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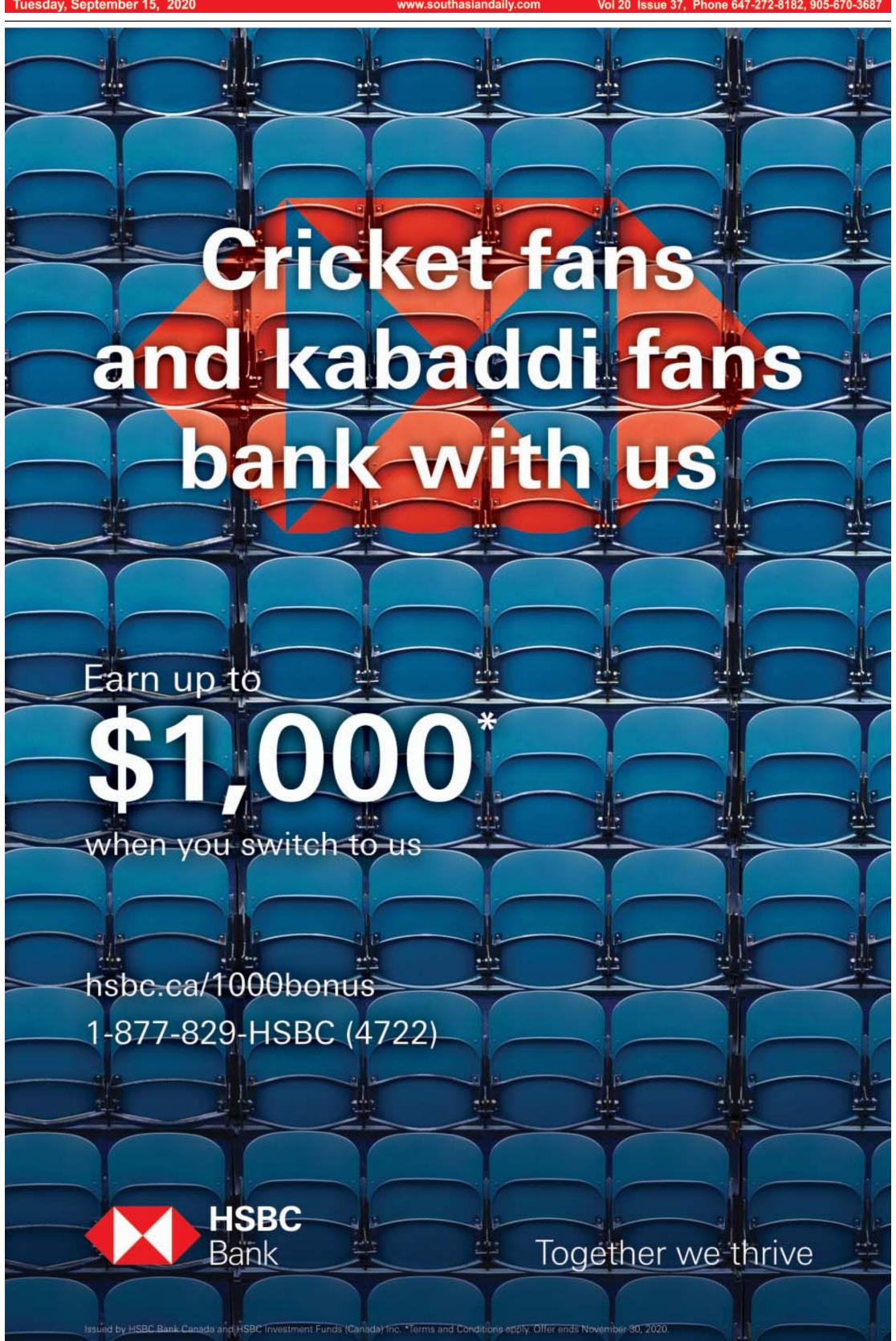


NEWS WEEKLY

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PRIME MINISTER JUSTIN TRUDEAU
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I DON'T THINK CANADIANS WANT
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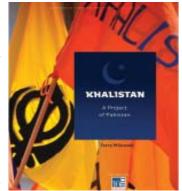
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FOR CONCERN"



MAYOR PATRICK BROWN
"I DON'T BELIEVE WE NEED 50
INDOORS IN A RESIDENCE AND 100
PEOPLE IN A BACKYARD"

PAKISTAN SUPPORTS KHALISTAN : CANADIAN THINK TANK

A Canadian think-tank has released a report stating Pakistan is backing the Khalistan movement in Canada. Written by veteran journalist Terry Milewski, the report was released on September 9 by the MacDonald Laurier Institute. In 'Khalistan: A Project of Pakistan', he writes Islamabad is backing the movement designed to subvert the national security of both Canada and India.



I CONTD. ON PAGE 7

XI JINPING'S PLANNED AGGRESSION AT INDIAN BORDER "UNEXPECTEDLY FLOPPED", SAYS US REPORT

A US magazine levelled a great amount of blame on Chinese President Xi Jinping, stating that he risked his future with Beijing's high-profile incursions into Indian territory. Calling him the "architect" of the People's Liberation Army's recent aggression towards India, a The

Newsweek report said the move "unexpectedly flopped". The opinion piece read, "Unfortunately for Xi, he is the 'architect' of these aggressive moves into India and his People's Liberation Army (PLA) has unexpectedly flopped. I CONTD. ON PAGE 10

SATISH THAKKAR CHOSEN TO LEAD CANADA INDIA FOUNDATION

Canada India Foundation, a nonpartisan organization working towards stronger bilateral relationship between the two countries, announced the appointment of a new Chair to head and guide its future activities. Mr. Satish Thakkar, FCPA, FCGA was chosen unanimously by the membership at its thir teenth Annual General Meeting on September 10. Mr. Thakkar takes over the reins of CIF from Mr. Anil Shah. The members paid tribute to the years of inspiring leadership under Mr. Shah.

Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE

CANADA MAY GET VACCINE EARLY 2021: MINISTER ANITA ANAND

Is Canada prepared for a second wave of the coronavirus? Which country would get the vaccine first? When will the vaccine reach Canadians? This is some of the various questions posed by Canadians and people across the world as the ongoing pandemic continues to lash out. In an exclusive interview with Group Editor Yudhvir Jaswal, Minister of Public Services and Procurement Anita Anand went into details on battling a virus that has dominated 2020.

When are we going to get a vaccine?

Our strategy is taking the advice of the Vaccine Task Force, to sign contracts with multiple vaccine suppliers to make sure that when a vaccine is ready, Canadians

are able to have access to it. The issue is that no one knows at this stage which vaccine is going to be the successful one and indeed there may be more than one. So we are taking a strategy of diversification, making sure we have agreements in place with multiple vaccine developers so Canadians are well-placed to have access to those vaccines.

We have four agreements in place with Novavax, Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, and Modema, and we are more on the way. The vaccine must go through the Stage III clinical trials, then it must be approved by Health Canada and only then it can be distributed to Canadians. In our agreements we are looking at timelines for

delivery dates as early as the first part of 2021

We heard Russia expedited its vaccine trial, there is also news about getting a vaccine in the end of October. What is your take on that?

My take on that is we can't rush science. My take is that we have to be following the prudent approach that we as Canadians have been taking throughout this pandemic – Which is to follow the advice of the public health experts and our Health Canada professionals. What that advice has been is to socially distance, and to wear masks. In context of the vaccine, it's going to mean that no vaccine is going to be utilised in Canada unless it's passed Health Canada approval, and that means we are going to follow the science and we are not going to be rushing. It's really important to make sure that vaccine developers have been able to go through

the three phases of clinical trials.

We saw yesterday that AstraZeneca just stopped briefly its Phase III trials because of a health concern with one of the participants. That, in my view, is a very important point to remember.

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I CONTD. ON PAGE 7

WATCH FULL INTERVIEW WITH GROUP EDITOR YUDHVIR JASWAL ON CHANNEL Y ROGERS 857, BELL 828, TELUS 2418, ROGERS IGNITE 707

'OUT OF CONTROL': KANGANA RANAUT, SLAMMED BY JAYA BACHCHAN, GETS IT FROM SENA AGAIN



The back-and-forth between Kangana Ranaut and the Shiv Sena doesn't show any signs of dying out. A day after the actor took a parting shot at the Shiv Sena as she headed back to Manali in Himachal Pradesh, the Shiv Sena responded with a veiled dig at the actor in an editorial of its mouthpiece Saamana, saying people on social media appeared to be 'out of control'.

AVERAGE CANADIAN HOUSE PRICES JUMPED BY ALMOST 20 PER CENT IN AUGUST, 33 PER CENT



further 6.2% in August 2020, raising them to another new all-time monthly record. Unlike the previous two months in which activity was up right across the country, sales in August were up in about 60% of local markets. Gains were led by the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and British Columbia's Lower Mainland.

Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE: HYATT PLACE HOTEL OFFICIALLY OPENS IN MISSISSAUGA



Y MEDIA VACCINE SENSEX : US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP SAYS VERY CLOSE TO VACCINE, CHINA SAYS VACCINE READY FOR PUBLIC BY NOVEMBER . INDIA HEALTH MINISTER SAYS VACCINE MAY BE READY BY BEGINNING OF 2021



Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE

HYATT PLACE HOTEL OFFICIALLY OPENS IN MISSISSAUGA



L R GROUP EDITOR Y MEDIA YUDHVIR JASWAL, SIGMA GROUP CHAIRMAN ARJUN (ANDY) JASUJA, MPP MISSISSAUGA MALTON DEEPAK ANAND, AND CEO, HYATT PLACE JAVED AKHTAR



Y MEDIA REPORTER SIA LAKHANPAL (LEFT) WITH MISSISSAUGA MAYOR BONNIE CROMBIE



SIGMA GROUP CHAIRMAN ARJUN (ANDY) JASUJA WITH **HYATT PLACE CEO JAVED AKHTAR**







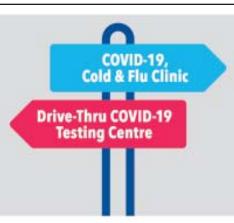
Hyatt Place Toronto/Mississauga Centre announced its official opening on Monday, expanding the Hyatt Place brand's footprint globally in markets that matter most to guests and World of Hyatt members. Located in the heart of Mississauga's business district, the hotel features the Hyatt Place brand's intuitive design, casual atmosphere and practical amenities that help quests do more.

In talks with Y Media, Hyatt Place CEO Javed Akhtar said, "This is Ontario's very first Hyatt Place, and we chose Mississauga - a great combination of commercial and residential hub. The city is constantly growing and has rendered us great support. We at Hyatt Place, guarantee not only a beautiful venue, but an unprecedented service level." Sigma Group Chairman Arjun (Andy) Jasuja said, "Mississauga is a

vibrant and one of the most desirable cities in the world to live, work, and play. Hyatt Place is a Four Star property, and the Luxe Convention Centre is the most stunning venue present within the GTA. This is the best location to host your corporate or social functions. We really appreciate Channel Y, Yudhvir Jaswal, and your entire team for being here to cover this event."

Know where to go when you think you have IIIL I LO, A COLD, ON CO

COVID-19, cold and flu symptoms are very similar and testing is the best way to diagnose which of these illnesses a person may have. William Osler Health System provides convenient, safe options for COVID-19 testing, as well as assessment and care for people who have flu-like symptoms.



Visit a Drive-Thru **COVID-19 Testing** Centre if you:

Have no symptoms or mild flu-like symptoms such as:

- Runny nose
- Mild cough
- Sore throat

Do not need to see a doctor

Feel you need to be tested for COVID-19

Anyone over the age of 2 years can be tested



LOCATIONS

South Fletcher's Sportsplex (north parking lot)

500 Ray Lawson Boulevard, Brampton

Humber College (overflow parking lot) 2 Janda Court, North Etobicoke

Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., seven days a week

No referral or appointment needed

Visit Osler's COVID-19, Cold and Flu Clinic if you:

Have moderate symptoms such as:

- Fever (temperature of 37.8°C or above) that's not caused from a known infection or illness
- Any worsening:
 - Cough, shortness of breath
 - Sore throat or hoarse voice
- Runny nose or sneezing, nasal congestion
- Loss of taste or smell
- Pink eye/redness of eye(s)
- Nausea and vomiting, or diarrhea, or abdominal pain
- Flu-like illness

Need to see a doctor

Anyone over the age of 6 months can be tested

If you are feeling severely ill and require emergency care, always CALL 9-1-1 or go to your nearest EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT.



LOCATION

Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness*

20 Lynch Street, Brampton

SEPTEMBER 15 - 30

Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., seven days a week

STARTING OCTOBER 1

Hours: Open 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., seven days a week

No referral or appointment needed

*Note: This clinic is located in the temporarily-closed Urgent Care Centre space at Peel Memorial



NOT SURE WHERE TO GO?

Contact your family doctor or Telehealth Ontario (1-866-797-0000) for advice.



For more information about your COVID-19 testing options, go to www.williamoslerhs.ca/coronavirus

TRUMP LAUDS PM MODI AS A 'GREAT LEADER, LOYAL FRIEND' ON 70TH BIRTHDAY



U.S. PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP GREETED PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI ON HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY, PRAISING HIM AS A "GREAT LEADER AND LOYAL FRIEND".

Y MEDIA VACCINE SENSEX

PRESIDENT TRUMP SAYS **VACCINE MAY ARRIVE IN WEEKS**

US President Donald Trump states at least 100 million doses of a coronavirus vaccine may be ready to distribute in as little as four to eight weeks. Speaking at an interview with Fox & Friends, the President reiterated his belief that a vaccine may arrive before Election Day. He said, "We're going to have a vaccine in a matter of weeks, it could be four weeks it could be eight weeks... will it be before the Election, it could be... we'll start delivering it immediately upon getting it." Trump has a knack of openly, and confidently contradicting his own health officials. Scientists across the globe have criticised his constant push and unrealistic expectations from vaccine developers. Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Dr Anthony Fauci has said a vaccine by Election Day was unlikely. With the Food and Drug Administration existing under the White House, it is possible the President is exerting pressure on expediting approvals.



CHINA COVID VACCINE MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC BY NOVEMBER



early as November. Chief biosafety expert at the Chinese Centre for Disease Control in an interview with state broadcaster CCTV said a vaccine would be available to the general public "around November or December".

While Wu Guizhen did not specify which vaccine she was referring to, she said, "Based on the phase 3 clinical results, the current progress is very smooth." She added that she had taken a vaccine in April and felt good.

NEW YORK-BASED PFIZER CEO SAYS THE US COULD **GET VACCINE SHOT BEFORE YEAR-END**

Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine could be distributed to US citizens before has already invested \$1.5 billion for the development of the potential the close of the year, believes CEO Albert Bourla. In an interview with CBS, he said the drugmaker should have key data from its late-stage trial for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) by the end of October. Bourla said if the FDA approves the vaccine, the company is prepared to distribute "hundreds of thousands of doses".

The US pharmaceutical giant, along with German drugmaker BioNTech has been working on a vaccine candidate. Bourla said the company

vaccine. He said if the vaccine failed to work it would be financially "painful" for the company.

Pfizer's vaccine candidate contains genetic material called messenger RNA or mRNA, which scientists hope provokes the immune system to fight the virus. It submitted a proposal to the FDA over the weekend to expand the late-stage trial to include up to 44,000 participants, a significant increase from its previous target of 30,000.

58 YEAR OLD MOSQUE CARETAKER FATALLY STABBED IN REXDALE MOSQUE

A 58 year old mosque caretaker was fatally stabbed at the International Muslim Organization (IMO) over the weekend. Toronto Police have identified the victim as Mohamed-Aslim Zafis, a volunteer caretaker for the mosque located near Rexdale Boulevard and Bermagot Avenue. A police press release said Zafis was sitting in a chair outside the front doors, controlling the access to the building to help comply with public health



measures, when the suspect approached him and stabbed him once. Emergency crews located him with a stab wound to his neck. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Homicide investigators are looking for a male suspect with a slim build, wearing a black hoodie and dark pants who fled the area on foot.

MIAMI HERALD APOLOGIZES FOR **'RACIST' INSERT COLUMN**



The Miami Herald is investigating how it published a paid insert with what it called "racist and anti-Semitic commentary" and distributed to readers of its Spanish-language sister paper. The Florida daily's publisher Aminda Marqués González earlier this week said it will no longer publish or distribute the content of the weekly supplement LIBRE.

Marqués González and the managing editor of El Nuevo Herald Nancy San Martín apologized to readers in a letter saying they had not previously read the advertising insert until a column was widely shared on social media with commentary berating Jews for supporting the Black Lives Matter movement while comparing violent demonstrators to Nazis.

RICH COUNTRIES SNAP UP HALF OF **COVID-19 VACCINE SUPPLY**



Rich nations representing a fraction of the global population have already bought up more than half the stock of promised Covid-19 vaccines, a study showed, as US President Donald Trump pledged to begin inoculating Americans within weeks. Big pharma is racing to produce an effective jab to counter the coronavirus that has now killed more than 942,000 people around the world and infected almost 30 million.

A study released by Oxfam showed a group of wealthy countries representing just 13% of the world population has secured the lion's share of doses. "Access to a life-saving vaccine shouldn't depend on where you live or how much money you have," said Robert Silverman of Oxfam America. "Covid-19 anywhere is Covid-19 everywhere."

FORCES TRYING TO MISLEAD FARMERS, FARM BILL WILL LEAD TO INCREASED PROFITS: PM MODI

Hailing the passage of three farm sector bills in Lok Sabha, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday described these proposed legislations as historic and asserted that they will rid farmers and the farm sector of middlemen and other bottlenecks.

With ruling BJP ally Shiromani Akali Dal joining the opposition in protesting these bills, Modi asserted that many forces are trying to "mislead' farmers and assured the farming community that minimum support price (MSP) and government procurement of their produce will continue along with a lot of other options for them. These reforms will provide new opportunities to farmers to sell their produce and will lead to increased profits for them, he said. Modi also urged farmers and those associated with the agriculture sector to listen to Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar's reply to the discussion on these bills.

Sunny Communities Sets Gold Standard for Homebuilding

Sunny Communities was joined by a number of distinguished guests for their ground-breaking event to celebrate the first phase of Markham GOLD, a new home development.

On September 9, the team at Sunny Communities welcomed Member of Provincial Parliamentfor Markham-Thornhill Logan Kanapathi, York RegionChairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson, Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti and Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton. Regional Councillors Jim Jones and Joe Li, as well as Ward Councillors Andrew Keyes, Amanda Collucci, Isa Lee, and Khalid Usman were also in attendance.

The Markham Town Crier kicked off the event. Mayor Scarpitti gave a speech in which he spoke highly of the project, commending the builders for their focus on homeowners over brick-andmortar houses. He expressed excitement over the future of the community and the new development.

The founders of Sunny Communities extended a special thank you to the partners who made the first phase of the project possible before plunging a shovel into the ground to mark the beginning of phase two. Brokers and agents were also in attendance.

Sunny Communities commemorated the event with a \$10,000 donation to the Markham Stouffville

Limited lots remain. They are now sellingwith opportunities to buy now and move in 2021. For more information, visit sunnycommunities.com or contact info@sunnycommunities.com **About Sunny Communities**

Sunny Communities was established in 2019 by a team with an extensive history in real estate, construction and development. They work to create residential communities throughout Ontario that help to reinforce, reshape, and reignite what home means to their valued homeowners. Their goal is to help make every day a sunny day through impeccably designed homes and condos. SOURCE Sunny Communities

WEBsunnycommunities.com **CONTACT** info@sunnycommunities.com



Satish Thakkar Chosen to Lead Canada India Foundation

CONTD. FROM PAGE 3

They recorded their appreciation for the substantial progress made under Mr. Shah in meeting major objectives of CIF. A special note was made of recent initiatives like the Thank You Meals program for Ontario's frontline workers that helped position CIF as an organization that cares for the larger Canadian community.

"Taking over from our dear Anilbhai is a huge challenge," noted the incoming Chair, Mr. Satish Thakkar. "For the past few years, we have been constantly encouraged and inspired by his guidance for a number of years. I also

want to record my deep appreciation for Pankaj Dave, our National Coconvenor who has been a strong source of support for CIF." "I now want to thank the CIF family for the trust and confidence you have placed on me. This is a unique honour. I know I am walking into the shoes of many illustrious past leaders who have led this organization from the beginning."

Mr. Thakkar presented to the membership a few priority areas that he would be focusing on in the following months. He said, "We at CIF are already engaged in a 360degree approach i.e. strengthening economic, political and cultural ties that bind Canada and India. Promoting India's soft power within Canada can fit in nicely into this framework." Special attention will be given to the development and propagation of yoga and



Satish Thakkar Chair

Ayurveda, the ancient Indian system of medicine in Canada. "Our Ayurveda and yoga combination are a potent combination for preventive health and wellness. In these times, when we are

faced with enormous financial challenges due to the pandemic, we must re-look at the advantages, including lower healthcare costs, offered by these ancient systems." CIF will work towards inclusion of Ayurveda as a Regulated

Health Profession in Ontario. Fresh initiatives will be launched in expanding the footprint of CIF within Canada as well as in India. There will

also be a renewed push to work with important Think Tanks and academic scholars to create reports that help deepen the ties between

> Canada and India on sectors of importance. While CIF will keep its core membership to a limited number, Mr. Thakkar, expressed a desire to attract more representation from the youth as well as women. "We have no dearth of committed and accomplished young people or women who can bring in new ideas as well as enthusiasm to CIF activities," he noted. Mr. Thakkar welcomed Mr. Ritesh Malik to the leadership team as its new National Convenor. Mr. Malik thanked CIF for the vote of confidence in him. "We have a strong 1.6 million diaspora that can be a great source of support for all that we hope to achieve in the Canada India corridor. They are our pride and strength

Ritesh Malik

in every sphere, and I hope to tap into my strong socio business network and experience of doing business on both sides to help advance CIF objectives for growth of both economies."



Sunita Vyas National Convener National Co-Convener

Mr. Thakkar also welcomed Mrs. Sunita Vyas, to the team as CIF's first woman National Co-convenor. Vvas has been an integral part of CIF for several years before taking on the current position. When asked about being chosen as the first woman to be National Co-convenor, she said, "I feel that this is also a sign of

how CIF is growing as an organization. I would like to see more participation from women at every level. We will be designing some programs specifically for women."

Mr. Thakkar also welcomed Ms. Hema Bhatt as Corporate Secretary and Mr. Girish Kekre, as Treasurer. Ms. Bhatt said that her efforts will continue in increasing the awareness about CIF. "We want to see a much larger CIF footprint in Western Canada. We hope to bring on board more members on the west coast to further CIF's overall objective." Mr. Girish Kekre, as CIF Treasurer, is expected to keep the financial aspects in good shape. Mr. Kekre noted, "Every organization needs sound financial planning for its continued growth. We have always been mindful of this fact at CIF. We are committed to keep CIF in the best financial health possible today and tomorrow."

In conclusion, Mr. Thakkar noted that "at CIF it has always been the team spirit that has prevailed". He added, "We will continue to listen to the membership and take guidance in the same democratic traditions followed at CIF."



Hema Bhatt Secretary



Girish Kekre Treasurer

EDU MIN STEPHEN LECCE ANNOUNCE WEBPAGE TO REPORT COVID-19 CASES IN SCHOOLS

Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, and President of the Treasury Board and Minister responsible for the Ontario Digital Service, Peter Bethlenfalvy, issued the following statement on making COVID-19 school-specific data publicly available online:

"We know that this September comes with a new set of challenges, as many children return to school. We have pulled out all the stops for Ontario's students. It is why we have ensured that schools can reopen safely, with a \$1.3 billion plan that is endorsed by Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David Williams.

would ensure that they would have access to the same information that we have. Over the last several weeks, we have been working with the Ministry of Health, the Ontario Digital Service and public health authorities, to ensure a rapid and transparent exchange of local COVID-19 data.

Today, the government is launching a webpage to report COVID-19 cases in schools and child care centres. This page will be updated every weekday with the most up-to-date COVID-19 information available, including a summary of cases in schools and licensed child The Premier and our government made a promise to parents, that we care centres and agencies, if a COVID-19 case is confirmed at your

school and where the numbers come from. Parents deserve to know what we know.

As Ontario students return to school, we are developing new and innovative ways to combat COVID-19 in the classroom, including this webpage, which is just one way the Ontario government is leveraging technology to protect the health and safety of the next generation. By making it easier for students, parents, and teachers to access important information about COVID-19 in their communities, we continue to deliver on our commitment of building simpler, faster, better services for the people of Ontario."

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Rising COVID-19 cases "cause of concern", says Ontario Premier Doug Ford

COMMUNITY

continue implementing its made-in-Ontario plan for growth, renewal and long-term recovery. The government's fall legislative agenda will build on the work undertaken over the summer, focusing on job creation, skills training, attracting investment, strengthening communities, and fortifying the front lines of the province's health

"Our government worked through the summer passing emergency legislation to protect individuals, families and businesses during one of the most difficult periods in our province's history," said Premier Doug Ford. "Over the past few weeks, we have heard from people in every corner of the province and from all walks of life that they continue to feel the impact of the pandemic each and every day. To start us down the road to long-term recovery, this legislative session will focus on implementing our comprehensive plan to get Ontario back on track."

Priorities for the upcoming session include:

Investing in Ontario's health care system to ensure the province is prepared for a potential second wave of COVID-19 and for any future public health challenges;

Building Ontario's production capacity for personal protective equipment, ventilators and other medical gear so the province never has to rely on any other jurisdiction again for these critical supplies;

Protecting families and those most vulnerable and helping them get back on their feet as the province reopens;

Helping young people and workers receive the skills training they need to join the modern workforce and contribute to the recovery

The Ontario government is returning to the legislature today, ready to Accelerating the construction of critical highway, transit and broadband infrastructure projects to create jobs and boost the local economies of communities across Ontario;

> Providing relief to Mainstreet Ontario and small business owners so they can recover from the impact of COV ID-19 faster and get back to the work of building their business; and

> Expanding manufacturing by creating the conditions to bring investment and jobs to the province and world-class, Ontario-made products to consumers around the world.

> "When faced with a global pandemic, Members of Provincial Parliament came together in an unprecedented level of cooperation to protect people and support businesses," said Paul Calandra, Ontario's Government House Leader. "Working across party lines, we were able to quickly pass important programs and protective measures through a special summer sitting of the legislature. Now, as we return to regular fall sittings, the people of Ontario expect us to continue to cooperate to defeat COVID-19 and rebuild our economy."

> In March and through the summer, the legislature met for special sittings of the Assembly, which included unprecedented and innovative public health protections to allow for the passage of emergency legislation. From March to July, the government was successful in passing 18 pieces of legislation, including emergency measures needed to protect public health and prepare for economic recovery, such as the Economic and Fiscal Update Act, the COVID-19 Support and Protection Act, the Protecting Small Business Act, and the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act. The expedited passage of much of this emergency legislation would not have been possible without the support and cooperation of the Official Opposition and independent Members.

Canada May Get Vaccine Early 2021: Minister Anita Anand

CONTD. FROM PAGE 3

What would be our strategy in case the companies Canada has an I have full expectation Canadians will continue to do that going forward. agreement with are not able to develop a vaccine?

The whole strategy is to pursue a diversified procurement approach. On the advice of a vaccine task force, we are entering into agreements with a number of suppliers – both international and domestic.

We need to make sure that if one or two of those suppliers are unable to come forward with a vaccine, that there are other options. We can't bet on one horse alone, and that's the strategy here. The strategy is to make sure we have multiple possibilities towards victory, if you will. And that means making sure we have multiple agreements in place from a procurement standpoint. As minister, that has been my role to make sure agreements are in place we have signed for and many

Once we do get the vaccine: Will it be voluntary or mandatory to take one? Would there be a price attached to it?

Dr Theresa Tam has said that the vaccine would not be mandatory. In other words, we can't force anyone to get a vaccine. On the other hand, what Canadians have done during this pandemic is to follow the advice of the health experts. Therefore,

Do you see a second wave on the horizon? If yes, how prepared are we in terms

This virus knows no boundaries and at all times, we have to prepare for a second wave. From a procurement standpoint what that has meant is that right from the beginning, we entered into long-term agreements with our suppliers to make sure we had PPE coming into Canada being produced right here at home that would lead us into a position where we are ready for a second wave if it arrives. And indeed, we are ready heading into the Fall, if there is to be a surge, with the PPE that

In addition, some of these long-term contracts have been put in place and announced to the public. For e.g., the 3M contract announced a couple weeks ago in Brockville will supply Canadians with 3M and N95 masks.

On a broader level, throughout the pandemic, what we have tried to do is to make sure our domestic production is ramped up and now over 44 per cent of our contracts by dollar value for PPE are produced right here.

Who will get the vaccine first – internationally and domestically?

That is a good question. The federal government does not have jurisdiction over healthcare in the provinces and so very much, this is a conversation we will be having with provinces and territories regarding who is eligible to have the vaccine first. It is a collaborative discussion. We have to remember we are in this together, we are all on the same team. If my experience today is any measure, this will be a co-operative decision-making process that we undergo with the provinces. We have proven to be very collaborative and working well as a team. The questions you ask is one we all solve together.

MidWeek

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Pakistan supports Khalistan: Canadian Think Tank

CONTD. FROM PAGE 3

The article claims that in 2018, a 'Public Report on the Terrorism Threat to Canada' brought out by the Canadian government changed the original text that said "Sikh (Khalistani) extremist ideologies and movements" to "extremists who support violent means to establish an independent state within India". Milewski also goes on to state that the separatism movement has no traction among Indian Sikhs. The World Sikh Organization of Canada joins calls for the retraction of the report entitled "Khalistan: a Project of Pakistan", published by the Macdonald-Laurier Institute

Toronto proclaims September 14 as Champions of Care Day

Toronto Mayor John Tory has proclaimed September 14, as Champions of Care Day to honour all front-line health care workers serving our city. On this day we also pause to remember those workers who paid the ultimate sacrifice and lost their lives to COVID-19.

Every day, thousands of front-line health workers play a crucial role in keeping our communities healthy and as safe as possible by providing life-saving service in clinics, centres and hospitals across the city.

All front-line health care workers including those employed by the City of Toronto such as nurses, paramedics and longterm care staff, are providing critical services under very difficult circumstances.

Their support has been vital during this pandemic. Their efforts, collectively with the efforts of all Torontonians, allowed our city to experience a limited strain on the healthcare system during this first wave of the pandemic. Health care workers will continue to play a crucial role in keeping Torontonians save as the City readies for a possible COVID-19 resurgence

Tory said, "I want to thank all of our front-line health care workers for the critical work they do saving lives and keeping people safe every day, and for rising to the challenge to provide vital support to people in our city during the pandemic. Your commitment to the people you serve has helped our city's efforts in navigating this crisis and ensuring that our residents can get through these challenging times." He added, "On the Champions of Care Day, I encourage every-

one to give thanks to front-line workers in their neighbourhoods and online, while they continue to meet the challenges posed by COVID-19, keeping us healthy and safe."

CONSULATE ORGANISES ART AND ESSAY COMPETITION TO COMMEMORATE 550TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF GURU NANAK DEV JI





THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA, TORONTO ORGANIZED AN ART AND ESSAY COMPETITION TO COMMEMORATE THE 550TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF GURU NANAK DEV JI. LAUNCHED DURING THE SIKH HERITAGE MONTH IN CANADA, THEMES FOR THE COMPETITION WERE BASED ON HIS LIFE AND TEACHINGS. A PANEL OF DISTINGUISHED JUDGES GRADED THE PARTICIPANTS AND WINNERS FROM EACH CATEGORY WERE SELECTED.

12 NEW ELECTRIC VEHICLE **CHARGING STATIONS** ANNOUNCED FOR BRAMPTON

The City of Brampton will receive funding to install 12 new electric vehicle charging stations at four facilities by the end of 2021. These charging stations were made possible through the City's participation in the Peel Climate Change Partnership and Natural Resources Canada's Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program.

With a commitment to being a Green City, in 2019, Brampton City Council voted unanimously to declare a climate emergency while aiming to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated in the city by 80 per cent by 2050. Electric vehicle charging stations encourage residents to rethink how they get around and promote more sustainable transportation choices, in turn reducing GHGs.

The new electric vehicle charging stations will be installed at the following locations:

Cassie Campbell Recreation Centre - 2 Loafers Lake Recreation Centre - 2 Chinguacousy Wellness Centre - 4 Riverstone Community Centre - 4

ONTARIO TO INVEST OVER \$2.2 MILLION IN IT IN OTTAWA

The Ontario government is investing more than \$2.2 million to help over 600 job seekers in Ottawa develop the skills they need to establish careers in the technology and Information Technology (IT) sector.

The announcement was made today by Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, and Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries and MPP for Nepean, at the Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre. The funding is being distributed as follows:

Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre is receiving \$499,254 for an employer-led IT training project that will help up to 400 workers rapidly upgrade their skills and prepare them for high-demand jobs; Lighthouse Labs is receiving \$456,646 to train up to 60 newcomer women in technical IT skills;

Information and Communications Technology Council is receiving \$497,155 to train 25 jobseekers in financial technology skills, followed by a work placement;

Carleton University is receiving \$466,302 to create accessibility videos and materials for employers and employees to support the employability of post-secondary students with disabilities; and

Le Collège La Cité is receiving \$313,951 to train up to 120 francophones in IT. "Our government is committed to helping Ontarians gain in-demand training so they can be ready for future employers," said Minister McNaughton. "This investment will help our communities in Ottawa, and we are excited to partner with local organizations to address unique economic challenges while helping people find work." Online job postings in the region show that software engineers and designers, and information system analysts are two of the top four in-demand workers. These projects encourage synergies between industry, education and training providers to drive innovation, help employers find skilled workers, and help job seekers find well-paid careers. "These investments will create and provide the people of Ottawa with over 600 job opportunities," said Minister MacLeod. "Continuing to train and upgrade skills will be essential to advancing the Ottawa community, as we develop to meet the changing needs of our communities." "Thanks to the generous support of the Ontario Government and Ministry of Labour, Training, and Skills Development, the GO4IT project will be able to provide upskills training to over 120 employers to help fill their skills shortage, improve their competitiveness, innovation and productivity, and allow 400 trainees to retain and find jobs in the growing digital economy," said Ying Xie, Senior Manager, In-TAC.

ONTARIO INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO FREEZE RESIDENTIAL RENT IN 2021

PROPOSED BILL WOULD ALSO SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES BY EXTENDING THE BAN ON COMMERCIAL EVICTIONS

TORONTO: The Ontario government has introduced the Helping Tenants and Small Businesses Act that would, if passed, freeze rent in 2021 for most rent-controlled and non-rent-controlled residential units. The bill would provide the vast majority of Ontario's tenants with financial relief as the province continues down the path of renewal, growth and economic recovery.

The announcement was made today by Premier Doug Ford, Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

"From the very beginning of this pandemic, our government promised the families, workers and small business owners of this province that we would have their backs and provide them with the support they need to get back on their feet," said Premier Ford. "The crisis is far from over and the threat of a second wave is real, as are the challenges it will bring. That's why we need to take the necessary steps now to help families keep a roof over their heads and small businesses keep their doors open."

The Helping Tenants and Small Businesses Act also proposes to change the Commercial Tenancies Act to extend the temporary ban on evictions for commercial tenants. The ban was initially in place from May 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020, to align with the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses. This temporary ban would continue to apply to businesses that are eligible for federal-provincial rent assistance through the CECRA for small businesses, but their landlord chose not to apply for the program. The ban will protect small businesses from being locked out or having their assets seized during COVID-19.

"Our government wants to stabilize rents for Ontario's 1.7 million rental households for 2021, because this year is not like any other year," said Minister Clark. "We know that families are continuing to be impacted by COVID-19. We know landlords have worked hard to

be accommodating and have made sacrifices. We know that by continuing to work together, we will move past this extraordinary time and get Ontario back on track."

Extending the ban on commercial evictions would allow Ontario to continue to protect small businesses and help them get back on their feet, so they can create jobs and help rebuild the economy.

"Our government has been there to support small businesses since the beginning of COVID-19," said Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance. "We partnered with the federal government to provide commercial rent relief and so far over 50,000 tenants have received support. Unfortunately, COVID-19 isn't behind us. That's why we are working with our federal partners to explore opportunities to ensure small businesses continue to receive the support they need."

This proposed legislation would also create a single register of voters for municipal and provincial elections, which is expected to be more accurate, could mean fewer corrections for voters at polling stations, fewer delays for people on election day, and may reduce costs for municipalities.

QUICK FACTS

The Residential Tenancies Act sets out the formula for calculating the maximum allowable rent increase for the next year in rent-controlled units. These amendments would revise the guideline for 2021, which is set at 1.5 per cent.

The residential rent increase guideline applies to most tenants living in rented houses, semis, basement apartments, condos, as well as care homes, mobile homes, and land lease communities. The proposed rent freeze would end on December 31, 2021. However, a landlord could give proper 90 days' notice before the freeze ends for a rent increase that takes effect starting in 2022.

The Protecting Tenants and Strengthening Community Housing Act, passed this summer, encourages landlords to try to negotiate a re-



payment agreement with a tenant before seeking eviction if rent has not been paid during COVID-19.

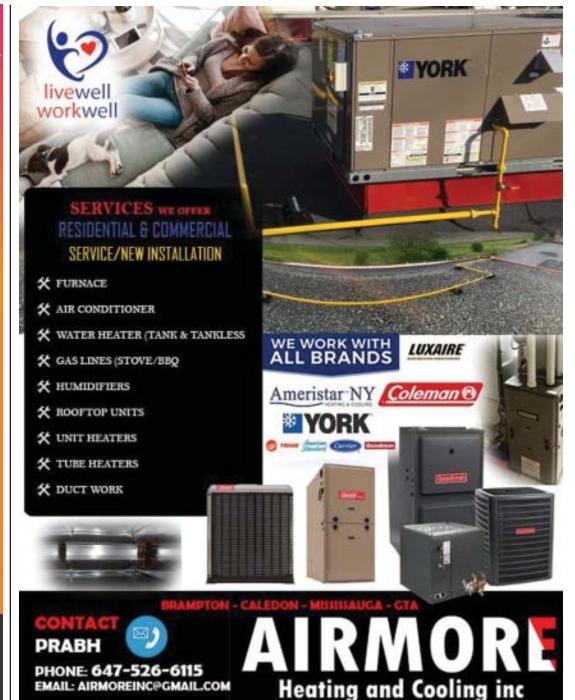
Ontario is providing help to keep vulnerable people safe through the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes \$510 million in funding to local service managers and Indigenous program administrators who were given the flexibility to expand the key services they already offer to meet their local needs, including supporting people who are having difficulty paving rent.

The extension to the commercial eviction ban would apply to businesses eligible for the CECRA for small businesses program.

FIRST ALSTOM CITADIS SPIRIT PRODUCED IN BRAMPTON'S BRAND NEW ALSTOM FACTORY SHIPPED TO OTTAWA. THE FACILITY CURRENTLY EMPLOYS 110 PERMANENT EMPLOYEES WHO ASSEMBLE TRAINS FOR OTTAWA, HURONTARIO LRT, AND OTHER METROLINX PROJECTS







MidWeek

Average Canadian House Prices Jumped By Almost 20 Per Cent In August, 33 Per Cent Rise In Home Sales: CREA

CONTD. FROM PAGE 3

With ongoing supply shortages in so many parts of Canada, it is interesting to note that the GTA and Lower Mainland also saw a considerable amount of new supply become available in August.

Actual (not seasonally adjusted) sales activity posted a 33.5% yo-v gain in August. It was a new record for the month of August. and the sixth-highest monthly sales figure of any month on record. Transactions were up compared to last August in almost all Canadian housing markets.

So far this year, some 341,463 homes have traded hands over Canadian MLS® Systems, up 0.8% from the first eight months of 2019. "It has been a record-setting summer in many housing markets across Canada as REALTORS® and their clients play catch up following the loss of so much of the 2020 spring market," stated Costa Poulopoulos, Chair of CREA. "Many markets dealing with inventory shortages have been seeing fierce competition among buyers this summer; although, that was something that had been anticipated for 2020 prior to COVID-19. It really does seem that the spring market shifted into the summer. As conditions evolve into fall, we continue to make sure clients stay safe by complying with government and health officials' directives and advice, including using technology to show properties virtually and to complete required forms and contracts. Now as always, REALTORS® remain the best source for information and guidance when negotiating the sale or purchase of a home," continued Poulopoulos. "It will come as a surprise to many that as of the end of August, home sales in 2020 had fully caught up to where we were at

signs of moderating in September, 2020 is looking like it will go down as a fairly middling year overall - weaker than in a non-COVID world but quite a bit better than we would have given it back in April."

The number of newly listed homes posted a further 10.6% gain in

With the August increase in new supply outpacing the rise in sales for the first time since the rebound began in May, the national sales-tonew listings ratio eased to 69.4% in August compared to 72.3% posted in July. That said, it was still among the highest levels on record for

Based on a comparison of sales-to-new listings ratio with long-term averages, only about a third of all local markets were in balanced market territory, measured as being within one standard deviation of their long-term average. The other two-thirds of markets were above long-term norms, in many cases well above.

The number of months of inventory is another important measure of the balance between sales and the supply of listings. It represents how long it would take to liquidate current inventories at the current rate of sales activity.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN 40 MILLION PEOPLE COME TOGETHER TO FORM A GLOBAL CHAIN OF HEARTS MEDITATING FOR PEACE?

International Day of Peace is celebrated on 21st September every year to promote peace amongst nations and people and was established in 1981 by the United Nations with the hope that the children of tomorrow can inherit a better world.

Heartfulness is hosting a Free Virtual Global Eventon September 21 from 8 PM to 9:30 PM local time with celebrated Ambassadors of peace, Leaders in Peace building, Science, Mindfulness and Spirituality - Dr.Kamlesh Patel (Daaji), Dr.Deepak Chopra, Sister BK Shivani, Dr.Bruce Lipton, Ms.SharonSalzberg and Amandine Roche, anchored by world renowned actor and director Shekar Kapoor. World renowned musicians Pandit Hari Prasad Chourasia and Grammy nominated Shashank Subramanyam will enliven the event with their magical melodies.

Heartfulness Institutein partnership with United Nations Information Center, United Way India, Global Citizens India, and Spirit of Humanity Forum, will unite humanity through meditation and help create an Aura of peaceto envelop and heal this planet.

This is facilitated through the global free to register virtual event named'Celebrate Peace'at 8 p.m. local time followed by a 'Create Peace', a synchronized Meditation at 9 p.m. local time on the International Day of Peace. http://heartfulness.org/peaceday.

The "Celebrate Peace" event will be broadcasted in over 100 countries and translated into over 24 languages worldwide via online streaming platform partners. Similar virtual events organized by the Heartfulness Institute such as the International Day of Yoga was viewed by over **22 million people** and this event is poised to reach over 40 million people.

Daaji, the Global Guide of Heartfulness Institute says, "Experiencing peace and unity within oneself is the first step towards fostering external peace. The sound of silence has great power to unite and on International Day of Peace this year we will look at how one can inspire peace from within. The coming together of the eminent forces in spirituality will ensure that the aura of peace will get amplified and resonate stronger across the planet."

For any inquiries please contact 1-844-Try-Heart or emailheartfulnesscares@heartfulness.org

Updated Parks By-law Ensures Greater Clarity and Safety for the Public

Yesterday, Council approved an updated Parks By-law that will ensure more safety and greater clarity for park users and the City's enforcement staff. The by-law is effective immediately.

"As Mississauga continues to grow and evolve, updates to the Parks By-law are necessary for the City to effectively continue administering and enforcing all park related activities and programs," said Jodi Robillos, Director, Parks, Forestry and Environment. "This also ensures that all park users are clearly made aware and understand what is and isn't allowed in our parks. More importantly, it brings more safety measures for the public so that our parks can continue to be used and enjoyed by everyone."

Some of the key highlights with the updated Parks By-law are as follows:

Children under 12 years of age are not allowed to enter Leash-Free Zones.

Commercial dog walkers with an approved permit can use Leash-Free Zones Monday to Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. only. Smoking regulations aligned with the Region of Peel's No Smoking or Vaping By-law which prohibits smoking and vaping in public

Park opening hours to change to dawn from 7 a.m. (closure still remains at 11 p.m.) to better reflect user needs.

A Park Vendor section created for clarity around food/refreshment vehicles or carts, and portable display units that operate in parks - with reference to Mobile Licensing processes that are required.

Designated busking areas to be identified through the City's SaugaBusks program. A section that deals with kite flying to address requests and emerging trends.

that time last year; however, that is somewhat of a low bar as the first half of 2019 wasn't really anything to write home about," said Shaun Cathcart, CREA's Senior Economist, "A more useful comparison would be to ask where we are now versus where we thought we'd be before anyone had ever heard of COVID-19, and on that score there is still a lot of catching up to do. Despite some record monthly highs and lows this year, with eight months now in the books and activity showing

August compared to July.

Province Introducing Legislation Across Ontario to Increase Fines for Non-Compliance

TORONTO — In consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, local medical officers of health and local municipal leaders, the Ontario government has amended order O. Reg 364/20: Rules for Areas in Stage 3 under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020, setting a new limit reducing the number of people permitted to attend unmonitored social gatherings and organized public events in three regions experiencing higher rates of transmission of COVID-19. This includes functions, parties, dinners, gatherings, BBQs or wedding receptions held in private residences, backyards, parks and other recreational areas. "We have been working hand-in-hand with our medical officials and our mayors to try and slow down and limit new cases in the regions with the highest rates of transmission," said Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "This targeted action is in direct response to the latest data, which tells us that increased cases are the result of private and social gatherings. By limiting the number of people permitted at a social gathering in these regions, we will reduce the spread of COVID-19 and keep people safe."

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the amended order will set a new limit on the number of people allowed to attend an unmonitored social gathering or organized public event in three specific regions to:

10 people at an indoor event or gathering (previous limit of 50); or 25 people at an outdoor event or gathering (previous limit of 100).

Indoor and outdoor events and gatherings cannot be merged together. These are not accumulative and gatherings of 35 (25 outdoors and 10 indoors) are not

The new limits will only apply to persons within the boundaries of the following public health units:

Ottawa Public Health;

Peel Public Health; and

Toronto Public Health.

This amended order will come into effect on September 18 at 12:01am. The new limits will not apply to events or gatherings held in staffed businesses and facilities, such as bars, restaurants, cinemas, convention centres or banquet halls, gyms, and recreational sporting or performing art events. Existing rules, including public health and workplace safety measures, for these businesses and facilities continue to be in effect.

To support better compliance with public health guidelines, both within these three regions and across Ontario, amendments to the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act would, if passed, create:

A new offence regarding hosting or organizing a gathering in residential premises or other prescribed premises that exceeds limits under an order A minimum fine of \$10,000 for organizers of these gatherings

Authority for the Lieutenant Governor in Council to prescribe additional types of premises for the purpose of the new offence.

Authority for a police officer, special constable or First Nations constable to order the temporary closure of a premise where there are reasonable grounds to believe that any gathering exceeding the number of people allowed is taking place and require individuals to leave the premises.

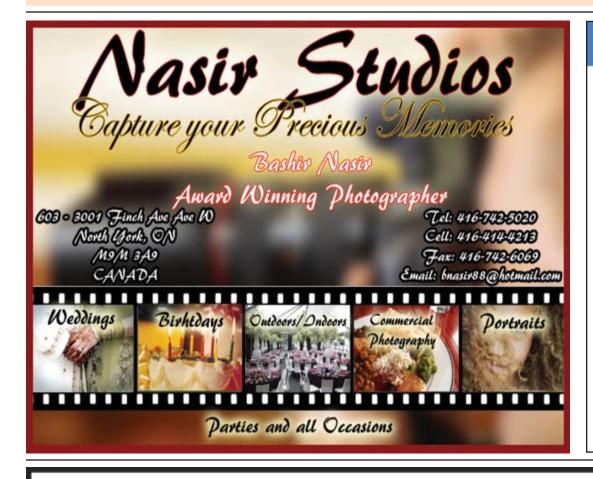
These new compliance mechanisms are the most stringent in all of Canada. "We are determined to take decisive action to protect Ontario's recovery and keep people safe across our province. With the recent rise in COVID-19 cases. a continued agile and proactive response to the evolving public health situation is vitally important," said Solicitor General Sylvia Jones. "While most Ontarians are following provincial orders and public health guidelines, those caught breaking the rules will now face stiffer penalties. We are taking stronger action by setting a minimum fine of \$10,000 for people who organize gatherings in private residences that violate social gathering restrictions and

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ONT PREMIER DOUG FORD ANNOUNCES \$2.5 MILLION INVESTMENT TO SUPPORT PRODUCTION OF 10,000 ONTARIO-MADE E700 VENTILATORS



The Ontario government is investing \$2.5 million through the Ontario Together Fund in Guelph-based Linamar Corp. to support the retooling of its assembly line to manufacture ventilator components to produce 10,000 Ontario-made e700 ventilators. O-Two Medical Technologies partnered with Linamar Corp. and other partners, including Bombardier, to produce these lifesaving devices to enhance future preparedness and help patients with severe cases of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses.

The announcement was made today by Premier Doug Ford and Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. "Ontario is the workshop of Canada, and it's the creativity and ingenuity of enterprising companies like Linamar and O-Two that will make Ontario-made medical equipment known for quality and excellence across the country and around the world," said Premier Ford. "By building homegrown capacity to make ventilators, we will never again have to rely on any other country for this critical piece of lifesaving medical equipment." Through the Ontario Together Fund, the government is delivering targeted investments that will increase the province's stockpile of Ontario-made products and personal protective equipment (PPE). This new manufacturing capacity will enable the province to combat the current COVID-19 outbreak and prepare for potential challenges in the future, while supporting local businesses during the safe and gradual reopening of the province.

"Businesses like Linamar, O-Two Medical, and Bombardier have stepped up with solutions to help at a critical time," said Minister Fedeli. "Ontario's economic recovery would not be possible without the collective efforts of everyone in every corner of this province. We applaud our world-class manufacturing sector for helping ensure the province has the Ontario-made solutions to respond to the needs now and any future emergency, should it arise."

US DROPS 10 PER CENT TARIFF ON CANADIAN ALUMINUM

The United States has dropped the 10 per cent tariff on select types of Canadian aluminum announced by President Donald Trump last month. The reversals came just hours before Canadian retaliatory measures were to be announced. The move was announced by US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer. He released a statement citing "consultations" with Canadian officials. They also determined that imports were likely to decline after an earlier surge. Deputy Prime Minister, and Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland welcomed the decision, adding that Canada would suspend plans to impose tariffs on \$3.6B in US aluminum products.

She said, "These measures were an error from the very beginning. This is really a day when common sense has prevailed and that's good news." She called the US move "unilateral" and that Canada had not agreed to abide by any import thresholds. Freeland added, "After four years of working with this American administration, we have understood that we have to be ready for anything. We have to expect any possibility and we will continue being ready for any possibility." Originally imposed in 2018, tariffs on foreign steel and aluminum caused quite the furore in Europe and Canada. The Trump administration later exempted certain countries, including Canada. However, at an event last month, he announced he was re-imposing border taxes on certain types of Canadian aluminum. Canada called the move "unjustified and unacceptable".

XI JINPING'S PLANNED AGGRESSION AT INDIAN BORDER "UNEXPECTEDLY FLOPPED", SAYS US REPORT

CONTD. FROM PAGE 3

The Chinese army's failures on the Indian border will have consequences." It warns, "More important, the failures motivate China's aggressive ruler - who as chairman of the Party's Central Military Commission, is the leader of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and the ruling Communist Party of China - to launch another offensive against Indian positions."



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CHIEF MINISTER AMARINDER SINGH HAS SAID THESE ORDINANCES ARE NOT ONLY AGAINST THE INTEREST OF FARMERS AND LANDLESS WORKERS AND TIME-TESTED AGRICULTURE MARKETING SYSTEM ESTABLISHED IN THE STATE, BUT ARE ALSO AGAINST THE CONSTITUTION.

FARM ORDINANCES: FARMERS HOLD PROTEST IN PUNJAB, BLOCK ROADS

CHANDIGARH: Farmers in Punjab blocked three roads, including the Amritsar-Delhi national highway, and held agitations at several places on Monday against three farm ordinances promulgated by the Centre. While different farmers' outfits raised slogans against the Centre for bringing the "anti-farmer" ordinances and demanded their rollback, commuters faced inconvenience due to the road blockade as the authorities diverted traffic. The farmers are demanding a roll back of the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020, the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020 and the

agreements with private players prior to production for sale of agriproduce. Members of the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee blocked the Amritsar-Delhi national highway at the Beas bridge, about 40 km from Amritsar. They also blocked traffic at Harike headworks in Tarn Taran and on Tanda-Hargobindpur bridge in Hoshiarpur. President of the outfit Satnam Singh Pannu said they would continue with their road blockades till their demand was accepted. The Centre on Monday introduced three bills in the Lok Sabha on the farm sector asserting the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for agriculture produce is here to stay. The opposition parties have alleged that the new laws Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020. These ordi- will undermine the safety net provided to the farmers by the MSP nances seek to provide barrier-free trade for farmers' produce out- system and will lead to their exploitation by big companies. Earlier side notified farm mandis, and empower farmers to enter into farming during the day, Pannu said the farm ordinances would "destroy" the

farming community and they should be withdrawn. Farmers under the banner of the All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee held protests at Patiala, Barnala, Moga, Phagwara and Amritsar. At a gathering in Patiala, AIKCC (Punjab chapter) president Darshan Pal said angry farmers took to the streets to protest the ordinances. He said farmers would be left to the "mercy" of big corporates if the ordinances were passed. The Congress-led government in Punjab, has described these ordinances as a "blatant attack" on the federal structure. On August 28, the state Assembly had passed a resolution, rejecting these ordinances. Chief Minister Amarinder Singh has said these ordinances are not only against the interest of farmers and landless workers and time-tested agriculture marketing system established in the state, but are also against the constitution.

RAHUL SAYS AAP WAS PROPPED UP BY BJP TO BRING DOWN UPA, SUBVERT DEMOCRACY

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday tweeted that the India Against Corruption (IAC) movement, led by Anna Hazare, and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) were "propped up by the RSS/BJP to subvert democracy and bring down the UPA government". He quoted an article in which AAP founding member Prashant Bhushan, who was expelled for "antiparty" activities in 2015, said he regretted not having understood Arvind's (Kejriwal) character earlier enough.

The anti-corruption movement, led by a group of prominent social activists, played a key role in shaping the public opinion against graft ahead of the 2014 general elections, which the BJP won with an overwhelming majority. A lot of IAC founding members, including Arvind Kejriwal, went on to form the AAP.

The Indian Express quoted Bhushan's interview with a television channel: "In hindsight there are two things that I do regret. One is not seeing that the movement was to a large extent supported and propped up by the BJP-RSS for their own political purposes to bring down the Congress government and get themselves in power. Arvind was aware of it, I have very little doubt of that. The second regret that I have is not having understood Arvind's character earlier enough. I understood it too late by which time we had actually created another Frankenstein's ment since 2007," its convener Sarbajit Roy had said.



monster so to say."

The IAC had faced such allegations earlier too. They have constantly rejected the Congress party's charge that it was a "political weapon" used against the previous UPA government, saying the IAC has "always been a non-political" movement. "The IAC categorically refutes false statement that it was a political weapon used against the then UPA. It is reiterated that IAC has always been a non-political move-

Social media being used to defame Mumbai, Maharashtra: Shiv Sena

The Shiv Sena on Tuesday claimed social media platforms are being used

systematically to defame Mumbai and Maharashtra.

Since the last five to six years, disparaging comments are being made on social media in the name of gossiping and there is no restriction on it, the Shiv Sena said in an editorial in party mouthpiece Saamana.

Maharashtra and the Marathis are experiencing such a situation for the past some days, it said.

"Social media is being used systematically to defame Mumbai and Maharashtra. But if anyone retorts to such gossiping in their own style, then concerns are raised about one's (the users) freedom of speech," the Marathi daily said without mentioning any incident.

It also referred to Supreme Court Justice N.V. Ramana's recent comment

where he said "judges are now becoming victims of juicy gossip and slanderous social media postings as they restrain themselves from speaking in their own defence". The Uddhav Thackeray-led party said what Justice Ramana said is true and applies to almost all sectors with its degree varying. The Shiv Sena's remarks came against the backdrop of its workers recently roughing up a retired Navy officer in Mumbai for circulating on social media a cartoon lampooning Maharashtra Chief Minister and Sena president Uddhav Thackeray. The party was also recently engaged in a war of words with Bollywood actress Kangana Ranaut, who in a Twitter post likened Mumbai to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

The Shiv Sena, which is in power in Maharashtra along with the NCP and Congress, also said some machineries have to face "false criticism" helplessly due to government obligation, but that does not mean social media users take disadvantage of it.

The party also wondered if social media users will show the maturity of understanding what Justice Ramana said.

FEEL SCARED, SAYS CM **CHOUHAN AS COVID-19 CASES BREACH 90K MARK IN** MADHYA PRADESH

With the highest single day spike of 2,483 cases, the COVID-19 tally crossed the 90,000 mark in Madhya Pradesh to end up at 90,730 on Monday evening. As many as 26,765 or almost 30 per cent of these cases have been reported in the first two weeks of September.

In these two weeks, 397 deaths were also reported in the state, taking the toll to 1,791. The number of active cases has surged once again over 20,000 mark and was at 21,228 on Monday evening.

With 23 out of 52 districts reporting over 1,000 cases and 35 districts having death toll in double figures, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said during a review meeting on Monday that people should understand the fatality of the disease and feel scared. The chief minister said that the pandemic was getting more serious from global to state level and being aware and alert was very important, a government commu-

This statement is quite opposite to Chouhan's earlier statements about the pandemic where he would compare the infection to normal cold and cough. He would also say that there was no need to be afraid of the pandemic and following preventive measures was enough.

However on Monday, the chief minister said that the government was making best efforts to control and manage the disease and doctors and paramedical staff were also engaged in the work with all seriousness. But there is no medicine available and it is likely to take time.

"Therefore the society will have to become more serious about the situation. The social, religious, trading and nongovernment organisations will have to become active and motivate people to adopt preventive measures. An atmosphere has to be created where people understand that preventive protocols are necessary for one's safety and is not some compulsion," Chouhan said.

He also said that a long-term strategy is needed in view of the situation getting graver and the compulsion of not preventing economic activities for a long duration. He asked the chief secretary Iqbal Singh Bains to form a sub-group to draw this strategy by forging unanimity between various sections of the society. Indore reports over 4,000 cases in a fortnight The four big cities of Madhya Pradesh continue to be the

biggest contributors in terms of both cases and deaths.



MULLAH ABDUL GHANI BARADAR, THE LEADER OF THE TALIBAN DELEGATION, SPEAKS DURING TALKS BETWEEN THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT AND TALIBAN INSURGENTS IN DOHA, QATAR ON SUNDAY (REUTERS).

INDIA SHEDS RELUCTANCE IN ENGAGING TALIBAN AT THE DOHA INTRA-AFGHAN TALKS

By participating in the Intra-Afghan inaugural dialogue in Doha, India has shown its willingness to engage with all Afghan parties including the Taliban for peace in Kabul and to ensure no anti-India activity is allowed from Afghan soil.

"There is no ambiguity on the Indian position vis-à-vis engagement with Afghan parties as Indian delegation sat on the same table as the Afghan government as well as the Taliban. The host nation Qatar could have only made this possible after talking to all principal stake-holders in the Afghan dialogue, " said a senior official.

Pakistan is understood to have conveyed its concern over an Indian role at Doha to the parties concerned as Indian participation is now not restricted to only Kabul, instead New Delhi is a legitimate stake-holder in Afghan peace and reconciliation process.

Over the past decade, New Delhi was reluctant to engage with

the Taliban but with external affairs minister S Jaishankar himself addressing the inaugural session, this ambiguity has been removed with India ready to talk to both sides. An ultraconservative Sunni movement, the Taliban leadership is based in Quetta across the Bolan Pass, and its deputy leader Siraiuddin Haggani leads the proscribed Haggani Network. Taliban leader Mullah Haibatullah Akhundzada is a cleric and Haqqani is the sword arm of the insurgent group. Zalmay Khalilzad, the US Representative of Afghan Reconciliation, is meeting external affairs minister Jaishankar around 3.30 pm today to brief the Modi government about the way forward to the Afghan peace, elections and the expectations from India. A Pashtun himself, Khalilzad will be arriving from Islamabad.

Addressing the inaugural session, EAM Jaishankar had advo-

cated for a ceasefire between warring parties in Afghanistan

and sought commitment from both Afghan government and the

Taliban representative that Afghan soil would not be used for anti-India activities. The second part referred to the presence of Pakistan based Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Tayyeba terrorist training camps across both Khyber and Bolan pass. While India understands the US desire to get out of Afghanistan after 19 long years of counter-insurgency and policing, it is concerned about the rise in violence once the Americans exit out of Kabul with only a representative force of 4,700 available after elections.

However, the positive sign in Doha was the presence of both Afghan Government and the Taliban on the same table and the willingness to talk with each other. This raises hopes that Taliban may take the election route this time and not go for military take-over of Kabul once the US exits.

Bengal govt moves green

'OUT OF CONTROL': KANGANA RANAUT, SLAMMED BY JAYA BACHCHAN, GETS IT FROM SENA AGAIN

The back-and-forth between Kangana Ranaut and the Shiv Sena doesn't show any signs of dying out. A day after the actor took a parting shot at the Shiv Sena as she headed back to Manali in Himachal Pradesh, the Shiv Sena responded with a veiled dig at the actor in an editorial of its mouthpiece Saamana, saying people on social media appeared to be 'out of control'.

The Saamana editorial asked if those "seemingly out of control on social media" will show some maturity, a veiled reference to the outspoken actor.

Social media is being used in a systematic fashion to show Mumbai and Maharashtra in poor light, the editorial in party mouthpiece Saamana said, adding that no field is left untouched by "gossiping on social media".

"Most of the people active on social media aren't responsible. Will those who seemingly are out of control on social media show some maturity?" It said. The Sena jab at Kangana Ranaut comes a day after the actor tweeted that she is "leaving" Mumbai and repeated her remark likening Mumbai to Pakistanoccupied Kashmir (PoK).

"With a heavy heart leaving Mumbai, the way I was terrorised all these days constant attacks and abuses hurled at me attempts to break my house after my work place, alert security with lethal weapons around me, must say my analogy about POK was bang on," she tweeted on Monday.

The Sena editorial added that social media is being used in a

systematic fashion to bring Mumbai and Maharashtra in poor light and just someone takes exception to these comments, people allege that their freedom of expression is being curbed. "Today there is no field that's untouched from gossiping on social media. Neither is there any restriction on the field nor any restriction on responsibility...Many in government positions have restrictions to react to the wrong accusations but those who create chaos through social media, shouldn't take undue advantage," it said.

The 33-year-old actor has been involved in a bitter war of words with Maharashtra's ruling Shiv Sena over her PoK remarks that stemmed from the Sushant Singh Rajput death case. The Sena-led Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation discovered unauthorised construction in Ranaut's office in Mumbai and demolished most of them. Ranaut did get a stay from the Bombay high court but the municipal body had pulled down portions that it claimed were unauthorised.

Actor and Rajya Sabha member Jaya Bachchan had waded into the continuing row around actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death and the drugs-related investigation in the case. "People in the entertainment industry are being flogged by social media. People who made their names in the industry have called it a gutter. I completely disagree. I hope that the government tells such people not to use this kind of language," Jaya told the Rajya Sabha during Zero Hour.

court NGT to allow Chhath puja at Kolkata lake

The Kolkata Municipal Development Authority (KMDA) has appealed to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to relax its order banning Chhath puja rituals to be held at the famous Rabindra Sarobar Lakes in south Kolkata. The NGT will hear the review petition on September 17.

The word Chhath means six. The festival is dedicated to Lord Surya (Sun God) and Chhathi Maiya, who is known to be the sister of Lord Surya. This festival is unique to the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Delhi. Devotees express their gratitude towards Lord Surya and perform important rituals over a for a span of four days. While the opposition sees this as another move by the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) to woo Hindi-speaking voters prior to the 2021 assembly polls, environment activists and conservation experts said they are extremely worried. The NGT passed an order in 2018, banning Chhath puja at Rabindra Sarobar, after environment activists and wildlife lovers started a movement. The petition was moved by noted environment activist Subhas Dutta. The green activists had earlier moved the Calcutta high court as well to stop the old practice. Comprising 192 acres of artificial lakes and greenery comprising about 7,000 trees, some of which were badly damaged by cyclone Amphan in May, Rabindra Sarobar is a birders' paradise. At least 200 species of resident and migratory birds have been sighted here by the city's birders. It is also home to numerous types of fish and animals.

Despite the ban, hundreds of devotees broke open the gates of Rabindra Sarobar in November 2019 to perform Chhath puja. They even used crackers and played drums at the Sarobar although the government has earmarked alternative waterbodies in the city. The incident made headlines and triggered a huge controversy. "It is very difficult to control the religious sentiments of people. The police could not take any harsh measure because the rituals are performed by women. We have appealed to the NGT to relax the ban this year. The puja will be held on November 20," a senior KMDA official said on condition of anonymity.

Bharatiya Janata Party's Bengal unit vice-president Ritesh Tiwari took a dig at chief minister Mamata Banerjee.

"It has taken her nine years to understand the sentiments of Hindi-speaking people. But it is too late now. Why didn't the government take action when some pro-Bengali outfits were making insulting remarks against Hindi-speaking people in public in recent years?" said Tiwari. Incidentally, on Monday, the TMC launched an all-new three-tier Hindi cell while India observed Hindi Diwas. The cell will have separate committees at state, district and community block levels.

IT ministry to launch AI challenges for domestic entrepreneurs

The Union Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MeitY) aims to launch a raft of artificial intelligence (AI) challenges in a bid to empower domestic entrepreneurs amid the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) outbreak.

The ministry will hold AI challenges for sectors like healthcare, education, agriculture, natural language processing and smart mobility and transportation.

Applications will be invited on MyGov, a citizen-engagement platform, and will also be promoted on MeitY Start-up Hub in partnership with Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog.

A jury, comprising experts from industry, academia and the government, will select 16 best Al start-ups on October 6. In each category, the best AI start-up will receive a cash prize of 20 lakh.

"This event is being planned in partnership with industry stakeholders. It will give a platform to the best AI start-ups to showcase their innovations to the world and also to venture capitalists (VCs)," the ministry said.

The last date of submission of the applications is September 24.

"The importance of digital transformation has accelerated manifold in the last few months, as Covid-19 has brought to the fore the importance of digital technologies, including AI in addressing the healthcare crisis, restarting supply chains, enabling online education and almost every aspect of the economy," stated the ministry's website, where registration for the upcoming Al challenges is in progress.

The ministry will also organise RAISE 2020 – Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020 -- a global summit on AI that will be held

virtually between October 5 and 9.



THE CONGRESS LEADER WAS REACTING TO THE CENTRE'S CLAIM IN PARLIAMENT THAT NO DATA WAS AVAILABLE ON THE DEATHS OF MIGRANT WORKERS DURING THE NATIONWIDE LOCKDOWN IN THE COUNTRY.

RAHUL GANDHI TO CENTRE: YOU DID NOT COUNT MEANS NO MIGRANT DEATHS?

Rahul Gandhi Tuesday said that the world has seen migrants dying during the Covid-induced lockdown but only the NDA government was unaware of it.

The Congress leader was reacting to the Centre's claim in Parliaduring the nationwide lockdown in the country.

"Did the death not take place if you did not count? But yes, it is sad the government was unaffected by it. The world saw their deaths, only the Modi government was not aware of it," he tweeted

ment that no data was available on the deaths of migrant workers
On Monday, the Ministry of Labour and Employment, responding to a question on whether thousands of migrant labourers lost their

lives during this period, through a written reply, said "no such data is available". On whether any compensation or relief was provided to the victim's family, the government said, "Question does not arise in view of the previous question."

Additionally, the government said that it had also not kept track of the job losses amid the pandemic. "No such data is maintained," it said.

FARM BILLS: FARMERS' BODY ANNOUNCES THREE-DAY 'RAIL ROKO' AGITATION IN PUNJAB FROM SEPTEMBER 24

Farmers in Punjab will protest against the central government's three farm-related bills by staging a three-day 'rail roko' agitation across the state from September 24-26, a farmers' body has announced.

"We have decided to hold a rail roko agitation from September 24 to 26 in the state against the farm bills," Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee general secretary Sarwan Singh Pandher said.

Already, different farmer organisations in Punjab have given a call for a 'bandh' in protest against the three farm bills. The farmers argue that the legislations would lead to the dismantling of the minimum support price (MSP) system, leaving them at the 'mercy'

The government, however, says that the bills will help farmers across the country get a better market for their price and produce.

Nevertheless, farmers in both Punjab and Haryana have been protesting against the legislations for weeks now. On September 10, protesting farmers were lathicharged in

Harvana's Kurukshetra.

On Thursday, Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) MP and union minister of food processing industries, Harsimrat Kaur Badal, resigned from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's cabinet as a mark of protest against the bills. The party, however, will continue to support the government from the outside. Badal was the only SAD representative in the Modi government. The party from Punjab is the oldest ally of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which is in power at the Centre. While one of the three bills- -the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2020- -was passed on Tuesday, two others were passed by the Lok Sabha onThursday, with the SAD voting against them.



BATTLE AGAINST COVID-19 FAR FROM OVER: HARSH VARDHAN IN PARLIAMENT



Union health minister Harsh Vardhan on Tuesday said that the battle against the coronavirus disease is far from over. Speaking in the Rajya Sabha, Vardhan said that government is taking all necessary measures to prevent the spread of the disease.

"I want to remind the members that battle against Covid-19 is far from over. I wish to inform the house that government is taking all necessary measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in India," said Vardhan. He also said that India has been able to limit its cases and deaths per million to 3,320 and 55 respectively, which is one of the lowest in the world.

"Covid-19 testing is about 1 million tests per day which translates to 720 tests per million population per day, much higher than that stipulated by WHO which 140 tests per million per day. A total of 5,51,89,226 samples were tested as of September 11," the health minister said.

His remarks come on a day when India's Covid-19 tally inched closer to the five million-mark. However, the daily case count fell below 90,000. Vardhan had said on Monday that the central government undertook the Covid-19 challenge with the highest level of political commitment. "It has been estimated that its decisions prevented approximately 14-29 lakh cases and 37-78 thousand deaths," he had said. The health ministry has said that the recovery rate in the country is now very close to 78 per cent, and that 60 per cent of the active cases are concentrated in five states: Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

'POLITICALLY-SOPHISTICATED' ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE DELHI ELECTIONS ON FACEBOOK BEFORE IT WAS TAKEN DOWN: EX EMPLOYEE

A "politically-sophisticated" attempt to influence the Delhi elections in February played out on Facebook before it was taken down silently, a recently fired employee of the social media company has said in a memo. Former Facebook data scientist Sophie Zhang has also cited examples in the memo of how the company has failed to act on time or with transparency in tackling attempts to undermine democratic processes around the world.

American digital media outlet BuzzFeed News accessed the memo and reported about it late on Monday. The memo cites instances of alleged influence operations by political parties in Azerbaijan and Honduras, and similar but unattributed campaigns in Ukraine, Spain, Brazil, Bolivia, and Ecuador,

"I worked through sickness to take down a politically-sophisticated network of more than a thousand actors working to influence the election," Zhang wrote in the 6,600-word memo, according to the BuzzFeed report. It added Facebook did not report the takedown officially.

Zhang, who did not specify who was behind the attempt, was with Facebook's Site Integrity fake engagement team. "In the three years I've spent at Facebook, I've found multiple blatant attempts by foreign national governments to abuse our platform on vast scales to mislead their own citizenry, and caused international news on multiple occasions," she wrote in the memo.

The disclosure adds to questions of transparency in how the social media company acts on problematic content, which includes hate speech and fake information that has been proven to succeed in influencing elections. It also spotlights the problem of who takes these calls, which in Zhang's case appeared to be a mid-level employee.

"There was so much violating behaviour worldwide that it was left to my personal assessment of which cases to further investigate, to file tasks, and escalate for prioritization afterwards," she wrote

in the memo. The BuzzFeed News report is the third since the August 14 story by the Wall Street Journal that first detailed how Facebook struggles to manage content on its website, especially those involving politicians. Facebook India's policy team members personally intervened to halt action against a Telangana Bharatiya Janata Party leader, citing a potential risk to the company's commercial interests in the country, the first report said.





US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP SPEAKS DURING A BRIEFING ON WILDFIRES WITH LOCAL AND FEDERAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY OFFICIALS AT SACRAMENTO MCCLELLAN AIRPORT IN MCCLELLAN PARK, CALIFORNIA ON SEPTEMBER 14. (AFP)

California wildfires: Donald Trump questions climate crisis, Joe Biden calls him 'climate arsonist'

ravaged by wildfires and then reiterated his scepticism of climate change, Joe Biden, his Democratic challenger for the White House race, slammed the US president, calling him a "climate arsonist". Trump visited California, one of 10 states where wildfires have burnt down nearly 5 million acres of land, killed dozens of people and displaced millions, after weeks of criticism of his indifference towards the crisis and after blaming it on negligent forest management practices. Local officials of Democrat-ruled California accepted the importance of forest management during their interactions with the US president, but argued that climate change should be accepted as having played a role in the devastating West Coast fires.

"It'll start getting cooler you just watch," the American president said dismissively after a short presentation by a California official who

As Donald Trump on Monday toured parts of California that have been argued that climate change should be recognised as the real cause of the fires. The state official then told the US president, "I wish science agreed with you," to which Trump responded, saying, "I don't think science knows, actually." The exchange of words went viral on social media as yet another instance of climate crisis denial by the US president. Trump had been downplaying the climate crisis right from his pre-presidency days, when he had claimed that climate change was a hoax fanned by China to slow down the growth of industrialised countries. Since taking office in January 2017, Trump has pulled the US out of the Paris Accord, claiming it had given India and China a sweeter deal, and has decidedly rolled back all clean air and water orders issued by his predecessor, Barack Obama.

"Donald Trump's climate denial may not have caused these fires,

record floods and record hurricanes," former vice-president Biden said in a speech in Wilmington, Delaware, tying the catastrophic natural events to the climate crisis. "But if he gets a second term, these hellish events will become more common, more devastating and more deadly." Bided added, "If you give a climate arsonist four more years in the White House, why would anyone be surprised if we have more of America ablaze?" The Democratic presidential candidate promised to take the US back to the Paris Accord that Obama as president had brokered with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping, leaders of the world's top polluters after America. "While he (Trump) turns us against our allies, I will bring us back into the Paris Agreement, Biden said. "I will put us back in the business of leading the world on climate change. And I will challenge everyone to up the ante on their climate commitments."

KAMALA HARRIS SAYS THOUGHT IMMEDIATELY OF HER MOTHER WHEN JOE BIDEN MADE THE VP CALL

"immediately" when former vice president Joe Biden offered her to be his running mate on the Democratic ticket for the November presidential elections.

Trailblazer Harris, 55, has scripted history in the American political system by becoming the first black, first African-American and Indian-American to be a vice presidential candidate for a major political party. Her mother Shyamala Gopalan Harris migrated to the US as a 19-year-old young graduate from India in 1957 for higher studies. In multiple interviews, Harris has reflected on the profound impact her mother, a renowned cancer specialist, had on where she is now. "I thought immediately of my mother and what she must be thinking as she looks down on us," Harris said in response to a question during a fund raiser. "What was it like to get that Zoom call from Joe Biden (last month)," she was asked.

Harris recounted how she and her team got a call that Biden wanted to talk and then got another call where she was told Biden wanted to do a zoom call. She described how she went in "our little makeshift office" and then when the call started Biden immediately asked her to join the ticket. After referring to her mother, Harris also described how husband Doug Emhoff's ear was on the door outside the room listening in on the call. Eventually Jill Biden and Emhoff joined the call with Biden and Harris.

Indian-origin Senator Kamala Harris said she thought of her mother When asked how she will present her and Biden's vision for the first 100 days, Harris said the first thing is to "get the virus under control." "Specifically, we will create a pandemic board that will oversee testing. So that's about distribution, it's about testing is happening in an efficient manner. It's also about making sure we are investing in the tests that are most relevant in the tests that we are trying to accomplish, so for example rapid testing," she said.

Harris went on to tick off economic relief through a series of executive orders "to strengthen buy American rules so that tax payer dollars support American products and supply chains." "Again, day one, re-enter the Paris Climate agreements," Harris said. She pointed to California, Oregon and Washington and said "all of this is predictable." She continued "Reengage our NATO allies. And this is again a real strength of Joe's. He has the experience based on a long history of being in the Senate and being a leader on foreign affairs and then of course eight years of being vice president." Harris said that she will send a bill to congress immediately creating a pathway to citizenship for our dreamers and the 11 million undocumented immigrants" Harris said. She said the administration would push a bill to "deal with systemic racism." "People are marching in the streets. Minnesota of course are experiencing this and there are reforms that are important that can be put in place so we can do things like ban carotid chokeholds, which of course would've saved the life of George Floyd," she said.

US PULLS BACK FROM BROAD IMPORT BANS FOR COTTON, TOMATOES FROM CHINA'S XINJIANG

The Trump administration on Monday shelved plans for a broad import ban on cotton and tomato products from China's Xinjiang region while announcing narrower bans on products from five specific entities.

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) acting Deputy Secretary Kenneth Cuccinelli said the new "Withhold Release Orders" (WROs) on cotton, textiles, apparel, hair products and computer parts are aimed at combating China's use of forced labor by detained Uighur Muslims in Xinjiang. He told reporters on a conference call that the administration was conducting more legal analysis of the regionwide import bans. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials told Reuters last week that they had prepared the broader bans on cotton, cotton textiles and tomatoes, among China's biggest commodity exports, along with the orders announced on Monday.

CBP acting Commissioner Mark Morgan said on Monday the agency's investigations into the region-wide orders were continuing. Two people familiar with the Trump administration's internal deliberations said that concerns about the broad orders and their effect on supply chains were raised by officials, including Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue. China also had agreed to buy increased quantities of U.S. cotton under the countries' Phase 1 trade deal, which could be put at risk by a U.S. ban on imports from China's dominant cotton-producing region. But Cuccinelli said it was legal concerns, not trade, that prompted the need for more study of the region-wide import bans. "We want to make sure that when we do get challenged - and we assume that we will be challenged, legally - that we will prevail and none of the goods we would ultimately would seize under such a WRO would be shaken loose and released into the United States," he said. The Withhold Release Orders allow U.S. Customs and Border Protection to detain shipments based on suspicion of forced-labor involvement under long-standing U.S. laws to combat human trafficking, child labor and other human rights abuses. Shippers can send the products to other countries or seek to prove that they are not produced with forced labor. DHS said the block on products from Xinjiang entering the United States applied to all products made with labor from the Lop County No. 4 Vocational Skills Education and Training Center; hair products from the Lop County Hair Product Industrial Park; apparel produced by Yili Zhuowan Garment Manufacturing and Baoding LYSZD Trade and Business Co; Cotton produced and processed by Xinjiang Junggar Cotton and Linen Co Ltd; and computer parts made by Hefei Bitland Information Technology Co Ltd.

Trump says Europe has more 'explosive' trees than California



Donald Trump and California state officials sparred over whether climate change is contributing to out-of-control wildfires across the West, after the president insisted that poor forest management drives the conflagrations. Wade Crowfoot, the secretary of California's Natural Resources Agency, told Trump in a meeting in Sacramento on Monday that a warming climate is making the state's fires worse. "We want to work with you to really recognize the changing climate and what it means to our forests, and actually work together with that science," Crowfoot told the president. "The science is going to be key. If we ignore that science and sort of put our head in the sand and think it's all about vegetation management, we're not going to succeed together protecting Californians." Trump responded: "It'll start getting cooler, you just watch." "I wish science agreed with you," Crowfoot said. "I don't think science knows, actually," Trump responded.

Trump flew into Sacramento after a weekend campaign swing through Nevada in order to discuss the fires with California officials including Governor Gavin Newsom. More than 5 million acres have been burned across the West this season, killing dozens of people and ruining air quality from California to Washing-

Newsom on Friday argued that flawed forest management practices of the past can't explain the state's worsening fire seasons. California has been stepping up its use of controlled burns to thin out vegetation and has accelerated cutting fire breaks around vulnerable communities, he said.

But the recent drought and a tree-killing beetle infestation, both of which Newsom tied to climate change, have killed more than 150 million trees across the state, leaving ample fuel for fires. "I'm not going to suggest for a second that the forest management practices in the state of California over a century-plus have been ideal," Newsom said Friday in Butte County, surrounded by scorched trees. "But that's one point. It's not the point." The president has frequently criticized California's Democratic leaders for, in his view, failing to adequately manage the state's forests to reduce fire risk. About 57% of California forests are land owned and managed by federal agencies, according to the University of California. Newsom said Monday that just 3% of the state's forests are on land managed by the state government.



RESIDENTS UNDERGO CORONAVIRUS TESTING IN RUILI IN CHINA'S SOUTHWESTERN YUNNAN PROVINCE ON SEPTEMBER 15. (AFP)

CHINA LOCKS DOWN CITY ON MYANMAR BORDER AFTER FRESH COVID-19 CASES EMERGE

China has locked down a city on the border with Myanmar and or- have been closed. The infections travelled from Myanmar and Chidered all its residents to be tested for Covid-19 after a number of people infected with the coronavirus illegally entered the city from the neighbouring country.

Official media reported that "wartime" anti-epidemic measures have been put in place in Ruili city with over 200,000 people in southwest China's Yunnan province after three coronavirus infections were detected. All Ruili residents have been directed to stay indoors as local authorities are expected to start mass nucleic acid tests for them. Screening for illegal immigrants from Myanmar will be carried out in communities, shops, restaurants and construction sites.

Transport connections have been snapped and residents have been ordered not to leave the city until further notice. Outsiders are not being allowed inside city limits. Trade and businesses, except those dealing in essential services such as pharmacies and food markets,

nese authorities would "crack down on illegal immigrants", local officials said late on Monday. Besides Ruili, at least eight border prefectures and 25 border counties in the province should enter wartime status immediately, enhancing anti-epidemic measures and border management to prevent imported cases, local officials were quoted as saying by official media. Chinese media reports said authorities were mobilising residents to report "any illegal border crossings in a timely manner, stating that assistance in any form, including the provision of shelter for illegal trespassers, is strictly prohibited".

News agency AFP quoted Yang Biangiang, vice mayor of Ruili, as saying that the city would repatriate those who cannot verify their time of arrival into China, referring to people who "have no fixed residence and have no fixed place to work".

Beijing had shut a border crossing with Myanmar in April after infight-

ing in the country had spilled over into a Chinese province.

Myanmar is a vital part of China's Belt and Road Initiative. It was the last country that Chinese President Xi Jinping had visited, in the third week of January, before the Covid-19 outbreak all but shut international travel out of China.

China has largely controlled the Covid-19 pandemic in the country except a number of localised outbreaks, including in Beijing, in recent months. The coronavirus first emerged in the Chinese city of Wuhan last year, before triggering the pandemic and affecting economies around the world. As of Monday, the total number of confirmed Covid-19 cases on the mainland reached 85,202. Altogether, 80,426 people have been discharged and 4,634 have died from the disease on the mainland, the national health commission said in its daily update on Tuesday. Eight new imported Covid-19 cases were reported on Monday, taking the total number of imported infections to 2,653.

CHINA CORONAVIRUS VACCINE MAY BE READY FOR PUBLIC IN NOVEMBER: OFFICIAL



Coronavirus vaccines being developed in China may be ready for use by the general public as early as November, an official with the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said.

China has four Covid-19 vaccines in the final stage of clinical trials. At least three of those have already been offered to essential workers under an emergency use programme launched in July.

Phase 3 clinical trials were proceeding smoothly and the vaccines could be ready for the general public in November or December, CDC chief biosafety expert Guizhen Wu said in an interview with state TV late on Monday.

Wu, who said she has experienced no abnormal symptoms in recent

specify which vaccines she was referring to.

A unit of state pharmaceutical giant China National Pharmaceutical Group (Sinopharm) and U.S.-listed Sinovac Biotech are developing the three vaccines under the state's emergency use programme. A fourth Covid-19 vaccine being developed by CanSino Biologics was approved for use by the Chinese military in June.

Sinopharm said in July that its vaccine could be ready for public use by the end of this year after the conclusion of Phase 3 trials. Global vaccine makers are racing to develop an effective vaccine against the virus which has killed more than 925,000 people. Leading Western vaccine makers pledged earlier this month to uphold scientific months after taking an experimental vaccine herself in April, did not study standards and reject any political pressure to rush the process.

Imran Khan proposes chemical castration, public hanging of rapists

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has called for a full-fledged crackdown on rapists and other sex offenders in the country, proposing chemical castration for those found guilty in rape cases to ensure they don't become repeat offenders. He has also called for a national register that can keep track of

On Monday, Khan told a regional TV news channel that he feels chemical castration of rapists is urgently needed or at least the culprits should be made to forcefully undergo surgery so that they don't commit sexual crimes in future.

The Pakistan prime minister argued the case for a grading system for rapes and sexual assault cases along the lines of the standard first, second and third-degree classification in place for murder cases. Khan, who was speaking on a recent incident of gang-rape in Lahore that sparked nationwide outrage,

said, "Those who are in first degree, they should be castrated and operated upon to disable them from repeating such crimes."

He proposed setting up a three-pronged strategy to deal with rapes and other sexual abuse cases, starting with the registration of sex offenders and paedophiles. Another step, Khan said, to deal with rapists and child sex abusers, was to hand them exemplary punishments. He called for hanging them in public as punishment for scarring the lives of the victims and their families. The Pakistan PM said it wasn't possible for the administration to know exactly how many rape cases occur across the country, adding that such crimes were routinely under-reported. However, on the topic of public hanging of rapists, Khan said his government believes that such a form of punishment was unlikely to be accepted by the global community, and could even jeopardise the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) that is extended to Pakistan by the European Union.

15 SCIENTISTS LAUNCH CRITIQUE OF RUSSIA'S COVID-19 VACCINE DATA



A group of scientists sent a formal letter to the Lancet on Monday outlining doubts about the accuracy of early data on Russia's Covid-19 vaccine, one of the authors said, adding further fuel to a dispute surrounding the "Sputnik-V" shot. Fifteen scientists from five countries signed the letter presenting their concerns to the international medical journal, Enrico Bucci, biologist adjunct professor at Philadelphia's Temple University, told Reuters.

Reuters did not see the contents of the letter. The move nonetheless highlights growing concern among scientists about the safety and efficacy of the Sputnik-V vaccine, which the government approved for use before completing full human trials. The official letter came days after a larger group of scientists - including the 15 - signed an open letter to the Lancet's editor, published on Bucci's personal blog, after the journal published the early-stage trial results from Moscow's Gamaleya Institute.

They said they found patterns in the Phase I/II data, which was peer-reviewed in the journal, that looked "highly unlikely", with multiple participants reporting identical antibody levels. The Gamaleya Institute did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the formal letter sent on Monday. Last week the institute rejected the critique contained in the open letter, which was initially signed by 26 scientists but now has 38 signatories. "The published results are authentic and accurate and were examined by five reviewers at The Lancet," Denis Logunov, a deputy director at the institute, said in a statement.

He said his institute submitted the entire body of raw data on the trial results to The Lancet. The Lancet said it had invited the authors of the Russian vaccine study to respond to the questions raised in the open letter by Bucci. "We continue to follow the situation closely," it added. Alexey Kuznetsov, Russian assistant health minister, told the Interfax news agency on Sept. 10 that the Gamaleya Institute had already sent detailed answers to the Lancet's editor. Bucci said the blog published last week had drawn wide international support.





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MidWeek ENTERTAINMENT ANNOUNCES DEBUT BOOK 'MY LIFE IN DESIGN' | 18

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GAURI KHAN TURNS AUTHOR;

September 15, 2020

KANGANA VS SHIV SENA: LET'S SEE WHO FIXES WHOM







Bollywood actress Kangana Ranaut returned to her hometown Manali, Himachal Pradesh on Monday, 6 days after she arrived in Mumbai. However, it seems like the verbal war between the Maharashtra government and her continues. In a fresh tweet on Monday, Kangana Ranaut targeted Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and his son Aditya Thackeray.

Kangana wrote, "Basic problem of Maharashtra CM is why I exposed movie mafia, murderers of SSR and its drug racket, who his beloved son Aaditya Thakeray hangs out with, this is my big crime so now they want to fix me, ok try let's see who fixes who!!!"
Kangana Ranaut returned to Manali today after her brief stay in Mumbai. The actress had come home to Mumbai, only to find her house and office demolished by the BMC. She had been visiting the court, and even met the Maharashtra Governor on Sunday to discuss the matter. While leaving Mumbai, Kangana tweeted, "With a heavy heart leaving Mumbai, the way I was terrorised all these days constant attacks and abuses hurled at me attempts to break my house after my work place, alert security with lethal weapons around me, must say my analogy about POK was bang on." She also shared a quote in Hindi, which read, "[Translated] When the protectors are declaring to be devourers, turning alligators destroying the democracy, then considering me weak is their biggest mistake. By trying to scare off a woman and disregarding her, they are turning their own image to dust." Kangana Ranaut met Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari at 4.30 pm on Sunday. She wanted to inform the governor about her ongoing tension with the state government. The actor has been facing a tiff with the Shiv Sena-led Maharashtra government after the latter demolished her house and office in Bandra.

'INDOO KI JAWANI': KIARA ADVANI IS BACK IN QUIRKY AVATAR; TO DROP A SURPRISE ABOUT FILM



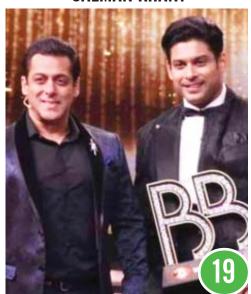
KIARA ADVANI TOOK TO HER INSTAGRAM PAGE AND SHARED A VIDEO IN HER 'INDOO KI JAWANI' AVATAR.

'CARGO': VIKRANT MASSEY-SHWETA TRIPATHI'S SCI-FL FLICK IS SLOW BUT SWEET



VIKRANT MASSEY AND SHWETA TRIPATHI'S 'CARGO' IS A GREAT ATTEMPT AT SCI-FI IN BOLLYWOOD, SOMETHING THE INDUSTRY LONGED TO SEE SINCE AGES

SIDHARTH SHUKLA LIKELY TO CO-HOST 'BIGG BOSS 14' WITH SALMAN KHAN?



SIDHARTH SHUKLA RECENTLY ALSO TOPPED THE LIST OF THE TIMES 20 MOST DESIRABLE MEN ON TV IN 2019.

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DOMINIC THIEM WINS MAIDEN GRAND SLAM WITH OPEN VICTORY



- DOMINIC THIEM SAYS HE DEDICATED HIS WHOLE LIFE TO WINNING A GRAND SLAM TITLE
- AUSTRIAN EXPECTS MORE OF THE BIGGEST PRIZES TO COME HIS WAY AFTER US OPEN WIN

I DETAILS ON PAGE 22

NCB arrests Showik Chakraborty's friend Suryadeep Malhotra



The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Monday conducted searches at the residence of alleged drug peddler Suryadeep Malhotra in Mumbai in connection with a drug case related to the death of Sushant Singh Rajput. Suryadeep is Rhea Chakraborty's brother Showik Chakraborty's school friend. Now NCB has arrested Malhotra. According to NCB officials, raids were also conducted at several other locations in Mumbai in connection with the case. The NCB had yesterday apprehended a person identified as Karam Jeet Singh Anand in connection with the drug case after Ganja was recovered from his possession. Dywan Anthony Fernandes along with two persons has been apprehended from Dadar (West), Mumbai, who used to supply ganja, the NCB had earlier said and added that in this case 500 grams of ganja has been recovered.

SWARA BHASKER SAYS SHE IS TIRED OF BEING CALLED OUTSPOKEN: 'I AM ALWAYS LYING TO PEOPLE AT FILM SCREENINGS'

Swara Bhasker is often known to be 'outspoken' and not mince any words but she doesn't think it is true. She said in a new interview that she lies at film screenings all the time and never gives a negative review to a film or performance. According to Swara, she only expresses her views on subjects that 'are relevant to a greater, larger good'. When it comes to films and performances, she either reserves her comments or lies that she liked it. In an interview with Hrishikesh Kannan, Swara said, "I am beginning to hate this label. I don't even know what it means. I am always lying to people at film screenings about how their film was. I do that very well. I don't give views if I don't feel they are relevant to a greater, larger good. I never give negative reviews to films. If I don't like it, I don't say anything or I lie...

Because as an actor, I know the kind of work that goes into making a film and into people's performances. Even if it has failed to achieve what it tried to do, there is an effort there that I know, because I am from that world." Swara said she shares her opinions only on 'things that affect us as a society'. "People think I am very critical and outspoken. I am like, you don't know half the s**t that I am not saying! It's a slightly tiring label to carry around now," she said.

'NO ONE HAS FORGOTTEN ABOUT BLACK LIVES MATTER': JOFRA ARCHER TELLS MICHAEL HOLDING

England fast bowler Jofra Archer has said they have not forgotten about the 'Black Lives Matter' movement after former West Indies bowler Michael Holding criticised the country's board (ECB) when players stopped taking a knee before matches. England and West Indies players took a knee before each game in their three-Test series in July but the symbolic gesture was discontinued for the Pakistan series as well as the two limited-overs series against Australia. The

ECB had released a statement justifying their decision to stop taking a knee which was described as 'lame' by Holding, who also took issue with Australian captain Aaron Finch's statements when the visitors said they would not take a knee. "We have not forgotten, no one here has forgotten about 'Black Lives Matter'," Archer said. "I think it is a bit harsh for Michael Holding to not do some research before

se arch before criticising. I'm pretty sure he doesn't know what is going on behind the scenes.

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ENTERTAINMENT Y 3pm, 6pm, 9:30 pm



'CARGO': VIKRANT MASSEY-SHWETA TRIPATHI'S SCI-FL FLICK IS SLOW BUT SWEET



Arati Kadav makes a bold attempt in Indian cinema, by bringing in a sci-fi film which is unlike any other movie made previously. Dare I say, it could even come close to what Stanley Kubrick's '2001: A Space Odyssey' is in Hollywood, except 'Cargo' isn't as intense, even with death being a constant factor in the film.

Like Arati, actors Vikrant Massey and Shweta Tripathi also give their whole to the roles of Prahastha and Yuvishka respectively. Prahastha is a legend on Earth and it is something which the viewers can connect to because of his change in the character through the film. He has not stepped out of the aircraft there since 25 years (a man in the movie even asks if they are living in a parallel universe) and comes from a time when social media was almost non-existent). The characters of Prahastha and Yuvishka are opposites - if she is outgoing, he is an introvert, if she expresses herself well, he hides it perfectly. Deep down though, they are the same and the chemistry they share is mature and adorable at the same time.

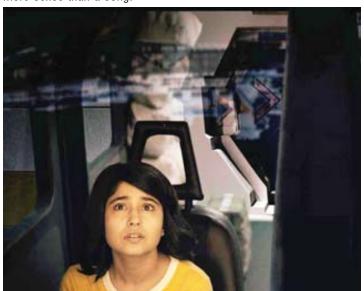
Prahastha is also considered to be a 'Rakshas' (demon) but is nothing unlike it - at most he has a strict, no-nonsense attitude towards his work which he is wholly dedicated to (again, something that normal people on Earth do too). The film rejects the concept of heaven and hell, by building a parallel universe to Earth, where people simply follow instructions and are ready for rebirth in a liffy. It thus breaks many norms and beliefs that have been followed throughout cultures all across, which is a rather bold yet interesting step.

Nandu Madhav and Biswapati Sarkar (TVF famed comedian) are in their element too. Hansal Mehta surprises with his cameo at the beginning of the film, while Konkona Sensharma steals all spotlight towards the end of the film, simply with her change of expressions. Hence, acting-wise, no person disappoints.

The low point of the film is its story. The film gets slow and monotonous in certain places, but never boring. It has interesting twists, for example, every person working at IPDT has a superpower - right from Naagin, to the claim to having the power of healing and going invisible. 'Cargo' does not fail you because of its feel-good elements, but it isn't perfect either.

If we're being completely honest, there are films that can leave you mind-blown, but 'Cargo' is not there yet. The film also falls into the sci-fi category, for which 'Star Wars' has set a high benchmark. 'Cargo', however, deserves the love because of its honest attempt at the genre, and not a failed one like a few movies that Bollywood has previously experimented with.

The film also has another good element - it does not play songs, disrupting the flow of the scenes. I personally was engrossed in the story, and a song (romantic track or the likes) could have probably ruined the moment(s) for me. By not keeping songs, the makers force viewers to feel the emotions and understand the characters, especially Vikrant's, better, which, when you watch the film, will make more sense than a song



'INDOO KI JAWANI': KIARA ADVANI IS BACK IN QUIRKY AVATAR; TO DROP A SURPRISE ABOUT FILM



Kiara Advani's upcoming is Indoo Ki Jawani in which she plays the titular role. The actor will be seen as a girl from Ghaziabad and the film shows her misadventures with the dating apps. Now, Kiara took to her Instagram page and finally shared a short teaser regarding Indoo Ki Jawani. In the film, she is seen showing her bubbly avatar which we saw last in Good Newwz and shares about how she matched up a date for herself with herself.

Kiara captioned the short video stating, "Main toh time se aa jaungi, date ke liye aap late mat hona! Wait just a little more to meet Indoo! #IndooKiJawani @adityaseal @mallikadua @abirsenguptaa @onlyemmay @madhubhojwani @nikkhiladvani #BhushanKumar @divyakhoslakumar #KrishanKumar @ashesinwind @ryanivanstephen @tseriesfilms @tseries.official

@emmayentertainment @electricapplese."

The official teaser of the film will be unveiled on September 16, 2020, as announced by Kiara in the video.

Indoo Ki Jawani is directed by Abir Sengupta and also stars Aditya Seal as the male lead. The film is produced by T Series, Emmay Entertainment and Electric Apples.

Talking about the film, Kiara has earlier said, "I've been prepping for the character ever since I signed the film. It's finally time to live the character. Indoo is a part of every young Indian girl; she's endearing, lovable and quirky. It's going to be a cracking entertainer."

Kiara has been shooting for the film in Lucknow since 2019. Indoo Ki Jawani has been eyeing for a June 5, 2020 release. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic, it got postponed.

'Heart breaks to not be able to hug my babies': COVID-19 positive Malaika Arora shares photo of son Arhaan, pet canine



Malaika Arora is home quarantining after being tested positive for coronavirus. The actor is living with her son Arhaan Khan and their pet canine. However, due to being diagnosed with COVID-19, she has distanced herself from her near and dear ones while indulging in self-isolation. Now, Malaika took to her Instagram page and shared a sweet photo of her son Arhaan and pet Casper looking at her from distance. Malaika posted the photo with a heartbreaking caption about wanting to 'hug her babies'. It read as "'Love knows no boundaries'. With our social distancing and selfquarantine in place, we still find a way to check on each other, see each other and talk. While my heart breaks to not be able to hug my two babies for another few days, just looking at their sweet faces gives me so much courage and energy to power through.... #thistooshallpass".

Several celebs dropped heartwarming comments on Malaika's post. Her sister Amrita Arora Ladak wrote, "Love this pic malla. Lots of hugging for all of us."

While Bipasha Basu wrote, "Yes yes yes. You are way too strong for this. Sending you love and healing every day. Soon you will be able to hug your babies." It was on September 6, 2020, Malaika got tested positive for coronavirus. She was shooting for the reality show India's Best Dancer in which she is a judge. Malaika also released a note about being COVID-19 positive on her Instagram page.

GAURI KHAN TURNS AUTHOR: ANNOUNCES DEBUT BOOK 'MY LIFE IN DESIGN'



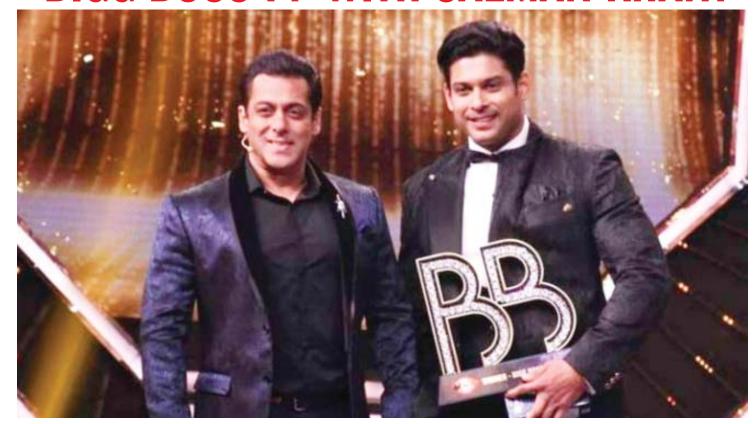
One of the leading interior designers and film producer Gauri Khan is all set to add a new feather to her cap. She is all set to turn into an author and announced her debut book recently. Titled My Life in Design, it will be a coffee-table book which will showcase her journey as a designer. Penguin Random House India will be publishing the book most likely in 2021. Confirming the same, Gauri stated to PTI, "There are several experiences in my journey as a designer that I would like to record for posterity. The book will be very visually appealing with exclusive pictures and information that I feel could guide aspiring designers or those who are just generally interested in the art of design." Khan further shared, "The lockdown has given me time to work on this coffee-table book and I will be extremely happy to see it published soon."

Sara Ali Khan took drugs from Rhea Chakraborty multiple times, likely to be questioned soon by NCB: Sources

As per latest reports, Sara Ali Khan is likely to be interrogated by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). A Zee News report suggested that after Rhea Chakraborty allegedly named Sara before the agency during interrogation she will be questioned soon. Apart from Khan, Rhea has reportedly named other celebs such as Rakul Preet Singh, Mukesh Chhabra, Rohini Iyer and Simone Khambatta. She said that they have consumed drugs at Bollywood parties. Meanwhile, there has been an issue that whether the names of Sara, Simone and Rakul were surfaced during investigation, which is reportedly true. However, NCB has denied reports of making a list of 25 Bollywood personalities in relation to the ongoing drug conspiracy row.

As per Zee News' latest reports, most of the drug peddlers related to Rhea Chakraborty have been caught by NCB. Rhea and Sara were in common contact with some drug peddlers, but the big revelation is that Rhea has taken drugs from Sara several times. Sara has her own drug peddler apart from Rhea, from whom Sara used to take drugs separately. For this reason, Sara also gave Rhea drugs from her personal drugs peddler, which Rhea had transported to Sushant.

SIDHARTH SHUKLA LIKELY TO CO-HOST **'BIGG BOSS 14' WITH SALMAN KHAN?**



Bigg Boss 13 winner Sidharth Shukla's fanbase has only increased ever since he participated and won the controversial reality show. Sidharth has been at the receiving end of immense love and appreciation ever since the 13th season of the show wrapped up.

Now, according to the latest report, it is being said that Sidharth will be co-hosting the 14th season of Bigg Boss along with Salman Khan. BollywoodLife quoted a report saying, "Sidharth has come a long way since his stint in the Bigg Boss 13 house; fans continue to shower him with a lot of love after the show's conclusion too. In fact, one cannot deny the fact that the number of his followers have increased in the past few months. Keeping his popularity in mind, the makers have decided to rope him for Bigg Boss 14 too. However this time not as a participant but for a special segment."

The report further added, "Sidharth's role in the show will be associ- the most desirable list."

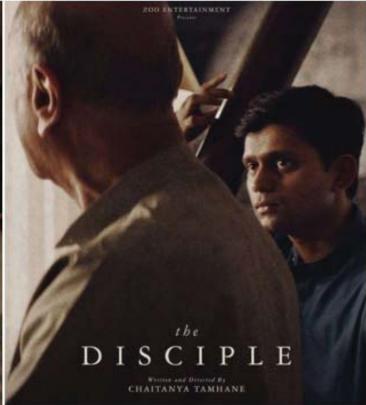
ated with this season's theme - 'Karara Jawab'. He will be monitoring the contestants from outside and will give his comments/opinions on their performance inside the house. The makers are still discussing the format with the actor and once everything gets finalised, they will announce it soon."

After becoming the most searched Indian celebrity on Google last year, Sidharth Shukla recently also topped the list of The Times 20 Most Desirable Men on TV 2019. Talking about this achievement, the actor told a publication, "Well, it feels good that a year that has been so hard on humanity has had good things to offer me. It has been a period of learning for all of us. 'Bigg Boss', and later the pandemic, has been a time of introspection, challenges, patience and so much more. But, I'm glad that good things came my way, including topping

'Entire nation is proud of you': Ayushmann Khurrana on Chaitanya Tamhane's 'The Disciple' creating history



Ayushmann Khurrana, who is the poster boy of content cinema in India, took to his social media to congratulate Chaitanya Tamhane and his film The Disciple after it won the FIPRESCI award at the prestigious Venice Film Festival and was honoured with Best Screenplay award at the Venice International Film Festival closing ceremony on Saturday. This is a landmark moment in the history of Indian cinema as The Disciple is the first Indian film to have been selected in a major competition category at a European film festival in 20 years. To celebrate the same, Ayushmann Khurrana, on his social media account, congratulated the film-maker. He wrote, "The Disciple has bagged the prestigious FIPRESCI award at the 2020 Venice Film Festival! It is also the first Indian film in 30 years to do so! Congratulations Chaitanya Tamhane! The entire nation is proud of you!" For the uninformed, The Disciple was premiered last week at the prestigious festival. The Marathi



film is about the personal and professional experiences of a Hindustani classical singer. The film is the first Indian movie in 20 years to be chosen for the main competition of a European film festival (Cannes, Venice, Berlin) after Mira Nair's Monsoon Wedding in Venice in 2001. The Disciple is Tamhane's follow-up to his debut feature Court, which was screened in the Orizzonti (Horizons) category at Venice in 2016. Four-time Oscar-winning filmmaker Alfonso Cuaron is serving as executive producer on The Disciple. On the other hand, Ayushmann Khurrana turned 36-year-old under lockdown on Monday. The actor was stuck with wifey Tahira Kashyap, who shared the goofiest yet the most adorable birthday wish for her 'soulmate'. She posted a picture (selfie) of them, with Ayushmann's face covered in cake. "Having my cake and eating it too! @ayushmannk #happybirthdaysoulmate," wrote Tahira while sharing the image.

Rekha to Rhea Chakraborty: Viral post draws parallels on how media trial turned them to 'National Vamps' 30 years apart

After witnessing the media trial that Rhea Chakraborty is being subjected to over the last two months in the Sushant Singh Rajput death case, people on social media have been sharing a viral post from 30 years ago when veteran actor Rekha was also put on trial by the media after the death of her husband Mukesh Aggarwal in 1990.

Shibani Dandekar and singer Chinmayi Sripada shared an Instagram post on Sunday - an excerpt from Rekha's biography Rekha: The Untold Story by Yasser Usman. Over the past few days, Rekha's story has surfaced on social media after Rhea was arrested earlier this week by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). The parallels between the story of two women are starkly similar. No one knew why their partners chose to end their lives, but everyone's guess has been to pin the blame on the women in their lives.

Rekha's biography also details how she was blamed for the suicide of her husband, Mukesh. She was called a witch by her in-laws and even disregarded by her Bollywood colleagues. Chinmayi posted on her Twitter and wrote, "Subhash Ghai and Anupam Kher's quotes, circa 1990 on Rekha if reported verbatim, is how some men are made. It is unbelievable how Rekha survived and thrived."

"October 2, 1990, Mukesh, Rekha's husband, decided to take away his life. He had hanged himself to the ceiling fan of his room, using his wife's dupatta. Same Mukesh, who reportedly seemed happy on the fateful day, according to his brother Anil. Rekha came to know about Mukesh's chronic depression after getting married. WHAT FOLLOWED:1. A national witchhunt followed. People all over the country starting hating and shaming her as a cold-hearted man-eater.2. Mukesh's mother's wail made headlines when she cried, 'Woh daayan mere bete ko kha gayi. Bhagwan use kabhi maaf nahi karega.' That witch devoured my son. God will never forgive her)3. Anil Gupta said, "My brother loved Rekha truly. For him love was a do or die attempt. He could not tolerate what Rekha was doing to him. Now what does she want, does she want our money?"4. Subhash Ghai said "Rekha has put such a blot on the face of the film industry that it'll be difficult to wash it away easily. I think after this any respectable family will think twice before accepting any actress as their bahoo. It''s going to be tough even professionally for her. No conscientious director will work with her ever again. How will the audience accept her as Bharat ki nari or insaf ki devi?"5. Anupam Kher said "She's become the national vamp.

Kangana Ranaut has sharp response for SC advocate demanding withdrawal of her Y-plus security cover



Replying to Brijesh Kalappa, an advocate in the Supreme Court, Kangana Ranaut has said that she will continue to get Y-plus security cover, despite leaving Mumbai on Monday morning. In his tweet, Brijesh Kalappa raised questions about the security granted to her by the Union home ministry and asked for it to be withdrawn, now that she was "safe" in her home state, Himachal Pradesh.

Kangana replied to his tweet saying, "Brijesh ji security is not given based on what you or I think, IB (Intelligence Bureau) investigates the threat, based on the threat my security grade is decided, by the grace of God in coming days it might get totally removed or if IB report gets worse they might upgrade." Kangana was replying to his tweet, which said, "Y category security for one person costs the Centre over 10,00,000/- each month. This money is borne by taxpayers. Now that Kangana is safe in HP (far away from POK), will Modi Sarkar kindly withdraw the security detail provided to her?!" For the uninformed, it was on September 7 that Kangana was given Y-plus security, ahead of her Mumbai visit on September 9. Earlier this month, she compared Mumbai to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and criticised the Mumbai Police, leading to sharp responses from many, including Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh and Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut. Under her new security cover, Kangana is protected by around 10 armed commandos round-the-clock. On Monday, after safely leaving Mumbai, she tweeted in Hindi, "After landing in Chandigarh, my security has visibly decreased... People are congratulating me. It seems like I survived this time. There was a time when I felt a mother's touch in Mumbai, but today the situation is such that I am lucky to be alive."

Fact check: Urmila Matondkar donated Rs 20 lakhs to CM Relief Fund in July

Urmila Matondkar has been trending on the internet after netizens shared images of an acknowledgement letter from the CM Relief Fund. The letter reads that Urmila Matondkar donated Rs. 20 lakhs. Seeing the same, the users started lauding Matondkar.

A few even hit at Kangana Ranaut for her involvement in Sushant Singh Rajput's death case, while praising Urmila for her 'silent act'. "On one side @KanganaTeam is busy doing #Tantrums about #Actor #SushantSinghRajput Death & on the other side @UrmilaMatondkar Ji has silently donated Rs. 20 Lakhs in the CM Relief Fund for the Noble cause," shared a user on the evening of September 11. The post was shared after another user posted the image on his Twitter handle and wrote "Hats off Urmila ma'am." Both the users failed to notice a crucial detail. The letter acknowledged that Urmila donated to the CM Relief Fund in July. They acknowledged the contribution on September 10, 2020. Urmila, like most other celebs, had contributed to the CM Relief Fund in fight against COVID-19. It is not unknown that India witnessed a huge spike in COVID-19 cases in July, which has reduced only marginally by the month of September. After six months of being under lockdown, the Indian Government has started easing it by opening grocery stores for longer periods, and allowing minimal travel from one place to another. India has seen 4.66 million cases so far, out of which 3.62 million people could recover. There have been 77,472 casualties due to the deadly virus yet, most coming from Maharashtra.



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Kangana Ranaut says she is never one to start fights: 'I will quit Twitter if anyone can prove otherwise'

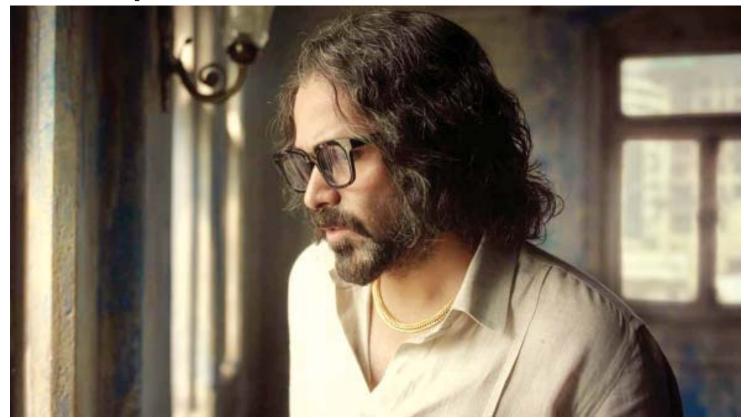


From the Shiv Sena to Urmila Matondkar, Kangana Ranaut is engaged in multiple wars of words with multiple parties at the moment. However, she insists that she is never the one to start a fight. In a tweet shared on late Thursday night, Kangana said she would quit Twitter if proven wrong. "I may come across as a very ladaku person but it's not true, I have a record of never starting a fight, I will quit twitter if anyone can prove otherwise, I never start a fight but I finish every fight. Lord Krishna said when someone aks you to fight you mustn't deny them," she said. After Urmila told Kangana to keep check on the drug problem in her state of Himachal Pradesh, Kangana retaliated by calling her a 'soft porn star' who wasn't known for her acting skills. Kangana's comments were met with criticism by her Bollywood colleagues. She also got in a tussle with comedian Kunal Kamra who and Taapsee Pannu 'B-grade' actors.

had joked about her tweet on spirituality. When Kangana called him a 'fool who wanted to discredit her struggle', Kunal questioned why she required the Y-plus security from the central government.

On Thursday evening, Anurag sarcastically told Kangana to go fight for India against China if she believes herself to be 'the one true Manikarnika'. He was responding to a tweet by Kangana in which she had called herself 'a warrior'. Kangana said that she meant it as a metaphor. "You're taking metaphors literally. How have you become so stupid? You were quite clever when we used to be friends," she wrote in a tweet. She has also been tweeting against Rhea Chakraborty in the Sushant Singh Rajput death case, called Karan Johar 'movie mafia', called Alia Bhatt a 'mediocre' actor and dubbed Swara Bhasker

'Harami': Emraan Hashmi unveils his intense first look; movie to premiere at Busan International Film Festival



Emraan Hashmi has unveiled the first look of his forthcoming film titled Harami. The film directed by Shyam Madiraju is an Indo-American production. It is all set to be premiered at Busan International Film Festival. In the first look shared by Emraan, the actor is seen long curly salt-andpepper haired look with framed spectacles and a gold chain. He wore a simple shirt and is seen giving an intense look in the still. Emraan captioned the post stating, "#Harami first look".

Talking about the film, director Shyam said in a statement, "Harami, while set in the streets and slums of Mumbai is a universal story of hope and redemption. The film, a labour of love, took me over two years to just scout during numerous visits to challenge for both Emraan and me."

India and despite all the monumental challenges we shot live in Victoria Terminus, Bombay Central, and other trains stations, a feat not for the faint-hearted. With crews over 200 including international talent from America, UK, Denmark and South Africa, Harami was a global production set in the slums of Dharavi and crowded streets of Mohamed Ali Road." On casting Emraan, Madiraju went on to say, "It was Emraan Hashmi playing the role of 'Sagar Bhai' a very Dickensian Feagin-like character who is a former English teacher turned gang lord who is the real revelation of the film. The role complex and nuanced and unlike anything Emraan had done before, was a true

Anurag Kashyap reacts to death hoax; says Yamraj brought him back to give meaning to lives of those who boycott him

Filmmaker Anurag Kashyap takes trolls and comments on his social media platform and recently he had a rather funny response to a death hoax on micro-blogging site Twitter. The tweet of the "death" came from the verified account of KRK Box Office, actor-critic Kamaal R Khan's platform for Bollywood news, and trade analyses.

Replying to it, Anurag wrote that Yamraj (the Hindu God of death) escorted him back to Earth as his existence and films gave meaning to a lot of people's lives. The original tweet from KRK's account read, "#RIP #AnuragKashyap! He was really a great storyteller! We will always miss you sir!" The director then tweeted, "Kal Yamraj ke darshan hue... Aaj Yamraj khud ghar wapas chhod ke gaye. Bole - abhi toh aur filmein banani hai tumhe. Tum film nahi banaoge aur bewakoof/bhakt uska boycott nahi karenge, toh unka jeevan sarthak nahi hoga.

Unko sarthakta mile isliye wapas chhod gaye mujhe (Met Yamraj yesterday. Today, he himself escorted me back home. He said, 'You still have to make more films. If you don't make films and if these films are not boycotted by idiots and bhakts, their lives will be meaningless'. He left me back on Earth so that I can help them find meaning in their lives)."

Anurag is not new to the concept of being trolled online. In the year 2018 when Anurag was asked about them, he had told PTI that people who troll just pour out their frustration online. "We are dealing with a country which is so over-populated, where there is so much resentment, so much repression, so many mouths to feed, so many people looking for work, so many disillusioned people. Sometimes I think when they are frustrated they want to take it out. And they feel better after abusing," he had said. On the work front, Anurag had directed directing a segment in the Netflix anthology Ghost Stories and Choked: Paisa Bolta Hai, that released on Netflix. Apart from this, he acted as a corrupt police officer in Ghoomketu, which starred Nawazuddin Siddiqui in the titular role.

If drugs are done, it's not only in this industry, that would be very convenient: Shweta Tripathi



Cargo actress Shweta Tripathi recently commented on all the fingers being pointed at Bollywood in the wake of the Sushant Singh Rajput case, especially after the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) arrested Rhea Chakraborty and others accused on drug-related charges.

In an exclusive interview with BollywoodLife, Shweta opened up about the industry's perceived drug connections and the unspoken "drug mafia".

She said, "I feel that if in life whoever does what in whatever way, and if they have control over it, be it alcohol, drugs or food, be it any sin, the so-called sins we believe are such, if there is no harm or hurt, then...(why should we judge). I mean if we start talking about drinking and what people do after drinking, there is no comparison. I think it is very easy to judge. If drugs are done, it's not only in this industry, that would be very convenient. In other words, glamour, casting couch, whatever bad is there in the world, exists in our industry (Bollywood) alone. The other industries are all clean. I am not saying that everything that happens or spoken about is false. I have not faced, but that does not mean it doesn't exist." In another recent exclusive interview with DNA, Shweta had also opened up about being an "outsider". She had said, "The biggest struggle for me was waiting for the right project to come. Every character is an emotional journey and affects me. More so, I don't want to glorify my struggle when I've not had that kind of a struggle. Hardowrk and struggle are essential for following dreams. I would also like to believe I'm an insider now because I've spent years in the industry. Maybe my family didn't belong to this place, but my family belongs in storytelling and so much more. I think these are just labels that we are just glorifying

Kareena Kapoor Khan showers love on Anushka Sharma's latest picture flaunting her baby bump





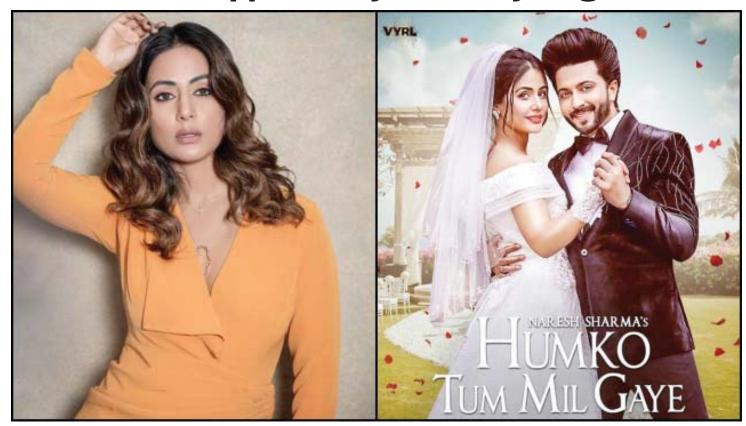
Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma made netizens go berserk when they announced that they are all set to embrace parenthood and are all set to welcome a third member to their family in January 2021. Apart from Virat and Anushka, Kareena Kapoor Khan and Saif Ali Khan are also all set to welcome their second child together.

Amid this "double" good news, there was a showering of love from one mom-to-be to another as Kareena dropped a lovable comment on Anushka's recent picture flaunting her baby bump, calling it the "bravest of all" experience.

Anushka, on Sunday, took to her Instagram page and shared a beautiful candid click cradling her baby bump. She could be seen standing against the backdrop of a beautiful beach. Anushka was seen wearing a white full-sleeved top and a blue blot-printed skirt. She completed her look by accessorising with a gold chain and left her hair loose open. The Pari actor captioned her post stating, "Nothing is more real & humbling than experiencing the creation of life in you.

When this is not in your control then really what is?" Anushka's hubby and Indian skipper Virat Kohli also left an adorable comment on Anushka's photo. It read as "My whole world in one frame." Earlier, during an interaction with RCB Bold Diaries, Virat was asked about becoming a dad. To which he stated, "It is an incredible feeling. It puts things into perspective for you. It is a beautiful feeling. It is difficult to describe how you feel, but when we found it, we were over the moon." Virat also revealed spending the most time with Anushka during the lockdown. He shared, "Anushka and myself were home, we never got so much time to be together, to be honest, since the time we started seeing each other. This was the longest we got to spend together. Being home, just being in your own home with the person you love, you couldn't ask for anything better."

Hina Khan: Glad to shoot 'Humko Tum Mil Gaye' as it creates opportunity for many wage earners



After a short stint with Dheeraj Dhoopar in the initial episodes of Naagin 5, Hina Khan teamed up with the actor for a music video. Titled 'Humko Tum Mil Gaye', the music video features them in a dreamy and fairy tale sequence. The fans have thoroughly lauded their chemistry and they can't wait to watch the full music video which is releasing on September 15, 2020. Now, during an exclusive interaction with DNA, Hina spoke at length about working with Dheeraj once again.

The actor stated, "The best part was that the music producers wanted to cast based on our chemistry, despite me playing the protagonist in Naagin and Dheeraj has a grey shade as the antagonist but we have a twisted attraction between the two of us which they liked & we're

leaning towards. We just finished Naagin and this came along so it was exciting."

The shoot was done during the coronavirus pandemic with utmost precautions taken by the cast and crew. Sharing the same, Hina said, "Though like everyone else I was aware of the precautions to be taken but was also nervous for the virus has been looming over our heads and the end doesn't look in-sight. So the show must go on. We took all the necessary precautions and shot it. Also, I'm glad as a video shoot creates an opportunity for many wage earners & it can keep their lights running."

'Humko Tum Mil Gaye' is crooned by Vishal Mishra while Sayeed Quadri penned the lyrics. The music video is directed by Arif Khan.

'HAVING MY CAKE AND LICKING IT TOO': TAHIRA KASHYAP SHARES GOOFY SELFIE WITH AYUSHMANN KHURRANA TO RING IN HIS BIRTHDAY



Ayushmann Khurrana turned 36-year-old under lockdown. The actor was stuck with wifey Tahira Kashyap, who has shared the goofiest yet the most adorable birthday wish for her 'soulmate'. She posted a picture (selfie) of them, with Ayushmann's face covered in cake. While Ayushmann was unable to look into the camera because all of his face was covered with icing of the cake, Tahira made a goofy face as she looked right into the lens. She was also seen licking Ayushmann's face, and had the cheesiest caption for it.

"Having my cake and eating it too! @ayushmannk #happybirthdaysoulmate," wrote Tahira while sharing the image.

Ayushmann, Tahira and their kids are currently under isolation in Chandigarh. His brother Aparshakti Khurrana and his family too are staying at their paternal home currently.

On the work front, Ayushmann Khurrana was last seen in Shoojit Sircar's 'Gulabo Sitabo' opposite Amitabh Bachchan. The movie was the first ever film to stream online (on Amazon Prime).

Meanwhile, Ayushmann has been shooting for Anubhav Sinha's next untitled film, and was finalized for Abhishek Kapoor's untitled movie opposite Vaani Kapoor. The actor will be playing an athlete in Kapoor's film and has already started prepping for it.

Kangana Ranaut bids goodbye to Mumbai with 'heavy heart', says 'I was terrorized'

Kangana Ranaut is headed back to Manali afterher brief stay in Mumbai. The actress had come home to Mumbai, only to find her house and office demolished by the BMC. She had been visiting court, and even met the Maharashtra Governor on Sunday to discuss the matter.

While leaving Mumbai, Kangana tweeted, "With a heavy heart leaving Mumbai, the way I was terrorised all these days constant attacks and abuses hurled at me attempts to break my house after my work place, alert security with lethal weapons around me, must say my analogy about POK was bang on." She also shared a quote in Hindi, which read, "[Translated] When the protectors are declaring to be devourers, turning alligators destorying the democracy, then considering me weak

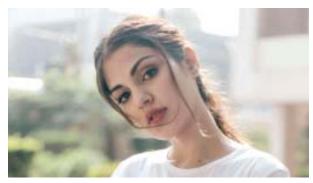


is their biggest mistake. By trying to scare off a woman and disregarding her, they are tuming their own image to dust."

Kangana Ranaut met Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari at 4.30 pm on Sunday. She wanted to inform the governor about her ongoing tension with the state government. The actor has been facing a tiff with the Shiv Sena-led Maharashtra government, after the latter demolished her house and office in Bandra.

Kangana had said that Mumbai feels like Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK), which offended Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh, who reportedly said that the actress has "no right to stay" in Mumbai. The 'PoK' comment had not gone down well with Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut either, who had called her 'haraamkhor'. After his comment, Sanjay Raut was called out for calling a woman 'haraamkhor', not only by Kangana but also other celebrities. His latest editorial in 'Saamana' also took a dig on the same. "Like Draupad's 'cheerharan' (disrobing) by the 'Kauravas' while the 'Pandavas' kept their heads down, even now we are witnessing a similar scenario," read an excerpt from the piece. Kangana had even addressed CM Uddhav Thackeray as 'Tu' in a video where she sarcastically condemned the demolition of her house. A few people who thought the addressing was 'disrespectful', filed a complaint against the actor, while she is still trying to find justice.

RHEA CHAKRABORTY'S AUDITION VIDEO ON 'PINKY HAI PAISE WALON KI' GOES VIRAL



An old audition video of Rhea Chakraborty from 2013 is out. In the video, Rhea is seen dancing to Priyanka Chopra's 'Zanjeer' song 'Pinky Hai Paise Walon Ki'. For the uninformed, Rhea had made her Bollywood debut the same year with 'Mere Dad Ki Maruti'. 'Cash Chahiye Mujhe Cash Chahiye' plays in the song as Rhea Chakraborty does thumkas on that in a Mickey Mouse print black t-shirt and ripped jeans. Towards the end of the song (Naachegi Pinky Full Too Late), Rhea is seen doing bhangra. She had a wide grin on her face throughout the song.

Rhea Chakraborty is currently arrested and in custody of Narcotics Control Bureau. Her name has been involved in drugs, which the NCB believes could be linked to actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death. Rhea has confessed that she procured drugs for Sushant in the past.

Apart from Rhea, her brother Showik along with a few other people who working with Sushant, are under NCB custody. It was recently reported that Rhea Chakraborty named 15 people who took drugs, including actors Sara Ali Khan and Rakul Preet Singh, both her BFFs at one point in time. However, the NCB has stated that they have not zeroed down on any names yet. On the work front, Rhea Chakraborty was filming Rumi Jaffery's 'Chehre', which stars Amitabh Bachchan and Emraan Hashmi in the lead role. Jaffery was previously interrogated by the Mumbai Police in Sushant's death case, after he revealed that he wanted to sign a film with Sushant and Rhea in lead roles.

Malaika Arora posts 'koi vaccine nikaal do bhai' after being tested positive for coronavirus



On September 7, 2020, Malaika Arora confirmed the report that she has been tested positive for coronavirus. She has been judging the dance-based reality show India's Best Dancer and now her work has come to a halt. Now, Malaika took to her Instagram story and shared a joke about waiting for coronavirus vaccination so as to cured as soon as possible. She has been home quarantining for a week now as per her note. Meanwhile, Malaika's Instagram story read as "Koi vaccine nikaal do bhai warna jawani nikal jayegi". Check out the post below:

While confirming about being COVID-19 positive, Malaika wrote, "Today I have tested positive for coronavirus but I want to inform you all that I am feeling fine. I am asymptomatic and following all the required protocols and will be quarantined at home as instructed by my doctor and authorities. I request all of you to stay calm and sage. Thank you for all your support."

'Witnessing Draupadi's cheerharan': Shiv Sena takes another dig at Kangana Ranaut over Mumbai-PoK remark

Kangana Ranaut has been at war with Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut since the 'haraamkhor' comment. Raut had called Ranaut 'haraamkhor' after the actor stated that Mumbai feels like PoK (Pakistan occupied Kashmir) to her. Both the comments had left the netizens in fury. Saamana, which is Shiv Sena's mouthpiece, wrote that people who made the PoK remark, are 'enjoying' the result of it. The editorial piece even wrote 'Mubarak Ho' without naming the actress, further mentioning that the city is not new to such controversies. "Like Draupadi's 'cheerharan' (disrobing) by the 'Kauravas' while the 'Pandavas' kept their heads down, even now we are witnessing a similar scenario," the Saamana editorial read. "Though it is wellknown that Mumbai symbolises 'national integrity', why should the 'controversy-mafia' always blow this trumpet only for Mumbai and not in any other state capital?," it questioned. "This is the land where Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj, Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, and Bhimrao Ambedkar were born, fought against inequalities, and revered freedom fighter Senapati Pandurang Bapat once said, 'Maharashtra is a Nation; If Maharashtra dies, the Nation will perish'," the Saamana editorial pointed out. Adding that it is painful to witness those who do not follow the thoughts of Babasaheb Ambedkar welcome a person who foul-mouthed Mumbai, the editorial read, "This was the biggest insult to Ambedkar.



WHY CHENNAI SUPER KINGS MAY NOT MISS HARBHAJAN SINGH? AJIT AGARKAR EXPLAINS | P23



'THERE IS ACTUALLY A BIT OF BROMANCE' - DAVID **HUSSEY SAYS 'NO RIFT'** BETWEEN ANDRE RUSSELL **AND DINESH KARTHIK | P23** NO MS DHONI, AB DE VILLIERS, **CHRIS GAYLE IN BRAD HOGG'S 'PRE-**IPL 2020 XI' TEAM | P23



MidWeek Saocuts

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2020 SEASON SCHEDULE IPLT20.COM TORONTO TIME CHENNAI SUPER KINGS SAT 19-SEP-20 7:30PM 6:00PM ABU DHABI MUMBAI INDIANS DUBAI **DELHI CAPITALS** SUN 20-SEP-20 7:30PM 6:00PM KINGS XI PUNJAB 21-SEP-20 6:00PM SUNRISERS HYDERABAD ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE 3 MON 7:30PM DUBAL 4 TUE SHARJAH RAJASTHAN ROYALS CHENNAI SUPER KINGS 22-SEP-20 7:30PM 6:00PM 23-SEP-20 KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS MUMBAI INDIANS 5 WED 7:30PM 6:00PM ABU DHABI ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE 6 THU 24-SEP-20 7:30PM 6:00PM DUBAL KINGS XI PUNJAB 7 FRI 25-SEP-20 7:30PM 6:00PM DUBAL CHENNAI SUPER KINGS **DELHI CAPITALS** SAT ABU DHABI KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS SUNRISERS HYDERABAD 8 26-SEP-20 7:30PM 6:00PM 27-SEP-20 SHARJAH 9 RAJASTHAN ROYALS KINGS XI PUNJAB 10 10 MON 28-SEP-20 7:30PM 6:00PM DUBAI ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE MUMBAI INDIANS 11 11 **DELHI CAPITALS** SUNRISERS HYDERABAD TUE 29-SEP-20 7:30PM 6:00PM ABU DHABI 12 6:00PM RAJASTHAN ROYALS KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS 12 WED 30-SEP-20 7:30PM DUBAI 13 13 THU 1-OCT-20 7:30PM 6:00PM ABU DHABI KINGS XI PUNJAB MUMBAI INDIANS 14 14 FRI 2-OCT-20 7:30PM 6:00PM DUBAL CHENNAL SUPER KINGS SUNRISERS HYDERABAD 15 15 SAT 3-OCT-20 3:30PM 2:00PM ABU DHABI ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE RAJASTHAN ROYALS 7:30PM 15 16 SAT 3-OCT-20 SHARJAH **DELHI CAPITALS** KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS 6:00PM SHARJAH MUMBAI INDIANS SUNRISERS HYDERABAD 17 SUN 4-OCT-20 3:30PM 2:00PM 4-OCT-20 DUBAL KINGS XI PUNJAB CHENNAI SUPER KINGS 17 19 MON 5-OCT-20 7:30PM 6:00PM DUBAL ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE DELHI CAPITALS 18 MUMBAI INDIANS RAJASTHAN ROYALS 20 TUE 6-OCT-20 7:30PM 6:00PM ABU DHABI CHENNAI SUPER KINGS 19 21 WED 7-OCT-20 7:30PM 6:00PM ABU DHABI KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS SUNRISERS HYDERABAD KINGS XI PUNJAB 20 22 THU DUBAI 8-OCT-20 7:30PM 6:00PM **RAJASTHAN ROYALS DELHI CAPITALS** 21 23 FRI 9-OCT-20 7:30PM 6:00PM SHARJAH ABU DHABI KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS 22 24 SAT 10-OCT-20 3:30PM 2:00PM KINGS XI PUNJAB CHENNAI SUPER KINGS 22 25 SAT 10-OCT-20 7:30PM 6:00PM DUBAI ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE 23 SUN 11-OCT-20 3:30PM 2:00PM DUBAL SUNRISERS HYDERABAD RAJASTHAN ROYALS 23 27 11-OCT-20 ABU DHABI SUN ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS SHARJAH 28 MON 12-OCT-20 7:30PM 6:00PM



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VIRAT KOHLI SHOULD HAVE GOT MORE INVOLVED IF RCB SQUAD LACKED BALANCE BEFORE, SAYS GAUTAM GAMBHIR

India captain Virat Kohli has achieved numerous plaudits. He led India to first-ever Test series win in Australia in 2018-19. Kohli also has maintained a staggering winning percentage across all formats as captain, and is regarded as one of the most inspiring leaders across the world. But in the Indian? Premier League, Kohli has not been able to lead Royal Challengers Bangalore to a single trophy yet. With the tournament shifted to the UAE, cricketing pundits believe that the RCB may have a chance this year as RCB bowlers will enjoy bowling amid slow and turning conditions offered by the pitches in the country. The pundits also believe that RCB have made some good additions and look more of a balanced squad this year. On being asked about the same observations, former



India cricketer and two-time IPL?winning captain?Gautam Gambhir said that if RCB squad lacked balance before, then Kohli should have addressed it in the previous seasons. "The first thing is that Virat Kohli is the one who has been captaining RCB since 2016. So if the balance was not there earlier, then Virat Kohli should have got more involved,"?Gambhir said during an interaction on Star Sports. The for mer left-handed batsman also said that he still feels that RCB looks a more batting-heavy unit, but added that the bowlers will certainly enjoy bowling in UAE pitches as compared to Chinnaswamy stadium. "I still feel that RCB look a little batting-heavy. But one thing that you will see a little different is that the bowlers will be happy because they will not have to play 7 matches at the Chinnaswamy Stadium. You will be playing in Dubai and Abu Dhabi which probably have bigger grounds, wickets are not as flat as Chinnaswamy. It is always difficult to judge the bowlers from Chinnaswamy's point of view "India's smallest ground and the flattest wicket is in Chinnaswamy, so bowlers will be happier and you might see a better performance from bowlers like Umesh Yadav and Navdeep Saini," Gambhir said. Gambhir also added that Chris Morris is the player who can add depth to RCB unit in both batting and bowling. "Chris Morris provides balance to the RCB squad, a quality all-rounder although he has not played much cricket.

DOMINIC THIEM WINS MAIDEN **GRAND SLAM WITH OPEN VICTORY**



Dominic Thiem says he dedicated his whole life to winning a grand slam title and with his victory at the US Open the Austrian expects more of the sport's biggest prizes to come his way. Thiem had lost his three previous grand slam finals - two to Rafa Nadal at the French Open and once to Novak Djokovic in Australia - and looked as if he had squandered another chance when Alexander Zverev won the first two sets in New York. But the Austrian staged a stunning comeback to win 2-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 7-6(6) in a nerve-jangling battle of wills and will now head to the French Open with renewed confidence. "I expect it's going to be easier for me now in the biggest tournaments," said Thiem, who became the first player outside Nadal, Djokovic and Roger Federer to claim a grand slam title since Stan Wawrinka's 2016 US Open triumph. "I had it in the back of my head that I had a great career so far, way better than I could ever dreamt of, but until today there was still a big goal missing. With this achieved, I hope that I'm going to be a little bit more relaxed and play a little bit more freely at the biggest events." Thiem said his triumph in New York was a culmination of years of hard work and sacrifice. "Definitely achieved a life goal, a dream, which I had for many, many years. Back then it was so far away. Then I got closer to the top and realised that maybe one day I could really win one of the four biggest titles," he added. "I dedicated basically my whole life until this point to win one. Now I did it. That's for myself, my team and family, a great accomplishment. Today is the day where I gave back huge amount of what they did for me." For Zverev, it was too soon to look for the positives in his US Open campaign as the devastated German struggled to come to terms with his five-set defeat.

SOURAV GANGULY LAUDS NEW-LOOK SHARJAH STADIUM



BCCI president Sourav Ganguly has paid a visit to the Sharjah Cricket Stadium, one of the three venues for this year's IPL, and lauded the ground for the new look and feel it provides. The IPL 2020, shifted out of India to the UAE due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will be played in three cities - Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah (which will host 12 matches). According to a media release issued on Monday, Ganguly said that young players are eagerly looking forward to playing in this hallowed cricket ground where greats like Sunil Gavaskar and Sachin Tendulkar wrote history.

The Sharjah stadium had recently undergone major refurbishment, including setting up of new canopies, an upgraded royal suite, commentary box and VIP Hospitality boxes in total compliance with Covid-related protocols.

Ganguly was accompanied on the tour on Sunday by IPL chairman Brijesh Patel, former IPL chief Rajeev Shukla, and IPL COO Hemang Amin. Other officials who were present, included BCCI treasurer Arun Dhumal, BCCI joint secretary Jayesh George and Mubashir Usmani, GM of Emirates Cricket Board (ECB). The first IPL 2020 match to be played at Sharjah will be between Rajasthan Royals and Chennai Super Kings on September 22.

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No MS Dhoni, AB de Villiers, Chris Gayle in Brad Hogg's 'pre-IPL 2020 XI' team







Former Australia spinner Brad Hogg predicted the best possible IPL 2020 XI team on Monday, and there were some big cricketing stalwarts who were missing from the list, including Chennai Super Kings' captain MS Dhoni. Dhoni, who announced his international retirement last month, has already won three titles with CSK, and will be vying for a fourth one when the tournament kicks off from September 19th. Speaking in the latest video on his Youtube channel, Hogg first talked about the players who made it to the list and then explained why MS Dhoni, Royal Challengers Bangalore's AB de Villiers and Kings XI Punjab's Chris Gayle did not make it to the list.

"First up, David Warner from Sunrisers Hyderabad. Consistent performer, gets his team off to great starts and gets his runs at good click. Opening the batting with Warner is Rohit Sharma. He is a dynamite in IPL cricket. Best opening batsman in white-ball cricket around the world. You got to have him in this list.

"Coming in at No.3 is Virat Kohli from RCB. If you lose an early wicket, he just comes out, utilizes his timing to pierce the infield in the powerplay. During the middle-overs he rotates the strike but also finds the boundary and quite consistently," Hogg said.

"At No.4, the captain of this team Kane Williamson. Hen has got a good head on his shoulders, great ambassador for the game and he has got a good strike-rate in the middle overs of a 140. If the team is on the back foot with a couple of early wickets, he is the man with the composure to get the momentum back in the batting stake. At No. 5 is Rishabh Pant. I like the way he puts his team first. If he needs to find the boundary from ball one, he will find it for you. He backs his ability and he will be the keeper as well.

"At No. 6 is Andre Russell from KKR. He will be coming no earlier than the 12th over. I just want him to finish off the innings with his power hitting. But also his all-round ability with the ball. He can bowl the couple of fast powerful overs at the middle of the opposition innings. At No.7 comes in Ravindra Jadeja. I can utilize him with the new ball as well as in the middle overs where he is quite economical. Also his fielding is exceptional. Best fielder in IPL cricket and he can also handle the bat.

"At No.8 is Sunil Narine from KKR. Yes he can bowl in the powerplay, the death overs as well as in the middle. And he is very handy with the bat as well. Now coming in at No.9 in Chahal. I love the way he has carried the RCB attack for a number of years. He is very economical and picks up wickets in those middle overs," he further went on. "At No.10 is Bhuvneshwar Kumar. Picks wickets up with the new ball, swings it both ways. But also very economical in the death overs. Bhuvneshwar Kumar will be supported by the No.11 in this team who is from MI. Its Bumrah. He doesn't need any introduction. He can bowl in any phase of the game. He is the one you turn to when you need a breackthrough," Hogg added. "Now, I haven't got MS Dhoni, or AB de Villiers, or Chris Gayle in there. They are a little bit long in the tooth, a little bit old. But, they can turn things around, and be my final XI at the end of the tournament when I go back and revisit this vlog," Hogg concluded.

Brad Hogg's 'pre-IPL 2020 XI': David Warner, Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Kane Williamson (C), Rishabh Pant, Andre Russell, Ravindra Jadeja, Sunil Narine, Yuzvendra Chahal, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Jasprit Bumrah.

'There is actually a bit of bromance' - David Hussey says 'no rift' between Andre Russell and Dinesh Karthik



Former Australia spinner Brad Hogg, who played for Kolkata Knight Riders in the Indian Premier League between 2015-2016, said earlier this month that relationship between Kolkata Knight Riders player Andre Russell and KKR skipper Dinesh Karthik could hurt the franchise in?IPL 2020. The rumours of rift between the two players started last year after Russell, at a press conference, questioned some of the decisions made by the team.

While Karthik, in previous interviews this year, has stressed that the two players had a discussion over the same and have sorted things out, there still seems to be some concerns among fans and followers regarding any possible rift in the KKR camp.

mentor this year, opened up on the same in a recent interaction and denied the rumours.

"There is no rift or anything there," Hussey said in an interview to when the tournament kicks off from September 19th.

Indian Express. "Actually, I think there is a bit of bromance there and they are pretty close which is fantastic for the group," he further added. "Karthik is a straightforward person who backs his teammates to get the job done. It's a good sign of leadership. He is high maintenance at times because he loves the game of cricket. There is no malice... he only cares about winning the game," the 42-year-old further said.

Hussey also added that pair of Eoin? Morgan and Dinesh Karthik will give KKR good leadership this year in the IPL. "Morgan is a classymiddle order player. Along with DK, I am sure it will be a fantastic partnership on the field. DK from behind the stumps and Morgan can Former Australia batsman David Hussey, who joined KKR as a be sort of the vice-captain and help the bowlers out in certain situations. He will fit in perfectly," Hussey said.

The two-time champions KKR will look to win their third IPL?trophy

WHY CHENNAI SUPER KINGS MAY NOT MISS HARBHAJAN SINGH? AJIT AGARKAR EXPLAINS

Three-time IPL champions Chennai Super Kings received a second jolt ahead of IPL 2020 when Harbhajan Singh pulled out of the tournament due to personal reasons, the second high-profile cricketer from the franchise to withdraw from IPL, after Suresh Raina. However, Ajit Agarkar, the former India fast bowler feels that even though Harbhajan's absence is a big void, it's not like CSK are in a position where they'll badly miss the services of the veteran India off-spinner.

"Well, we have seen when they went to the auction, they already had enough spin. You've seen in Chennai when they play, they rely so much on spin because of the conditions," Agarkar said on the Cricket Connected Show on Star Sports. "Harbhajan Singh, obviously, that kind of experience, the



quality that you lose, it is going to be a loss, but I think CSK have a lot more cover in that department at least as far as spin is concerned." CSK head into the 2020 edition of the IPL with a strong spin bowling unit. With the likes of Mitchell Santner, Piyush Chawla, Ravindra Jadeja, Imran Tahir and Karn Sharma in their ranks, CSK can be a real threat considering the dry surfaces of the UAE. The surfaces of the Chepauk and Abu Dhabi/Dubai are expected to be similar in many ways and that Agarkar believes can make CSK and its spinner a force to reckon with.

"They have got Piyush Chawla as well that they have brought in. This year they have got Tahir, Santner, so they have got enough spin and they will be hoping that the conditions are in their favour what they get in Chennai, which is a little bit of turn, then those spinners come into play," Agarkar said.

Mumbai Indians bags highest on sponsorship revenues amid COVID-19 pandemic



Even as the coronavirus pandemic has seen a direct impact on the sports sponsorship market -- leading to reported 20-25 per cent revenue cuts for Indian Premier League (IPL) franchises -- defending champions Mumbai Indians have carved a niche for themselves to emerge as the premier club sports brand.

According to the marketers following business of sports in India, Mumbai Indians continue to command a premium for their brand's strong market credibility despite the current slowdown. The Duff & Phelps' September 2019 report has rated Mumbai Indians on the top of the chart for the fourth consecutive year with an 8.5% increase in their brand value. The market analyst feels that the factors contributing to Mumbai Indians success on and off the field are its high core values and a non-controversial status. Mumbai Indians have maintained the highest on-field performance, balanced with non-controversial off-field stature and its star power which attributes to the Mukesh Ambani-owned franchise becoming the most sought-after brand for marketers.

While Mumbai Indians have retained the majority of their brand partners like Samsung, Colors, William Lawson's, Usha, and Jio; the new ones added on the team's roster are Marriott Bonvoy, Colgate and Cadbury Dairy Milk this season. The strong mix of equally established global brands this year has enabled the four-time champions to match their last year's sponsorship revenues.

Mumbai Indians have also retained official partners (no jersey branding) like Kingfisher, Dream 11 and Boat and also attracted new official partners like Make My Trip, BKT Tires, Myntra and Kotak Bank.

Market sources estimate Mumbai Indians have recorded close to INR 90 crore through the team sponsorship values. Mumbai Indians do not sell one of its non-leading arm inventory since its reserved for their CSR cause Reliance Foundation ESA since the last six years.

While Mumbai Indians did not respond to ANI's queries, it is learnt that three off the four new deals this year, Marriott Bonvoy, Astral Pipes and Colgate were closed much in advance keeping the original schedule of IPL in April-May window, with Cadbury Daily Milk signed just a month ahead of the September 19 kick-off date. Over the years MI has proven to be the preferred sports brand of choice for global marquee brands to associate with and many associations have been a first for them in the field of cricket like Master Card, Bridgestone, SAP, Taiwan Excellence, Etihad Airways, William Lawson and Sharp. Marriott Bonvoy is another extension of the franchise's international appeal.

Nadal says Djokovic unlucky, but should show self-control



Rafael Nadal has offered some sympathy for world number one Novak Djokovic after his great rival's shock default from the U.S. Open for hitting a lineswoman in the throat with a stray ball. With Nadal absent Serbian Djokovic was a huge favourite to win the title in New York but his run came to a sudden end in the fourth round against Pablo Carreno Busta when he accidentally hit the official with a ball after losing a point. Had Djokovic won the title he would have moved to 18 Grand Slam titles, one behind Nadal and two behind Roger Federer in the battle for all-time greatness. "The consequences have been always the same. Nothing new on that. Novak was unlucky. The rules say clearly that's a default," Nadal said in a news conference at the Rome Masters where he will resume his season this week after a sevenmonth hiatus caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. "Sorry for him. He had an opportunity there. But in some way you should not be doing this. It's very unfortunate, very unlucky situation. But it's important to have the right self-control on the court, because if not, you can be unlucky." Nadal was one of several players to opt out of playing at the U.S. Open because of his concerns about travelling during the pandemic. Austrian Dominic Thiem, the man Nadal beat to win the last two French Opens, claimed his first Grand Slam title at Flushing Meadows, coming back from two sets down to beat Alexander Zverev in a gripping final on Arthur Ashe Stadium on Sunday. Thiem's victory ended a run of 13 Grand Slam titles won by either Nadal, Djokovic or Federer and made him the first new major winner since Marin Cilic in 2014. "Happy for Dominic. He is somebody that deserves to win a big title, super hard worker. Very focused on his goals. Good person, good human person. He deserves it," said Nadal, who will be aiming to win a record-extending 13th French Open when the rescheduled claycourt event starts at the end of September. Nadal will open in Rome against Carreno Busta.

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