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AYUSHMANN SUGGESTED TITLE FOR 'CHANDIGARH KARE AASHIQI', SAYS DIRECTOR



MUMBAI, (IANS) Ayushmann Khurrana's upcoming film 'Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui' has a unique ring to it. The interesting title was suggested by none other than the actor himself, says director Abhishek Kapoor. In a video shared by the label T-Series on YouTube on Sunday, a montage of behind-the-scenes has been shared. The video features Abhishek, Ayushmann, Vaani and other cast and crew members talking about the upcoming film.

In one segment, Abhishek is heard saying: "Ayushmann suggested this title for the film."

After which, Ayushmann is seen explaining as to why he chose such a title. "Chandigarh was not explored that much and I could just give that authentic flavour because I have been born and brought up in Chandigarh," he said. The video then jumps to a shoot taking place in

a popular coffee shop and the actor reminisced about how he used to come with his father there and have the beverage, which back then only cost Rs 10.

Ayushmann said: "Shooting in my hometown Chandigarh for the first time feels really surreal. The coffee house we are sitting in in Sector 17... I used to come with my papa. The coffee here used to be for Rs 10 and today it is for Rs 35... Kitnabadalgayainsaan."

Ayushmann will be seen playing a cross-functional athlete in the film directed by Abhishek.

'Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui' has been directed by Abhishek Kapoor, who is known for films like 'Rock On!', 'Kai Po Che!', 'Fitoor' and 'Kedarnath'. Produced by T-Series in collaboration with Guy In The Sky Pictures, the film is slated to hit cinemas on December 10.

SALMAN URGES FANS NOT TO WASTE MILK ON POSTERS, ASKS FOR IT TO BE GIVEN TO POOR KIDS

MUMBAI, (IANS) Bollywood star Salman Khan on Sunday shared another video of fans showering the poster of his film 'Antim: The Final Truth' with milk and the actor has now urged them to not waste milk and to give it to poor children instead.

On Sunday afternoon, the 'Dabangg' star shared a video clip, where his fans are seen showering milk on an 'Antim: The Final Truth' poster featuring Salman in a Sikh avatar.

Upset with the wastage of milk, the star appealed to his fans.

He wrote: "Kai logon ko paaninaseebnahiinhota aur aapaasedoodh waste karrahe ho. (Some people don't even get water and you are wasting milk.)"

He added: "Agar aapkodoodhdhena hi hai toh my request to all my fans is ki Aapgaarebbacchon ko pilayejinjinhedoodhpeene ko nahihinmilita. (If you want to use milk, I request all my fans to give it poor children who cannot afford it.)"

Earlier, the actor had raised concerns after a video showed firecrackers being used in a packed cinema hall during the screening of 'Antim:



The Final Truth'.

Directed by Mahesh Manjrekar, 'Antim: The Final Truth' also stars Salman's brother-in-law and actor Aayush Sharma.

KANGANA RANAUT FILES FIR AFTER RECEIVING DEATH THREATS, REQUESTS SONIA GANDHI FOR HELP

Kangana Ranaut took to her Instagram on Tuesday morning to share that she has filed an FIR in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh against the death threats she has received recently. The actor posted a lengthy note in Hindi along with her picture at the Golden Temple, Amritsar. Her sister Rangoli Chandel and mother Asha Ranaut can also be seen in the picture. The 'Panga' actress wrote "Remembering the martyrs of the terrorist attack in Mumbai, I wrote that never forgive or forget the traitors. In such types of incidents, the internal traitors of the country have a hand. The traitors never leave a single opportunity to tarnish Mother India for the greed of money and sometimes in the greed of position and power. Jaichand and the traitors inside the country continue to help the anti-national forces by conspiring, only then such incidents happen." She continues, "I am getting constant threats from disruptive forces on this very post of mine. A brother of Bathinda has openly threatened to kill me. I am not afraid of such threats. I speak against the terrorist forces and those who conspire against the country and will continue to speak. Be it Naxalites killing innocent jawans, tukde tukde gangs or terrorists sitting abroad dreaming of making Khalistan by cutting the holy land of Gurus in Punjab in the eighties." Kangana further called democracy as the biggest strength of our country. She even remembered Babasaheb Ambedkar in her post mentioning "The fundamental right to protect the integrity, unity and the fundamental rights of citizens and expression of ideas has been given to us by the Constitution of Babasaheb Ambedkar. I have never said anything derogatory or hateful about any caste, religion, or group." Kangana also requested the interim Congress President Sonia



Gandhi to direct Punjab Chief Minister to take action immediately. "I would also like to remind Congress President Smt. Sonia ji that you are also a woman, your mother-in-law Indira Gandhi ji fought strongly against this terrorism till the last moment. Kindly instruct your Chief Minister of Punjab to take immediate action on threats from such terrorist, disruptive and anti-national forces," she added. The 'Queen' actress concluded her note by requesting people to not spread hatred to win elections. She wrote, "There are going to be elections in Punjab, for this some people are using my words without context, if anything happens to me in future, only those who do politics of hate and rhetoric will be solely responsible for it. It is a humble request to them not to spread hatred towards anyone for their political ambitions to win elections."

Amid wedding rumours, Vicky Kaushal spotted leaving from Katrina Kaif's residence

Katrina Kaif is expected to marry Vicky Kaushal on December 9, 2021, at Six Senses Fort Barwara, Rajasthan. Amid wedding rumours, Vicky Kaushal was seen outside Katrina Kaif's residence. He was spotted leaving from there. Despite the fact that there is no official confirmation, there is a lot of speculation about when, where, and how Katrina and Vicky will tie the knot. Fans are eager to learn every detail about the lavish wedding, from the guest list to the bride and groom's attire. Meanwhile, Katrina's mom was seen shopping in Bandra. It seems that the Kaifs and Kaushals are frantically preparing for the big day. According to the media reports, Vicky Kaushal and Katrina Kaif's wedding will take place at Rajasthan's Six Senses



Fort Barwara. Salman Khan, Shah Rukh Khan, Farah Khan, Karan Johar, Shashank Khaitan, Zoya Akhtar, and others are among those who have been invited. Anushka Sharma, Virat Kohli, and their daughter Vamika will also be attending the wedding in Rajasthan, as we exclusively revealed. According to recent reports, around 45 hotels have been reserved for Victrina's three-day wedding celebrations. There will be sangeets, mehendis, and other festivities from December 7 to December 9. We can't wait to see all of the stunning photos from the lavish Indian wedding. According to rumours, the pair has instituted a stringent "no phones permitted" policy at their wedding.

MADHURI DIXIT: WONDERFUL TIME FOR WOMEN TO BE IN FILMS



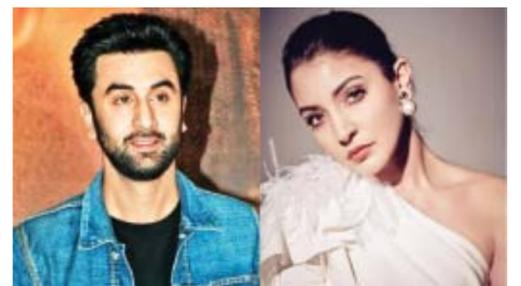
PANAJI, (IANS) Pointing out that with more women entering various departments of the film industry, films were getting better for women, actress Madhuri Dixit on Sunday said that this was a wonderful time for women to be in films.

Participating in the closing ceremony of the 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India here, where she was honoured, Madhuri, while responding to a question on what had changed in the world of cinema, said, "There are lots of changes but the one big change is when I used to go for shooting earlier, the women on the sets would either be actors or hair dressers. Today, when I go to sets, women are in every department - be it as assistant directors, directors, camera-woman or writers.

"Looking at them, it feels good to know that we are progressing. The films too are becoming better for women. I think this is a wonderful time for women to be in films. That is the biggest change," she said.

Earlier, delivering a speech at the event, the actress said, "It is heartening to note that IFFI provides a global platform to Indian content creators, technicians, allowing them to showcase the prowess of Indian entertainment to the world."

'IT'S NOT A JOKE: WHEN RANBIR KAPOOR GOT ANGRY AT ANUSHKA SHARMA FOR SLAPPING HIM



Anushka Sharma has been making headlines for her sweet social media exchanges with her husband, star cricketer Virat Kohli. Recently, when Virat shared a romantic photo with Anushka with a heartwarming caption that read, "With you by my side, I am at home anywhere", it won the hearts of the netizens and left the couple's fans gushing over the duo. On the other hand, when Anushka dropped a photo looking smoking hot in a red one-shoulder gown, Virat couldn't stop himself from leaving heart emojis in the comments section. And while Anushka often makes it to the news for her social media photos and videos, a throwback video clip of the actress has been going viral on the internet. In the video clip featuring Anushka and her co-star in Karan Johar's directorial, 'Ae Dil Hai Mushkil', Ranbir Kapoor, the two stars are seen indulging in a fight. Well, sort of! About what? Read on... If you have watched 'Ae Dil Hai Mushkil', you might be able to recall the scene between Ranbir Kapoor (Ayan) and Anushka Sharma (Alizeh) wherein Ayan's girlfriend Lisa Haydon and Alizeh's boyfriend Imran Abbas are caught making out in the toilet. In the scene, Ayan is seen crying his heart out over Lisa's infidelity and instead of consoling Ayan, Alizeh slaps him hard to stop him from overreacting.

RANVEER BRINGS INDIA'S GREATEST CRICKET STORY ALIVE IN '83' TRAILER



CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

The over-three-minute long trailer, started with the Indian team faltering on the field. Ranveer as Kapil declares at the press conference that they are 'here to win'.

Acclaimed actor Pankaj Tripathi plays the then-manager of the team PR Man Singh, is seen telling Kapil, "35 saalpehle hum log aazaadijeete, magar izzat jeetnabaakihai, kaptaan (We won independence 35 years ago but we are yet to win respect, captain)." The later half of the trailer, showcases how the Indian team makes an impactful comeback, with Kapil hitting back-to-back sixes, smashing dressing room windows, glasses and windscreens of cars. Actress Deepika Padukone, who is essaying the role of Kapil's wife Romi Dev too makes several appearances in the trailer. Other actors such as Tahir Raj Bhasin, Jiiva, Saqib Saleem, Jatin Sarna, Chirag Patil, Dinker Sharma, Nishant Dahiya, Harry Sandhu, Sahil Khattar, Ammy Virk, AddinathKothare, Dhairya Karwa and R.Badree too make a appearances in the trailer. Directed by Kabir Khan, 83 is one of the most anticipated films of the year.

Reliance Entertainment and Phantom Films present 83, a Kabir Khan Films Production. Reliance Entertainment and PVR Pictures release.

'83' is slated to release on December 24 in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam. Also in 3D.



NICK JONAS, PRIYANKA CHOPRA ENJOY DATE NIGHT AT BRITISH FASHION AWARDS 2021

LONDON [UK], (ANI): Ahead of their third wedding anniversary, Nick Jonas and Priyanka Chopra took social media ablaze with their recent pictures from their stylish appearance at the 2021 British Fashion Awards in London on Monday night. Nick took to his Instagram handle and shared a series of pictures with his wife who wore a grand flower-print ensemble from London-based designer Richard Quinn, as per E! News. "The star of the show," Nick captioned the post.

For the event, Nick sported a sleek suit with shoes from Maison Margiela and Reebok, as per E! News. Priyanka and Nick shared the fashion platform with several bigwigs in the global fashion industry including Tom Felton, Gillian Anderson, Gabrielle Union and more.

The couple attended their last event together in May when Nick hosted the 2021 Billboard Music Awards. Priyanka supported her husband who was recovering from a cracked rib at that time. Priyanka recently participated in the Netflix special 'Jonas Brothers Family Roast' and poked fun

at her husband alongside Sophie Turner, Lilly Singh and Pete Davidson. "Nick and I have a 10-year age gap, and there are many '90s pop culture references he doesn't understand, and I have to explain them to him... He teaches me how to use TikTok, for example, and I teach him what a successful acting career looks like," she said in 'Jonas Brothers Family Roast'. The duo also shared heartwarming posts appreciating one another on the occasion of 'Thanksgiving'. Along with photos in which both could be seen cuddling, Nick wrote, "Happy Thanksgiving everyone! Grateful for you @priyankachopra." Meanwhile, Priyanka wrote, "So much to be grateful for. Friends, family.. I love you @nickjonas. Happy thanksgiving to everyone celebrating." Meanwhile, on the work front, Priyanka has multiple projects in her kitty including 'Matrix 4: Resurrections', Jim Strouse's 'Text For You', and the drama series 'Citadel' co-created by Joe and Anthony Russo. She will also start shooting for Farhan Akhtar's 'Jee Le Zara' along with Alia Bhatt and Katrina Kaif. (ANI)

FATIMA SANA SHAIKH LOOKS DREAMY IN BACKLESS WHITE OUTFIT, BREAKS THE INTERNET WITH HER STUNNING PHOTOS



There's no denying that Fatima Sana Shaikh who wowed the audience with her impactful performance in 'Dangal' is a stunner. And even though we've seen her do only a handful of films in the last few years, every time she has appeared on screen, Fatima has proved with her performance that she's here to stay. Notably, Fatima is just a good actor, but a social media star too. With an impressive fan following of over 2.6 million, Fatima's social media presence is powerful.

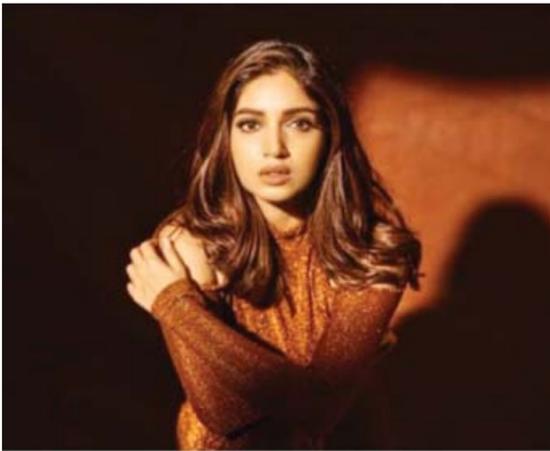
Recently, Fatima set the internet on fire with images from her latest photoshoot that has fans flooding social media platforms with compliments. In her recent pictures, the 'Dangal' star donned upon a backless single strap white kurti paired with a white sharara. She looked like a dream in the stunning photos. Fatima paired a white duppata with the ethnic attire that accentuated the look. In the caption, she wrote, "Peeche toh dekhoo"

'SEEN SO MANY UPS AND DOWNS': SIDHARTH MALHOTRA OPENS UP ABOUT HIS STRUGGLES AFTER 'SOTY' SUCCESS



The 'Shershaah' actor Sidharth Malhotra, who will be seen in Karan Johar's film 'Yodha', has opened up about his career in his recent interview. He revealed that he had faced criticism, therefore, his success is an answer. Bollywood star Sidharth Malhotra confessed that things were not easy for him even after starting his career with Karan Johar's 'Student Of The Year'. According to Hindustan Times, he stated, "That is possibly how I function as a person. That is also how my journey has been, whether industry or otherwise. I can't to Mumbai 14-16 years ago, when I was 21-22, and I have seen so many ups and downs, whether it was giving auditions as an actor, or modeling, trying to make money to pay rent, and then assisting, then getting a break by getting selected from my audition..." He further said, "Eventually, you know if you have done something which is of value, substance, and the audience needs to feel that. I feel it is a great sense of validation Shershaah has given me, which I instinctively felt I want to be a part of. Producers' hands changed, then directors changed, writers for the film changed! But I said this is what I want to be a part of. All these changes can throw you off." The actor said, "I would want to dive more into stories and scripts which can inspire people. That sense of realism gives the audience the feeling that 'this actually happened' My intention would be to now find that sense of conviction and realism, and also do commercial films." On the work front, Sidharth Malhotra will be seen in 'Mission Majnu', 'Thank God' and 'Yodha'.

Bhumi speaks up for gender-neutral performing arts awards



MUMBAI, (IANS) Hours after Brian May, the guitarist of the British rock group Queen, slammed the decision of the Brit Awards management to do away with gender-specific awards, Bollywood actress Bhumi Pednekar came out in support of the move, saying that it is time human beings started celebrating artistes irrespective of the gender they belong to. The Brit Awards, which celebrate the best in British and international music, have replaced Best Male/Female Solo Artiste of the Year and Best International Male Solo/Female Solo Artiste of the Year with two gender-neutral categories -- Best Artiste and Best International Artiste of the Year, respectively.

Pednekar, who is known to articulate her opinions on gender and environmental issues, says that society needs to be more open to the reality that's unfolding each day.

Batting for inclusivity, Pednekar said: "I have always felt that gender must not be important to determine the value of an artiste's skill or creation. Artistes should be celebrated solely because of their body of work and not by how they choose to identify themselves."

Almost echoing the sentiments of the best-selling 'genderqueer' English Grammy Award-winning singer and songwriter Sam Smith's concern that the award categories ruled out non-binary artistes like him, Pednekar said: "People are identifying with diverse genders and we just can't turn a blind eye to this reality."

Pednekar praised the Brit Awards management for "doing away with gendered awards" and said: "We have to ensure that our society acknowledges gender diversity. I laud the Brit Awards. It is a step in the right direction and shows across the world will soon follow suit."

She added a note of caution, saying the journey towards more inclusivity must not come at the price of representation. "We should also keep in mind that while we try to be more inclusive, it should not lead to less representation or less inclusion of genders in a world that is governed by the binary lens. That would be counterproductive to equality."

Most recently, the Berlin Film Festival awarded its first-ever gender-neutral Silver Bear for Best Leading Performance to Maren Eggert for her role in the German sci-fi romance, 'I'm Your Man'.

The Gotham Awards, which will be held on Monday, November 29, also announced that their best actor and best actress prizes will be combined into a single lead performance category.

It was never about numbers but about creativity: Abhay Deol on his career choices

Abhay Deol has walked on a road less travelled in Hindi cinema and the actor says it was important for him to achieve "creative" satisfaction over "commercial success".

Courtesy his unconventional choices right from his debut Socha Na Tha to films like Manorama Six Feet Under, Oye Lucky! Lucky Oye, Dev D, and Shanghai, he was touted as the poster boy of indie cinema when he entered Bollywood 16 years ago.

"We are working in a field where it is not nine-to-five that what you deliver eventually dictates what you will get coming into the future. It is not a secure industry. You could be up one day and gone the next (day). I wanted to do well enough for me to continue making films I wanted to make, which nobody was making at the time when I started. So, it was more to try, not that I wanted success not so much. It was never a numbers game. It was always a creative game," Abhay Deol, who has also starred in mainstream Hindi films like Aisha, Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara, and Raanjhanaa, said. "... because everybody as much as (needs) that commercial success, they also want that creative success. And commercial success can generally follow a formula that's why they (are) commercially successful. There's nothing new. Something new is always a risk and I chose that path," he told PTI in a Zoom interview.



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ASHWIN BECOMES INDIA'S THIRD-HIGHEST WICKET-TAKER IN TESTS, BHAJJI CONGRATULATES HIM |P17



MidWeek Sports



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IND V NZ, FIRST TEST: RAVINDRA, PATEL'S STUBBORN RESISTANCE FORCES THRILLING DRAW

KANPUR, (IANS) Rachin Ravindra and Ajaz Patel put up 52 balls of stubborn resistance to help New Zealand force a thrilling draw against India in the first Test of the two-match series at the Green Park Stadium here on Monday. From 155/9, Patel did a fine job of hanging in at the crease but it was the debutant Ravindra, who faced 91 balls and gave a great account of his temperament and composure to deny India a win. After going wicketless in the opening session of day five, Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Umesh Yadav, and Axar Patel picked eight wickets in the next two sessions. But a stonewalling effort from Ravindra and Patel defied the Indian bowling attack, which was in a race against time as lights began to fade in the final half-hour of the day. Axar Patel struck on the seventh ball of the final session, trapping Henry Nicholls lbw with the one turning in a little and went past the outer edge to hit the back pad. Ravindra Jadeja got some help from the pitch, getting one to grip and turn past Kane Williamson's bat, pretty similar to the jaffa from Umesh Yadav which squared up Williamson in the second session. In his next over, Jadeja trapped Williamson plumb lbw on the backfoot with a ball that came in and kept low. Tom Blundell and Rachin Ravindra batted 54 balls together to try and save the match. Captain Ajinkya Rahane brought Ravichandran Ashwin in and immediately created a chance. But Blundell was saved by a sharp turn on an lbw appeal. India took the review but lost it as the ball was going down the leg-side. In his next over, Ashwin claimed 'lundell's wicket in a very unusual fashion. Blundell came out to defend a turning delivery. But the ball hit the rough and rolled over to disturb the bails. Kyle Jamieson had some luck on his side as Cheteshwar Pujara was late to react to his left and couldn't take the catch off Ashwin. But Jadeja ensured that the let-off on the second new ball won't be costly as Jamieson was trapped lbw by one spinning past the outer edge to hit the back pad. Jadeja scalped his fourth wicket of the innings by beating the outer edge of Tim Southee's bat and trapping him lbw in front of off-stump. Southee took the review but couldn't change the decision. Ravindra and Patel were sturdy in defence as India were in a race against time to wrap the innings. Ashwin 'trick Patel's pad but was given not out as the ball pitched outside leg. India took the review but were unable to change the decision, thereby losing all reviews. Ravindra and Patel survived 52 balls for just 10 runs as New Zealand managed to eke out an escape by the barest of margins.

Earlier, India picked up three crucial wickets, including one each on the first and last ball of the second session, to make a comeback in the match. After not getting a wicket in the first session, India got one on the very first ball post-lunch as William Somerville tried to pull a short ball from Umesh Yadav, but it flew to Shubman Gill running in from fine-leg and completing a superb forward diving catch. Yadav continued to trouble Latham and Kane Williamson, getting a lot of deliveries to keep low and targeted towards the stumps. But the duo continued to put up a defiant show while hitting the occasional boundary. Latham brought up his second half-century of the match with three runs through mid-wicket. But four overs later, Latham, in a bid to punch through the off-side, chopped on to his stumps off Ashwin. The dismissal also meant that Ashwin went past Harbhajan Singh's 417 wickets to become the third-highest wicket-taker for India (13th overall) in Test cricket. Ross Taylor was nearly stumped on zero off Ashwin as there was no conclusive evidence to rule him out. His anxious stay at the crease ended on the stroke of tea as Jadeja trapped him plumb in front of the wicket. Resuming from 4/1, Latham and William Somerville put up a show of stubborn resistance to keep India at bay in a wicketless first session. The duo showed great application in scoring 75 runs in 31 overs. They were rigid in defence, though Ashwin troubled them often while plucking boundaries against the pace of Yadav. Latham was the first to take a boundary off Yadav, glancing through fine leg while Somerville struck a straight drive. Somerville then crunched delightful back-foot drives on consecutive deliveries off Yadav through off-side and was lucky in getting a boundary off the outer edge off Ishant Sharma. India seemed to be a bit frustrated over not getting their first wicket of the day. Such was the desperation to get a wicket that they took a review for a Latham lbw despite the impact outside the off-stump, thereby wasting a review as New Zealand survived the rest of the session unscathed and eventually, the day. Brief Scores: India 345 (Shreyas Iyer 105, Tim Southee 5/69) and 234/7d in 81 overs (Shreyas Iyer 65, Kyle Jamieson 3/40) drew with New Zealand 296 in 142.3 overs (Tom Latham 95, Axar Patel 5/62) and 165/9 in 98 overs (Tom Latham 52, William Somerville 36, Ravindra Jadeja 4/40, Ravichandran Ashwin 3/35).

IPL 2022: KOHLI, ROHIT, DHONI, PANT RETAINED; RASHID, RAHUL & HARDIK RELEASED AHEAD OF MEGA AUCTION

PAY DAY

HIGHEST EARNING RETAINED PLAYERS

1. Ravindra Jadeja - 16cr
2. Rohit Sharma - 16cr
3. Rishabh Pant - 16cr
4. Virat Kohli - 15cr
5. Kane Williamson - 14cr
6. Sanju Samson - 14cr
7. Mayank Agarwal - 12cr
8. Jasprit Bumrah - 12cr
9. Andre Russell - 12cr
10. MS Dhoni - 12cr
11. Glenn Maxwell - 11cr
12. Jos Buttler - 10cr

Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, MS Dhoni, and Rishabh were retained by respective franchises -- Royal Challengers Bangalore, Mumbai Indians, Chennai Super Kings and Delhi Capitals as BCCI unveiled the retention lists on Tuesday ahead of the IPL mega auction. KL Rahul, Rashid Khan, Hardik Pandya, Shreyas Iyer, Shikhar Dhawan, Ravichandran Ashwin, and Kagiso Rabada are among the big names that haven't been retained by their franchises. The players -- will now be in the pool from which the two new IPL teams, Ahmedabad and Lucknow, will have up to three picks each (2 Indians, 1 foreign). Among foreign players, Glenn Maxwell, Jos Buttler, Sunil Narine, Andre Russell, and Anrich Nortje were retained. Allrounder Kieron Pollard made the cut for Mumbai Indians whereas Moeen Ali was chosen over the likes of Sam Curran, Faf du Plessis, and Dwayne Bravo at Chennai Super Kings. Defending champions CSK retained captain Dhoni in their team as second retention behind all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja while Moeen Ali and Ruturaj Gaikwad were the third and fourth retentions respectively. Apart from captain Rohit, five-time champions Mumbai Indians decided to retain Jasprit Bumrah, Suryakumar Kumar Yadav, and Kieron Pollard for the upcoming season of the IPL. Meanwhile, RCB have decided to retain Virat Kohli, Glenn Maxwell, and Mohammed Siraj ahead of the mega-auction. Kohli won't be leading the team anymore therefore, RCB will have to find a skipper for the second season. Delhi Capitals retained the quartet of Rishabh Pant, Prithvi Shaw, Axar Patel, and Anrich Nortje for IPL 2022.

ASHWIN BECOMES INDIA'S THIRD-HIGHEST WICKET-TAKER IN TESTS, BHAJJI CONGRATULATES HIM

KANPUR, (IANS) Senior off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin on Monday moved past Harbhajan Singh's tally of 417 wickets, becoming India's third-highest wicket-keeper in Test cricket. Former India spinner Harbhajan Singh congratulated Ashwin for his achievement on Monday. The 35-year-old had equalled Harbhajan's tally of 417 wickets on Sunday after he dismissed Will Young on Day 4. Ashwin dismissed Tom Latham in the second innings of New Zealand at the Green Park to go past Harbhajan's tally of 417 wickets in Tests. In the first innings of the Kanpur Test, Ashwin had taken three wickets while Axar Patel took five. Ashwin has so far taken 30 five-wicket hauls in his career. Ashwin is now behind Anil Kumble (619) and Kapil Dev (434) in India's all-time list of highest Test wicket-takers.

FOUR INDIAN OFFICIALS APPOINTED FOR HOCKEY MEN'S WORLD CUP 2023

BHUBANESWAR, (IANS) : The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has appointed four Indian officials in various capacities for the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023, Bhubaneswar - Rourkela. The FIH announced its decision on Monday. The officials are Sonia Bathla (technical official), Col (Dr) Bibhu Nayak, Raghu Prasad, and Javed Shaikh (both umpires). Congratulating the Indian officials on their appointment, Gyanendro Nigombam, President, Hockey India said, "It is a matter of great pride for Hockey India that our officials will represent India at the marquee tournament in 2023. I wish all the four, my best wishes on their endeavours." Sonia Bathla will be the lone woman official from India to have been appointed by the FIH as the technical official for the prestigious quadrennial tournament. Bathla, who is a part of Delhi Hockey, and started her career in 2010, said that she feels proud of the appointment by the FIH.

ICC T20 WC 2021 DELIVERS RECORD VIEWERSHIP, INDIA-PAK MATCH BECOMES MOST WATCHED T20I IN HISTORY

DUBAI, (IANS) With nearly 10,000 hours of live coverage across TV and digital platforms in 200 countries, the 2021 ICC Men's T20 World Cup delivered a record viewership globally, the cricket's global governing body said on Thursday. The tournament returned after five years and saw an increased viewership and consumption in India, Pakistan, UK, Australia and the strategic market of USA. The event, the biggest ever cricket tournament to be staged in the UAE and Oman, broke viewership records in several regions, including garnering a record television reach of 167 million, and a record consumption of 15.9 billion minutes in India on the Star India Network, for the highly-anticipated India-Pakistan clash. The encounter is now the most viewed T20I match in history, exceeding the previous high of the India-West Indies semi-final match from the 2016 edition of the ICC event held in India. The overall TV consumption for the full tournament in India was recorded at 112 billion minutes, this despite India's early exit from the tournament. Meanwhile, digital consumption for the tournament saw an explosive growth on Disney+ Hotstar in India, adding significantly to the overall television viewership in the market. "We are pleased with these outstanding global viewership numbers, that demonstrate the power of T20I cricket to attract a huge audience across the globe on linear and digital platforms," ICC CEO Geoff Allardice said in a release. "It reinforces our belief that there is a significant opportunity and appetite to grow the game in our strategic growth markets including the USA, so more fans can enjoy it, more kids are inspired by it and sponsors and broadcasters want to be a part of it," he added. In the UK, viewership for the India-Pakistan match grew by 60 percent on Sky UK whereas the overall viewership for the market went up by 7 percent. In Pakistan, the event was being broadcast by three players for the first time namely PTV, ARY and Ten Sports, which led to further growth in viewership by 7.3 percent compared to the 2016 edition of the event. In Australia, the viewership increased by 175 percent on the Fox Network. In the USA, which the ICC recently named as one of the focus markets for the sport, the tournament was the most viewed cricket tournament ever on ESPN+.



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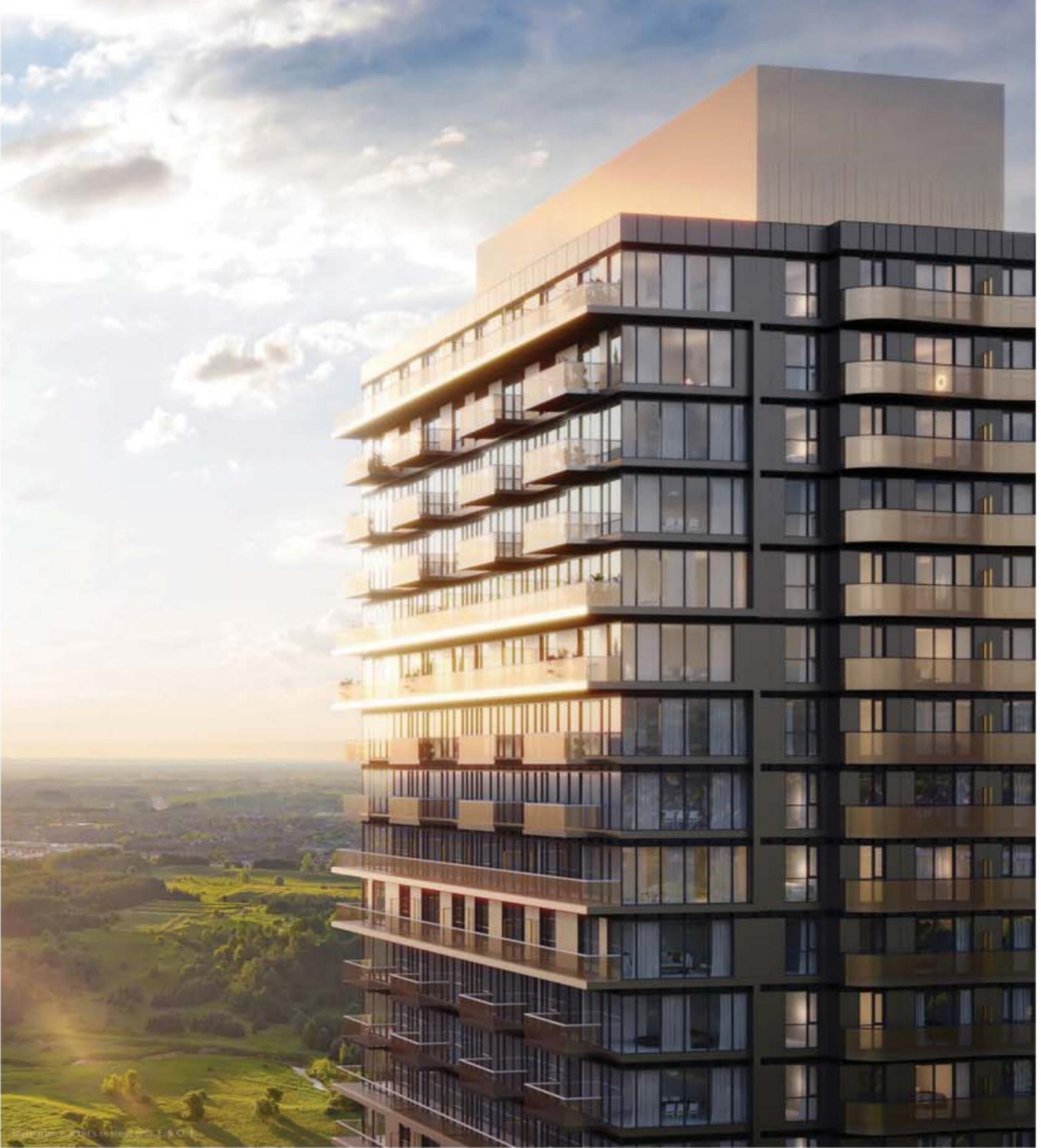
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