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SHOOT INTERNATIONAL LEG OF Mid Week **ACTIONER IN RUSSIA, AUSTRIA AND** TURKEY |16 ENTERTAINMENT

SALMAN KHAN, KATRINA KAIF TO

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MEET SANDEEP REHAAN- THE MAN BEHIND THE SUCCESS OF KARAN AUJLA



Vancouver, Canada, 21 years ago with a dream to achieve something big. However, he would have never imagined that soon Karan Aujla will become a household name not only in Punjab but worldwide- all because of his production. Formally named Rehaan Productions, now popularly known as Rehaan Records, Sandeep started his music label in 2016. He wanted to invest his time and energy in music as it was something he was attracted to. Being an outsider, his journey was not full of a bed of roses. Initially, there were some setbacks- the artiste he signed denied continuing working with him. Rather than getting discouraged or disheartened, he learnt lessons from his initial failures.

Born in Lambra, Jalandhar, Sandeep Rehan moved to

Indeed, it is truly said if one way is closed, then God will open more doors of opportunities for you. The same happened with Sandeep Rehaan when he met Karan Aujla through a good friend.

Rehaan knew Aujla as a

talented writer but signed him as his first singer. This is because Aujla was also not willing to sign big, branded Sandeep Rehaan's professional and personal journey

with Karan Aujla bloomed over time, and he now considers him his brother. With his music label getting recognition worldwide, he receives requests from hundreds of artistes' who are

willing to work under him. He now ensures to double-check before signing anyone as he does not want to repeat his earlier mistake twice.

For Sandeep, the job of a producer is not an easy one. Knowing someone takes years, and he also tests the abilities of upcoming artists by doing a few collaborations before finally signing them. He also mentioned that Vicky is now under his label. Sandeep Rehaan is fond of bhangra and wants to shift his attention towards Punjabi movies by next year. Karan Aujla would

RHEA KAPOOR SHARES HER WEDDING-DAY 'STOMACH FLIPS' WITH PIC



MUMBAI, (IANS) Film producer (and Anil and Sunita Kapoor's daughter) Rhea Kapoor's wedding may have excited a paparazzi frenzy, but what was missing was a wedding picture.

The producer of 'Veere Di Wedding' ended the wait on Monday when she shared her first wedding picture with husband Karan Boolani on her official Instagram account.

She also wrote a heartwarming note to her husband, whom she called her 'best friend'. The couple got married at a private ceremony in the Juhu home of the Kapoors on Saturday, August 14. In the shared picture, Rhea and Karan look beautiful and elegant in traditional yet simple wedding attires. Karan is seen putting the ring on Rhea's finger. In her caption, Rhea writes lovingly, expressing her innermost feelings: "12 years later, I shouldn't have been nervous or overwhelmed because you are my best friend and the best guy ever. But I cried and shook and had stomach flips all the way through because I didn't know how humbling the experience would be.

NO TROLLS, JUST 'LIKES': KAREENA POSTS LITTLE JEH'S PIC WITH SAIF, TAIMUR



MUMBAI, (IANS) Bollywood diva Kareena Kapoor Khan has shared a much-loved picture of little Jeh, who was most recently the subject of an unsavoury troll attack, with her elder son, Taimur, and her actor-husband Saif Ali Khan, who's celebrating

Kareena posted a picture on Instagram on Monday and it was instantly liked by 8,16,000 people around the world. "Happy Birthday to the love of my life ... To eternity and beyond with you is all I want," Kareena captioned the image.

Saif and Kareena, who are fondly called Saifeena by their fans, had tied the knot in December 2012. Jeh was born on February 21 this year and since then there has

"Happiest Birthday Abba. Thank you for being my superhero. My smartest friend, the best conversationalist, the coolest travel buddy and one of the biggest support

be a part of his ambitious project.



his 51st birthday with his family in the Maldives.

been a lot of speculation, especially among the trolls, about his name. Saif's actress-daughter Sara Ali Khan, who was most recently seen in the discovery+ reality show, 'Mission Frontline', also shared a picture with her father. The 'Simmba' actress tagged her dad as her 'superhero'.

systems. Love you," Sara wrote in her caption.

SIDHARTH MALHOTRA-KIARA ADVANI STARRER WILL LEAVE YOU TEARY-EYED BUT WON'T STARTLE



JUST A LITTLE MORE POWER AND 'SHERSHAAH' COULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE BEST WAR DRAMAS OF RECENT TIMES.

KANGANA RANAUT LOOKS SUPER HOT IN BLACK MONOKINI



KANGANA RANAUT. WILL ALSO STAR IN 'DHAAKAD,' WITH ARJUN RAMPAL AND DIVYA DUTTA WHICH HAS A STORYLINE ON CHILD TRAFFICKING AND CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN.

SHILPA SHETTY MAKES FIRST APPEARANCE AFTER HUSBAND **RAJ KUNDRA'S ARREST**



SHILPA SHETTY WAS A PART OF COVID-19 FUNDRAISER, WE FOR INDIA, ON INDEPEN-DENCE DAY. THE ACTOR SPOKE ABOUT HOW TO STAY POSITIVE DURING TOUGH TIMES.

TO WATCH ALL THE LATEST GOSSIP IN ENTERTAINMENT, WATCH CHANNEL Y ROGERS 857, BELLFIBE 828, TELUS 2418

PRIME MINISTER INTERACTS WITH INDIAN OLYMPIC CONTINGEN



NEW DELHI, (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday met the Indian athletes who competed in the recently-concluded Tokyo Olympic at his residence over breakfast here on Monday. India recorded its best-ever medal tally in Tokyo, winning a total of seven medals -- one gold, two silver, and four bronze. After India's historic performance in Tokyo, Prime Minister Modi had invited the Indian contingent for the Independence Day function at Red Fort on Sunday. Modi and Tokyo Olympic gold medallist javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra shared some lighter moments over breakfast. The Prime Minister also shared ice-cream with Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist shuttler P.V. Sindhu, as promised before the Olympics. The men's hockey team, which an Olympic medal after 41 years, presented the Prime Minister with an autographed hockey stick.

DESI VIBE RADIO SHOW LISTENER SHAHID NAGI WINS MEGA PRIZE





Shahid Nagi, one of the listener and caller of Desi Vibe Radio show, sacked the mega prize of two evenings stay at Courtyard Marriott Brampton. As a piece of the Eid ul Adha festivities, the Desi Vibe radio program coordinated a Bari Eid Show for the South Asian people group in Canada and participate in the show through live calls and messages. The Bari Eid Show was a tremendous accomplishment among the listeners members. It ended up being a much-commended work to keep the local area soul alive and taking off.

The Dream Media Agency supports desi Vibe's public broadcast. It airs on radio FM 91.9, Monday to Friday, 9 pm to 10 pm in GTA, Canada. Desi Vibe show is your go-to radio program for amusement and keeping the audience members up to speed about the most recent news, current issues and what's hot and occurring around the local area.









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MIDWEEK

KANGANA RANAUT LOOKS SUPER HOT IN BLACK MONOKINI

Kangana Ranaut has been turning heads lately with her stunning photographs. Kangana Ranaut, one of the industry's most versatile actors, makes it a point to surprise her fans every now and then.

Kangana's sister, Rangoli Chandel, recently shared photos of Kangana in a black monokini on Instagram. Kangana can be seen enjoying her time with Rangoli's son.

She recently shared photographs from the Budapest wrap party for her forthcoming film 'Dhaakad.' The 'Manikarnika' actress has been filming in the lovely city for months.

Kangana looks stunning in a beige lace corset with thin straps and gold buttons, paired with matching high waist trousers. While Kangana's sultry outfit stole the show, it was her whole appearance, complete with a top knot and gold layered neckpieces, that drew the attention of the internet. With huge earrings and little makeup, Kangana completed the ensemble.

While sharing the photos on Instagram, Kangana captioned them, "Mohabbat mein nahi hai farak jeene aur marne ka, usi ko dekh kar jeete hain jis kafir pe dum nikle -Ghalib." Kangana Ranaut, will also star in 'Dhaakad,' with Arjun Rampal and Divya Dutta which has a storyline on child trafficking and crimes against women.

Razneesh Ghai directs the spy thriller, which is produced by Sohail Maklai and Deepak Mukut. On October 1, 2021. 'Dhaakad' will be released.







Hou know them... You trust them!

TEAM SABHARWAL



SIDHARTH MALHOTRA-KIARA ADVANI STARRER **WILL LEAVE YOU TEARY-EYED BUT WON'T STARTLE**



'Ya toh Tiranga lehrake aaunga, ya toh Tirange mein lipat ke aaunga. Lekin aaunga zaroor!'

Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani starrer 'Shershaah' will give you goosebumps as you sit through the 2 hours 15 minutes film that retells the story of Captain Vikram Batra's valour on the battlefield, through the words of his twin brother Vishal Batra.

For those who were very young when the 1999 Kargil War took place, 'Shershaah' will give you a glimpse of what transpired during the war and how the Indian Army managed to capture peaks and tops to hoist the Tricolour and emerge victoriously. Centred around the story of Captain Vikram Batra's grit, determination and unflinching bravery on the battlefield, 'Shershaah' will make you emotional, evoke patriotism in you, make you feel proud of the legacy of the Indian Army and in parts give you an idea of the emotional turmoil of a partner of an Army officer.

But, before one jumps to any conclusion about how 'filmy' some scenes are or how 'over-the-top' some dialogues are, one must remember that the film is a mere re-telling of Captain Batra's story and director Vishnu Varadhan and the entire team of 'Shershah', has tried to be honest to what 'really' occurred -- from nearly marrying his love interest Dimple Cheema (essayed by Kiara Advani) in a Guru Dwara, cutting his thumb to fill her maang with blood to the victory call 'Yeh Dil Maange More', these are actually how things panned out and real words that were spoken by the Param Vir Chakra awardee Captain Vikram Batra, in his short-lived life. The Vishnu Varadhan-directed war film, co-produced by Karan Johar's Dharma Productions and streaming on Amazon Prime Video, puts together pieces of Captain Batra's life etched out of documented details. Written by Sandeep Shrivastav, on the face of it, 'Shershaah', looks to impress the audience with Captain Batra's story of supreme sacrifice for his motherland, but it somewhere lacks the energy and the adventurous craft to tell that story in a more powerful way. Sure, 'Shershaah' has its moments and there's no denying it will leave you teary-eyed, but it surely won't startle you. 'Shershaah' begins with little Captain Vikram Batra (Sidharth Malhotra) taking on a much taller lad who refuses to return Batra's cricket ball. His father, a schoolteacher in Palampur, Himachal Pradesh, scolds his son and asks him if he'll be a 'goonda' when he grows up. But Vikram knows what he'll be -- a 'fauji'. The narrative progress from there on and in one scene it is shown how Vikram is spellbound by an episode on Doordarshan on Palampur's Major Somnath Sharma, the first recipient of India's highest gallantry award, and decides to be a 'fauji'. With the dream to become a 'fauji' in his heart, Vikram begins to wear the Army uniform on

Independence and Republic Day celebrations in school, to parties and social gatherings to the embarrassment of the rest of his family. But the boy remains unwavering as he has made up his mind to the extent he lets everyone know that he surely will be a 'fauji' one day.

Cut to, Vikram's life in college where he meets the love of his life Dimple Cheema in a Chandigarh college. As love blossoms, Vikram's family takes a backseat in the narrative and the entire focus remains on the lead cast. While Dimple's Sikh father is against his daughter marrying a Punjabi Khatri boy, she fights back saying she wouldn't marry anyone but Vikram. However, Dimple and Vikram's love story reaches an impasse when the latter is unsure if he should join the Merchant Navy for the sake of his love or the Army, as was his dream. But like we all know, Vikram chooses to go ahead and join the Army and fulfils his dream to serve the country.

The first half of the film builds up to the moment where Vikram ultimately lays down his life for the country, but it must be pointed out, that the love story of Dimple and Captain Batra has been interwoven beautifully in the screenplay and both Kiara and Sidharth have done a commendable job in portraying the characters. While Kiara's dialect isn't exactly on-point, one has to give it to her for the effort. A talented actress, Kiara gets full marks for getting the emotions right. Cut to Captain Batra's first posting in Sopore, where he quickly makes friends in his battalion and around town. Later, on the basis of human intelligence gathered from his source, Captain Batra takes on militant Haider and eliminates him. His first mission was accomplished!

When he revisits Dimple, a trip cut short due to the declaration of the Kargil War, he reassures her that his love is for the keeps and that he would return to her and they would spend '40 years together'.

A game-changer movie for Sidharth Malhotra, the film in actuality comes to life in the second half once the battle begins. Without focusing on the beauty of Kashmir and rather capturing the inhabitable, terrifying terrain of the region along with camouflaging bunkers, dangerous cliffs and mountain tops with shelling, grenades and bullets being fired left, right and centre, everything about the battle scenes looks real.

By this time, you would have hoped that the film should have been released in theatres. "Live by chance, love by choice and kill by profession" is 13 Jammu and Kashmir Rifles lieutenant Vikram Batra's motto who is later promoted to the Captain rank after he successfully captures one of the peaks and then expresses his wish to go ahead and hoist the tri-colour on Point 4875. At this point in the film, one feels that the parts for the supporting cast essayed by Shitaf Figar, Shiv Pandit, Nikitin Dheer, Anil Charanjeett, have been underwritten and that they only get very little time to make a mark and show what they've got. One could have done so much more with that kind of a supporting cast. As Captain Batra lands on Point 4875 with his team, a bullet pulled by a sniper hidden safely in a bunker hits him as he tries to rescue one of his own. But, Captain Batra keeps his eyes open for those last few moments of his life to see the remaining soldiers capture the Point and hoist the tricolour on the mountain top.

At the end, when Captain Batra's mortal remains are brought to his town and he is accorded with a gun salute, we see Dimple Cheema break down into tears as she holds her red dupatta in her hand. Well, you will surely shed some tears and that's when you will realise, the film has touched your core and left a lasting impression.

Just a little more power and this could have been one of the best war dramas of recent times.

Verdict: Sure, 'Shershaah' has its moments and there's no denying it will leave you teary-eyed, but it surely won't startle you.

RITEISH, TAMANNAAH STAR IN NETFLIX FILM 'PLAN A PLAN B'

MUMBAI, (IANS) Actors Riteish Deshmukh and Tamannaah Bhatia star in the coming-of-age story 'Plan A Plan B', directed by Shashanka Ghosh.

Riteish said: "I am elated to be a part of 'Plan A Plan B' and am stoked to be making my digital debut with this film. Working with Shashanka sir has been an absolute pleasure. What excites me the most is the terrific storyline of the film and the journey of this unexpected love story."

The film, which is written by Rajat Arora, also stars Poonam Dhillon and Kusha Kapila, and will be released on Netflix. Tamannaah called the film "very special" to her.

She added: "Everything from the story to my character won me over right from the start. While her character is that of a matchmaker - making others fall in love, she doesn't want the same for herself. Working on this film has been a great experience with the whole team as we had a blast on the sets almost every time we shot."

Talking about the film, director Ghosh, who has helmed films such as 'Veere Di Wedding', said: "It is a one-of-a-kind story with unusual characters pitted against each other and a refreshing take on what love entails, tapping into many different emotions." Pratiksha Rao, Director, Films and Licensing, Netflix India added: "We are thrilled to announce our coming-of-age romantic comedy, 'Plan A Plan B', and to bring this entertaining film to our members in India and around the world."



songs **JUBIN**

SONG

SAIYAAN JI

BAARISH KI JAYE IS QADAR THODA THODA PYAR **NADIYON PAAR TERA SUIT** MAIN JIS DIN BHULA DU **OH SANAM BEWAFA TERA MASOOM**

ARTIST B PRAAK TULSI KUMAR STEBIN BEN SACHIN-JIGAR TONY KAKKAR ROCHAK KOHLI TONY KAKKAR JUBIN NAUTIYAL TUJHE BHOOLNA TOH CHAHA ROCHAK KOHLI YOYO HONEY SINGH

MIDWEEK BOX OFFICE

SAINA 1.25 CR **GODZILLA VS. KONG** 46.58 CR **MUMBAI SAGA** 17.00 CR **ROOHI** 25.87 CR **COOLIE NO 1** 30 LAKH **WONDER WOMAN 1984** 10.5 CR

MIDWEEK HIT

MASTER (ALL LANGUAGES) HIT **COOLIE NO 1 SUCCESS SUPER HIT WONDER WOMAN 1984 LAXMII SUCCESS DIL BECHARA SUCCESS**

ANANYA PANDAY REACTS TO TROLLS CALLING HER 'FAKE PANDAY'



Ananya Panday is the most recent guest on Arbaaz Khan's conversation show, 'Pinch', in its second season. According to the show's trailers, during the fifth episode, Ananya will discuss how she manages social media comments and cyberbullying.

Both Salman Khan and Tiger Shroff have appeared on Arbaaz Khan's chat show in previous editions. According to the show's most recent teasers, a troll made a snide remark about Ananya Panday's accent. The young celebrity, on the other hand, had a peculiar response for the troll. During the show, the celebrity is required to read aloud social media remarks directed at her from a cue card and then respond to them. Ananya read a message in which a netizen mocked her accent, claiming that it made the troll's ears bleed. Ananya didn't waste any time in responding to the individual, adding, "I am so sorry. Aapke liye tissue bhejti hoon, main aapke liye tissue bhejti hoon." (I'll send you a tissue)

When Arbaaz pointed out someone had said, "Struggling didi ki jai ho," Ananya quipped "Aap mujhe struggling didi kyun bulati ho, that's so funny!"

Ananya's approach to dealing with trolls appears to be simple. She said, "If someone is so poisonous and angry, the only response should be love." Someone else called her artificial, 'Fake Panday' and Ananya replied, "You can call me everything else but not artificial. I am 100 per cent real." One also asked her to tie the knot, she says that She says she doesn't have any plans right now and that she'll inquire again when she's 30. Someone another penned a limerick about her struugling and Ananya laughed saying, "I love it!" Meanwhile, Ananya will star alongside Sidhanth Chaturvedi and Deepika Padukone in Shakun Batra's flick.

Deepika Padukone recently released a slew of behindthe-scenes images of Ananya, Sidhanth, Shakun, and the rest of the cast.

SALMAN KHAN, KATRINA KAIF TO SHOOT INTERNATIONAL LEG OF ACTIONER IN RUSSIA, AUSTRIA AND TURKEY



Salman Khan and Katrina Kaif are currently busy filming Tiger 3. The pair will be heading to Russia on Wednesday in order to shoot the international portions of the actioner. Salman and Katrina will be filming in at least five different locations abroad, including Austria and Turkey.

However, the pandemic is still a big part of our lives, and to avoid any untoward incident, producer Aditya Chopra has decided to fly his Tiger 3 team in a jumbo charter. "YRF is chartering everyone including Salman, Katrina, director Maneesh Sharma, the entire cast and crew for this intense international leg that will see the team pull off some spectacular shooting schedules. Team Tiger takes off on August 18. The direction team under Maneesh has prepped for months for this schedule, and Aditya Chopra is clear that the lease date of the film is yet to be announced.

shoot needs to happen smoothly," a source revealed. Adding that the Maneesh Sharma directorial will see the duo perform neverseen-before action scenes, the source further stated, "Salman and Katrina will land in Russia first and then head to multiple shooting destinations like Turkey and Austria. Aditya Chopra and Maneesh Sharma didn't want to compromise on the scale of the film despite the pandemic and they have planned Tiger 3 to be a visually spectacular theatrical experience. Thus, this schedule will add a lot to the film's visual extravaganza and some never seen before action sequences will be filmed." Tiger 3 also stars Emraan Hashmi, who is said to play the villain in the film. The re-

Shilpa Shetty makes first appearance after husband Raj Kundra's arrest, talks about remaining positive during tough times

Shilpa Shetty made her first appearance after the arrest of husband Raj Kundra last month in the porn apps case. The actor was a part of Covid-19 fundraiser, We For India, on Independence Day. Kundra was arrested for his alleged role in creating and distributing adult content via mobile apps. He is currently in judicial custody.

The actor who is also a fitness enthusiast demonstrated how to do breathing exercises. "Hum aise waqt mein jee rahe hai jahaan pe breathing ya saans lene par sab kuch nirbhar hai. Breathing hi hai jiske zariye hum humare poore system ko protect kar sakte hai. Agar aapka nasal passage cleanse ho jaata hai toh aapke brain cells tak oxygen achchi tarah se pohoch payega aur aapki immunity better ho jayegi (We are living in times when everything is dependent on the way you breathe. Through breathing, we can protect our system. If our nasal passage is cleansed, oxygen can reach the brain cells properly and immunity is increased)," she said.

She also explained how yoga can help rid you of negativity. "Mushkil waqt mein negative thoughts ka aana swabhavik hai. Lekin uspe control ke liye prana par ayam hona bohot zaroori hai. That is why positive rehne ke liye apni breathing ko sahi karne ke liye, aaj ke time mein pranayam pehle se bhi zyada zaroori ho gaya hai (It is natural to have negative thoughts during tough times. To control that, it is important to control your breath. That is why pranayama has become integral to remain positive and improve breathing)," she said.



"I hope that these pranayamas will help you in your daily life and in your immunity and health," she added. The actor has refused to comment on her husband's arrest as the matter is subjudice. In a statement she shared on social media, she said, "There have been a lot of rumours and accusations. A lot of unwarranted aspersions on me cast by the media and (not so) well wishers as well. A lot of trolling/questions posed.... not only to me but also to my family." She requested people to let law take its She also appealed to people to follow all Covid-19 safety precautions. own course, adding "We don't deserve a media trial."

Qismat 2 teaser: Ammy Virk, Sargun Mehta are back as star-crossed lovers

For all fans of the 2018 romantic drama Qismat, your wait for the sequel has finally ended as the teaser to its follow-up, Qismat 2, has been released. The short clip of the Ammy Virk-Sargun Mehta-starrer gives a glimpse into the story of their characters. Qismat 2 brings back the team of the original - not only Ammy and Sargun but writerdirector Jagdeeb Singh Sidhu, music composer B Praak and lyricist Jaani have returned for the sequel.

"QISMAT 2 bohot chir tohn wait si mainu vi (I waited for it for a long time). Here it is... all our heart," Sargun wrote alongside the teaser posted on her Instagram handle.

The teaser begins with Ammy Virk and Sargun Mehta's characters lamenting that their love story remained incomplete. The video then skips to a long flashback that shows the journey of their relationship from meeting in college, falling in love to witnessing a tragic turn in their story years later.

The melodious background score by Sandeep Saxena and dramatic visuals showcasing Ammy and Sargun's crackling chemistry has left fans excited for Qismat 2.

The film, produced by Shri Narotam Ji Studios, is set to arrive in theatres on September 24.



HUGH JACKMAN'S REMINISCENCE TO RELEASE ON AUGUST 27 IN SELECT INDIAN CITIES



Warner Bros Pictures has announced that Hugh Jackmanstarrer Reminiscence will release in India on the big screen on August 27. The studio has already released Mortal Combat, The Suicide Squad and The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It in theatres here.

Reminiscence, which also features Rebecca Ferguson and Thandiwe Newton, revolves around Jackman's Nick Bannister, a private investigator of the mind, who navigates the darkly alluring world of the past by helping his clients access lost memories.

Living on the fringes of the sunken Miami coast, his life is forever changed when he takes on a new client, Mae (Ferguson). A simple matter of lost and found becomes a dangerous obsession. As Bannister fights to find the truth about Mae's disappearance, he uncovers a violent conspiracy, and must ultimately answer the question: how far would you go to hold on to the ones you love?

SUICIDE SQUAD TAKES A TUMBLE AS RYAN REYNOLDS' FREE GUY GIVES **BOX OFFICE A LIFT**



Free Guy, an action comedy starring Ryan Reynolds as a background character in a videogame, opened better than expected over the weekend in North America, collecting an estimated \$28.4 million in ticket sales despite a marketplace challenged by Covid-19.

After a few weeks of declining audiences and underwhelming debuts amid the delta variant surge, Free Guy succeeded with an old-school formula: an original, star-fronted movie with good word-of-mouth playing only in theaters. The movie directed by Shawn Levy was made by the Walt Disney Co.owned 20th Century Fox, with a theatrical release contractually stipulated for the roughly \$100 million production. Playing in 4,165 North American theaters, Free Guy was expected to debut around \$20 million.

JOHNNY DEPP SAYS HOLLYWOOD IS **BOYCOTTING HIM, SAYS HIS FALL IS** 'ABSURDITY OF MEDIA MATHEMATICS'

Actor Johnny Depp, one of the most popular stars of Hollywood, says he feels he is being boycotted by the film industry as his latest movie Minamata is yet to get a release in the United States.

In a recent interview with The Sunday Times, the actor detailed his recent legal situation, life turmoil and acting career. Depp, whose ex-wife Amber Heard has accused him of domestic violence, called his fall from Hollywood's good graces an "absurdity of media mathematics."

"Some films touch people and this affects those in Minamata and people who experience similar things," Depp said of the Andrew Levitas-directed movie, which features him as W Eugene Smith, an American photojournalist who helped expose the devastating impact of mercury poisoning on coastal communities in Japan in the 1970s.

"And for anything.... for Hollywood's boycott of me? One man, one actor in an unpleasant and messy situation, over the last number of years?" he added.







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SRI LANKA'S KUSAL **PERERA TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19** |P18

VIRAT KOHLI AND JAMES ANDERSON ENGAGE IN VERBAL **VOLLEYS | P18**



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All OUT! Virat Kohli's men turn tables at Lord's, win 2nd Test against England by 151 runs



India beat England by 151 runs to win the second Test and take a 1-0 lead in the five-match series on Monday. Chasing 272, England were bowled out for 120 in 51.5 overs with skipper Joe Root topscoring with 33. Earlier, at the start of the day, all three results were eminently possible. India had a lead of 154 runs in the second innings with 4 wickets in hand. Resuming on 181/6, India had out to be fractious morning's play.

Rishabh Pant (22) and Ishant (16) dismissed by Ollie Robinson in the opening half-hour and that brought Mohammed Shami and Jasprit Bumrah to the middle.

Shami and Bumrah put up an unbeaten 89 runs for the ninth wicket to frustrate England, which had reduced India to 209/8 on what turned

T20 WORLD CUP: ICC RELEASES FULL FIXTURE, INDIA TO FACE PAKISTAN IN FIRST MATCH



The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday announced the whole fixture for the Men's T20 World Cup which was scheduled to be held in India but is now taking place in the UAE and Oman.

The competition for the coveted trophy will begin from October 17 to November 14 and as many as 8 teams will be involved in the qualification round. Only 4 will make it to the Super 12 stage, which will get underway from October 23. Arch-rivals India and Pakistan will play their first match on October 24, as reported by India Today. Both sides have been drawn in Group 2 of the T20 World Cup Super 12 stage. The group also features Afghanistan and New Zealand as the other two automatic qualifiers. The Men in Blue will next face New Zealand on October 31 in Dubai before moving to Abu Dhabi and facing Afghanistan on November 3. They will return to Dubai to face the two qualifiers on November 5 and 8. Fans will see India play a total of 4 matches in Dubai and one in Abu Dhabi. None of India's Super 12 matches are scheduled in Sharjah. As for Group 1, the Super 12 action will get underway with two heavyweight battles as South Africa will take on Australia in Abu Dhabi which will be followed by the 2016 T20 World Cup finalist England and West Indies in Dubai in October 23.

T20 World Cup: India's fixtures

India vs Pakistan - October 24 - 6 PM local time - Dubai India vs New Zealand - October 31 - 6 PM local time - Dubai

India vs Afghanistan - November 3 - 6 PM local time - Abu Dhabi India vs B1 (qualifier) - November 5 - 6 PM local time - Dubai India vs A2 (qualifier) - November 8 - 6 PM local time - Dubai. The tournament will begin with the Round 1 Group B encounter between hosts Oman and Papua New Guinea on 17 October, with Scotland and Bangladesh, clashing the same evening. Ireland, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, and Namibia - making up Group A - will be in action in Abu Dhabi the next day.

What about Reserve days for the semi-finals and final?

According to ICC, the first semi-final will be held in Abu Dhabi on 10 November at 6 PM local time. The second semi-final will be in Dubai on 11 November. Both semi-finals have reserve days as well. The final clash of the tournament will take place in Dubai at 6 PM local time on November 14, Sunday, with the following Monday acting as the reserve day.

T20 World Cup: Teams

Round 1 (Top 2 teams from each group qualify for Super 12) Group A: Ireland, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, and Namibia

Group B: Oman, Papua New Guinea, Scotland Bangladesh Super 12 (Top 4 teams qualify for the semi-final)

Group 1: Australia, South Africa, England, West Indies, A 1, B2

Group 2: India, Pakistan, New Zealand, Afghanistan, A2, B1

EX-NEW ZEALAND QUICK SHANE BOND TO MENTOR BLACK CAPS BOWLERS FOR T20 WORLD CUP



AUCKLAND. (IANS) Former New Zealand fast bowler Shane Bond has been made a part of the Black Caps' coaching setup for the ICC T20 World Cup and a T20I series against India following the mega event to be held in October-November in the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

Bond, who has been a part of the national team's coaching setup earlier as well, will be there during the Indian Premier League (IPL) in the UAE for the Rohit Sharma-led Mumbai Indians and the New Zealand think-tank hopes to utilise his services for the ICC T20 World Cup, which begins two days after the conclusion of the IPL. New Zealand Cricket (NZC) hope Bond can give valuable inputs to the Kiwi players who will be competing for their respective franchises in the IPL.

BARCELONA HAVE DEBTS OF OVER 1.3 **BILLION EUROS, SAYS LAPORTA**



MADRID. (IANS) FC Barcelona president Joan Laporta on Monday said that the club had a debt of 1,350 million euros in a long and detailed press conference in which he attempted to explain the economic situation of the club.

The Barca president was speaking 10 days after it was confirmed the club could not keep Leo Messi, who has since joined Paris Saint-Germain, due to financial fair play issues, reports Xinhua. Laporta told the press that Barca have a total gross debt of 1,350 million euros (about 1,590 million US dollars), with a negative net worth of 451 million euros and a net debt of 551 million euros, according to an audit carried out by the accountants, Ernst and Young, which was commissioned when he returned to the club presidency in March.

ENG VS IND: WITH A 92M SIX. MOHAMMED SHAMI SMASHES HALF-**CENTURY AT LORD'S**



What.is.happening! When your batsman don't do their job, and your tail-enders just come and pile up important runs. That's exactly what Mohammed Shami and Jasprit Bumrah are doing. And not just that, Shami also reached his half-century.

With a 92m SIX, Shami smashed a half-century at Lord's on Day 5 in just 602 balls.

This is his second Test fifty. The Indian balcony is seen erupting in joy as Shami took off the helmet and raised his bat as they do after scoring a hundred.

The two put on 77 runs partnership in 111 balls. This is also the highest individual score for both Bumrah and Shami in Tests This is also now the highest ninth-wicket partnership for India in England surpassing 66 by Kapil Dev and Madan Lal at the same venue in 1982.

POLITICAL SENSEX STATES ELECTIONS **INDIA 2022**



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'This isn't your backyard': Virat Kohli and James Anderson engage in verbal volleys



As India felt the heat on a day at Lord's, tempers flared up between Virat Kohli and James Anderson during the first session of the fourth day of the second Test.

This was after Indian openers KL Rahul and Rohit Sharma, who made up for the middle order's prolonged failure so far in the series, could not bat long on this occasion. Like skipper Joe Root did for England, the onus was on Virat Kohli to score a big one and bring his team back into the game but he could not do so.

Kohli (20 off 31) made a promising start before poking at a wide Sam Curran delivery to leave his team in deeper trouble at the stroke of lunch. However, in the 17th over of India's second innings, the Indian captain had a war of words with Anderson. After the fourth ball of the out at the Lord's.

over, Kohli pointed out that the England pacer was seemingly running on the danger zone of the pitch. But this did not go down well with Anderson who had a go at Kohli.

"You swearing at me again are you? This isn't your fu**ing backyard," Kohli said to Anderson even as the latter came up with a few words in between. After the fifth delivery was bowled, the India captain continued to have a go at Anderson saying, "chirp chirp chirp. This is what old age makes you." India were 105/3 in their second innings at Tea on Sunday. The lead stood at 78 runs for the visitors, with three of their top batsmen back in the dressing room. England were bowled out for 391 in their first innings, in reply to India's 364 all

Like Olympics, spectators won't be allowed at Tokyo Paralympics too

TOKYO, (IANS) Just like the Olympics, the upcoming Tokyo 2020 to refrain from coming to the roadside to watch the competitions, the Paralympic Games will be held without spectators. The International IPC said. Paralympic Committee has agreed to the decision taken by the gov- The four parties involved in the discussion also decided to go ahead

ernment of Japan and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

With Japan having total Covid-19 cases of 1.14 million and with 15,408 deaths so far, "more stringent measures will be taken for competitions" during the Paralympic Games, it was decided during a four-party remote meeting between the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG), and the Government of Japan on Monday.

"In light of the current emergency declaration issued for Tokyo, Saitama and Chiba Prefectures, another declaration of the state of emergency being requested by Shizuoka prefecture and the current infection situation

broadly, more stringent measures will be taken for competitions to be and we sincerely apologise to all ticket buyers who were looking held in these prefectures, including having no spectators," the IPC $\,$ forward to watching the Games at the venues. We hope that you unsaid in a report on its official website. Japan has reported more than derstand that these measures are unavoidable and being implemented 20,000 cases in a day during the last week.

With regards to road events, the organisers request the general public watch the Games at home."

thorities.

with allowing school children for some Paralympic Games programme with the rider that the request for the same has to come from the parents and local au-

"With regard to the school programme, given that the Tokyo 2020 Games are very important in helping us realise a more inclusive society, safety measures will be taken in order to facilitate spectating in cases where local authorities or school administrations request this in response to the wishes of parents and others," the IPC said.

The IPC expressed its regret to all ticket buyers.

"We very much regret that this situation has impacted the Paralympic Games, following the Olympic Games,

in order to prevent the spread of infection. Everyone is encouraged to

Canterbury region to host warm-up matches of 2022 women's Cricket World Cup

AUCKLAND, (IANS) Canterbury region in New Zealand's South Island will host the warm-up matches ahead of the 2022 women's Cricket World Cup from February 27 to March 2.

Each team will play two warm-up matches across four days at Bert Sutcliffe Oval, Lincoln Green, and Rangiora Oval. Fans can watch matches at the venues free of charge.

Apart from the warm-up matches, the official pre-tournament media day, press conferences by the captains, and welcoming of all teams

will be held in Christchurch.

Canterbury's hosting of the warm-up matches will provide significant economic value for the region at an estimation of \$4.2 million. This tournament will be the first glob'l women's cricket event since the T20 World Cup final last year on March 8, which saw over 86,000 fans turn out at the MCG. '

India's first warm-up match is against South Africa at the Bert Sutcliffe Oval on February 27. They will then take on a qualifier team on March 1 at the same venue. The Chief Executive Officer of the tournament Andrea Nelson said she wants as many Kiwi spectators as possible to experience the marquee event. "When New Zealand last hosted the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup back in 2000, the White Ferns came away with our country's first and only women's world titl' to date. That's something I'm sure 'Il Kiwi wouldn't mind seeing again. Attending World Cup matches will be very affordable - an action-packed day out for a family will cost from \$45 (New Zealand dollar), which we think is real v"lue for money." Three teams from the qualifying tournament will join hosts New Zealand, defending champions England, six-time title winners Australia, 2005 and 2017 runners-up India, and South Africa in the eight-team tournament. The eight teams will then go head-to-head in 31 matches to be played across 31 days in Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Wellington,

Christchurch, and Dunedin. The opening match of the tournament will see New Zealand take on one of the qualifiers in a day-night match at Bay Oval in Mount Manganui on March 4. Christchurch's Hagley Oval will host the final on April 3 apart from the second semi-final on March 31. Basin Reserve in Wellington will organise the first semi-final on March 30.

FIRST TEST: WEST INDIES BEAT PAKISTAN BY 1 WICKET

Veteran fast bowler Kemar Roach and his teenage protege Jayden He then dismissed Blackwood for 55 to deal a major blow to the home Seales combined in a dramatic 17-run partnership Sunday which carried the West Indies to a one-wicket win over Pakistan in the first cricket Test. Seales earlier took 5-55, his first five-wicket haul in Tests, as the West Indies dismissed Pakistan for 203 in its second innings, a lead of 167. The home team then slumped to 16-3 before a a relatively simple catch was put down. half-century by Jermaine Blackwood helped it advance to 111-6.

The match was in the balance when Jason Holder was out to the last ball before the tea interval with the West Indies on 114-7, still 54 runs from victory. In a thrilling final session in which each run and each wicket altered the balance of the match, Roach shared a partnership of 28 with Joshua Da Silva before finally combining with Seales to see the West Indies home on 168-9.

Roach said his unbeaten 30 was the most important innings of his 66test career "by far, by far."

He was full of praise for the batting and bowling efforts of the 19-yearold Seales, who became the youngest West Indies bowler to take a five-wicket haul in a test innings.

"He is a star for the future," Roach said. "His five wickets speaks wonders about our cricket." Shaheen Afridi (4-50) and Hasan Ali (3-37) bowled almost 34 overs for Pakistan on the last day and shared seven wickets. Hasan produced an outstanding all-round performance, scoring 28 from 26 balls at No. 9 to help Pakistan go past 200 in the second innings before he was the last man out.

team's hopes and bowled Holder (16).

But Hasan was also involved in one of the pivotal moments of the match when he dropped Roach, then on 16, off the bowling of Shaheen. Roach's pull shot carried directly to Hasan at deep square leg, where

Hasan still had a part to play by dismissing Jomel Warrican to leave the West Indies on 151-9, some 17 runs from victory and with only Roach and Seales remaining. Warrican tried to pull a short delivery and the ball flew from the top edge. Wicketkeeper Mohammad Rizwan turned and dashed backward, almost to the boundary where he took a diving catch as the ball came over his shoulder.

Roach batted on with unbreakable determination to eke out every run. With six runs needed, he edged a ball between the wicketkeeper and first slip which just eluded Rizwan's despairing dive.

He then confidently struck a ball from Shaheen, wide of off stump, through cover for the winning runs. "It was a remarkable test," West Indies captain Kraigg Brathwaite said. "It is about patience. Who has more patience will come out on top." Pakistan captain Babar Azam said the "nail-biting" match showed the beauty of test cricket. "We put in a good effort with the bat," Azam said. "The bowlers then restricted them before our bowlers took the wickets. "Again, in the second innings, we fought with the bat and the bowlers hit back. Had we taken those dropped catches, the result could have been different."

SRI LANKA'S KUSAL PERERA TESTS **POSITIVE FOR COVID-19**



Sri Lanka's wicketkeeper-batsman Kusal Perera has tested positive for COVID-19, its cricket board said Monday. Perera, who turns 31 on Tuesday, missed the recent home series against India because of injury after being sacked as captain following the tour by England at the start of the year. He has played in 22 tests, 107 one-day internationals and 50 Twenty20 matches for his country. He has hit two centuries in tests and six in ODI cricket. Sri Lanka is witnessing a sharp rise in COVID-19, with the government reverting to nightly curfews and a ban on public gatherings.

LORD'S APPLAUDS CHETESHWAR PUJARA'S 'BLOCK-BUSTER' KNOCK



To the rousing cheers of the Sunday crowd, Cheteshwar Pujara blocked the 100th ball he faced in the innings. As he had through most of his combatively laborious knock, as he had when he scored his first run off the 35th ball he faced, as he had when he cuffed his first boundary off the 117th delivery. To each of this round of applause—not to be mistaken with sarcastic cheers he would raise his gloved thumb, or let out half a smile or crack a joke with his partner.

He was neither overawed nor over-conscious to alter his means or methods, but locked in an intense battle of survival. Surviving for his team, surviving for himself, a battle he could not afford to lose, neither for himself nor the team. Pujara was dealing with the situation in the best way he knew, by sticking to his biggest strengths, by trusting his defence and discipline. Just like hitters hit out of a rut, blockers would look to block out of their rough. But neither can he blast himself into form like Virender Sehwag nor could Sehwag block himself out of form like Pujara. There is no definite template to reviving form, it's entirely upon a batsman's instinct. His strike rate—21.84 and its bearings on the game will be dissected and critiqued, but in a dire phase of his career, he would not have turned into Sehwag or Kohli overnight. It should also be read in the context of the game—another wicket then would have imperilled India. So he rolled out some captivating duels. James Anderson probed and persisted. He tested both edges, swung and seamed both ways, used the upright seam and the wobble seam, harnessed conventional and reverse swing, mixed his lengths but Pujara didn't flinch.

Unlike in the last two instances, he succumbed to Anderson in this series, he was not tricked by the inward angle (before the ball slides away fatally). He was looking to defend in front of the stumps, and not towards the mid-on, as is his inclination. Besides, he was defending beside the body and not in front of it. The front-foot did come across a few times, but the stride was more pronounced and definite. He still played and missed a few, Anderson teased him in the post-tea session, but he was resolute. And when Anderson erred fractionally on the shorter side, he rode the bounce and steered it past the point fence, again to rippling applause, who seemed to have cultivated a genuine fondness for Pujara and his sweat to rediscover his form and runs.

SCHEDULE OF REMAINING IPL MATCHES

TORONTO TIMINGS

September 19: CSK vs MI September 20: KKR vs RCB September 21: PBKS vs RR September 22: DC vs SRH September 23: MI vs KKR September 24: RCB vs CSK September 25: DC vs RR September 25: SRH vs PBKS CSK vs KKR September 26: RCB vs MI September 26: September 27: SRH vs RR September 28: KKR vs DC September 28: MI vs PBKS September 29: RR vs RCB September 30: SRH vs CSK KKR vs PBKS October 1: October 2: MI vs DC October 2: RR vs CSK October 3: RCB vs PBKS October 3: KKR vs SRH October 4: DC vs CSK October 5: RR vs MI October 6: RCB vs SRH October 7: CSK vs PBKS October 7: KKR vs RR October 8: SRH vs MI October 8: RCB vs DC October 10: Qualifier 1 October 11: Eliminator October 13: Qualifier 2 October 15: Final

(Dubai, 10:00 am (Abu Dhabi, 10:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Abu Dhabi, 10:00 am) (Sharjah, 10:00 am) (Abu Dhabi, 6:00 am) (Sharjah, 10:00 am) (Abu Dhabi, 6:00 am); (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Sharjah, 6:00 am); (Abu Dhabi, 10:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Sharjah, 10:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Sharjah, 6:00 am) (Abu Dhabi, 10:00 am) (Sharjah, 6:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Sharjah, 10:00 am) (Abu Dhabi, 10:00 am) (Dubai, 6:00 am) (Sharjah, 10:00 am) (Abu Dhabi, 6:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am) (Sharjah, 10:00 am) (Sharjah, 10:00 am) (Dubai, 10:00 am)



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