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MidWeek

NEWS WEEKLY



RAMONA SINGH FROM Y MEDIA SPOKE WITH FEDERAL CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP CANDIDATE, JEAN CHAREST. FOR DETAILED DISCUSSION, WATCH CHANNEL Y BELL 828, TELUS 2418, ROGERS 857, IGNITE 707; OR LISTEN TO RADIO Y 91.9 FM OR VISIT SOUTHASIANDAILY.COM

DUMP TRUCK DRIVER STABBED DURING PROTEST IN VAUGHAN; BRAMPTON MAYOR TO WORK 'WITH THE ASSOCIATION TO SUPPORT NEGOTIATIONS'



I am very sad to hear of the stabbing of a member of the Ontario Dump Truck Association (ODTA) who was protesting peacefully today at a job site in Vaughan. I will be working with the association to support negotiations in any way I can. It's time for all parties to come to the table. The ODTA has been participating in job action this past week over stagnant wages while operating costs have increased, among other issues raised around labour and safety regulations. Dump truck drivers are among the essential workers who help build our roads, hospitals, critical infrastructure and housing. They help keep our economy moving. Brampton is a transportation and goods movement hub that provides essential logistical services to the benefit of the region and the entire provincial economy. I wish the ODTA member a speedy recovery. I am pleased to hear that York Regional Police have a suspect in custody.

PM TRUDEAU & ONTARIO PREMIER FORD SIGN \$10-A-DAY CHILD CARE DEAL



Ontario and Canada have signed a \$13.2 billion agreement that will lower fees for families and deliver an average of \$10 a day child care by September 2025.

Highlights of Ontario's better deal include:

- * A federal investment of \$13.2 billion over six years with the province having secured more certainty around out-year funding. The deal includes an additional year of funding of at least \$2.9 billion.
- * The flexibility to allocate federal funding in a way that will allow the province to deliver an average of \$10 a day child care, including by spending the initial \$10.2 billion over four years instead of five.
- * Enhanced protection against funding shortfalls through a mandated financial review process in year three – the first of its kind in any provincial child care deal – to reconcile the actual costs of the new national child care plan with funding.
- * Reduction of child care fees through four steps of reduction to an average of \$10 a day per child five years old and younger by September 2025.
- * Parent rebates, retroactive to April 1, will begin in May.
- * Protection of all for-profit and non-profit child care spaces, helping to support predominantly female entrepreneurs across the province who provide high-quality child care services.

CANADA'S TRADE MINISTER, MARY NG, BRIEFS CIF ON MISSION TO INDIA



Canada's Minister for Small Business, Export Promotion & International Trade, Hon. Mary Ng, recently back from India, addressed the members of Canada India Foundation (CIF), detailing the progress made during her mission.

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5 DEAD, INCLUDING 3 CHILDREN IN BRAMPTON HOUSE FIRE



Two parents and three children killed in a Brampton, Ont. house fire early Monday morning have been identified by friends and family, CTV News reported. Peel Regional Police said emergency crews were called to a home on Conestoga Drive, near Sutter Avenue, in the Kennedy Road and Sandalwood Parkway East area, just before 2 a.m. for reports of a fire.

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ONTARIO GOVERNMENT BUILDING NEW SCHOOL IN BRAMPTON



Province gives approval to build a new Malala Yousafzai Public School As part of Ontario's ongoing efforts to build and improve local schools, the province provided the Peel District School Board with approval to tender a new Malala Yousafzai Public School in the amount of \$24.7 million.

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INDIAN-AMERICAN RAJ SUBRAMANIAM TAKES OVER AS FEDX PRESIDENT, CEO

Indian-American Raj Subramaniam has become the President and CEO of FedEx, the US-based multinational transportation and courier delivery giant has announced. Subramaniam would replace Frederick W. Smith, chairman and CEO, who will step down on June 1. "As we continue to transform as a company and reimagine what's next, we will keep our people-service-profit philosophy at our core," said Subramaniam.

| CONTD. ON PAGE 4

COUNTDOWN TO IMRAN KHAN'S EXIT MAY HAVE BEGUN AFTER PAK OPPOSITION TABLES NON-CONFIDENCE MOTION

The countdown to the exit of Imran Khan may have begun in earnest after the opposition in Pakistan tabled a no-confidence motion against the Prime Minister. The no-confidence resolution in the Pakistan's National Assembly was tabled on Monday by Shehbaz Sharif, the Leader of the Opposition.

| CONTD. ON PAGE 9

AMID POLITICAL SLUGFEST, IT'S A LONELY BATTLE FOR KASHMIRI PANDITS



OSLER 'RISING STARS' RECEIVE INTREPID LEADER AWARD FROM THE BRAMPTON BOARD OF TRADE. **| DETAILS ON PAGE 3** **| CONTD. ON PAGE 6**

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OSLER ‘RISING STARS’ RECEIVE INTREPID LEADER AWARD FROM THE BRAMPTON BOARD OF TRADE



William Osler Health System (Osler) is pleased to share that two physicians and a staff member are among this year's recipients of Brampton Board of Trade's prestigious Intrepid Leader award. The award is presented to individuals in the Brampton community who have been recognized by their colleagues and the Brampton Board of Trade as bold, brave and courageous leaders in their field.

On March 23, Osler's Dr. Lillia Fung, Andreea Popescu and Dr. Jobin Varughese were recognized at a Brampton Board of Trade event celebrating young leaders making an impact in the community. The Osler team members and their areas of work are:

Dr. Lillia Fung, Obstetrical Anesthesia Site Lead, Brampton Civic Hospital: Dr. Fung has shown outstanding leadership in obstetrics quality control initiatives and in improving patient outcomes. When the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded, Dr. Fung immediately established COVID-19 protocols that would help ensure the safety and well-being of pregnant women in her care, their children and families, and her hospital colleagues.

Andreea Popescu, Organizational Performance Consultant: Andreea's work as part of Osler's Strategy team supports departments across Osler to plan and prioritize the most impactful projects for the community, while strengthening informed decision-making and collaboration across the organization. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she built a COVID-19 projection model for Osler that predicted the third wave several weeks in advance. Andreea also supported large-scale pandemic response initiatives such as the opening of COVID-19 testing centres, creating staff redeployment models, and developing capacity plans to help manage patient volumes.

Dr. Jobin Varughese, Site Director, Family Medicine, Residency Program: As a family physician who was raised and lives in Brampton, Dr. Varughese provides comprehensive care for patients, from newborns to seniors. His efforts to contribute to his profession are extensive and range from pursuing certifications and teaching new medical residents, to finding ways to improve the larger health care system and facilitating learning for physicians.

"We are delighted the Brampton Board of Trade has recognized Dr. Lillia Fung, Andreea Popescu and Dr. Jobin Varughese for the incredible work they do for the hospital and the community," said Dr. Frank Martino, Interim President and CEO, William Osler Health System. "All three are shining examples of what it means to be innovative, dedicated and compassionate, and they consistently demonstrate leadership and commitment to our Vision, delivering patient-inspired health care without boundaries."

ABOUT WILLIAM OSLER HEALTH SYSTEM and FOUNDATION: William Osler Health System is a hospital system, which includes Brampton Civic Hospital, Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness and Etobicoke General Hospital, and serves 1.3 million residents of Brampton, Etobicoke and surrounding communities within the Central West region. Osler's emergency departments are among the busiest in Canada and its Mental Health Program is one of the largest in the province. William Osler Health System Foundation seeks to create a healthier community through giving by inspiring its communities to invest in exceptional health care close to home.

PHYSICIAN BURNOUT NEARLY DOUBLES DURING PANDEMIC, CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION SURVEY REVEALS



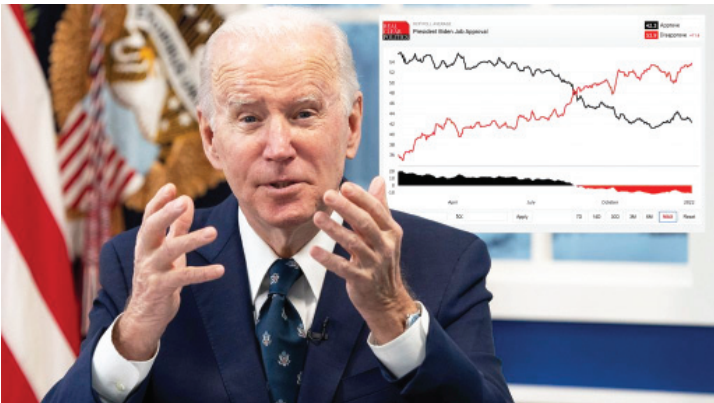
Preliminary data from the Canadian Medical Association's (CMA) National Physician Health Survey offers a concerning outlook on the health of physicians, battered from over two years of a global pandemic. The survey, conducted in November 2021, shows more than half of physicians and medical learners (53%) have experienced high levels of burnout, compared to 30% in a similar survey conducted in 2017. As well, nearly half (46%) of Canadian physicians who responded are considering reducing their clinical work in the next 24 months.

"We should be deeply alarmed that half of the physician workforce is considering reducing their clinical workload. The downstream impact to patient care will be significant as we are already experiencing access to care issues," says Dr. Katharine Smart, CMA president. "There is no question that the pandemic has greatly affected our health workforce. As we look to rebuild our health care system, we need to prioritize the people who work within it and call on all governments to take action now." The preliminary survey data has been released following an emergency meeting of close to 40 national and provincial health

organizations representing Canada's health workforce. The organizations were united in their call for urgent action to address the worsening health workforce crisis, with key priorities focused on creating a robust source of data, implementing a national human health resources strategy and rebuilding Canada's health care system for the future.

Additional insights from the National Physician Health Survey reveal that: 59% of physicians indicated that their mental health has worsened since the onset of the pandemic. This worsened mental health has been attributed to: increased workload and lack of work-life integration (57%), rapidly changing policies/processes (55%), and other challenges. Nearly half of physicians (47%) reported low levels of social wellbeing, which has increased from 2017 data (29%). Emotional and psychological wellbeing have also suffered compared to pre-pandemic levels. The CMA National Physician Health Survey was conducted in the fall of 2021. The survey was open for five weeks and received more than 4,000 responses from Canadian physicians and medical learners. A fulsome report will be published later this year.

APPROVAL OF US PRESIDENT BIDEN'S HANDLING OF ECONOMY DECLINING: POLL



A new polls has revealed that the approval of US President Joe Biden's handling of the economy was declining as the cost of living has jumped to become Americans' most important issue, displacing jobs and the economy, voting rights/election integrity and the Covid-19.

The new NBC News poll said the other issues besides handling of the economy had topped January's survey, reports Xinhua news agency Sixty-two per cent of respondents said their family incomes are falling behind the cost of living, 31 per cent said they were staying even, and 6 per cent said their incomes are going up faster than the cost of living, according to the poll conducted on March 18-22.

Asked whom or what they blame the most for increasing inflation, a plurality of Americans, 38 per cent, pointed the finger at Biden and his policies.

Republican respondents made up the bulk of those with that opinion, said NBC. Another 28 per cent put the blame on the Covid-19 pandemic, 23 per cent attributed it to corporations that have increased prices, and 6 per cent blamed the rising cost of goods and services on the Russia-Ukraine conflicts, it added.

GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE HOSTING VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE ON THURSDAY, APRIL 7



One of Ontario's best colleges will be hosting a virtual open house on Thursday, April 7th, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. The event which is open to all, including domestic and international students will be an opportunity to learn about the campus, various career-focused programs and what it's like to be a student at George Brown, located in the heart of downtown Toronto. All from the comfort of home.

George Brown College combines theory with hands-on learning. We prioritize real-world experiences and provide students with opportunities to work alongside employers in different industries.

The event will allow interested students to:

- Learn about our career-focused programs — Connect with faculty and staff about your academic areas of interest.
- Attend live presentations and Q&A sessions to help get your questions answered on everything from how to pay for the college, student services, campus life and the admissions process.
- Learn how our Student Success team will support you from Day 1 to ensure a smooth transition to college life.

For International students, representatives are available to answer your questions — in some cases, in your own language! Check the schedule online at www.georgebrown.ca/openhouse for times and languages available.

The event is FREE and will help prospective students make the best decisions and discover lifelong learning opportunities available at George Brown College. Register at www.georgebrown.ca/openhouse

PUNJAB TO APPOINT NODAL OFFICERS TO REDRESS ISSUES OF NRIS

Punjab NRI Affairs Minister Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal on Tuesday said the government has decided to appoint nodal officers in all 23 districts for the ease of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), besides setting up of special courts in Amritsar, Patiala, Ludhiana and Bathinda districts. Chairing a high-level review meeting with officials of the NRI Affairs Department and members of the NRI Commission, he issued directions that the appointment of the nodal officers should be made in a transparent manner and working of these officers should be reviewed by the Deputy Commissioners on a regular basis. Dhaliwal said the government has continuously been working with full zeal and commitment to resolve the issues of Punjabis residing in foreign countries and requisite directions have also been issued to Special Chief Secretary of the department. Special courts will be set up in districts of Amritsar, Patiala, Ludhiana and Bathinda to resolve cases related to NRIs in time-bound manner and directions have been issued to the department to initiate the process, he added. Dhaliwal said the state would also coordinate with the Union government and embassies to resolve the problems of NRIs. The government would honour the NRIs who have done commendable work in various walks of life, he said.

PTI NOMINATES PERVAIZ ELAHI FOR PAK PUNJAB CM

Usman Buzdar has resigned following the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insafa (PTI) nomination of Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi as the next Chief Minister of Pakistan Punjab, Friday Times reported.

Special Assistant to Prime Minister Imran Khan on Political Communication, Shahbaz Gill, announced the Pakistan Muslim League (PML-Q) leader's candidacy on Twitter.

Gill also said that the PML-Q would support the government in the imminent vote of no-confidence against the Prime Minister, despite earlier remarks from senior leaders within the PML-Q, including MNA Kamil Ali Agha, indicating that it was 'too late' for the Prime Minister to cajole potential government allies, the report said. Later, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Farrukh Habib, announced that Buzdar had tendered his resignation. Earlier on Monday morning, the opposition had filed a no-confidence motion against Buzdar in the provincial assembly. Parvez Elahi reiterated that his party is both a government ally and an independent party, while adding that he believed the opposition had garnered enough votes to pass the no-confidence motion.

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INDIANS TO SPEND MORE ON TRAVEL BY ADOPTING NEW NORMAL POST-COVID: REPORT

A whopping 93 per cent Indians are planning to spend more or the same on travel in 2022 compared to a typical pre-pandemic year, according to a report.

The American Express Travel: Global Travel Trends Report showed that Indian travellers are looking to adopt the new normal. Overall, Indians think travel will be less stressful this year than last year and many are looking forward to regaining control over their trips in 2022 after feeling overwhelmed last year.

The survey report is based on 3,000 travellers from seven countries including the US, Australia, India, Canada, Mexico, Japan, and the UK. It reveals that the motivation to travel for 48 per cent Indians is for discovering new experiences, 46 per cent for relaxing and 45 per cent for exploring new destinations. About 96 per cent agreed they like to eat and shop at local businesses to support the local economy.

"After two tough years, the travel sentiment amongst Indian travellers is upbeat where spending time with loved ones is a top priority," said Manoj

Adlakha, SVP and CEO, American Express Banking, India, in a statement.

"With the resumption of all regular international flights and the upcoming summer holiday season, we are seeing a surge in travel bookings amongst our card members for both international and domestic travel," he added. Majority of Indians agree they want to have a positive impact on the community they are visiting and want to travel to destinations where they can immerse themselves in the local culture.

Travelling responsibly is of high importance for the respondents as 94 per cent stated they would take a 'greencation' and 93 per cent are more likely to book travel with a brand that is committed to improving its environmental impact, ranking highest than their global counterparts.

About 69 per cent of respondents agree they want to travel to their dream destination this year. Five in ten respondents shared they are willing to travel solo now to visit their dream destination.

Nearly 92 per cent agree that they are willing to book a trip for 2022 even if they might have to cancel or modify it later.

CANADA FUNDS TO CLEAR PANDEMIC-RELATED MEDICAL BACKLOGS



The federal government announced it would provide an additional C\$2 billion (\$1.6 billion) one-time top-up to provinces and territories to reduce the backlog accumulated during the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to a statement issued by Finance Ministry, the Covid-19 pandemic has delayed an estimated 700,000 surgeries and other medical procedures, resulting in an increase of waitlists and backlogs, reports Xinhua news agency.

This amount is in addition to the C\$4.5 billion Canada Health Transfer (CHT) top-up provided since the start of the pandemic, the release said, adding that it would further help provinces and territories to

address immediate pandemic-related health care system pressures, particularly the backlogs of surgeries, medical procedures and diagnostics. It would provide doctors, nurses, and other health care professionals with the resources they need to ensure Canadians have access to the care they deserve. Provinces and territories would be able to use this funding to support their own unique circumstances, including strengthening the health workforce, the release said.

In the last two years, pandemic-related direct transfers by the federal government to the provinces and territories total over C\$20 billion, including C\$4.5 billion through CHT top-ups.

IS THERE A LINK BETWEEN COVID BRAIN FOG, CHEMO BRAIN & ALZHEIMER'S?



Several researchers have found a common link between people who have undergone chemotherapy for any life-threatening disease and previously healthy people who have had a relatively mild Covid infection, and are now facing brain fog.

A team from Stanford University was fascinated to find similar changes among patients in both groups, in specialised brain cells that serve as the organ's surveillance and defence system, the Washington Post reported. A malfunction in these cells known as microglia result in fuzzy thinking among cancer patients undergoing treatment. The same cells may also be impeded in Alzheimer's disease.

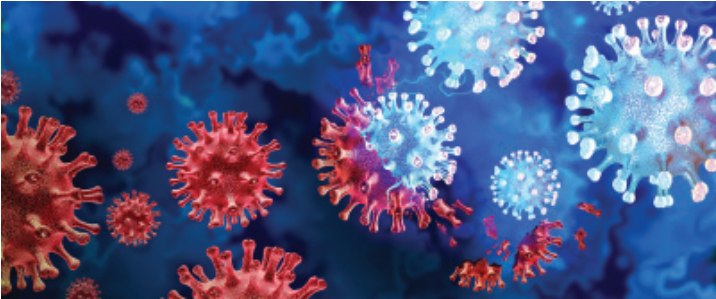
There's a growing body of research that suggests similarities in the mechanisms of post-Covid cognitive changes and other long-studied brain conditions, including 'chemo brain', Alzheimer's and other post-viral syndromes following infections with influenza, Epstein-Barr, HIV or Ebola, the report said.

"There is humongous overlap" between long Covid and these other conditions, Avindra Nath, intramural clinical director of the neurological disorders and stroke unit of the National Institutes of Health, was quoted as saying.

According to Stanford neuroscientist Michelle Monje, knowing the similarities gives the field of research into long Covid "a real foundation". She's optimistic that some of the symptoms people are experiencing post-Covid are reversible, and there's already talk about testing drugs in clinical trials to treat "chemo brain" for those suffering from severe Covid brain fog.

Another team of researchers from Harvard and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine have highlighted how both in Covid-19 and chronic fatigue syndrome, too many oxygen molecules pile up in a cell - possibly resulting in inflammation that leads to cognitive issues. And an examination of brain autopsy tissue by a Columbia University professor from 10 patients who died of Covid-19 turned up a molecular change bearing the distinct signature of Alzheimer's, the report said. Researchers, however, are still in the early stages of defining Covid brain fog, the maddening feeling of slow thinking and confusion described post-infection by some people.

OMICRON SUBVARIANT BA.2 BECOMES DOMINANT STRAIN IN US: CDC



The BA.2 sub-lineage of the Omicron variant has become the dominant strain in the US, according to new data released by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The variant has been steadily rising in proportion due to its increased transmissibility compared to the original Omicron strain, Xinhua news agency reported.

The BA.2 variant represented 54.9 per cent of new Covid-19 cases for the week ending March 26, according to CDC data. This data is up from 39 per cent a week prior, and 27.8 per cent two weeks before. The BA.2 subvariant is thought to be about 30 per cent more transmissible than the original BA.1 Omicron strain, early study suggested.

PM TRUDEAU & ONTARIO PREMIER FORD SIGN \$10-A-DAY CHILD CARE DEAL

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- * Creation of approximately 86,000 new, high-quality child care spaces for children five years old and younger.
- * Hiring new early childhood educators and support improved compensation for all Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs) working in licensed child care.
- * Maintain Ontario's child care tax credit program that supports 300,000 families with expenses in licensed and unlicensed child care.
- * Work with municipalities to enrol 5,000 licensed child care centres and home child care agencies into the program between now and September 1.

"From day one, I said our government wouldn't sign a deal that didn't work for Ontario parents and I'm so proud of the work we've done with our federal partners to land an agreement that will lower costs for families across the province," said Premier Doug Ford.

"Given how complex Ontario's child care system is, we wanted to get this right. Today, we're delivering a deal that will keep money in the pockets of hard-working parents."

As a first step, all Ontario families with children five years old and younger in participating licensed child care centres will see their fees reduced, up to 25 per cent, to a minimum of \$12 per day, retroactive to April 1, 2022. In December 2022, parents will see another reduction. In total, fees for families will be reduced in 2022, on average, by 50 per cent, relieving parents of \$1.1 billion in child care costs. Families will see further fee reductions in September 2024, culminating in a final reduction to an average of \$10-a-day child care by September 2025.

Additionally, this agreement supports the creation of 86,000 more licensed child care spaces to address increasing demand, including more than 15,000 licensed child care spaces created since 2019. To maintain the province's high quality of child care, the agreement also supports the recruitment of new early childhood educators, stable compensation for all Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs) working in licensed child care, including RECEs providing child care for children six to 12 years old.

"We have secured a deal for Ontario families that will significantly reduce child care costs for working moms and dads, and that starts today", said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education. "We were able to deliver a deal for Ontario families that includes billions in additional funding and a longer agreement that respects parents and provides financial support for families."

To support the child care sector in implementing these new measures, and to ensure the costs of inflation are covered, Ontario is investing \$395 million to ensure RECEs for the 6-12 age group benefit from the wage increases committed to RECEs for the 0-5 age group, as the federal program does not extend support to workers or children age 6-12. To ensure a sustainable future that protects Ontario taxpayers and puts parents first, the Canada-Ontario agreement also ensures that the cost of implementing the agreement will continue to be monitored by Canada and Ontario with automatic review in year three of the agreement (2024-25). This automatic review mechanism is the first of its kind in any child care agreement in Canada.

Ontario will work with municipalities to enroll over 5,000 licensed child care centres and home child care agencies in the new program between now and September 1. Rebates to parents, retroactive to April 1, will begin in May, and will follow the enrolment of licensed centres and agencies into the new system.

Ontario families will continue to benefit from the province's child care tax credit program, which remains in effect. This program provides an estimated 300,000 families with up to 75 per cent of their eligible expenses for licensed and unlicensed child care in centres, home-based care, camps and other settings.

Ontario's agreement also recognizes its unique position of having the largest child care aged population in Canada and complements the province's world-class, fully funded, full-day kindergarten program for four- and five-year-olds. Over the course of the agreement, Ontario will be investing \$21.6 billion in full-day kindergarten.

INDIAN-AMERICAN RAJ SUBRAMANIAM TAKES OVER AS FEDX PRESIDENT, CEO

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Smith will become Executive Chairman, the company announced late on Monday.

"As we look toward what's next, I have a great sense of satisfaction that a leader of the caliber of Raj Subramaniam will take FedEx into a very successful future.

"In my role as Executive Chairman, I look forward to focusing on Board governance as well as issues of global importance, including sustainability, innovation, and public policy," he said in a statement.

Subramaniam was elected to the FedEx Board of Directors in 2020 and will maintain his seat on the Board.

Prior to this, he was President and CEO of FedEx Express, the world's largest express transportation company.

In addition, he served as the President of FedEx Express in Canada and in several other management and marketing roles throughout Asia and the US since he joined FedEx in 1991.

"I am immensely proud of our 600,000 team members around the world. Together we've set into motion ideas that have changed the world for the better, and together we will unlock new value for our people, customers, and shareholders," Subramaniam said.



ONTARIO GOVERNMENT RAISING HIGHWAY SPEED LIMIT PERMANENTLY TO 110 KM/H

The Ontario government is raising the speed limit permanently from 100 km/h to 110 km/h on six sections of provincial highways in southern Ontario. The change follows several speed limit pilots and consultations and will align posted speeds with other jurisdictions across Canada.

"Our government continues to find new ways to make life easier and more convenient for families and businesses that depend on highways to get where they need to go," said Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation. "With road safety top of mind, these sections have been carefully selected based on their ability to accommodate higher speed limits."

Beginning April 22, 2022, the speed limit will be raised permanently to 110 km/h on the following sections of provincial highways in southern Ontario:

- * Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW) from Hamilton to St. Catharines (32 km)
- * Highway 402 from London to Sarnia (90 km)
- * Highway 417 from Ottawa to the Ontario/Quebec Border (102 km)
- * Highway 401 from Windsor to Tilbury (approximately 40 km)
- * Highway 404 from Newmarket to Woodbine (approximately 16 km)
- * Highway 417 from Kanata to Arnprior (approximately 37 km)

In addition to raising the speed limit permanently on sections of highways in southern Ontario, at the same time, the province is also

raising the speed limit to 110 km/h on a trial basis on the following sections of provincial highways in Northern Ontario:

- * Highway 400 from MacTier to Nobel (approximately 55 km)
- * Highway 11 from Emsdale to South River (approximately 45 km)

There are currently six other provinces in Canada that have set their speed limits in excess of 100 km/h on select segments of certain highways.

QUICK FACTS

- * In September 2019, the government launched an online survey to gather public feedback when the higher speed limit pilots were introduced on certain sections of highways in southern Ontario. Of the 8,300 people that responded to the survey, approximately 80 per cent were supportive of the pilots and 82 per cent stated they support raising speed limits on more sections of 400-series highways.
- * The Ministry of Transportation has been monitoring all raised speed limit sections for safety and operations, and observations indicate that the sections with a raised speed limit have been operating as expected. Both the operating speeds and collision trends within these sections have remained comparable to other similar highway sections where speed limits remained unchanged at 100 km/h.
- * Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and British Columbia have posted speed limits of 110 km/h.

VOTING ON NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION AGAINST PAKISTAN PM IMRAN KHAN ON APRIL 3



Pakistan Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed announced on Tuesday that voting on the no-confidence motion against Prime Minister Imran Khan will take place on April 3, Geo News reported.

Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, he revealed the much-awaited date, adding that debate on the motion, tabled by Leader of the Opposition in National Assembly Shahbaz Sharif on Monday, will begin on Tuesday. Rasheed said that the final decision would be taken at the last hour, adding that PM Imran Khan will "play" till the last ball. Reiterating his support for the PTI-led government, he stated: "I stand with Imran Khan" and hoped that voting will be held peacefully on April 3. He also said that the official notification will be issued after

the PM accepts the resignation of Punjab Chief Minister Usman Buzdar.

"In politics, some people win even after losing," he said.

Following the power shows of the government and the Opposition, he said that all containers have been removed in Islamabad and all roads are clear. The Minister said that as he mentioned earlier Chaudhry brothers are with PTI. He, however, hoped that the MQM-P will soon announce their decision in favour of the government.

"Their decision will be a decisive one," he added.

"All those who have planned international conspiracies to remove PM Imran Khan will fail miserably," he said, adding that all eyes are on the Supreme Court's decision, Geo News reported.

CANADA'S TRADE MINISTER, MARY NG, BRIEFS CIF ON MISSION TO INDIA

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Welcoming her to the meeting, Satish Thakkar, Chair, CIF, said, "All of us are here to congratulate our Minister for International Trade, Hon. Mary Ng, for her recent initiative that led to a breakthrough in the trade negotiations between our two countries. Thank you, Minister, it is truly an honour to host you this afternoon. We are confident that when negotiations are held in good faith, the vision for a deeper engagement shared by Minister Ng and others will become a reality soon."

Thakkar also extended the full support of CIF to her endeavors to get early agreements signed.

Minister Ng thanked CIF for the "tremendous work you've done to strengthen the relationship between Canada and India over the past fifteen years." She said, "Relationships are often built on a people-to-people basis. The strength of the diaspora community, I would say, is the foundation on which we keep building this bilateral relationship."

Minister Ng revealed that it was important to build a personal rapport between her and the Minister representing India, Minister for Commerce and Industry, Hon. Piyush Goyal. From Your Excellencies, they began to address each other by their first names!

She said, "My goal was of course to expand the bilateral trade to the fullest extent possible. What we were able to do while in India culminated out of the relationship that Minister Goyal and I have been cultivating really from the first day I was appointed as Minister of International Trade." Both sides were pragmatic in their approach during the negotiations and were aiming for an Early Progress Trade Agreement (EPTA). "I call it an EPTA because he and I are both practical individuals. We both want to get something accomplished. Once we take these important early steps, it creates confidence on both sides. We both agreed to negotiate an EPTA. This will be the first step toward a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)."

Minister Ng had early success in India as during the first round of negotiations, India agreed to drop the fumigation fees charged on pulses import from Canada. "That was an important issue for Canadian farmers, and I am very pleased we were able to resolve that issue," said Ng.

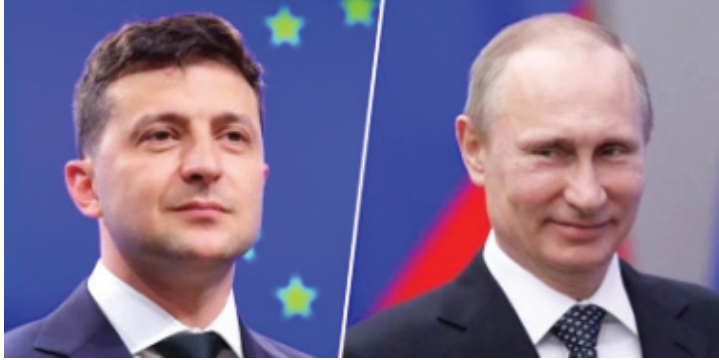
During her short stay, Minister Ng met with several senior Indian ministers who she felt held portfolios that could help support her efforts to increase trade and investment between Canada and India. Among the ministers she interacted with were: Minister of Finance, Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman; Ms. Smriti Irani, Minister of Women and Child Development; and Jitendra Singh, Minister for Science & Technology.

"We have more Canadian investment in India than business and trade. That usually is not the case in our other relationships. What it says is that the Canadian businesses, like the big funds, are confident in making an investment in India because of the range of opportunities there. There is also the fact that it is the world's largest democracy."

Ms. Sonia Sidhu, MP (Brampton South) and Iqwindergaheer, MP (Mississauga-Malton) attended the session as special guests and extended their good wishes to the trade initiative that would benefit both Canada and India.

A large number of CIF members shared their hopes and concerns with Minister Ng during a lively interactive session. Minister Ng addressed most queries and promised to follow up with the members on some key issues raised during the Q&A.

'PUTIN-ZELENSKY MEETING POSSIBLE ONLY AFTER AGREEMENT READY': OFFICIAL



Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy are likely to meet only after an agreement is ready for signing, Vladimir Medinsky, the head of Russia's negotiation team, said on Tuesday. Before the discussion of a possible meeting of the presidents, a treaty must be prepared and approved by the negotiators, and then endorsed by the foreign ministers, explained Medinsky, also an aide to the Russian President. This will be not simple especially because the meeting could be a multilateral one with the participation of state guarantors of peace and security to Ukraine, he was quoted as saying by Xinhua news agency.

PUNJAB TO DELIVER RATION AT DOORSTEPS



Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Monday announced a scheme to deliver ration at the doorsteps of the people across the state. Making an announcement in a video message, he said the Aam Aadmi Party government's scheme is aimed at providing good quality ration 'atta' (wheat flour) and 'daal' (pulses) to the people packed in clean gunny bags. "You need not to stand in long queues or miss your daily-wage anymore for getting ration and now our officials would check your availability before delivering the ration at your doorsteps," he said. Mann said under this scheme, an option would also be given to those beneficiaries who want to get ration supply from the nearby depots as per their convenience.

He said the people have to still stand in long queues for fetching ration even after 75 years of Independence, whereas now in a digital era, people can get anything delivered online within no time at their place. This people-friendly initiative would ensure the best quality ration at their doorsteps as "earlier our mothers had to go even two km for getting ration that too of substandard quality not fit for human consumption". "Our government has made an endeavour to provide healthy and hygienic ration at your doorsteps."

Mann said this scheme was earlier introduced in Delhi by the Arvind Kejriwal government but somehow was stalled by the Centre as it intended to make people stand in long queues for ration.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT BUILDING NEW SCHOOL IN BRAMPTON

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

The new school will provide more student spaces in a new, quality learning environment for the growing student population in Brampton, as well as safe and affordable child care for working families. This project is part of the province's capital investment program to support students with better learning spaces.

"The funding for a new Malala Yousafzai Public School is great news for our community," said Amarjot Sandhu, the MPP for Brampton West. "This investment will ensure families and students have access to a quality learning environment in the years to come." Ontario's investment in new and updated schools will create the foundation for a modern learning environment for thousands of students across the province.

"Our government is listening to hard-working Brampton families, and we are delivering state-of-the-art learning centres with modern ventilation and safety top of mind," said Minister of Education Stephen Lecce. "By investing in the new Malala Yousafzai Public School — we are building a school that will inspire learning through the story of this honorary Canadian — and help Brampton students stay focused, motivated and determined to succeed."

The Ontario government has allocated more than \$600 million to support ventilation improvements in schools across Ontario as part of its plans for a safer return to school. The Peel District School Board has benefited from an investment of \$31.1 million for ventilation improvements and has 2,861 HEPA filter units in place.

Highlights of the project include:

- * 850 elementary student spaces
- * 73 licensed child care spaces
- * Four child care rooms

The new Malala Yousafzai Public School will be located at 565 Remembrance Road in Brampton.

Quick Facts:

- * On November 4, the province released the 2021 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: Build Ontario. The plan lays out how the government will build the foundation for Ontario's recovery and prosperity by getting shovels in the ground on projects like new schools and child care.
- * Since 2018, the Ontario government has invested over \$1.5 billion in capital projects in education, including 76 new schools, 75 additions and renovations to existing facilities and 4,908 new licensed childcare places.
- * For 2021-22, the province is also providing school boards with \$1.4 billion in funding to renew and maintain existing schools.
- * The governments of Canada and Ontario are providing \$656.5 million in funding for critical infrastructure projects to protect students and staff from COVID-19 in the province's schools through the COVID-19 Resilience stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.
- * The federal government provides 2.5 per cent of the total cost support for early learning and child care operating expenses in Ontario, with Ontario families, the provincial and municipal governments providing the remainder.
- * Ontario has provided emergency child care for the school-aged children of frontline workers, including public safety and health care workers, as well as those working with vulnerable populations, at no out-of-pocket cost. In 2021, at its peak, this program provided over 12,000 children with high-quality child care each day across 717 sites province-wide.

AMID POLITICAL SLUGFEST, IT'S A LONELY BATTLE FOR KASHMIRI PANDITS

DEEPIKA BHAN

In the din surrounding 'The Kashmir Files', Kashmiri Pandits seem to be fighting a lonely battle for justice. Yes, the movie has brought out a lot of empathy for the community, but the politics being played out over their plight is downplaying the fight for justice of every Kashmiri who has fallen to the bullets of terror.

Whether it is the BJP, Congress, Aam Aadmi Party, TRS, or the Trinamool Congress, the movie has become a tool to lash out at each other. All are trying to either score points or run one another down to portray a particular image for political benefits. The BJP has given a push to 'The Kashmir Files' after Prime Minister Narendra Modi appreciated the film openly through his tweets and during his address to the BJP parliamentary party on March 16. He even said that "some people were trying to discredit the film which has depicted the truth".

Several BJP-ruled states, including Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Bihar, and now Goa, have made the movie tax-free.

When a similar demand was made in the Delhi Assembly by the BJP MLAs, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal criticised the move of making the film tax-free, and suggested the filmmaker upload it on YouTube for all to see free of cost. Amid applause and table-thumping from the AAP MLAs present in the Assembly, Kejriwal attacked the BJP MLAs and said they have been on the job of putting up posters of the film. "Did you enter politics to do this?" he asked mockingly.

Soon thereafter, the BJP launched a scathing attack on Kejriwal. Posting a picture showing Kejriwal and AAP MLAs laughing in the Delhi Assembly, BJP general secretary B.L. Santhosh tweeted: "Never forget ... They are laughing people who lost their lives in J&K due to terrorism ... laughing at mothers who lost their children ... children who lost their parents ... security forces who were killed ... women who were butchered ... children who were shot at ... Shameless anarchists."

The BJP and the AAP have been at loggerheads over the Delhi municipal elections and both are using the 'The Kashmir Files' as the proverbial cannon ball.

Blaming the Congress for the plight of Kashmiri Hindus, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said in Gujarat: "The Kashmir Files' shows how under the Congress rule, atrocities and terrorism spread in Kashmir."

Rahul Gandhi, who claims to be a Kashmiri Pandit, has not commented on the movie or even on the plight of Kashmiri Pandits. Several other party leaders, however, jumped into the fray. Senior leader Jairam Ramesh said in a tweet: "Some films inspire



“AMID APPLAUSE AND TABLE-THUMPING FROM THE AAP MLAS PRESENT IN THE ASSEMBLY, KEJRIWAL ATTACKED THE BJP MLAS AND SAID THEY HAVE BEEN ON THE JOB OF PUTTING UP POSTERS OF THE FILM. "DID YOU ENTER POLITICS TO DO THIS?" HE ASKED MOCKINGLY. SOON THEREAFTER, THE BJP LAUNCHED A SCATHING ATTACK ON KEJRIWAL. POSTING A PICTURE SHOWING KEJRIWAL AND AAP MLAS LAUGHING IN THE DELHI ASSEMBLY, BJP GENERAL SECRETARY B.L. SANTHOSH TWEETED: "NEVER FORGET ... THEY ARE LAUGHING PEOPLE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN J&K DUE TO TERRORISM ... LAUGHING AT MOTHERS WHO LOST THEIR CHILDREN ... CHILDREN WHO LOST THEIR PARENTS ... SECURITY FORCES WHO WERE KILLED ... WOMEN WHO WERE BUTCHERED ... CHILDREN WHO WERE SHOT AT ... SHAMELESS ANARCHISTS." THE BJP AND THE AAP HAVE BEEN AT LOGGERHEADS OVER THE DELHI MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AND BOTH ARE USING THE 'THE KASHMIR FILES' AS THE PROVERBIAL CANNON BALL. BLAMING THE CONGRESS FOR THE PLIGHT OF KASHMIRI HINDUS, UNION HOME MINISTER AMIT SHAH SAID IN GUJARAT: "THE KASHMIR FILES' SHOWS HOW UNDER THE CONGRESS RULE, ATROCITIES AND TERRORISM SPREAD IN KASHMIR."

change. 'The Kashmir Files' incites hate. Truth can lead to justice, rehabilitation, reconciliation and peace. Propaganda twists facts, distorts history to whip up anger and promote violence. Statesmen heal wounds. Pracharaks exploit fear and prejudice to divide and rule."

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, after watching the movie at a multiplex in Raipur along with his cabinet colleagues and party MLAs on March 16, said: "The movie portrays half-truths and only shows violence without conveying any message."

Chief Ministers Mamata Banerjee and K. Chandreshekhar Rao, and many other leaders have been critical of the movie and the way the BJP has been promoting it.

The political parties are making the most of the plight of Kashmiri Pandits, but no one is actually doing anything to bring justice to them. The BJP has been showcasing the Kashmiri Pandit genocide to whip up the majority's passion, but on the ground there's been no action.

Thirty-two years after the genocide, no judicial commission or even an inquiry commission been formed to probe the exodus. In almost 95 per cent of the violent incidents perpetrated against the community, no FIR have been filed and even those where cases have been lodged, there has been no movement at all. The BJP-led Centre has failed to come up with a plan for the return and rehabilitation of the community.

The plight of the Kashmiri Pandit community is yet another poll

plank for the BJP and the ilk, but even those who champion the cause of humanity are failing to sit up and take note.

Not any of the civil society groups of the country or the plethora of human rights bodies have taken up the cause of the beleaguered community.

'The Kashmir Files' box office collection crossed the Rs 200 crore-mark on March 24, becoming the biggest post-pandemic grosser before the release of 'RRR'.

The makers surely must be exalted and the political parties jumping in to derive the appropriate mileage, but for the Kashmiri Pandit community, it is like reliving the horror and experiencing the trauma once again.

It is a lone struggle for the minuscule minority of Kashmir, which has a 5,000-year-old history behind it, but is today struggling to save its roots, culture, and identity, and getting justice for the families of B.K. Ganjoo, Tikalal Taploo, Girja Tickoo, Prana Chatta, Neelkanth Ganjoo, Chuni Lal Shalla, Naveen Sapru, Satish Tickoo, Bhushan Lal, Omkar Nath Mota, Bansilal Kak, Sheela Kaul

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ONTARIO EXTENDS FREEZE ON COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY TUITION BY AN ADDITIONAL YEAR

The Ontario government is extending the current tuition freeze for colleges and universities by an additional year, through 2022-2023, providing financial relief and predictability for students and families seeking access to affordable postsecondary education.

"Our government recognizes that students and their families make huge sacrifices to attend college and university, so our government will continue to look for ways to reduce financial barriers for learners," said Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities. "By freezing tuition for another year, we are saying yes to ensuring that students have access to affordable, high-quality postsecondary education, and reducing the financial strain on families who have already

faced so many challenges throughout the pandemic." The one-year extended tuition freeze for Ontario residents builds on Ontario's historic 10 per cent reduction in tuition for the 2019-20 academic year, and the subsequent two-year freeze from 2020-22. These reductions represent the first of their kind in Ontario's history. The government's action to reduce and freeze tuition has provided students with tuition relief of about \$450 million annually when compared to tuition costs in 2018-19. "Increasing the affordability of college and university is part of Ontario's plan to help people get the training they need to get good-paying jobs," said Minister Dunlop. "By extending the tuition freeze, we will ensure that students can get the skills they need to succeed in a highly-competitive global economy."

CANADA'S 1ST LARGE-SCALE DOMESTIC EV BATTERY MANUFACTURING FACILITY CONFIRMED FOR WINDSOR, ONT.



With the support of the Ontario, federal and municipal governments, LG Energy Solution and automaker Stellantis are joining forces to build the province's first large-scale electric vehicle (EV) battery manufacturing plant.

The joint venture between LG Energy Solution, Ltd. (LGES) and Stellantis N.V. will invest more than CDN \$5 billion (USD \$4.1 billion) to build a facility in Windsor to manufacture batteries for EVs in Canada, representing the largest automotive manufacturing investment in the history of the province. This historic investment puts Ontario on a path to becoming one of the most vertically integrated automotive jurisdictions in the emerging North American EV market. The battery facility, with a production capacity of 45 gigawatt hours (GWh) that

will supply Stellantis plants in the North American market, will employ an estimated 2,500 people. Construction activities are scheduled to begin later this year with production operations planned to launch in the first quarter of 2024. The facility will be fully operational by 2025. "Attracting this multi billion-dollar investment will secure Ontario's place as a North American hub for building the cars and batteries of the future," said Premier Doug Ford. "As we secure game-changing investments, we're also connecting resources, industries and workers in northern Ontario with the manufacturing might of southern Ontario to build up home-grown supply chains. Every region of Ontario will benefit with thousands of jobs being created and a stronger economy that works for everyone."

This investment will accelerate Ontario's 10-year vision for the Driving Prosperity? The Future of Ontario's Automotive Sector plan. Phase 2 of Driving Prosperity demonstrates the government's commitment to transform the province's automotive supply chain to build the cars of the future, including the production of hybrid and fully battery electric vehicles, EV battery and component production, and increasing exports of Ontario-made auto parts and innovations.

Ontario's top-quality manufacturing talent, clean and competitive electricity, access to investment-ready sites, and commitments to streamline the approvals process continue to make the province a destination for major investments, ensuring that everyone in Ontario benefits from the auto sector's long-term growth and success. This game-changing investment helps secure the province's position as a competitive player in the low-carbon economy of the future.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT INCREASING NON-RESIDENT SPECULATION TAX TO 20%

As part of its commitment to tackle Ontario's housing crisis by prioritizing Ontario families and homebuyers, the government is increasing the Non-Resident Speculation Tax rate to 20 per cent, closing loopholes to fight tax avoidance and expanding the tax to apply provincewide effective March 30, 2022. The changes made to establish the tax as the most comprehensive in Canada were announced as the government prepares to unveil the next components of its housing supply action plan designed to build more homes in Ontario. Currently, the Non-Resident Speculation Tax rate is 15 per cent and only applies to homes purchased in the Greater Golden Horseshoe Region by foreign nationals, foreign corporations and taxable trustees. Increasing the tax rate to 20 per cent and expanding the tax to apply provincewide will strengthen efforts to deter non-resident investors from speculating on Ontario's housing market and help make home ownership more attainable for Ontario residents. The Government of Ontario is eliminating loopholes to support Ontarians who are trying to buy their first home by focusing NRST relief eligibility to only newcomers who commit to laying down roots in the province long-term. Rebates for new permanent residents of Canada and related exemptions will be available to eligible newcomers to ensure Ontario continues to be welcoming to new Canadians.

This includes an opportunity for foreign nationals studying and working in Ontario who become permanent residents of Canada to apply for the rebate. "Young families, seniors and workers are desperate for housing that meets their needs. But a lack of supply and rising costs have put the dream of home ownership out of reach for too many families in the province," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. "That is why our government is adopting the most comprehensive Non-Resident Speculation Tax in the country. Our government is working to increase supply and help keep costs low for Ontario families and homebuyers, not foreign speculators looking to turn a quick profit."

Ontario is also working with municipalities that are looking to establish a Vacant Home Tax, which is another tool to increase the supply of housing. The authority for municipalities to implement such taxes exists in the Municipal Act. The City of Toronto has introduced a Vacant Home tax, and a number of other municipalities, including Ottawa, are also preparing to implement similar taxes. The Province will also establish a working group with municipal representatives to facilitate the sharing of information and best practices. As well, Ontario will consult on potential measures to address concerns related to land speculation. For example, Ontario will explore ways to discourage construction slowdowns that may be artificially driving up prices of new homes for Ontario families through land speculation. "Our government is taking action to bring home ownership within reach for more hardworking Ontario families, and I look forward to sharing our plan in the near future," said Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

5 DEAD, INCLUDING 3 CHILDREN IN BRAMPTON HOUSE FIRE

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Crews were able to pull four people from the house, but all were later pronounced dead. A fifth victim was located deceased inside the home during a search. Rescuers found a sixth adult victim outside the home who got out on their own and was rushed to Sunnybrook Hospital for treatment of critical injuries. The children's father, Nazir Ali, and mother, Raven Ali-O'Dea, were killed in the blaze, family and friends told CP24. Their three children, Alia, 10, Jayden, eight, and Layla, seven, were also killed. "This is unbelievable," Ali-O'Dea's father, Louie Felipa, said Monday at the scene. "This pain I'm going to carry for the rest of my life. I don't know what I'm going to do."

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Toronto Mayor launches City’s first Reconciliation Action Plan



Mayor John Tory announced the details of the City of Toronto's first Reconciliation Action Plan, which will be considered by the City's Executive Committee on Wednesday, March 30. The recommended action plan will guide the City's actions from 2022 to 2032 to advance truth, justice and reconciliation. The announcement was made alongside Elder/Grandmother Dorothy Peters, City Manager Chris Murray, Councillor Mike Layton (University-Rosedale), Selina Young, Director, Indigenous Affairs Office, and Bryan Winters, co-chair of the Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee. The Reconciliation Action Plan builds on the City's existing commitments to Indigenous Peoples through 28 meaningful actions across five themes: actions to restore truth, actions to right relations and share power, actions for justice, actions to make financial reparations and actions for the Indigenous Affairs Office. The 28 actions outlined in the Plan will contribute to the visibility and overall wellbeing of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples in Toronto through

placemaking and placekeeping, supporting economic development and prosperity, increasing civic engagement, honouring Indigenous ways of knowing and being, and recognizing rights to self-determination and self-governance. A key priority for the City will be addressing barriers and colonial practices embedded in its policies, processes and practices to better serve Indigenous residents in Toronto. The Reconciliation Action Plan was developed over three years with input from First Nations, Inuit and Métis community members, organizations, Elders, Knowledge Carriers, youth, and Indigenous employees and allies in the Toronto Public Service. The Plan will be a living document, which will evolve, as needed, to incorporate directives from any future public inquiries or calls for government action from local Indigenous communities and organizations. The City will also continue to collaborate with Indigenous leaders and community members to fulfill the actions within the Plan, ensure transparency and accountability, and improve relationships with Indigenous Peoples. The Reconciliation Action Plan was acknowledged and endorsed by the Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee in its meeting on Tuesday, March 8 as a City mechanism to begin the process of reconciliation with the Indigenous community. Several key reports and calls to action informed the Reconciliation Action Plan, including: the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Final Report in 2015, the 2019 National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the City's 2010 Statement of Commitment to Aboriginal Communities. The City Manager's report and a draft of the Reconciliation Action Plan can be found on the City's website. Following Executive Committee on Wednesday, March 30, the report will be considered at the Wednesday, April 6/Thursday, April 7 meeting of City Council.

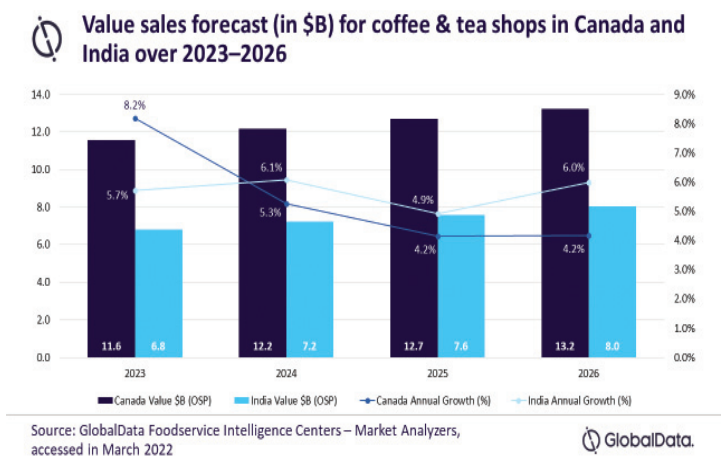
OTF grant keeps Mississauga residents connected to nature

Through its Resilient Communities Fund, the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) contributed \$150,000 to The Riverwood Conservancy (TRC) in 2021, enabling the charity to deliver nature-based programming to people of all ages and abilities in Mississauga. The funding helped TRC adapt its on-site programs to virtual offerings, which gave residents the opportunity to connect to nature when visits to Riverwood may have been a challenge due to COVID-19. "The Riverwood Conservancy holds a special place in the heart of our community, being a place where the residents of Mississauga can experience the wonders of nature right in their own backyard," said Natalia Kusendova, MPP for Mississauga Centre. "With this funding through the Ontario Trillium Foundation, we are ensuring that The Riverwood Conservancy can continue their important work of conservation, education and providing the beautiful natural spaces that our community values for generations to come. This is yet another way Ontario is supporting greenspaces, both in Mississauga and beyond." With this support, TRC was able to hire staff to deliver nature education, special needs and public discovery programs online. The organization was also able to organize socially-distanced outdoor learning events. Throughout 2021, TRC's programming served 12,000 members of the public, 5,200 youth, and over 500 individuals with special needs. "People have spent more time indoors during the pandemic, and that's



only heightened the importance of making links to the natural world for physical and mental wellbeing. The Ontario Trillium Foundation's generous support allowed us to continue offering nature-centric workshops and events to people in our community when they needed it most," said Sara Wilbur-Collins, Executive Director of The Riverwood Conservancy. **About The Riverwood Conservancy** The Riverwood Conservancy is the charity that provides programs and direction for Riverwood – the 150-acre, urban nature preserve situated on the shores of the Credit River in Mississauga. Working together with like-minded groups and individuals, our mission is to enable people of all cultures, ages, and abilities to respectfully connect with nature and learn about the importance of protecting, conserving and restoring natural spaces for the well-being of future generations – all while experiencing the beauty of the Riverwood gardens. **About the Ontario Trillium Foundation** The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations. Last year, nearly \$112M was invested into 1,384 community projects and partnerships to build healthy and vibrant communities and strengthen the impact of Ontario's non-profit sector. In 2020/21, OTF supported Ontario's economic recovery by helping non-profit organizations rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

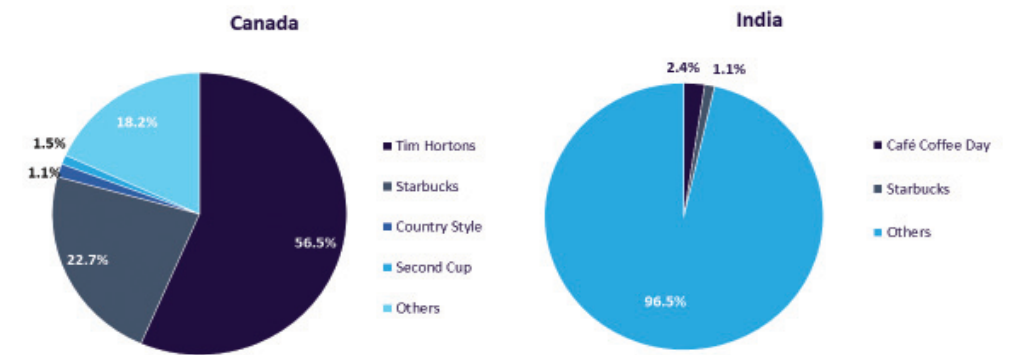
TIM HORTONS GEARS UP TO TAP INDIA FOODSERVICE SECTOR REVIVAL, OPINES GLOBALDATA



Canada-based multinational fast food restaurant chain Tim Hortons Inc. plans to debut in India by the middle of 2022, where competitors including Starbucks have gained traction in urban locales through their premium play. The launch is well-timed to capture the resurgence in 'out-of-home' dining, says GlobalData, a leading data and analytics company. Bobby Verghese, Consumer Analyst at GlobalData, comments: "Tim Hortons' launch will benefit from the revival of 'on-trade' guest visits and spending as the improving economic scenario boosts consumer confidence, and the relaxation of COVID-19 pandemic containment measures revive social gatherings at 'out-of-home' venues." GlobalData's Q1 2022 survey corroborates this trend, with 56% of Indian respondents affirming that they consume food and drinks at coffee and tea shops at least once a week*. Moreover, GlobalData forecasts the Indian coffee & tea shops market to outpace the Canadian market during 2023-2026**. Verghese adds: "While the Canadian coffee and tea shops market is highly consolidated, with Tim Hortons and Starbucks cornering the bulk of values sales, the Indian market is highly fragmented**. Despite this, specialist coffee chains, including Starbucks and Cafe Coffee Day, have carved out a niche for themselves as socializing hubs for urban working-age youth through their brand prestige, high-end ambience, and premium-quality offerings. "These aspirational youth are willing to spend more for premium consumption experience, as revealed by GlobalData's 2022 survey, wherein 52% of Indian respondents said their spending on coffee and tea shops was quite/very high*." Similar to Starbucks, Tim Hortons has considerable 'brand pull' among the large Indian diaspora and tourists. The company aims to capitalize on its strong brand recall among the sizable Punjabi expatriate

community in Canada by opening stores in major cities of Punjab after its maiden outlet in the Delhi-NCR region. Subsequently, the Toronto-based coffee and fast-food store plans to expand to Western India. In all, the trademark owner, Restaurant Brands International, aims to open 250 Tim Hortons outlets across 26 India cities over five years. Verghese concludes: "Tim Hortons' plans to 'glocalize' its international menu by adding an Indian touch that is a key success factor as revealed by GlobalData's consumer behavior analysis. For instance, Tim Hortons' Canadian outlets rely heavily on the early morning breakfast rush to drive sales. "However, as GlobalData's 2021 survey reveals, more than two-thirds of Indians consume breakfast at home, and only 4% have it at cafes or fast-food restaurants***. Similarly, the company can draw insights from Dunkin' Donuts initial teething troubles in the Indian market, with GlobalData's case study on the fast-food chain highlighting that donuts — Tim Horton's core product offering — are largely perceived in India as a sweet treat akin to cakes and pastries, which are occasional indulgences rather than daily foods****." *Data taken from GlobalData's Q1 2022 Consumer Survey – India, with 613 respondents, published in March 2021 **Data taken from GlobalData's Foodservice Intelligence Center – Market Analyzers, accessed in March 2022 ***Data taken from GlobalData's Q4 2021 Consumer Survey – India, with 530 respondents, published in December 2021 ****GlobalData's Failure Case Study: Dunkin' Donuts & More – Misaligned positioning kept the brand from forging a deeper connection with consumers About GlobalData 4,000 of the world's largest companies, including over 70% of FTSE 100 and 60% of Fortune 100 companies, make more timely and better business decisions thanks to GlobalData's unique data, expert analysis and innovative solutions, all in one platform. GlobalData's mission is to help our clients decode the future to be more successful and innovative across a range of industries, including the healthcare, consumer, retail, financial, technology and professional services sectors.

Leading brands of coffee & tea shops in Canada and India in 2020



NEW GREAT CLIPS® SALON OPENS IN BRAMPTON



The world's largest salon brand offers great, convenient haircuts with no appointments needed. Members of the Brampton community now have a new option for great haircuts at a convenient place and time. A new Great Clips salon opens on March 26 at 10525 Bramalea Road, Unit 5 in Brampton in the Chalo Freshco Plaza. Local salon owner Jyoti invites everyone in the surrounding area to walk-in and take advantage of their \$5.99 Grand Opening Haircut Sale for any haircut (women, men, child & senior). The salon is open 7-days a week and joins a network of 4,400 Great Clips salons throughout the United States and Canada. "As a Brampton resident and local business owner, I'm excited to bring the style and convenience of Great Clips to this community," said Jyoti, Great Clips franchisee. "My stylists and I look forward to welcoming everyone into the salon to freshen up their look or try a new one." Great Clips offers an easy way for customers to save time with Online Check-In and ReadyNext™ texts. Customers can use the Great Clips app or visit greatclips.com to add their name to the wait list and opt-in to receive a text alert when their estimated wait time reaches 15 minutes. They can make the most of their wait time before heading to the salon for their service. In addition, Great Clips ensures customers get their favorite haircut every time, anywhere with Clip Notes®. Stylists keep technical notes on a customer's haircut to enhance consultations. To download the Great Clips Online Check-In app and check in before visiting the new Brampton salon, visit www.greatclips.com/salons/3724 About Great Clips, Inc. Great Clips, Inc. was established in 1982 in Minneapolis. Today, Great Clips has over 4,400 salons throughout the United States and Canada, making it the world's largest salon brand. Great Clips is 100 percent franchised, and salons are owned locally by more than 1,100 franchisees across the U.S. and Canada. Great Clips franchisees employ nearly 30,000 stylists. Great Clips salons provide value-priced, high-quality haircare for men, women and children. Getting a great haircut at Great Clips is more convenient than ever with Online Check-In, ReadyNext® text alerts and Clip Notes®. To check in online, visit GreatClips.com or download the free app. For more information about Great Clips, Inc. or to find a location near you, visit GreatClips.com.

MEN, WOMEN PROCESS PAIN SIGNALS DIFFERENTLY: STUDY

Neurons in the spinal cord process pain signals differently in women compared to men, suggests a study. The finding, published in the journal BRAIN, could lead to better and more personalised treatments for chronic pain, which are desperately needed, especially in light of the opioid epidemic. Women are disproportionately impacted by the burden of chronic pain. They are more likely than men to report low back pain, neck pain, orofacial pain and neuropathic pain, and twice as many women report common migraines or headaches. But to date, most research on pain was conducted on male rodents. The new study led by researchers at The Ottawa Hospital in Canada, however, used female and male spinal cord tissue from both rats and humans (generously donated by deceased individuals and their families). By examining the spinal cord tissue in the laboratory, the researchers were able to show that a neuronal growth factor called BDNF plays a major role in amplifying spinal cord pain signalling in male humans and male rats, but not in female humans or female rats. When female rats had their ovaries removed, the difference disappeared, pointing to a hormonal connection. "Developing new pain drugs requires a detailed understanding of how pain is processed at the biological level," said Dr. Annemarie Dedek, lead author of the study. "This new discovery lays the foundation for the development of new treatments to help those suffering from chronic pain." This is the first time a sex-related difference in pain signalling has been identified in human spinal cord tissue. Future studies are required to understand how this biological difference may contribute to differences in pain sensation between men and women, the researchers said.

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India, US to hold 2+2 dialogue on April 11 in Washington

India and United States are scheduled to hold 2+2 dialogue in Washington on April 11. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will meet their counterparts Secretary of State Antony Blinken and US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin. Jaishankar and Rajnath Singh will also have other meetings scheduled on the sidelines. The last 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue between the two countries was held in October 2020 in New Delhi.

India and the United States held a bilateral 2+2 inter-sessional meeting in September last year in Washington and exchanged assessments on developments in South Asia, the Indo-Pacific region and the Western Indian Ocean. Both sides took stock of the progress and developments in the bilateral agenda under the India-US strategic partnership, including defence, global public health, economic and commercial cooperation, science and technology, clean energy and climate finance, and people-to-people ties.

BJP wants to kill Kejriwal after poll defeat in Punjab, says Sisodia

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia alleged on Wednesday that after its poll defeat in Punjab, the BJP wants to "kill" Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader also said they will lodge a formal complaint in this connection. He was addressing a press conference after a protest at Kejriwal's residence earlier by the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), the youth wing of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), during which CCTV cameras and barriers were allegedly damaged by the protesters. "As it could not defeat Arvind Kejriwal in the Punjab polls, the BJP now wants to kill him (hatya karna chahta hai). Today's attack on the chief minister's house shows that the BJP, with the help of police, wants to kill Kejriwal. We will lodge a formal complaint against this," Sisodia alleged. He said the "life-threatening attack" on Kejriwal was "properly planned". The activists of the BJYM, led by its president Tejasvi Surya, staged a protest near Kejriwal's



residence at Civil Lines here, demanding an apology from him for allegedly mocking Kashmiri Pandits, with the AAP alleging vandalism during the demonstration.

UTTARAKHAND CM DHAMI ALLOTS PORTFOLIOS, KEEPS OVER TWO DOZEN DEPARTMENTS WITH HIMSELF



Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has allotted portfolios to the ministers in his cabinet and kept the charge of 21 departments, including home and information, to himself. The allocation of portfolios late Tuesday came nearly a week after the ministers took the oath of office. Chief minister Dhami's portfolios include the secretariat administration, general administration, estate, information, home, revenue, industrial development (mining), labour, information technology and science technology, drinking water, power, Ayush, excise, justice, civil aviation, environment protection and climate change, disaster management, and rehabilitation. During his previous tenure, Dhami was in charge of 12 ministries. Not much has been changed in the portfolio of senior cabinet minister Satpal Maharaj. Maharaj has been given charge of the Public Works Department (PWD), Panchayati Raj, rural construction, culture, religious affairs, tourism, flood control, and irrigation. Maharaj is both the eldest and richest minister in the Dhami cabinet of eight ministers. Dhan Singh Rawat has been given more responsibility with the school education of both basic and secondary levels along with the higher education department going under him. Rawat will also be the

minister of Medical Health and Education along with that of Cooperation and Cultural Education. In the previous cabinet, he was in charge of the higher education, cooperatives, disaster management, dairy development, and protocols departments. Subodh Uniyal, who served as the agriculture minister in the previous Uttarakhand cabinet, has been given charge of the forest, language, election and technical education departments. The only woman in the new cabinet, Rekha Arya, has been given the portfolios of women empowerment and child development, food, civil supplies and consumer protection, and sports and youth welfare departments. Ganesh Joshi has been given the responsibility of agriculture and farmer welfare, soldier welfare and village development. Out of the three first-time ministers, former speaker Prem Chand Agarwal has the most important portfolios of finance, housing and urban development, parliamentary affairs, and census. Saurabh Bahuguna, the son of former Uttarakhand CM Vijay Bahuguna, has been given the responsibility of animal husbandry, dairy development, fisheries, skill development, protocol and sugarcane development, and sugar trade departments. He is another new face in the cabinet.

Exercise increased caution while travelling to India, says new US travel advisory

The United States in a new travel advisory has urged its citizens to exercise "increased caution" while travelling to India and advised them to not to travel to Jammu and Kashmir and within 10 km of the India-Pakistan border. "Exercise increased caution in India due to crime and terrorism," the US State Department said in its latest travel advisory for India that decreases the risk of travel to India from Level 3 to Level 2. The last travel advisory issued by the United States was on January 25. The State Department's travel advisory comes a day after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a Level 1 Travel Health Notice due to Covid-19, indicating a low level of Covid-19 in India. Both the advisories are indicative of the fact that the US considers that the situation in India is now returning to normal. However, its view on Jammu and Kashmir and the Indo-Pak border remains the same, where it is asking its citizens not to travel. "Terrorist attacks and violent civil unrest are possible in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Avoid all travel to this union territory (with the exception of visits to the eastern Ladakh region and its capital, Leh)," the advisory said. "Sporadic violence occurs particularly along the Line of Control (LoC) separating India and Pakistan, and in tourist destinations in the Kashmir Valley: Srinagar, Gulmarg, and Pahalgam. The Indian government prohibits foreign tourists from visiting certain areas along the LoC," the State Department said. India and Pakistan maintain a strong military presence on both sides of the border, it said, adding that the only official India-Pakistan border crossing point for persons who are not citizens of India or Pakistan is in the state of Punjab between Atari, India, and Wagah, Pakistan. "The border crossing is usually open, but confirm the current status of the border crossing prior to commencing travel. A Pakistani visa is required to enter Pakistan. Only US citizens residing in India may apply for a Pakistani visa in India. Otherwise, apply for a Pakistani visa in your country of residence before travelling to India," it said.



WORLD

RUSSIA WOULD NOT SUPPLY GAS TO EUROPE FOR FREE



Russia does not intend to engage in charity and export gas to Europe for free, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said while commenting on statements by representatives of Western countries that they will not pay for deliveries in rubles. Peskov also stressed that Moscow was not the initiator of such a development of the situation, since it was the Western states that unleashed an economic war against Russia, RT News reported. Western countries unleashed an economic war against Russia, he added. "Western European countries, the US, Canada, Australia are actually waging a war against us in trade and the economy," Peskov was quoted by TASS in an interview with PBS. According to him, Western countries seized Russian property, seize money, block financial relations. He noted that Russia has to adapt to the new reality. Russia does not intend to supply Europe with gas for free, Peskov said on the air of the American television company PBS. "No payment - no gas," TASS quoted Peskov as saying. According to him, he does not know what will happen if the EU refuses to pay for gas in rubles. "However, we definitely do not intend to engage in charity in this regard - to send gas to Western Europe for free." He noted that Russia will study options for action as soon as they learn about the final decision.

SRI LANKA PLUNGES INTO 10-HOUR DAILY POWER CUT AS FUEL CRISIS WORSENS



The Sri Lankan government on Wednesday imposed a nationwide 10-hour daily power cut due to shortage of hydro-electricity triggered by non-availability of fuel. Sri Lanka is facing an unprecedented acute economic and energy crisis caused due to shortage of foreign exchange. A sudden rise in prices of key commodities and fuel shortage forced tens of thousands of people to queue for hours outside petrol filling stations. People are also facing long hours of power cuts daily. All essentials are in short supply due to import restrictions forced by the forex crisis. The daily power cuts in the island nation have been further extended Wednesday morning to 10 hours, officials said. The country has been facing a seven-hour power outage since the beginning of the month. "There is a shortage of 750 megawatt due to non availability of fuel to generate thermal power," the chair of the Public Utilities Commission Janaka Ratnayaka said. State-run Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) has asked motorists not to queue outside fuel stations on Wednesday and Thursday to purchase diesel as it was unable to pay for a shipment that had arrived.

COVID: OMICRON SUBVARIANT BA.2 BECOMES DOMINANT STRAIN IN UNITED STATES, SAYS CDC

The BA.2 sub-lineage of the Omicron variant has become the dominant strain in the US, according to new data released by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The variant has been steadily rising in proportion due to its increased transmissibility compared to the original Omicron strain, Xinhua news agency reported. The BA.2 variant represented 54.9 per cent of new Covid-19 cases for the week ending March 26, according to CDC data. This data is up from 39 per cent a week prior, and 27.8 per cent two weeks before. The BA.2 subvariant is thought to be about 30 per cent more transmissible than the original BA.1 Omicron strain, early study suggested.

'VLADIMIR PUTIN CANNOT REMAIN IN POWER' REMARK WAS MORAL OUTRAGE, NO APOLOGIES: JOE BIDEN



US President Joe Biden on Monday said that his weekend comment in Europe that his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin cannot remain in power was a moral outrage for his invasion of Ukraine, and that does not reflect any change in American policy with respect to regime change. As such, Biden refused to apologize for his comments, on which his administration has been having a tough time in explaining over the past few days. "I'm not walking anything back. The fact of the matter is, I was expressing the moral outrage I felt toward the way Putin is dealing ..., which is just brutality, half the children of Ukraine. I just come from being with those families," Biden told reporters at the White House. "But I want to make it clear, I wasn't then nor am I now articulating a policy change. I was expressing the moral outrage that I feel and I make no apologies for it," he said when asked about his remarks last week in Europe where he had gone to shore up his allies and show solidarity with the people of Ukraine. "For God's sake, this man (Putin) cannot remain in power," Biden had said last week. Responding to questions, Biden said the escalatory efforts of Putin to continue and engage in carnage... "The kind of behaviour of that makes the whole world say, My God, what is this man doing?" "He (Putin) is going to become a pariah worldwide and who knows what he becomes at home in terms of support," said the US President.



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▶ FULL LIST OF WINNERS ON PAGE 15

YASH'S MOST AWAITED FILM IS SPECTACLE FOR FANS! RAVEENA, SANJAY DUTT STEAL THE SHOW



KGF CHAPTER 2 TRAILER OUT: RELEASING NATIONWIDE ON APRIL 14, 2022, IN KANNADA, TELUGU, HINDI, TAMIL AND MALAYALAM, K.G.F.: CHAPTER 2 IS WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY PRASHANTH NEEL.

'PATHAAN' DIRECTOR: HAVE THE INTENT TO MAKE IT BIGGEST EVENT FILM OF INDIA



DIRECTOR SIDDHARTH ANAND HAS JUST WRAPPED UP THE SPAIN SCHEDULE OF THE ACTIONER 'PATHAAN' STARRING SHAH RUKH KHAN AND DEEPIKA PADUKONE.

JANHVI KAPOOR IS RAISING THE TEMPERATURE IN BACKLESS SEQUIN DRESS



JANHVI KAPOOR ACCESSORISED THE LOOK WITH ROUND HOOP EARRINGS AND TIED HER HAIR IN A BUN.

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CANADA QUALIFY FOR FIFA WORLD CUP FOR FIRST TIME IN 36 YEARS



PADMA AWARDS 2022: SONU NIGAM RECEIVES PADMA SHRI AWARD, VICTOR BANERJEE CONFERRED WITH PADMA BHUSHAN



President Ram Nath Kovind presented Padma awards for the year 2022 at the Civil Investiture Ceremony-II at Rashtrapati Bhavan today. Besides Sonu Nigam, Marathi singer Sulochana Chavan, singer Madhuri Barthwal, musician Ballesh Bhajantri and filmmaker Chandraprakash Dwivedi have been conferred with the Padma Shri Award this year. Bollywood singer Sonu Nigam and veteran Bengali actor Victor Banerjee were among the 35 personalities who were conferred with the Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan Awards respectively under the Arts category in 2022. Sonu Nigam is a popular and successful playback singer of Hindi Cinema, is also a recipient of several accolades, including a National Film Award his singing of the title track of the 2003 romantic film 'Kal Ho Naa Ho.

DEEPIKA STUNS AT AWARDS NIGHT IN SHIMMERY SAREE, POSES WITH RANVEER



Actor Deepika Padukone shared pictures as she got ready to receive the TIME 100 Impact Awards honour. Taking to Instagram Stories, Deepika also spoke about being nervous ahead of the event. The actor, after receiving the award, expressed her gratitude. In one of her Instagram Stories, Deepika was seen getting her makeup done as she sat in a robe. After getting ready she also posed for a photo in her outfit for the event. For the occasion, Deepika opted for a shimmering silver saree, with a matching sleeveless blouse, and tied her hair in a bun. She also added a silver neckpiece and earrings to complete her look.

ALIA, RANBIR PERFORM PUJA AT KASHI VISHWANATH TEMPLE AFTER COMPLETING BRAHMASTRA



Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor have finally wrapped up the shooting of their upcoming film, Brahmastra. On Tuesday, Alia shared a shot from the film as well as a picture of them from their visit to the Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi. Now pictures of them performing a puja at the temple have been surfaced online. Ayan Mukerji also conducted the puja. He also shared the pictures posted by Alia. The first picture shows Ayan, Ranbir and Alia posing in the temple premises with garlands around their necks. While Ranbir is in a white tee, blue denims and red shirt and folds hands for the camera, Alia stands alongside him in a yellow and white suit. The second picture shows Alia in a yellow skirt and top, Ranbir in the same clothes as they lift their hands while being captured by the camera. They are seen standing on a boat with several people around them.

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'PATHAAN' DIRECTOR: HAVE THE INTENT TO MAKE IT BIGGEST EVENT FILM OF INDIA

MUMBAI, (IANS) Director Siddharth Anand has just wrapped up the Spain schedule of the actioner 'Pathaan' starring Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone. He says he wants to 'make 'Pathaan' the biggest event film of India'. The much-talked about film, which is part of Aditya Chopra's spy universe, also stars John Abraham. "The Spain schedule of Pathaan has turned out beyond what we had envisaged and we are absolutely thrilled about it! This is a film that commands massive scale and I'm very happy with what we achieved!" "This is going to be a visual treat for the audiences. The fact that we could finally pull off such a magnificent Spain schedule without any hassle whatsoever is a huge feat for

the entire production!" says Siddharth. SRK and Deepika shot a song in Mallorca as the superstar was clicked flaunting an eight-pack and Deepika her perfect bikini body. They then headed to Cadiz and Jerez in Spain where they wrapped the schedule on March 27. The 'War' director says, "We have all the intent to make Pathaan the biggest event film of India, given that we have the colossal superstars of our country in the film." "As a director, I strive to make every film of mine a bigger experience for the audience than my last film and I have a personal ambition to make 'Pathaan' a film that is at par with any film made anywhere in the world." 'Pathaan' is set to release on January 25, 2023 in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.

JANHVI KAPOOR IS RAISING THE TEMPERATURE IN BACKLESS SEQUIN DRESS

Janhvi Kapoor is an avid social media user and keeps her fans updated by sharing scintillating pictures of herself. Keeping her fashion game on point, she never misses a chance to make her followers go gaga over her look and attire. Today too, the 25-year-old actress shared an alluring post, looking gorgeous in a black-red sequin short dress. In the picture, Janhvi is lying on the couch, wearing her sequin dress with a plunging neckline and slit on one side. Janhvi Kapoor accessorised the look with round hoop earrings and tied her hair in a bun. Sharing the post, Janhvi wrote, "play for keeps" Janhvi Kapoor also walked on the ramp at FDCI x Lakme Fashion Week for designer Punit Balana. She shared a post wherein she can be seen clad in a red embroidered lehenga paired with strappy choli and dupatta. She let her hair loose and accessorised the look with stone earrings. Janhvi captioned the post as, "Had so much fun walking for punitbalanaofficial at the fdciofficial fashion week! " Also, she shared a goofy post of herself gorging on delicious delicacies. In the post, Janhvi can be seen in a blue top and paired look with round hoop earrings. In front of her, the table is filled with varieties of delicacies. She captioned the post as, "a meal, a debut and a return".



OSCARS 2022 FULL LIST OF WINNERS: JESSICA CHASTAIN AND WILL SMITH WIN THEIR FIRST OSCARS, CODA IS BEST PICTURE

- Best picture:**
CODA
- Best actress:**
Jessica Chastain – The Eyes of Tammy Faye
- Best actor:**
Will Smith – King Richard
- Best director:**
The Power of the Dog – Jane Campion
- Best original song:**
No Time To Die – No Time to Die; Music and Lyric by Billie Eilish and Finneas O'Connell
- Best documentary feature:**
Summer of Soul (...Or, When the Revolution could not be televised)
- Best adapted screenplay:**
CODA – Screenplay by Siân Heder
- Best original screenplay:**
Belfast – Written by Kenneth Branagh
- Best costume design:**
Jenny Beavan – Cruella
- Best international feature:**
Drive My Car (Japan)
- Best supporting actress:**
Ariana DeBose – West Side Story
- Best supporting actor:**
Troy Kotsur – CODA
- Best animated feature:**
Encanto
- Best original score:**
Hans Zimmer – Dune
- Best cinematography:**
Greig Fraser – Dune
- Best visual effects:**
Dune – Paul Lambert, Tristan Myles, Brian Connor and Gerd Nefzer
- Best film editing:**
Joe Walker – Dune
- Best sound:**
Dune – Mac Ruth, Mark Mangini, Theo Green, Doug Hemphill and Ron Bartlett
- Best production design:**
Dune – Production Design: Patrice Vermette; Set Decoration: Zsuzsanna Sipos
- Best make-up and hairstyling:**
The Eyes of Tammy Faye – Linda Dowds, Stephanie Ingram and Justin Raleigh
- Best live action short:**
The Long Goodbye
- Best animated short:**
The Windshield Piper
- Best documentary short:**
The Queen of Basketball

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RANBIR KAPOOR, ALIA BHATT BEGIN THEIR WEDDING SHOPPING? FANS ASK, 'SHAADI KAB HAI?'

Amid Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt's wedding rumours, the duo recently visited Indian designer Beena Kannan, the lead designer of Seematti textiles, which specialises in bridal wear. Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt are one of the most adored couples of Bollywood. The duo has been dating for more than four years and fans are eagerly waiting for them to announce their wedding soon. There have been reports that couple might tie the knot in April. The pair recently visited Indian designer Beena Kannan who is the CEO and lead designer of Seematti textiles, which specialises in bridalwear. Talking about her

achievements, she is also a 2007 Guinness Book Record holder for the longest ever silk saree, created by her. Taking to her Instagram handle, Kannan shared a picture featuring herself with Alia and Ranbir. She captioned the post as "With @aliaabhatt & Ranbir Kapoor". While Alia looked radiant in a white floral accentuated kurta, Ranbir looked handsome as always in a navy blue shirt paired with blue jeans. Soon after Kannan shared the picture, fans of Alia and Ranbir flocked the comments section asking, "Is it Wedding bells?" One fan wrote, "Shaadi kab hai?" (When is the wedding) "It look likes wedding bells..." wrote another.

YASH'S MOST AWAITED FILM IS SPECTACLE FOR FANS! RAVEENA, SANJAY DUTT STEAL THE SHOW

As KGF: Chapter 2 is gearing up for a massive theatrical release on April 14, the makers unveiled the trailer of the mega action entertainer on Sunday (March 27). The mega event was hosted by Bollywood filmmaker Karan Johar. The three-minute long trailer starring Yash, Srinidhi Shetty, Sanjay Dutt, Raveena Tandon and Prakash Raj is sure to leave you with goosebumps. After the death of Garuda, Adheera (Sanjay Dutt) returns claiming his mines and Rocky Bhai aka Yash's throne is threatened again. The boy who promised all the riches in the world to his mother will fight till his last breath to claim what he believes is his own once again. Raveena Tandon as a political leader named Ramika Sen seems to play a major role in their fight. The audience is going gaga over the amazing cinematography, explosive action and unpredictable direction that the sequel is headed for. Performances by superstar Yash, Sanjay Dutt and Raveena Tandon have raised the expectations to another level altogether. The trailer redefines how this movie could be the biggest blockbuster of all time. An explosive combination of immersive storyline, mind-bending action sequences,



catchy soundtrack and top-notch performances, the first instalment in the film franchise shattered Indian cinema records and expectations with KGF Chapter 1. With the addition of Sanjay Dutt, Raveena Tandon to its eclectic cast, Chapter 2 is expected to surpass previously set records.

AAMIR KHAN THOUGHT OF QUITTING FILMS BUT EX-WIFE KIRAN RAO & HIS KIDS MADE HIM CHANGE HIS MIND

Superstar Aamir Khan on Saturday said there was a brief period in his career during the last two years when he thought of quitting films as it was affecting his personal life. The 57-year-old actor made the revelation at an event. Khan shared that he thought of leaving Bollywood as he realised that he was being "selfish" to focus all his energies on his work and not spending enough time with his family, especially his children.

"When I became an actor, I thought to myself that my family is there with me only and I took them for granted and I went on a journey to win the hearts of the audience. When you are starting out, you do tend to work a lot harder, but then I was working like this for 30-35 years. "I was selfish, I was thinking about myself. I was there with my children but not the way I should have been. Now, I am doing it. I have realised this now at the age of 56-57. I wonder what would have happened if I realised it at the age of 86, at least now I can rectify. I don't know what my children want, so that is the big problem," Khan said. He further said the moment he had this realisation, he was very angry and that anger came out towards cinema. "I felt it (cinema) took me away from my family. I told my family I will quit, not act, produce films. I told them I want to be with you all. It was responsive anger. My family was shocked," Khan said. The actor revealed that he initially decided to not speak about his thought of bidding adieu to cinema as he believed that some people might perceive it as a marketing tool for his next film "Laal Singh Chadha". In all of this, Khan said, three months passed and his children explained to him not to become "an extreme" person and rather try to find a "balance in life". "My kids and Kiran ji explained to me I am doing the wrong thing.



Kiran got rather emotional and said films reside inside me. So, a lot happened in two years, I quit the industry and came back," he said. Khan said the last two years were indeed difficult for all of them. "I did get time to think, I went through a lot of introspection. A big change came to me. I am thinking about how I have spent my life. Like, I have been working since the age of 18 with my uncle as an assistant director. Today I am 57. This world (of cinema) has attracted me so much and I got so passionate and forgot myself at the cost of my responsibility. I was living my life, running behind my dreams, I was not able to spend time with my loved ones," he added. The actor further shared that he didn't know the dreams, hopes, anxiety and fears of his children but knew the same things about his filmmakers like Ashutosh Gowariker and Raju Hirani. "Time is an important resource and we know it will end but when we don't know. It was a sharp realisation."

SALMAN KHAN HAS AN ADVICE FOR HOSTS ON 'BELOW THE BELT' JOKES. CHRIS ROCK ARE YOU LISTENING?



Bollywood actor Salman Khan is one of the most successful hosts. The actor has not only been on stage to host prestigious award shows but multiple seasons of reality shows including Bigg Boss and Dus Ka Dum among others. Recently, after Will Smith-Chris Rock's controversial Oscar slap, the actor was asked if hosts should be careful about their jokes. Speaking on the sidelines of a media event to promote the International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA), the actor noted that a host needs to be sensitive and should avoid 'below the belt jokes'. "It's important for a host to be sensitive. Humour should always be above the belt and never below the belt. I have hosted shows like Bigg Boss, Dus Ka Dum and so many live shows on stage," Salman noted. Further, he cited the example of his hit reality shows and shared he knows where to draw the line even if he's angry. "Whenever I have hosted Bigg Boss and something wrong has happened with one of the contestants that has made me angry or disappointed, I say it out in the show, but I know there's a limit. End of the day, the contestants are also living in the house and they have to perform, so learn to be patient and sensitive towards them. I don't cross a line. Whatever I have to say, I say it on the given Saturday and then on Sunday I am all normal."

'COULDN'T BE MORE PROUD', SAYS PRIYANKA CHOPRA AS HER INDIAN-THEMED NYC RESTAURANT TURNS ONE



Bollywood actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas's restaurant in New York City recently clocked a year. She took to Instagram to share a video celebrating the one-year anniversary of her restaurant which serves Indian cuisine. Through the video, which is a collection of photographs, she highlighted how a venture that she started to introduce modern India to the world has now become a cool hangout spot in the city.

She wrote in the caption, "What started for me as another way to introduce modern India to the west, turned into an incredibly fun, cool, and awesome spot in the heart of NYC where you can let your hair down and explore culinary delights and cocktails that are so synonymous with us. As Sona turns a year old today, I couldn't be more proud." She further gave a shoutout to her partners and her restaurant's team, "My partners @maneeshkgoyal, @harinayak @davidrabin8 and the dedicated incredible team at @sonanewyork have turned their talent and passion into consistently delivering excellence and making your experience at Sona as timeless as India herself. My Heart (and stomach) is full. Here's to many, many more!"

BOLLYWOOD STARS SHOULD LIVE UP TO STANDARD OF ACTING ON OTT, SAYS NAWAZUDDIN SIDDIQUI



Nawazuddin Siddiqui on Saturday said it is about time Hindi cinema superstars start focusing on improving their standard of acting, especially when they work for the OTT platform. During an interview, the actor expressed his displeasure over superstars not fulfilling the criteria of good acting on the digital medium. "Today, the big stars have started coming on OTT and they are working here. Earlier, OTT started with us and good content was being made and people saw it. Then the stars came. "The problem is we usually have a good start initially (in the entertainment medium) and then it all goes for a toss," Siddiqui, who made his debut on OTT with 2018 Netflix hit series "Sacred Games", said. When probed further if he means the big stars should not come on OTT, the actor said he wants the stars to live up to the standards of the digital space. "They (stars) should (come on OTT) but they should do that standard of acting, they are doing the same acting." "The standard of acting that one has seen on OTT platforms when it started should be there... like the kind of world level series, acting that was being made, so work accordingly," Siddiqui added. The 47-year-old actor was speaking during the session called 'The OTT Boom: The Actor as Star'. To a query about Indian actors taking up Hollywood movies, Siddiqui said he fails to understand their need to work in the West.

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Parineeti had 'pinch me' moment when she performed with Kumar Sanu

MUMBAI, (IANS) Bollywood actress Parineeti Chopra, recently shared the stage with senior playback singer Kumar Sanu to perform the song 'Aankhon Ki Gustakhiyan' from the Sanjay Leela Bhansali directorial 'Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam'. The actress was over the moon to have performed with her childhood idol. She took to her Instagram to share a video from her reality show, 'Hunarbaaz: Desh Ki Shaan' where she is a co-judge with Mithun Chakraborty and Karan Johar. She captioned the video, "Am I really singing a duet with THE Kumar Sanu? The teenage, music student me, wouldn't have believed it (sic)."



**"THEY DIDN'T ASK ME
WHETHER...": YUZVENDRA
CHAHAL ON ROYAL
CHALLENGERS BANGALORE
NOT RETAINING HIM |P18**



**SRH PACE SPEARHEAD
BHUVNESHWAR KUMAR
ON THE CUSP OF BIG
MILESTONE |P18**

**WOULD BE VERY EMOTIONAL
THINKING ABOUT DE VILLIERS IF WE
WIN IPL: VIRAT KOHLI |P18**



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Y MEDIA IPL 2022 SCHEDULE Y MEDIA

MATCH	DATE	DAY	TIME (IST)	TEAM	VENUE
7	31 MAR	THU	7:30 PM	LUCKNOW vs CHENNAI	BRABOURNE - CCI
8	1 APR	FRI	7:30 PM	KOLKATA vs PUNJAB	WANKHEDE STADIUM
9	2 APR	SAT	3:30 PM	MUMBAI vs RAJASTHAN	DY PATIL STADIUM
10	2 APR	SAT	7:30 PM	GUJARAT vs DELHI	MCA STADIUM, PUNE
11	3 APR	SUN	7:30 PM	CHENNAI vs PUNJAB	BRABOURNE - CCI
12	4 APR	MON	7:30 PM	HYDERABAD vs LUCKNOW	DY PATIL STADIUM
13	5 APR	TUE	7:30 PM	RAJASTHAN vs BANGALORE	WANKHEDE STADIUM
14	6 APR	WED	7:30 PM	KOLKATA vs MUMBAI	MCA STADIUM, PUNE
15	7 APR	THU	7:30 PM	LUCKNOW vs DELHI	DY PATIL STADIUM
16	8 APR	FRI	7:30 PM	PUNJAB vs GUJARAT	BRABOURNE - CCI
17	9 APR	SAT	3:30 PM	CHENNAI vs HYDERABAD	DY PATIL STADIUM
18	9 APR	SAT	3:30 PM	BANGALORE vs MUMBAI	MCA STADIUM, PUNE
19	10 APR	SUN	3:30 PM	KOLKATA vs DELHI	BRABOURNE - CCI
20	10 APR	SUN	7:30 PM	RAJASTHAN vs LUCKNOW	WANKHEDE STADIUM
21	11 APR	MON	7:30 PM	HYDERABAD vs GUJARAT	DY PATIL STADIUM



MOHAMMAD SHAMI AND RAHUL TEWATIA SHINE AS GUJARAT HAND LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS FIVE-WICKET DEFEAT



MUMBAI: Rahul Tewatia blasted 40 runs off 24 balls after Mohammad Shami's sensational new ball spell to set up a five-wicket win for Gujarat Titans against Lucknow Super Giants in the battle of IPL debutants here today. Deepak Hooda (55 off 41 balls) and Ayush Badoni (54 off 41 balls) smashed quick-fire half-centuries to help Super Giants recover to a respectable 158/6 after Shami (3/25) blew away their top-order. Needing 68 off the last 30 balls, Titans were up against it but Tewatia (40 not out), David Miller (30 off 21) and IPL debutant Abhinav Manohar (15 not out off 7) pulled off a memorable win for their team with two balls to spare. In pursuit of 159, Gujarat were down and out at 78/4 before Miller and Tewatia forged a match-winning 60 run-stand off just 34 balls. They were brutal on Hooda, as they fetched 22 runs in the 16th over, with each hitting one six and one four. And then Tewatia hammered a six and two fours in the next over, in which Gujarat amassed 17 runs, to bring down the equation to 29 from 18 balls.

MANOHAR IS SOMEONE YOU ARE GOING TO HEAR ABOUT IN FUTURE, SAYS HARDIK PANDYA



"You would hear a lot more about Abhinav Manohar in the future," said Gujarat Titans captain Hardik Pandya after the IPL debutant displayed remarkable hitting in the final over to ensure a five-wicket win over Lucknow Super Giants here on Monday. With Titans needing 11 off the final over, Manohar smashed back-to-back fours off Avesh Khan to make the task much easier for his team. With the confidence he showed under extreme pressure, it did not look like he was playing his first game on a big stage like the IPL. "Manohar is someone to look at with the talent he has. He is someone who you are going to hear about in the future. Rahul Tewatia was sensational as well," said Hardik at the post-match presentation.

KL RAHUL AND QUINTON DE KOCK MAKE A DEVASTATING OPENING PAIR, SAYS GAVASKAR



MUMBAI: As debutants Gujarat Titans (GT) and Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) lock horns at the Wankhede Stadium on March 28, all eyes will be on LSG's opening pair KL Rahul and Quinton de Kock who joined the franchise from Punjab Kings and Mumbai Indians, respectively. Speaking about K L Rahul and Quinton de Kock's opening combination, batting icon Sunil Gavaskar said, "The best part about Quinton de Kock is the fact that he also has captaincy experience. He has been a captain of South Africa and knows all formats of the game. He knows what team building is all about because we are talking about a different team now. He will be very keen to contribute towards the team building process. "KL Rahul and Quinton de Kock's right-hand and left-hand combination makes a devastating opening pair and they can get the team off to a flying start," he added. "When he was the captain of Punjab Kings, he seemed to be preoccupied; maybe he was not getting the 11 that he wanted.

CANADA QUALIFY FOR FIFA WORLD CUP FOR FIRST TIME IN 36 YEARS



Canada men's football team qualified for the FIFA World Cup finals for only the second time ever with a 4-0 rout of Jamaica. The nation's only previous appearance in the tournament was 1986 in Mexico. Entering the match on Sunday night, John Herdman's squad needed only a draw against Jamaica to capture one of the three spots from the CONCACAF (North, Central American and Caribbean) region for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar in November.

The team didn't hold back and gave the fans at BMO Field a dominant performance with goals from Cyle Larin, Tajon Buchanan and Junior Hoilett, followed by a late own goal by defender Adrian Mariappa, Xinhua reports.

"When I first took over, I said we're going to qualify for the World Cup and I don't think anyone believed us," said 46-year-old head coach Herdman. "All of these fans have waited, waited, and hung in with us." When Herman was hired in 2018, men's football had little relevance

in Canada due to poor World Cup qualification results and the popularity of ice hockey.

Since taking over, the team's fortunes have quickly turned around with their FIFA ranking jumping from 89th to 33rd since February 2018. "We're a football country. That's all we ever wanted. We wanted that respect," he added after the match. "We just kept believing and we've got talent." The squad of 38 features talented players in the top divisional leagues across Europe and North America. The most notable is 21-year-old Alphonso Davies, who currently plays for Bayern Munich and is considered one of the world's best full-backs.

Canada become the 20th team to qualify for the 2022 FIFA World Cup which will feature 32 nations vying for the ultimate prize in Qatar from November 21 to December 18.

The remaining 12 teams will be decided in the coming days before the draw on April 1 to determine the eight groups.



TRAVIS HEAD CELEBRATES A CENTURY OFF 70 BALLS, PAKISTAN VS AUSTRALIA, 1ST ODI, LAHORE, MARCH 29, 2022.



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POINTS TABLE					
TEAMS	M	W	L	NR	PTS
DELHI	1	1	0	0.914	2
PUNJAB	1	1	0	0.697	2
KOLKATA	1	1	0	0.639	2
GUJARAT	1	1	0	0.286	2
RAJASTHAN	0	0	0	0	0
HYDERABAD	0	0	0	0	0
LUCKNOW	1	0	1	-0.286	0
CHENNAI	1	0	1	-0.639	0
BANGALORE	1	0	1	-0.697	0
MUMBAI	1	0	1	-0.914	0

ORANGE CAP




FAF DU PLESSIS

TOTAL RUNS
88

STRIKE RATE
154.39

MATCHES PLAYED
1

PURPLE CAP



KULDEEP YADAV

TOTAL WICKETS
3

AVERAGE
6.00

MATCHES PLAYED
1

SRH PACE SPEARHEAD BHUVNESHWAR KUMAR ON THE CUSP OF BIG MILESTONE



Sunrisers Hyderabad start their IPL 2022 campaign on Tuesday with a clash against Rajasthan Royals and all eyes will be on the "Orange Army's" pace spearhead Bhuvneshwar Kumar as he looks to reignite his career. IPL was the platform that helped Bhuvneshwar get his India career back on track as he won the Purple Cap in back-to-back seasons in 2016 and 2017. But a spate of injuries and rise of other pacers have meant that Bhuvi has dropped in the pecking order across formats. He is still in the reckoning in white-ball cricket and a good showing in the IPL will go a long way in helping him cement his place in the squad for the ICC T20 World Cup, to be played later this year. Bhuvi also has a big milestone to look forward to in the IPL this season. With a tally of 142 wickets, the medium pacer is just 8 wickets away from completing 150 scalps in the tournament.

RAVI SHASTRI PINPOINTS LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS' "TACTICAL ERROR" THAT COST THEM MATCH VS GUJARAT TITANS

Lucknow Super Giants' Indian Premier League journey did not get off to the best of starts after they went down to fellow debutants in an IPL 2022 clash Wankhede Stadium on Monday. After being put into bat, Lucknow found themselves in all sorts of trouble, reduced to 29 for four. However, half-centuries from Deepak Hooda and young Ayush Badoni brought them back from the dead and helped the team post a fighting total. However, like their top order, their bowling too faltered in parts as Gujarat Titans chased down the target with five wickets in hand and two balls to spare.

"THEY DIDN'T ASK ME WHETHER...":

YUZVENDRA CHahal ON ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE NOT RETAINING HIM

Leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal will be seen representing the Rajasthan Royals in the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022 season and this would be a new prospect for the fans as they associate the spinner closely with Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB). Ahead of the IPL mega auction, fans were expecting Chahal to be retained by the franchise but this was not the case. And now, Chahal has opened up on parting ways with the franchise that he holds dear to his heart. "They didn't ask me whether I wanted to be retained or tell me if they wanted to retain me. They just talked about the three retentions and I was told that - 'we will go for you in the auction'. Neither was I asked about money nor did I get any offer of retention. But I will always be loyal to my Bangalore fans. I love them so much, no matter what," Chahal told media.



WOULD BE VERY EMOTIONAL THINKING ABOUT DE VILLIERS IF WE WIN IPL: VIRAT KOHLI

Virat Kohli feels if Royal Challengers Bangalore were crown champions for the first time in the coming seasons it would mean a lot to AB de Villiers, who would be the first person on the former captain's mind after the triumph. One of contemporary cricket's greatest batters, de Villiers retired from all forms of the game in November last year. Since starting his association with RCB in 2011, the South African batting legend enjoyed 11 fruitful seasons with the franchise. "The other day, it got me thinking, if we manage to win the title in the coming seasons, I would be very emotional thinking about him first," Kohli, who had stepped down as captain after the 2021 season, said on RCB Bold Diaries. "Rather than what I would experience after such hard work of so many years, I would actually think of him. "It would still mean a lot to him even if he is watching the game from home. He is a special human being as he has touched everyone, and we all can vouch for that," he added.

Kohli revealed that he had an inkling during the last IPL that de Villers was going to hang his boots. "It's very strange I mean, I clearly remember when he decided to finally call it a day. He sent me a voice note, we were coming back from Dubai after the World Cup. I got a voice note from AB de Villiers while we were driving back home. "I kind of had the impression and was guessing it in the last IPL. Our rooms were next to each other, and we would walk the same way and disperse, every time we walked to our room and he would see me outside, he would be like 'I want to see you for coffee, one of these days'. "I kept getting nervous and was like 'I am not sitting with you because I think there is something coming' to which he always said 'No man there is nothing, I just want to have a chat with you, it's been a while and he never speaks like that because we interact all the time." Kohli and de Villers -- the two talismans had raised the batting standards in the IPL year after year and shattered numerous records along the way.

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