Kaushal and Shraddha Srinath in Lionsgate India Studios's first Diamond League champion. feature film. The coming-of-age All these he had achieved in story will capture the beauti- Sunny added. Using comedy as its ful and relatable relationship just 13 months. He had won between a mother and her son. Neetu said: "When I read the script, I fell in love with it. It goes story and explores a different side in forcing us to grow up.

The first

film from

values of being ambitious, audacious and disruptive, we believe the adaptation of Anirudhya Mitra's book certainly makes for a compelling story to tell. Most are aware of this incident through the medium of news and will now get a dramatized insider view of the largest manhunt in Indian history," added

With "Ninety Days: The True Story of the Hunt for Rajiv Gandhi's Assassin", Mitra said he has tried to provide "the most definitive account of the biggest manhunt launched in India". "The audio-visual format en-

ables the story's numerous facets

and layers to be presented in a

more nuanced and engrossing

manner. With Applause Enter-

tainment's reputation for pas-

sionate storytelling and Nagesh

Kukunoor's directorial expertise,

I'm confident that an exciting

series lies ahead of us," the author

Gandhi was assassinated on

the night of May 21, 1991 at

up about teaching the-

atre to prisoners in US

'Delhi Crime', has previously

taught theatre to prisoners in

the US. She talked about what

she observed and learnt from

first feature film

those days through art.

further said.

a poll rally.

tive response for

her work

as a serial

killer in

the recently released

second season of

Nair.

that sets a unique tone to the rom-

will release Nikhil Mahajan-

directed "Godavari", starring

"Sacred Games" star Jitendra

The movie had won two

Joshi, on November 11.

**JIO STUDIOS MARATHI** 

PRESENTS

com genre." "The moment I read the script, I knew it's a special film that I just had to be a part of! It is an ode to all the mothers, their wishes, and their sacrifices!" main premise, the untitled film. directed by Milind Dhaimade, delves into the integral fabric of families, communication, and beyond the regular mother-son memories, as well as their role

Afterwards,

the studio

Neetu Kapoor, Sunny Kaushal to star in Lionsgate India Studios's



all pulpy questions aside, she is someone who is very dear to me and will always remain so." Ananya Panday and Ishaan

Khatter briefly dated. They

co-starred in the 2020 film broke up with Ishaan? You



petition among the six finalists, 14-year-old Mohammad Faiz from Jodhpur turned out to be the winner of <Superstar Singer 2> and lifted the trophy and a cash prize of Rs 15 lakh.

His soulful rendition of romantic tracks such as <Pehla Nasha>, <Kesariya> and <Koi Mil Gaya> not only impressed the judges but also the special guests, including Bollywood actresses of the yesteryear such as Padmini

Kolhapure and Poonam Dhillon. Mani and Sayisha were declared first and second runnerup, respectively. The show, which judged by Alka Yagnik, Himesh runner-up). Music maestro nammiva and Javed Ali. It

-- the Silver Peacock for best

**POTPOURRI** 



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi launched the AICC party's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu. PHOTOS : KULBIR KALSI

Khaali Peeli. They ushered

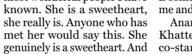
in 2021 in the Maldives to-

## Koffee With Karan 7: Asked About His Break-Up With Ananya Panday, Ishaan Khatter

Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu ritual, no episode is comby a woman suicide bomber at plete without Karan Johar's mandatory relationship status questions and Ishaan Khatter, who appeared on the show with Phone Bhoot **Tillotama Shome opens** co-stars Katrina Kaif and Siddhant Chaturvedi, was asked by the show's host Karan Actress Tillotama Shome, who Johar: "You broke up with has been getting a lot of posi-Ananya Panday?" To which, the Dhadak star replied, "Did I? Because you said she broke up with me recently.

As is Koffee With Karan 7

When asked about his equation with Ananya Panday at the moment, İshaan said, "Yeah, I mean, I would hope to have her as a friend for the rest of my life. She is one of the most wonderful people I have



14-yr-old Mohammad Faiz from Jodhpur



Idol 10> winner), Pawandeep Rajan (<Indian Idol 12> winner), Arunita Kanjilal («Indian Idol 12> first runner-up) and Sayli Kamble (<Indian Idol 12> second runner-up) and Mohammad premiered on April 23, was Danish («Indian Idol 12» third

'ARSH IS GOLD': Harbhajan & Kohli support Arshdeep after dropped catch

> Singh came under a lot of criticism on social media following a dropped catch against Pakistan in Asia Cup.

were dating Ishaan, then you broke up. Come on, every-

body knew you were dating

Ishaan." Ananya refused to comment on KJo's question.

During the episode, there was

equation with Ishaan Khat-

ter: "I think we are both busy

now but every time we meet, there is that warmth. Rang-

saari, the song that came out

from JuggJugg Jeeyo, that

song was supposed to be in

Dhadak. So every time we'd

shoot montages for Dhadak,

we'd play that song.

Former and current Indian cricketers came out in support of young seamerArshdeep Singhafter the coungster dropped an easy









#### **JIO STUDIOS** unveils slate of Marathi films, series

registered in his fourth attempt. his consistency. Jio Studios on Tuesday an- and love stories, the studio nounced its upcoming slate of has partnered with promi-Marathi features films and web nent Marathi talent including series with leading names from Mahesh Manjrekar, Subodh

the industry Bhave, Jitendra Joshi, Bhau For the line-up of diverse Kadam, Kedar Shinde, Sayaji themes and genres, such as Shinde, Sukanya Kulkarni, dramas, comedy, thrillers, Rahul Deshpande and others. Bhau Kadamand Bhushan Patil.

Olympic silver medallist the Olympic gold on August JakubVadlejch of Czech Re-7 last year in Tokyo. He has public finished second with a produced 88m-plus throw six best throw of 86.94m which he times this season which showed

provided a platform to 15 contestants aged seven to 15 years to show their talent.

The young talents were mentored by Salman Ali («Indian Trivedi.

Anand also graced the show as special judges for the grand ficatch in the 18th over of nale along with him the evening also saw popular singers Shabbir Kumar, Sonu Kakkar and Bhumi

Film Festival of India last year January 6. It is directed by Kedar Shinde.

actor for Joshi and the Silver Described as an "out an outentertainer", the movie features Rohini Hattangadi, Vandana Peacock for best director (special jury Award) for Mahajan. In 2023, Jio Studios will Gupte, Sukanya Kulkarni, come out with "Bai Pan Bhari Deepa Parab, Shilpa Navalkar and Suchitra Bandekar. awards at the International Deva", which will release on

Pakistan's chase in the Asia Cup 2022 on Sunday, 4 September. India and Pakistan Super 4 clash on Sunday lived up to its hype with the men in green registering a thrilling five-wicket win over their neighbours at the Dubai International Stadium.

However, it was Arshdeep's dropped catch in the final moments of the game that became the talking point.

### The crime-psychotic-thriller 'Criminal,' from Big Daddy Films, will be released worldwide on September 23rd

KULBIR SINGH KALSI

Following the success of Humble Motion Pictures, Gippy Grewal is going, to begin with, his new pro-



Grinder Sidhu under the banner, been released, it would be fair to to be released on 23rd September 2022. Moreover, with the release of this movie, Humble Motion Pictures advances in the field of action film, the film is a psychodistribution. The film has been co-produced by Bhana LA and logical thriller.



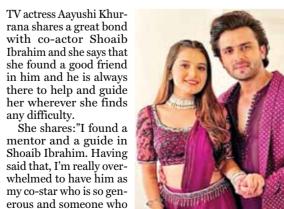
Vinod Aswal and co-written by Naveen Jethi and Sarbjit Khera.

The title Criminal gives a clue as to the genre this movie, starring Neeru Bajwa, Prince Kanwaljit

in him and he is always Singh, Dheeraj there to help and guide her wherever she finds Kumar, and any difficulty. Raghveer Boli, She shares:"I found a will be focus-

mentor and a guide in ing on. Given Shoaib Ibrahim. Having that the movie's trailer has said that, I'm really overwhelmed to have him as state that the movie goes beyond my co-star who is so genwhat is considered ideal cinema. A erous and someone who psychological-suspenseful-thriller guides me throughout." that amplifies every element of an

The 'Mann Sundar' ac-



tress for the first time is seen in the show, who is very strong playing a lead role of Ajooni and intelligent and can do any-

## Aayushi Khurrana finds a mentor in co-actor Shoaib Ibrahim

the slate is "Ghe Double", di-

rected by Vishwas Joshi and

Dubbed as a hilarious comedy of

errors, the movie features actors

set for release on September 30.

thing to achieve her goal. But at the same place, it is not easy for Aayushi to portray a strong character on-screen and Ibrahim helps her in making her job easier.

"This is my first debut as a lead actor in a show and Shoaib has been very kind and helpful towards me in everything. He is playing the role of Rajveer opposite my role of Ajooni. I must say, he has some incredible skills that come out effortlessly and naturally,

she adds. 'Ajooni' airs on Star Bharat.

## Rs 200 cr extortion case: Nora grilled, Jacqueline summoned

NEW DELHI: Bollywood actress Nora Fatehi was questioned by Economic Offences Wing of Delhi Police in connection with the Rs 200 crore extortion case involving multimillionaire conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar. Fatehi appeared before EOW office at Mandir Marg on Friday where she was grilled for about six hours

"Fatehi reached EOW's Mandir Marg branch at around 11



a.m. and was questioned till 6 p.m. She can be summoned again if need arises. We have sent summons to Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez to join the investigation in the same matter on December 12, ' an official said.

Chandrashekhar was arrested for allegedly cheating and extorting money from some highprofile people, including former Fortis Healthcare promoter

Shivinder Mohan Singh's wife Aditi Singh. Many Bollywood actors and models have been questioned by the Enforcement Directorate for their alleged links with Chandrashekhar.

In April last year, Chandrashekhar was arrested in another money laundering case linked to the 2017 Election Commission bribery case, which allegedly involved a former AIADMK leader, among others.

## A complete KNOWLEDGE CAPSULE



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