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## INDIA-BANGLADESH BILATERAL TIES: A ROLE MODEL FOR GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD DIPLOMACY



DETAILS ON PAGE 10

### LIZ TRUSS BEATS RISHI SUNAK TO BECOME THE NEXT UK PRIME MINISTER

Liz Truss has been named as the new Conservative leader on Monday afternoon — and she will become UK PM on Tuesday, media reports said. Truss takes the helm of a country in the grip of a cost-of-living crisis after seeing off the former chancellor's challenge with support from 81,326 party members, compared to Rishi Sunak's 60,399, Daily Mail reported. The 57 per cent to 43 per cent result — closer than some had expected — was announced by 1922 committee chair Sir Graham Brady in a glitzy ceremony at the QE2 Centre in Westminster, the report said. Truss said it is an 'honour' to be the new leader of the 'greatest political party on Earth'. "I know that our beliefs resonate with the British people, I campaigned as a Conservative and I will govern as a Conservative... I will deliver a bold plan to cut taxes and grow our economy," she said. She added: "We will deliver a great victory for the Conservative Party in 2024." Truss also paid tribute to Boris Johnson, who will formally hand over power to her on Tuesday, saying he "got Brexit done, crushed Jeremy Corbyn, rolled out the vaccine, and stood up to Vladimir Putin". But the new premier faces one of the toughest in-trays in decades, with inflation fears mounting as gas prices soar again and the Pound slides further. Speculation is growing that Truss will opt for a bold furlough-style move to freeze energy bills — possibly by loaning companies money to hold down costs. Wholesale gas prices rocketed by around 30 per cent today, following Russia's decision to shut down a key gas pipeline, Daily Mail reported.



### NO RELIEF FOR INDIAN STUDENTS WAITING TO JOIN CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES, VISA DELAYS CONTINUE

India, with regard to the problems faced by college students enrolled in Canadian universities, said that New Delhi has taken up the matter with Canada to make sure that students are not affected and that the country will continue to take measures to assist Indian students who would like to go abroad to study. In a weekly presser, Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said on Thursday, "It is an important issue. We have taken up the matter with Canada to make sure that students are not affected. We will continue to take measures to help the Indian students who want to go abroad for studies." Earlier, the Indian High Commission in Ottawa asked the Canadian authorities to look into the problems faced by college students enrolled in Canadian universities, who are unable to join the academic courses due to delays in processing of their visas and student permits. In an advisory, the High Commission said that Indian officials in Ottawa and consulates in Toronto and Vancouver continue to be engaged with Canadian interlocutors, including educational institutions and universities, regarding problems faced by the Indian students. "Highlighting these issues and the fact that Indian students have already deposited tuition fees with Canadian institutions, we request the Canadian authorities to expedite the processing of visa applications for students from India," the advisory said. It noted that Canada has emerged as a preferred destination for Indian students for post-secondary education. But the High Commission added, "The processing of visas is a sovereign power of the Canadian government."



Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE: JOTI SINGH MANN'S (WHO WAS BRUTALLY ATTACKED IN BRAMPTON) MOTHER RECEIVES BRAVERY AWARD FROM CITY OF BRAMPTON.

CONT. ON PAGE 3

### CANADA'S GDP GREW 3.3% IN 2ND QUARTER

Real gross domestic product (GDP) rose 0.8% in the second quarter, driven by increased business investment in inventories, non-residential structures, machinery and equipment, and household spending on services and semi-durable goods.

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### TORONTO HOME SALES DOWN 34.2%, AVERAGE SELLING PRICE UP BY 0.9% TO \$1.07M FROM 2021:TRREB

There were 5,627 home sales reported through the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board's (TRREB) MLS® System in August 2022, representing a year-over-year dip of 34.2 per cent - a lesser annual rate of decline compared to the previous four months.

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### GURPREET SINGH OF BRAMPTON WANTED BY YORK POLICE IN CONNECTION WITH CARJACKING IN NEWMARKET

Investigators with the York Regional Police Hold-Up Unit are seeking a male suspect following a carjacking in the Town of Newmarket and have issued a warrant for his arrest. On Monday, August 29, 2022, at approximately 7 p.m., officers were called to a veterinarian clinic in the area of Eagle Street West and Davis Drive for a report of a 78-year-old woman who had her 2015 silver Nissan Rogue stolen.



CONT. ON PAGE 7

### TORONTO POLICE SEARCHING FOR 3 SUSPECTS FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT

The Toronto Police Service is requesting the public's assistance identifying three men wanted in a sexual assault investigation. It has been reported that: \* on Saturday, August 27, 2022, a 31-year-old woman attended an establishment in the Bathurst Street and Bloor Street West area



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### 60% OF CANADIANS DON'T INCLUDE THEIR MORTGAGE IN MONTHLY BUDGETING: IG WEALTH MANAGEMENT MORTGAGE STUDY

According to a newly released study by IG Wealth Management (IG), a significant percentage of Canadians have the opportunity to more effectively manage their cashflow by including mortgage payments in their monthly budgeting.

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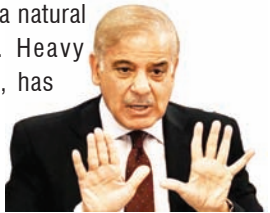
### FIRST 90-ACRE HINDU PARK COMING UP IN CANADA'S BRAMPTON CITY TO BE NAMED AFTER HOLY GITA

A multi-million dollar park to be carved out in Brampton city of Canada will be named after the Hindu holy scripture, Gita. The Hindus constitute the second largest immigrant community after the Sikhs in Canada with a large Gujarati community having settled there.

CONT. ON PAGE 8

### PAKISTAN'S PETTY POLITICS PUTS COUNTRY IN AN ECONOMIC TAILSPIN

Pakistan's leaders have found it fit to play petty politics with 'arch enemy' India even as their country is hit by a natural calamity of unprecedented magnitude. Heavy monsoon rain, induced by climate change, has devastated nearly a third of the country. Millions are marooned and are struggling to find food, shelter and medicines.



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### INDIA-CHINA – AN ESCALATING DISPUTE SINCE 1962

Asian neighbours India and China — two of the leading economic powerhouses, have had a long-standing history of disputes and diplomatic tiffs that date back to their 1962 war. Even as the two countries on the global platforms have underlined the need to maintain a meaningful bilateral relation, tensions do keep up surfacing intermittently. In the last eight years, since the BJP-led NDA came to power at Centre, the two countries held at least 22 rounds of bilateral talks but still their relations remain tense.

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Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE: JOTI SINGH MANN'S  
(WHO WAS BRUTALLY ATTACKED IN  
BRAMPTON) MOTHER RECEIVES BRAVERY  
AWARD FROM CITY OF BRAMPTON.



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EXCITING NEW OUTDOOR EXHIBIT  
FEATURING BRAMPTON-BORN,  
ABSTRACT ARTIST RUSSNA KAUR  
COMES TO PAMA TILL JANUARY 5, 2023



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CALL FOR ARTISTS TO CAPTURE HISTORY  
OF REGIONAL FOOD ACTIVISM ACROSS  
GUELPH & WELLINGTON COUNTY,  
SUBMIT IDEA BY SEPT. 30

04

Y MEDIA TEAM AT MEET  
AND GREET ARRANGED IN  
HONOUR OF DR. ASIF  
MAHMOOD, CANDIDATE  
FOR U.S. CONGRESS.



CANADA, PUNJAB TIES  
STRONG AND DIVERSE, SAYS  
CONSUL GENERAL

04



INDIAN-BORN LAXMAN  
NARASIMHAN IS NEW CEO OF  
STARBUCKS



04





## ‘BLOODY REVOLUTION OR ELECTIONS ONLY WAY TO REMOVE RULING ELITE’: PAKISTAN FORMER PM IMRAN KHAN

Former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan said “a bloody revolution” or “elections” are the only way to remove the ruling elite imposed on the nation, local media reported.

Addressing a jalsa in Bahawalpur, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman highlighted how the Sharifs, Zardari and Maulana Fazlur Rehman are a disease the country is suffering from, Samaa TV reported. He maintained that the incumbent government did not come to power to reduce inflation but only to protect their ill-gotten wealth. Reiterating his call for fresh general elections, Imran added the country will continue to suffer because no one knows where the country is headed towards, Samaa TV reported.

“We are stuck in the quicksand of debt,” the ex-premier said as he pinned hope on overseas people of Pakistan for always lending help

to their home country in the time of crisis.

The PTI chief went on to say that the only way overseas people of Pakistan will bring their money back is when they know the justice system in the nation is active.

Earlier, the PTI chairman addressed a lawyers convention in the same city.

Declaring to bring a “revolution of justice”, the former Prime Minister said he needed help of the lawyers community to take down all the mafias imposed on the country.

“Who protects democracy? The lawyers,” he emphasised. “The only reason we have been sent to this world is to dispense justice.”

“Land mafia has become the biggest mafia in the country,” he added, saying that thieves have taken over the country, Samaa TV reported.

## CANADA TO LAUNCH NATIONWIDE SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE

A nationwide three-digit suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline in Canada will come into effect in 2023, the country's broadcasting and telecom regulator announced.

In its announcement on Wednesday, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) said that the hotline to be launched on November 30, 2023 will adopt 9-8-8 as the number to call or text for Canadians who are in need of immediate mental health crisis and suicide prevention intervention, reports Xinhua news agency.

Once implemented by telephone and wireless service providers, calls and texts to 9-8-8 will be directed to a mental health crisis or suicide prevention service, free of charge, the CRTC said.

It added that the ability to text to 9-8-8 will ensure that people in crisis who are unable to safely call, or prefer texting, are able to obtain

counselling. The same easy-to-remember three-digit hotline has been adopted in the US. Currently, people in Canada who are experiencing mental health distress can obtain assistance through Talk Suicide Canada by dialing toll-free 1-833-456-4566.

Between 2017 and 2019, there were approximately 4,500 deaths by suicide in Canada every year, which is approximately 12 fatalities every day.

During 2020, the suicide rate for those between 20 and 24 years of age reached 11.7 per 100,000 population.

In 2019, suicide was among the top 10 leading causes of death in Canada. Some populations experience higher rates and risk of suicide, including men, youth, those aged 45 to 59, those identified as being part of the LGBTQ2 community and certain Indigenous communities, according to the CRTC.

## Punjab CM announces closure of toll plazas on Sangrur-Ludhiana road

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Sunday announced closure of two toll plazas on the Sangrur-Ludhiana road as their term is going to expire on Sunday midnight.

“These toll plazas were seeking extension of 20 months or compensation worth Rs 50 crore but I have rejected it and ordered closure of these tolls in larger public interest,” he said while addressing a gathering in Sangrur.

The Chief Minister said the toll was started on September 5, 2015, for a period of seven years. This toll was a “gift” of the then Akali government whose candidate had emerged victorious in bypoll held in April 2015, he said.

Mann asserted that though then Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal had promised that this toll will not be installed but immediately after their candidate won the bypoll, they took a U-turn and the toll was made functional in September. The Chief Minister said that for seven years, people paid huge amounts of money from their pockets to pass through these toll plazas. Mann said, as an MP, he also raised the issue of exorbitant toll rates in Parliament but to no avail.

However, he said since the term of toll plazas will be over by midnight of September 4 so from Monday these toll plazas will not be functional. Describing it as a major relief to people, the Chief Minister emphasised



that people can travel freely on road without paying whopping toll on both of these toll plazas from Monday.

Mann unequivocally said that he had rejected the company's pleas for extension or compensation “as coronavirus was a global disaster and the farmers' agitation was result of draconian farm laws of the Central government, for which the Union government had apologised later”. He claimed any other person would have agreed to the proposals of the company but he kept the interests of Punjabis above that of the company and decided to close it.

## CALL FOR ARTISTS TO CAPTURE HISTORY OF REGIONAL FOOD ACTIVISM ACROSS GUELPH & WELLINGTON COUNTY, SUBMIT IDEA BY SEPT. 30



The Guelph-Wellington Food System Resiliency Table (The Table), a regional food policy and programming working group supported by Our Food Future, is inviting applications from local artists to create a digital expression of the history of food activism across Guelph and Wellington County. "Unearthing an Oral History of Food Activism" will require the successful applicant to co-host a series of events with a diverse group of community partners to document stories of the lands, waters, cultures, people and events that contribute to the rich history of food culture and food justice in Guelph and Wellington County. The artist will create an accessible, compelling and memorable digital expression that combines audio and visual elements to capture the themes gathered in the engagement phase. The successful candidate will be awarded \$3,600, including supplies. Additional budget is available for event expenses. The project is co-led by the Guelph Community Health Centre and Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition, and is co-funded by Our Food Future and The Musagetes Fund, which provides grants for arts and culture projects under The Guelph Community Foundation.

Interested applicants are encouraged to read the complete project details and apply on Our Food Future's Kitchen Table platform before midnight, September 30. Collaborative applications from two or more artists are welcome. The successful applicant will be notified by mid-October, with work expected to commence in 2022.

The final artform will be unveiled at a community event and become an integral part of presentations and communications from The Table, Our Food Future, its funders and partners.

**About Our Food Future**

Inspired by the planet's natural cycles, a circular food economy reimagines and regenerates the systems that feed us, eliminating waste, sharing economic prosperity, and nourishing our communities. In Guelph-Wellington, we are working to build a regional circular food economy that will achieve a 50 per cent increase in access to affordable nutritious food, create 50 new circular economy businesses and collaborations, and a 50 per cent increase in circular economic benefit by unlocking the value of waste. COIL is an innovation hub for local social enterprises and businesses to adopt circular practices in the food and environment sectors by accessing education, mentoring, collaboration programs and funding to bring their circular ideas to life. Since January 2020, Our Food Future has been leading research, designing and implementing a host of programs to transform our regional food system. To learn more about our impact, view our Our Circular Future: Midterm Report. Our Food Future demonstrates one of the ways the City of Guelph and County of Wellington are contributing to a sustainable, creative, and smart local economy that is connected to regional and global markets and supports shared prosperity for everyone.

## WHITE HOUSE SUGGESTS NO CONDITIONALITY BETWEEN REVIVAL OF IRAN NUKE DEAL



White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre suggested that there should not be any conditionality between a revival of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal and the conclusion of watchdog probes. Addressing the media on Friday, Jean-Pierre made the remarks referring to the deal known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and investigations related to Iran's obligations under the Non-Proliferation Treaty, reports Xinhua news agency

She said the investigations led by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) “are not political” and “are not leverage or bargaining chips”. “We are unbending in our support for the IAEA's independence... It would be preferable to return to the JCPOA without any open safeguard issues,” the Press Secretary added. If the US makes the “right decision”, negotiations can be concluded quickly, Mohammad Marandi, an advisor to Iran's nuclear negotiation team, said on Friday. “Iran has responded as promised. It's time for the (US President Joe) Biden team to make a serious decision,” Marandi tweeted hours after Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesman Nasser Kanaani said that Tehran had given answers to the Washington on the European Union's draft of a potential nuclear agreement.

“The submitted text has a constructive approach with the aim of finalizing the negotiations,” Kanaani said in a statement.

The US State Department confirmed they have received Iran's response through the European Union (EU).

“We are studying it and will respond through the EU, but unfortunately it is not constructive,” a Department spokesman was quoted by some Western media outlets as saying.

“For the US, ‘constructive’ usually means accepting US terms. For Iran, it means a deal that is balanced and protected,” Marandi said. Iran and the US are indirectly exchanging views about a recent EU proposal aimed at resolving the outstanding issues on the revival of the JCPOA. Iran signed the JCPOA with world powers in July 2015, agreeing to curb its nuclear program in return for the removal of sanctions on the country. However, former US President Donald Trump pulled Washington out of the agreement and reimposed unilateral sanctions on Tehran, prompting the latter to drop some of its commitments under the pact. The talks on the revival of the 2015 nuclear deal began in April 2021 in Vienna but were suspended in March this year because of political differences between Tehran and Washington. The latest round of the nuclear talks was held in the Austrian capital in early August after a five-month hiatus. On August 8, the EU put forward a “final text” of the draft decision on reviving the deal.

## CANADA, PUNJAB TIES STRONG AND DIVERSE, SAYS CONSUL GENERAL

Connections between Canada and Punjab are strong and diverse, said Consul General of Canada in Chandigarh, Patrick Hebert, on Friday after meeting Chief Secretary Vijay Kumar Janjua on expanding trade relations. “Connections between #Canada and #Punjab are strong and diverse. Great discussion today with @CsPunjab Vijay Kumar Janjua, with a joint commitment to further expand our cooperation, including our trade relations,” tweeted Hebert. Before the diplomatic appointment in Chandigarh, Hebert served as political, economic and public affairs counsellor at the Embassy to South Korea. Last week, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, while extending a red carpet welcome to industrialists and entrepreneurs to invest in Punjab, said the state would emerge as industrial hub of the country. At this, Hebert congratulated Invest Punjab and industrial body ASSOCHAM for the successful Vision Punjab 2022 Industry Summit, with the participation of the Chief Minister. “I welcome the strong interest from participants in doing business with Canada,” he added.



## INDIAN-BORN LAXMAN NARASIMHAN IS NEW CEO OF STARBUCKS

Global coffee chain Starbucks has named Indian-born Laxman Narasimhan its next CEO. Narasimhan, who currently heads health and hygiene company Reckitt, will join Starbucks in October and take over from its iconic interim CEO Howard Shultz in April. Narasimhan joins the growing ranks of Indian-descent CEOs heading leading US corporate giants such as Satya Nadella of Microsoft, Sundar Pichai of Alphabet, Shantanu Narayan of Adobe, Punit Renjen of Deloitte and Raj Subramaniam of FedEx. Major former Desi CEOs include Indra Nooyi of PepsiCo and Ajay Banga of Mastercard.

The incoming Starbuck CEO studied mechanical engineering at the University of Pune and then he headed west, picking up Masters in German and International Studies from The Lauder Institute at The University of Pennsylvania and an MBA in Finance from The Wharton School of The University of Pennsylvania.

"Starbucks commitment to uplift humanity through connection and compassion has long distinguished the company, building an unrivaled, globally admired brand that has transformed the way we connect over coffee. I am humbled to be joining this iconic company at such a pivotal time, as the reinvention and investments in the partner and customer experiences position us to meet the changing demands we face today and set us up for an even stronger future," said Narasimhan, adding, "I look forward to working closely with Howard, the Board, and the entire leadership team -- and to listening and learning from Starbucks partners -- as we collectively build on this work to lead the company into its next chapter of growth and impact."







# EXPERTS ON THE EFFECTS OF RISING PRICES AND INFLATION IN THE FOOD BUSINESS

The country's economy battles with inflation, and food prices have skyrocketed. For instance, edible oils and wheat, along with other food essentials, have seen price spikes that are already burning a hole in customers' wallets. "Earlier, food inflation was influenced by many factors such as rising rural wages, higher minimum support prices, and a narrowing output gap. Moreover, low demand, low global prices, the muted effects of higher minimum support prices (MSP), low global prices, and unfavorable monsoon conditions, including droughts and other weather conditions were driving factors in the past. "Currently, Geopolitical reasons, Covid Impact, short supply chains, the Russia Ukraine War, labour costs, and the rise in oil prices have contributed to the inflation," says entrepreneur and Chef Sachin Sahgal, Co-Founder of Meatington. The food industry, like all other industries, saw slowdowns both during and after the pandemic. And now, the war between Ukraine and Russia has caused an enormous increase in oil prices, the price of gasoline and diesel, as well as an increase in the price of cooking oils like sunflower oil, soybean oil, palm oil, rapeseed oil, are the main causes of inflation. Other factors driving inflation include supply chain disruptions. "Inflation has been high in past two years which majorly affected common people in India. The onset of the summer heat wave also contributed to the rise in food prices. Food inflation has been driven by high vegetable prices. Not just vegetables, even high edible oil prices have led to higher food inflation. "India imports nearly 60 per cent of its edible oil and with supply disruptions continuing due to the Russia-Ukraine war, the prices have surged. The fluctuation in petrol and diesel prices has led to increased transportation costs and impact on the prices of cereals, vegetables, milk, and meat prices shooting. Manufacturing businesses, households, and the hospitality industry will be hit as costs to buy and produce food will be much higher. People of lower income groups will be badly hit as prices of wheat are rising," says Celebrity Chef Vicky Ratnani. Due to price increases, people are finding it difficult to eat out or order takeout. As we wonder what will happen, what of restaurants and cloud kitchens in the future? According to Entrepreneur Chef Sachin Sahgal, the practice of eating out and ordering takeout will endure as long as various programs are implemented. "Almost any food production has increased in price, including meat, poultry, fish, and eggs. As a result, restaurateurs and food business owners have been forced to bear a heavy burden. Consumers have also been affected and can see the impact. However, eating out and dining out scenarios will not change much for consumers and their eating patterns and behaviour will moreover remain the same. Their lifestyle has become accustomed to all this, and it has become a necessity for them. Chefs, restaurants, and food joints are also ensuring that consumers will not feel the pinch of inflation in food prices directly by launching innovative schemes, discounts, dips, and extra meals to encourage them to eat out. Despite the inflation, the hotel industry has implemented menu rationalisation, modified product compositions, and introduced packages, discounts, and loyalty programs to encourage consumers to eat out." Eishita Deoskar, a partner at Kynd Cafe and Bar by Colossal Hospitality, business owners have been negatively impacted by food inflation, forcing some of them to close their doors while they deal with the COVID-19 pandemic's consequences, "The food industry is severely impacted by inflation, which

also directly affects food prices. The type, quantity, and quality of food served at establishments, as well as how much owners are willing to spend, are impacted by the cost increase. While some inflation is necessary for the economy to expand and stay healthy, it is difficult to ignore the effects of excessive inflation. "Additionally, the price of ingredients and menu items rises in tandem with the cost of living. A variety of factors can have an impact on food supply, which in turn affects prices. It is critical to compare the increase in prices and the increase in median income to food costs. "During and after the COVID-19 pandemic, the supply chain experienced numerous disruptions, making it difficult for us to obtain the necessary supplies. Many food service businesses were forced to shut down for an extended period of time or permanently as a result of these disruptions while still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic's effects, businesses needed to be creative and innovative in order to deal with the situation without closing down." Gaurav Kanwar, the owner of the Harajuku Tokyo Cafe, on the other hand, identifies specific ways in which the restaurant industry's profit margins have also been impacted by inflation. He claims that it has been difficult for everyone to cope with rising inflation and manage to spend. As a result, it was decided to raise staff compensation to help them make ends meet, "As restaurant owners, we are trying to tackle the steep increase in costs as best we can, by increasing the prices of our menu very moderately and renegotiating supply contracts. We have been able to ensure that the effect of inflation has been marginal for our customers, hence not affecting our online or onsite orders and sales that much. However, it has affected the profit margins of the restaurant industry even more than ever. Coping up and managing expenses with rising inflation, in general, has been tough for everyone, Therefore we took the decision of revising the salaries of our employees to help them sustain." "Owners of food businesses can adopt a multi-pronged approach. In addition to integrating changes internally regarding their working and systems, they need to offer innovative offers and packages to consumers to keep them happy. As far as food inventory and food preparation are concerned, they need to go in a sustainable direction. "Further, they must be vigilant for cost-cutting, pre-plan the entire food-making process, justify customers' spending, and increase profits. Currently, the hospitality industry is embracing the trend of ready-to-cook snacks and meals and frozen food, which saves a lot of time, food preparation, and waste. Restaurants should, however, ensure that their ready-to-cook snacks contain no preservatives and are packaged with the latest technological advancements, so their customers can enjoy healthy meals. "Also, they can take advantage of seasonal produce and give it a healthy twist, running loyalty programs for regulars. This way, hotels will retain customers and customers will also know where to find tasty, fresh food at a good price. A restaurant should be able to control its inventory, optimize its menu items, and gain visibility into the restaurant's inventory. Remove items from the menu that aren't selling. By doing so, you will eliminate unnecessary food and labor costs. Next, try to replace high-cost ingredients with more affordable ones. Take a strategic approach to supply chain management by streamlining it and investing in technology to enhance productivity," suggests Entrepreneur Chef Sachin Sahgal.

## INDIA IS IN NO RUSH TO RESUME INDIA-PAKISTAN TRADE TIES

The onus for resumption of India-Pakistan trade lies with Islamabad, which unilaterally snapped commercial ties in 2019, people familiar with the matter said. The issues of both trade and humanitarian assistance have been in focus since Pakistan's Finance Minister Miftah Ismail said earlier this week that Islamabad can consider importing vegetables and food items from India to cope with shortages due to the floods, which have killed more than 1,000 people and affected 33 million. However, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's remarks during a media briefing on Tuesday that linked the resumption of trade to the resolution of the Kashmir issue have not gone down well on the Indian side, the people said on Thursday. External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi was non-committal when he was asked about the issues of humanitarian assistance and trade at a weekly media briefing. "Regarding the floods that have hit Pakistan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has shared his grief at the devastation caused by the floods. You have seen his comments. He has extended heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims, the injured and all those affected by the natural calamity. For the moment, that's all I have to say on the issue of the

assistance," Bagchi said. "As regards the trade element, we have seen various statements on this matter. At this point, I have nothing further to add to those statements that we have seen from Pakistan," he added. Bagchi responded to a question about humanitarian assistance possibly leading to bonhomie in India-Pakistan relations by saying this was "very speculative". Modi expressed sorrow over the floods in a tweet on August 29. "Saddened to see the devastation caused by the floods in Pakistan. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims, the injured and all those affected by this natural calamity and hope for an early restoration of normalcy," he said. Sharif thanked Modi in a tweet on Wednesday for conveying his condolences over the human and material losses caused by the floods. During a media briefing in Islamabad on Tuesday, Sharif said there would not "have been problems about trading with India but genocide is going on there and Kashmiris have been denied their rights". He further said he was ready to "sit and talk with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. We cannot afford war. We will have to dedicate our meagre resources for alleviating poverty in our respective countries but we cannot live in peace without resolving these issues".

## CHINA MISSING AMONG NATIONS DRIVING INDIA'S FOREIGN FUND INFLOWS

Foreign direct investment (FDI) into India stood at \$58.8 billion in 2021-22 with Singapore and the US being the top two major contributors among the list of 15 nations. However, China is a notable absentee in the list and what is all the more interesting is that it has not been there in the list of main contributors to India's foreign inflows since 2017-18, according to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data. In the list of country-wise FDI inflows into India in 2021-22, Singapore was the leading contributor with \$15.9 billion worth of inflows, followed by the United States at \$10.5 billion and Mauritius at \$9.4 billion. However, it is the inflows from tax haven Cayman Islands amounting to \$3.8 billion -- trumping even major economic powers like the UK, Germany, the UAE, Japan and France -- that stood out in the list of country-wise contributors to India's FDI in 2021-22. Experts say that even if inflows from such tax havens could be pure investments by foreign entities, these can turn volatile in the long run. In fact, Singapore has been the leading contributor to India in terms of country-wise foreign inflows for the past five years, starting from 2017-18. The island nation contributed \$12.2 billion in 2017-18, \$16.2 billion in 2018-19, \$14.7 billion in 2019-20 and \$17.4 billion in 2020-21 to India's foreign inflows. The US and Mauritius have been the other major contributors to India in terms of foreign inflows in the past five years after Singapore. China, though, has been a notable absentee from the list of country-wise contributors to India's FDI inflows. Experts, however, attribute China's absence to the fact that India approves company-wise FDI proposals from China. In July, out of 382 FDI proposals received by the Centre from Chinese firms, only 80 were approved, according to media reports.

### CYRUS PALLONJI MISTRY: A BIOGRAPHY

**BORN**  
July 4, 1968  
(Mumbai)

**DIED**  
September 4, 2022  
(Palghar, Maharashtra)

**Younger son of India-born Irish billionaire Pallonji Mistry, late Chairman of the Shapoorji Pallonji Group, who passed away at the age 93 on June 28, 2022.**

**FAMILY**

**Elder Brother:** Shapoor Mistry, Chairman, Shapoorji Pallonji Group  
**Wife:** Rohiqa Chagla, grand-daughter of late legal luminary, Union minister and ambassador **M.C. Chagla**  
**Brother-in-Law:** Noel Tata, half-brother of **Ratan Tata**, Chairman, Trent, and Tata Investment Corporation, and husband of Cyrus Mistry's sister **Aloo**

**EDUCATION**

Cathedral and John Connon School, Mumbai  
Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering from Imperial College, University of London  
International Masters' in Management, London Business School

**CAREER GRAPH**

- 1991 Mistry entered the family business, becoming a director of its flagship construction company, Shapoorji Pallonji & Co. Ltd.
- He took charge of its construction business and took it beyond traditional construction to major engineering projects, including the building of power plants and factories. The company continued to expand overseas, completing more projects in the Middle East and Africa.
- Mistry served as Director of **Tata Elxsi Ltd.**, from September 24, 1990, to October 26, 2009, and of **Tata Power Co. Ltd.** until September 18, 2006.
- 2006 Took his father's place on the Board of Directors of **Tata Sons**.
- Mistry's grandfather, **Shapoorji Mistry**, first acquired a stake in Tata Sons in the 1930s. The stake, now 18.5 per cent, was held by Mistry's father, and forms the largest block of shares held by a single party in Tata Sons.
- November 2011 Appointed Deputy Chairman of the Tata Group. Quit the Shapoorji Pallonji Group.** The explicit understanding was that Mistry would take over as Chairman a year later, upon the retirement of **Ratan Tata**, who had helmed the group since 1991.
- October 2012 Took charge as the sixth Chairman of the Tata Group**, the second after **Sir Nowroji Saklatwala**, who held the position from 1932 to 1938, not to have a Tata family name.
- October 2016 In a boardroom coup, Mistry was removed from his position and Ratan Tata brought in again as interim Chairman.**
- A few months later, long-time Tata top executive and former CEO of the IT giant, Tata Consultancy Services, **Natarajan Chandrasekharan** was brought in as Chairman.
- December 2016** Mistry resigned from the boards of all Tata Group companies.
- Mistry challenged his removal, accusing the board of mismanagement and oppressing minority shareholders.
- 2018** The National Company Law Tribunal rejected Mistry's petition, but that decision was overturned by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal in 2019.
- 2021** In an unanimous ruling, the Supreme Court upheld Mistry's dismissal.

YOUNG TYCOON CYRUS MISTRY'S DEATH IN ROAD CRASH STUNS INDIA, PROBE ORDERED.

## DONALD TRUMP LITTLE FAZED BY BIDEN'S PHILADELPHIA SPEECH, RENEWS HIS CALL FOR REINSTALLING HIM AS PRESIDENT

Former President Donald Trump was little fazed by Biden's powerful rhetoric at Philadelphia that called on MAGA republicans led by Trump as a "threat to the foundations of democracy" and has renewed his appeals for reinstalling him (Trump) as President. Trump's remarks, however ridiculous it might sound, seems to be gaining much traction with a section of the Make America Great Again (MAGA) Republicans who are seething with rage over the 15 per cent taxes imposed on corporates and the rich having to subsidise the high costs of health care to the middle class through the inflation reduction act of Biden and the massive student loan waiver program of the democrats. Even as certain critics of President Joe Biden mocked him for the Philadelphia speech (They usually do when he appears to fumble for words or forgets a name) they were actually quite rattled by the strong tenor of the Biden speech. On September 1, the president delivered a speech with a clear message that infuriated his detractors. Speaking before a crowd gathered at Philadelphia's Independence National Historical Park (where America's political forefathers such as Thomas Jefferson, Washington and others used to congregate for drafting the constitution), he addressed "the continued battle for the soul of our nation." Biden took direct hit at what he considered the primary opponent in that battle: "Donald Trump and the MAGA Republicans represent an extremism that threatens the very foundations of our republic." Surprisingly in a sudden change of tone Saturday, as if to placate some of the republicans who don't side with Trump, Biden said while the MAGA faction doesn't represent all Republicans, the ones who do support the former president are promoting a dangerous ideology. In addition to pushing through legal decisions such as the overturning of Roe v. Wade, he added that MAGA Republicans "fan the flames of political violence that are a threat to our personal rights, to the pursuit of justice, to the rule of law, to the very soul of this country". The speech specified the death threats against the FBI agents who conducted the search of Mar-a-Lago and the glorification of the insurrectionists who stormed the U.S. Capitol building. Trump had stated that he would pardon all those who participated in the January 6 Capitol Hill's insurrection if he became president again, criticised much by the liberals as being absurd. Biden's Philadelphia address was blasted by the right wingers as being divisive and hateful. Donald Trump himself wrote on Truth Social (via New York Post) that the president "must be insane, or suffering from late-stage dementia." Perhaps taking the "divisive" criticism to heart, Biden tried to soften his message the next day. President Biden was pressed to clarify his controversial words on September 2, when a reporter asked him whether he thought Donald Trump's supporters posed a real threat to America. Per the New York Post, the president explained that he hadn't meant the MAGA faction was a physical threat, but added, "I do think anyone who calls for the use of violence, fails to condemn violence when it is used, refuses to acknowledge when an election has been won, insists upon changing the way in which they can count votes, that is a threat to democracy." Biden's softening of the Philadelphia speech against the MAGA was carried by most American newspapers Saturday. Biden went on to acknowledge that the people who voted for Trump were voting for his "philosophy", not for the events that occurred after the election.



# A COMPLETE VIEW OF INDIA

D.C. PATHAK

There is little doubt that Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his clean image and ability to drive the country's polity on the path of development through macro-level infrastructure build up on one hand and emphasis on startups on the other, has earned his position as the tallest leader in the eyes of the people.

For the sceptics still wondering if India is a nation, Prime Minister Modi in this year's Independence Day speech defined - in his own inimitable style - the 'idea of India' by combining its past, present and the future and placed before the world what can be called India's national strategy of fostering security, development and integrity.

The address had the distinction of keeping internal politics away and focusing totally on India's forward looking mission and the points of reform that need to be considered for preserving a healthy national outlook.

It was a remarkable framework of strategic directions specified by the Prime Minister in which a democratic, inclusive and progressive India would proceed in the times to come. The speech covered all major aspects of national life - position of India as a world power, development as well as future of the youth, cultural roots, participative role of the states in nation-building and importance of maintenance of internal order with special reference to crime against women.

The Prime Minister spoke with a sense of dedication towards the nation, conviction and self-belief and enhanced his image as a statesman.

It is worth recalling the thematic points of Modi's Red Fort address for these evidently represent the gist of his strategy of governance for the times ahead. He highlighted the aspirational character of Indian society marked by preponderance of youth and struck a note of optimism amidst the difficult situation of unemployment, by acknowledging that the youth have the right to demand a faster economic growth and better opportunities. He had at the back of his mind the swiftness with which his government responded to the sudden Covid onslaught - a crisis of unprecedented scale - by focusing on vaccine research and production and later working out a 'bottom up' approach to economic recovery in which 'vocal for local' carrying India towards self-reliance became a brilliant way out of the economic dump that the pandemic had created.

India with its history of 'village economy' was attuned to sustaining the society on localised demand and supply even as it showed its sheer brain power in catching up with 'globalisation' - an upshot of the success of information technology revolution that had caused the transition of the world from industrial age to the age of information and knowledge economy.

Economic recovery still is work in progress but Prime Minister Modi gets the credit for leading the country by 'riding a crisis' and in the process putting India on the world map for handling the Covid onslaught successfully - with a rare political will. He reflected a confident optimism - that was well placed - with regard to the future prospect of India.

A remarkable achievement of the Modi regime is the distinct mark that



India reached - in a short span of time - in earning the recognition of the international community as an influencer of global geopolitics, because of its success not only in handling the Covid crisis, but also in pursuing a foreign and security policy that is totally independent, free of 'alignments' and driven by thoughts of world peace.

It was quite legitimate for Prime Minister Modi to say that India's goal is to work for a 'Vikasit Bharat' at a time when the country - in his words - has become 'a ray of hope for the world'.

He urged all citizens - in that spirit - to focus on their own commitment to India's development. It was a befitting call for making the country great both from within as well as in the eyes of the world outside.

Presentation of a broad vision of this kind looked appropriate for an Independence Day address. The Prime Minister urged the citizens to advance with full conviction about a developed India, get rid of any sense of 'slavery' and take pride in the nation's history and heritage.

He commended 'diversity' and 'inclusiveness' as the great features of India's culture, but refrained from using the word 'secular' for good reasons. Introduced in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution by late Indira Gandhi when she was the Prime Minister, this adjective always raised controversies in the context of defining the 'idea of India' - often because it was politically interpreted as a marker of the 'special position' of the Muslim minority here.

In democratic India, which is governed through the free and fair electoral practice of 'one man one vote' - regardless of distinction of caste, creed and gender - secularism was built into the state and was not meant to come in the way of the nation drawing strength and inspiration from the glory of its civilisational past.

Modi reminded all Indians that 'when we are committed to our roots, then only can we fly high'. While declaring that 'India is the mother of democracy', he reiterated that 'diversity is its strength'. This diversity is not to be invoked for instigating separatism at home. The Prime Minister significantly mentioned the enlarged motto of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas' to highlight inclusivity.

It is in this context that Prime Minister Modi acknowledged from the ramparts of the Red Fort the contributions made to the cause of freedom by 'revolutionaries' who sacrificed their lives for it but were kept excluded from the historical accounts of the struggle for Independence advanced by the protagonists of the Congress-led freedom movement.

This anomaly needed an urgent correction. The Prime Minister mentioned Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Rajendra Prasad, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Babasaheb Ambedkar, Vir Savarkar, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, Nanaji Deshmukh, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya and Ram Manohar Lohia, among others, for their contributions.

He also recalled Mangal Pandey, Tanya Tope, Maharani Laxmi Bai and

Begum Hazrat Mahal, leaders of the 1857 anti-British revolt looked upon as the 'First War of Independence', and went on to name Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Rajguru, Chandra Shekhar Azaad, Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqulla Khan, Rani Chennamma, Virsa Munda and Rani Gaidinliu and saluted them all as the architects of free India.

The Prime Minister included the freedom fighters of all communities, tribes and regions and from different periods of time to send across the message of India being 'one nation'. One cannot envisage a more purposeful address to the nation ever given from Red Fort.

Howsoever indirect, the Prime Minister's references to some key points of the internal situation were timely and effective. He identified the states with the Centre by stating that 'when our states grow, India grows' and urged the states to take to 'cooperative and competitive federalism'.

He indirectly drew attention to the prevailing law and order scene with reference to crime against women - which is a direct responsibility of the states - by expressing his regret that 'respect for women who are an important pillar of India's growth' is not adequate.

This connects with his specific mention of women warriors who had fought against the British. In the context of law and order, this country must quickly move towards eliminating gangs indulging in trafficking of women and kidnapping of children on a priority basis and for this the Centre must take due cognisance of the continued failure of a state government and take recourse to a Constitutional remedy after administering two warnings with regard to the incidence of these crimes that have the potential of causing internal destabilisation.

Equally important was the Prime Minister's call that 'we must rid the country of nepotistic thinking and push it towards a merit-based society'. He declared that 'corruption has to be fully eliminated' and implicitly put the current drive of the concerned central agencies in a perspective before the citizens at large.

Prime Minister Modi managed to keep his address above internal polity. In a way, he successfully used the important occasion to spell out his government's approach to the entire spectrum of governance as well as the strategy adopted by India in the spheres of economic growth, national security and international relations.

The address was in Prime Minister's typical conversational style and was understood and absorbed by the common Indian and the strategic observers alike.

DISCLAIMER: THE WRITER IS A FORMER DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE BUREAU. THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED WITHIN THIS ARTICLE ARE THE PERSONAL IDEAS OF THE AUTHOR. THE FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS APPEARING IN THE ARTICLE DO NOT REFLECT THE VIEWS OF Y MEDIA AND MIDWEEK NEWSPAPER, AND Y MEDIA DOES NOT ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR LIABILITY FOR THE SAME.

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## Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE: JOTI SINGH MANN'S (WHO WAS BRUTALLY ATTACKED IN BRAMPTON) MOTHER RECEIVES BRAVERY AWARD FROM CITY OF BRAMPTON



BY POOJA LUTHRA

Jasmail Kaur Mann, the mother of Joti Singh Mann, a well-known Brampton real estate agent and media personality, received an award for bravery from the City of Brampton for rescuing her son from three masked men in August. During the award ceremony, Brampton Mayor Patrick Brown said, "I think she showed courage and bravery and an example of being a local hero." "You see three guys with weapons like that, and obviously, she's frail. It could have been a very horrifying event for her safety." "I just think it speaks to a moment of remarkable courage to run out in the face of machetes like that with no fear, just love," Mayor Brown said. "There's something beautiful about that bond between a mother and a son." Speaking through translator and Brampton North MP Ruby Sahota, Jasmail Kaur Mann recalled the events of that day, noting how terrified

she had been for her son's life. "Her real motivation, even today, is that she wants the attackers to be found," Kaur Mann said. "She says, who are those people that could be so inhumane, that could be cutting up her son like he was a tree or an object." Joti Singh Mann expressed his situation after the attack. He said he has developed post-traumatic stress disorder, has been plagued by nightmares and does not sleep more than three hours at a time since the attack. "I am not sure why I was attacked," Mann questioned the attack to date. On Thursday, August 4, Peel Regional Police say they were called to the area of Hurontario Street and Mayfield Road in Brampton at 8 a.m. for reports of an assault at a residence. Shocking video footage showed the victim, Joti Singh Mann, was first attacked by a man with an axe, and then two others jumped in with a machete. The three suspects remain at large.

## CHILDREN AGED 5+ ELIGIBLE FOR FIRST BOOSTER SHOT ACROSS ONTARIO

The Ontario government is expanding eligibility for COVID-19 first booster doses to children aged five to 11 to provide an extra layer of protection to those who need it ahead of the new school year. As of 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 1, parents and caregivers of children aged five to 11 will be able to book an appointment for a paediatric COVID-19 booster dose through the COVID-19 vaccination portal or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900. Eligible individuals can also book an appointment directly through public health units that use their own booking systems, Indigenous-led vaccination clinics, participating health care providers and participating pharmacies. Eligible children can receive their first booster dose at a recommended interval of at least six months following their most recent dose. Parents with questions are encouraged to reach out to their health care provider, the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre or the SickKids COVID-19 Vaccine Consult Service to make an informed choice for their family. "Staying up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters is still the best tool to keep people healthy and out of hospitals, and to ensure Ontario's economy stays open," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "Expanding access to boosters for ages five to 11 will give parents more opportunities to protect themselves, their families and their communities this fall as kids go back to school and as people are

spending more time indoors." In anticipation of the approval of a bivalent COVID-19 vaccine, which may offer more targeted protection against the Omicron variants, the province is working with public health units and sector partners to make sure doses are ready to be administered once supply is received from the federal government. Details on timing and eligibility for the bivalent COVID-19 vaccine will be communicated once Health Canada provides additional information and guidance. In addition to the many tools already in place to keep Ontarians safe, on the recommendation of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ontario is updating public health guidance to manage COVID-19 during the respiratory illness season this fall. Some key highlights include:

- \* If you are in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, continue to self-monitor for symptoms. There is no longer a need to isolate but you should wear a mask for 10 days when in public.
- \* If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, cough, or runny nose, stay home from school, work and social events until your fever is gone and symptoms are improving, get a rapid antigen test or, if eligible, a PCR test. Wear a mask for 10 days after and avoid non-essential visits to high-risk individuals and settings.

## HEALTH CANADA APPROVES MODERNA'S BIVALENT COVID-19 VACCINE

Health Canada has authorised an adapted version of the Moderna Spikevax Covid-19 vaccine which targets the original SARS-CoV-2 virus from 2019 and the Omicron (BA.1) variant. According to a statement issued by the agency on Thursday, this vaccine, known as a "bivalent" vaccine, is authorised for use as a booster dose in individuals aged 18 years or above. This is the first bivalent Covid-19 vaccine authorised in Canada, said the agency, adding that the bivalent Moderna Spikevax booster is safe and effective with the same mild adverse reactions that resolved quickly, Xinhua news agency reported. Clinical trial results showed that a booster dose of the bivalent Moderna Spikevax vaccine triggers a strong immune response against both Omicron (BA.1) and the original SARS-CoV-2 virus strain, the agency added. It was also found to generate a good immune response against the Omicron BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants, and is expected to extend the durability of protection, Health Canada said.

## CANADA'S GDP GREW 3.3% IN 2ND QUARTER

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

This was the fourth consecutive quarterly increase in real GDP. Growth in the second quarter was moderated by declines in housing investment and household spending on durable goods and by a rise in imports that exceeded exports. Final domestic demand rose by 0.7%, following a 0.9% increase in the first quarter.

**Rising prices bolster nominal gross domestic product**

Driven primarily by high energy prices, the GDP implicit price index, which reflects the overall price of domestically produced goods and services, rose 3.3% in the second quarter, the largest jump since the third quarter of 1974. Consequently, nominal GDP increased 4.2%, reaching \$2.8 trillion in the second quarter. The terms-of-trade-the ratio of the price of exports to the price of imports-was up 5.0% in the second quarter. This was led by an 8.8% increase in export prices, primarily because of a 24.5% hike in the price of exported crude oil and crude bitumen. Increased terms-of-trade was the major contributor to the 2.4% increase in real gross national income.

## GURPREET SINGH OF BRAMPTON WANTED BY YORK POLICE IN CONNECTION WITH CARJACKING IN NEWMARKET

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

Police attended the scene and learned that the victim parked her car in a parking lot and was approached by a suspect who pushed her to the ground, took her car keys and fled the scene in the vehicle, with her shih-poo dog, named Bobby, in the front seat. The victim sustained minor injuries. On Tuesday, August 30, 2022, at approximately 9 a.m., investigators were contacted for a report that the stolen vehicle had been returned to a neighbour's residential driveway with Bobby the dog inside unharmed. If you encounter the suspect, do not approach, call 9-1-1. Investigators are appealing to any witnesses who have not yet spoken with police to come forward. This investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police Hold-Up Unit at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 6631, or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-tips, leave an anonymous tip online at [www.1800222tips.com](http://www.1800222tips.com).

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## TORONTO HOME SALES DOWN 34.2%, AVERAGE SELLING PRICE UP BY 0.9% TO \$1.07M FROM 2021:TRREB

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

The August sales result also represented a month-over-month increase compared to July. Sales represented a higher share of new listings compared to the previous three months. If this trend continues, it could indicate some support for selling prices in the months ahead. On a year-over-year basis, the MLS® Home Price Index (HPI) was up by 8.9 per cent and the average selling price for all home types combined was up by 0.9 per cent to \$1,079,500. The average selling price was also up slightly month-over-month, while the HPI Composite was lower compared to July. Monthly growth in the average price versus a dip in the HPI Composite suggests a greater share of more expensive home types sold in August. "While higher borrowing costs have impacted home purchase decisions, existing homeowners nearing mortgage renewal are also facing higher costs. There is room for the federal government to provide for greater housing affordability for existing homeowners by removing the stress test when existing mortgages are switched to a new lender, allowing for greater competition in the mortgage market. Further, allowing for longer amortization periods on mortgage renewals would assist current

homeowners in an inflationary environment where everyday costs have risen dramatically," said TRREB President Kevin Crigger. "The Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) should weigh in on whether the current stress test remains applicable. Is it reasonable to test home buyers at two percentage points above the current elevated rates, or should a more flexible test be applied that follows the interest rate cycle? In addition, OSFI should consider removing the stress test for existing mortgage holders who want to shop for the best possible rate at renewal rather than forcing them to stay with their existing lender to avoid the stress test. This is especially the case when no additional funds are being requested," said TRREB CEO John DiMichele. "There are other issues beyond borrowing costs impacting housing affordability in the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The ability to bring on more supply is the longer-term challenge. However, we are moving in the right direction on this front. The strong mayor proposal from the province coupled with the recent commitment from Toronto Mayor John Tory to expand ownership and rental housing options are examples of this. TRREB looks forward to hearing additional initiatives from candidates vying for office in the upcoming municipal elections," said TRREB Chief Market Analyst Jason Mercer.

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# CITY OF GUELPH MARKING ASH AND HAZARD TREES FOR REMOVAL STARTING SEPTEMBER 2022

Beginning September 2022, the City of Guelph will be marking public trees in parks and natural areas that are hazardous and ash trees infested and killed by the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in preparation for removal this winter. Hazard tree removal will happen in:

- \* Hadati Creek (near Eastview Road and Watson Road intersection)
- \* Mollison Park
- \* Silvercreek Park (south of Speed River from Hanlon Expressway to McCrae Boulevard)
- \* Riverside Park (near bandshell)
- \* Guelph Lake Sports Fields

Trees to be removed will be marked with an orange "X". Removals will start in December 2022 and continue through the winter until spring 2023. This work is being done as a part of our Emerald Ash Borer Plan and annual hazard tree removal operation. The City will also remove invasive buckthorn in the same areas using herbicide treatment to create the best opportunity for natural regeneration and/or replanting and restoration efforts. Woodlands, trails, roads and sidewalks will temporarily close during the work, limiting access to trails, parks and natural areas. Please respect our crews and stay out of signed work areas. Watch your ash

Hazardous limbs and trees from private property are the responsibility of the owner. Under the Property Standards Bylaw, you must reassess, remove and replace any ash trees impacted by EAB or hazard trees.

About the Emerald Ash Borer Plan  
The emerald ash borer (EAB) is a highly destructive, non-native, wood-boring beetle that feeds under the bark of ash trees, ultimately killing them. EAB is expected to destroy close to 100 per cent of Guelph's untreated street, park and woodland ash trees. For more information, visit [guelph.ca/eab](http://guelph.ca/eab).

GUELPH'S New initiative encourages innovation around recycling of construction, renovation and demolition waste  
Bids to develop waste diversion solution are being accepted until October 5  
Earlier this week, the City of Guelph and County of Wellington launched the Circular Opportunity Innovation Launchpad's (COIL) newest Civic Innovation Challenge to help a local business develop an innovative solution that facilitates the on-site separation and recycling of construction, renovation and demolition materials. It's the latest initiative in a number of programs being delivered as part of COIL's Zero Waste Economic Transformation Lab to deliver circular economy strategies that reduce or redirect waste.

Construction, renovation and demolition (CRD) materials, such as concrete, drywall, cabinetry and lumber, make up approximately one third of the waste Canadians send to landfills every year. If properly separated, most of these materials can be reused or recycled. Guelph's Waste Resource Innovation Centre promotes recycling of CRD materials through recycling programs for concrete/brick/rubble/porcelain, asphalt shingles, clean wood and gypsum drywall - most offered with a lower tipping fee than if disposed at Guelph's transfer station to be landfilled. However, construction waste is currently placed in a single dumpster, meaning virtually none of these materials are reclaimed or recycled.

Through Zero Waste Economic Transformation Lab's Civic Innovation Challenge, COIL is looking for a local business or innovator interested in developing a new business model to support onsite source separation, alternative waste hauling methods or another innovative idea to divert CRD materials for small industrial, commercial or institutional (ICI) and residential construction, renovation and demolition projects. A winner will be selected and awarded \$15,000 to pilot their new system in collaboration with the Smart Cities Office and the City's Solid Waste Resources department.

"We know there are lots of places around the world where they've made source separation and recycling the norm for construction waste, and we're looking for innovative companies that want to lead that change in Guelph-Wellington and across southern Ontario," says David Messer, manager, COIL. "Since we've started mapping the local construction system, we know that source separation at the job site is an important to the diversion of valuable materials from landfill and will support the development of new circular economy businesses."

The challenge is being supported by Co-operators as part of its funding to support a circular economy. "For the last nine years, our claims team at Co-operators has been actively working to divert materials from property claims away from landfills and back into the economy to make our communities more sustainable and resilient," says Tom Ewart, Co-operators' Associate Vice President, Sustainability. "We're delighted to take our efforts to the next level with COIL and are excited to see this Civic Innovation Challenge launched."

"When we were updating the City's Solid Waste Management Master Plan

with circular economy recommendations, we had envisioned innovations that would support a future-ready Guelph by taking ambitious steps to care for the local environment," says Heather Connell, Guelph's Environmental Services manager, Business and Technical Services. "By focusing on reducing CRD materials within the landfill, we're deepening our connection to the environment, extending the life of the landfill and tackling what is both a local and global challenge through innovation and action." COIL welcomes a range of potential proposal ideas and approaches in support of the overall goal to reduce CRD materials being sent to landfill. Please see bid #22-118 on Guelph's bids opportunity website for more information including the tender package and bid information. All bids are due by 2:30 p.m. on October 5, 2022.

About COIL  
Launched in April 2021 COIL is a smart cities initiative of the City of Guelph and the County of Wellington aimed at creating, proving and scaling transformative solutions across the food and environment sectors in southern Ontario that will move Canada toward a more sustainable, circular economy. COIL builds on the success of Our Food Future initiative, which in 2019 won the Government of Canada's Smart Cities Challenge with a vision to create a regional circular food economy across Guelph and Wellington County.

COIL's Zero Waste Economic Transformation Lab was launched in January 2022 with the goal of expanding Guelph-Wellington's circular economy work to new sectors beyond food. Zero Waste Economic Transformation Lab applies circular economy theories to develop and test new opportunities to reduce, redirect or generate new innovations from materials currently viewed as waste. As the lab's founding corporate supporter, Co-operators has pledged a \$350,000 investment to establish the lab and fund its first project to divert construction, renovation and demolition materials from landfill. Help shape Guelph's future by guiding City matters that affect your community Volunteer for a City advisory committee or board by September 22

Guelph, Ont., September 1, 2022 - We're looking for volunteers to serve on one of 21 City advisory committees and boards. The deadline to apply is September 22. We rely on volunteers to bring their diverse backgrounds and expertise to participate on these boards and committees and represent our community voices. They are a unique way for you to provide input and expertise that guide recommendations on matters that affect the entire community. Bring your experience to these advisory committees and boards:

- \* Accessibility Advisory Committee
- \* Art Gallery of Guelph
- \* Committee of Adjustment
- \* Community Grant Allocation Panel
- \* Downtown Guelph Business Association
- \* The Elliott Board of Trustees
- \* Guelph Cemetery Commission
- \* Guelph Museums Advisory Committee
- \* Guelph Police Services Board
- \* Guelph Public Library Board
- \* Guelph Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors
- \* Heritage Guelph
- \* Municipal Property and Building Commemorative Naming Committee
- \* Natural Heritage Advisory Committee
- \* Planning Advisory Committee
- \* Property Standards Committee
- \* Public Art Advisory Committee
- \* Transit Advisory Committee
- \* Tourism Advisory Committee
- \* Waste Resource Innovation Centre Public Liaison Advisory Committee
- \* Water Conservation and Efficiency Public Advisory Committee

How to apply  
To apply go to [guelph.ca/committees](http://guelph.ca/committees), select "Vacancies" in the Local Boards and Advisory Committees chart, click on the board or committee you're interested in and select "Apply" to submit an application. If you don't have access to a computer or need assistance with the application process, give us a call at 519-822-1260 extension 5603.

Making boards and committees more diverse  
As a part of our Diversity and Inclusion Plan, we're ensuring City boards and committees reflect the diverse people who live in Guelph and their lived experiences and expertise. We recognize through the work of the Community Plan that there's a role to play in making these positions welcoming to everyone including Black, Indigenous and racialized individuals, members of LGBTQ2+ community, people living with disabilities and other underrepresented groups. For this reason, qualified applicants who self-identify as being a part of an equity-seeking group will be given priority during the application process.

## TORONTO POLICE SEARCHING FOR 3 SUSPECTS FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1  
\* while at the establishment, the woman met three men, not previously known to her  
\* the woman left the establishment with one of the men  
\* the other two men left shortly after  
\* the woman was then sexually assaulted by all three men  
Suspect #1 is described as 25-35-years-old, with a thin beard. He was wearing a black turban, black T-shirt with a large brown patch on the left side with black pocket, blue pants, black shoes.  
Suspect #2 is described as 25-35-years-old, with a beard. He was wearing a burgundy turban, brown or cream coloured checkered shirt, blue pants.  
Suspect #3 is described as 25-35-years-old, with a beard and short brown hair. He was wearing a red long sleeve shirt, black pants, and black shoes. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 416-808-7474, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477), or at [www.222tips.com](http://www.222tips.com).

## EXCITING NEW OUTDOOR EXHIBIT FEATURING BRAMPTON-BORN, ABSTRACT ARTIST RUSSNA KAUR COMES TO PAMA TILL JANUARY 5, 2023



Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) invites you to visit downtown Brampton this September to see our new outdoor banner exhibit featuring the work of Brampton-raised, Vancouver-based artist Russna Kaur. Russna Kaur: Maze of control and the slightest chaos will be on display at PAMA from September 1, 2022 – January 5, 2023. This project was created in partnership with the Arts, Culture and Creative Industry Development Agency (ACCIDA) and guest curated by Renée van der Avoird who was also raised in Brampton. Artist Russna Kaur is known for her vibrant, large-scale abstract paintings. Often modular and multi-surfaced, her dizzying fields of colour, texture, and line challenge our expectations of what a painting can be. Kaur pushes the pictorial frame beyond its limits, sometimes extending her paintings to include immersive wall drawings, other times composing works out of multiple panels that can be rearranged according to their location.

In Maze of control and the slightest chaos, a new three-part, site-specific vinyl banner, Kaur revisits her Brampton roots. The city's rich mixture of identities and cultural expressions cohabiting in a suburban setting serves as inspiration for the artist. Elements of her experience in Brampton are embodied here, culminating in a distinctive visual vocabulary that continues the artist's profound experimentations with colour. Drawing from her Punjabi community and the complex role colour plays within it, Kaur juxtaposes bold hues to create unexpected perceptual collisions.

"For the banners, Kaur is splicing elements from two separate paintings and enlarging them on a monumental scale. Her bright, contrasting colours and meandering lines playfully engage with PAMA's architecture and surrounding landscape, and offer a captivating visual experience for visitors. This is an exciting moment of homecoming for Kaur, who grew up in Brampton and remains closely tied to her community here. For this project she thought deeply about Brampton's cultural richness and the impact it has had on her artistic practice. The banners are a response to – and celebration of – that richness. Furthermore, this project, which is a unique collaboration between ACCIDA and PAMA, is an opportunity for Bramptonians to be immersed in the work of a young local artist who is quickly gaining recognition across Canada and in the United States." – Guest Curator Renée van der Avoird.

Artist Talk with Russna Kaur  
On Saturday, Sept. 17, PAMA welcomes the artist in-person for a free artist talk and a drop-in 'Go with the Flow' creative activity inspired by her work. Don't miss out on this opportunity to meet the artist and get creative! Check out our calendar for all the details.

Artist Talk with Russna Kaur: 2 – 3 p.m.  
Go with the Flow drop-in family activity: 12 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
PAMA is a place to explore and learn about Peel Region's culture and heritage, as well as use conversation, questions and stories to help make new and fascinating connections to the surrounding community. Throughout the year, PAMA offers a variety of workshops and programs for all ages, families and adults. With so many different programs to choose from, PAMA has something for everyone. Operated by the Region of Peel, PAMA is located at 9 Wellington Street East in Brampton. Visit [pama.peelregion.ca](http://pama.peelregion.ca) to learn more.

## FIRST 90-ACRE HINDU PARK COMING UP IN CANADA'S BRAMPTON CITY TO BE NAMED AFTER HOLY GITA

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1  
The Brampton city Municipal Corporation has allotted 90 acres of conservative forest land for the purpose which will be beautifully landscaped and have sculptures of Lord Krishna and Arjuna, the two main characters of the Gita besides some other Hindu deities. Patrick Brown, mayor of Brampton says that keeping the basic principle of secularism on the top, the city council after naming Guru Nanak Road and a Masjid Drive will now set up Gita Park. "We respect all religions followed by the citizens of the metropolitan area," he maintains. The mayor disclosed that the park would have facilities for 'Garba' celebrations, a basketball court, a cricket field, and a place for doing yoga. "It will be a real meeting place for the people of all walks of life," says the mayor. The 90-acre Gita Park will be the largest in the world outside India where Hindu culture will be showcased. The Hindu community residing in Brampton has welcomed the decision of the city council saying that it will help create better relations among all religions and races including the whites who will be free to use the park. Don Patel, a leading Hindu activist while talking to local Omni TV, says the Gita spreads the message of peace and love. The park will kindle curiosity in the minds of youngsters to read and know what the Gita preaches.

## 60% OF CANADIANS DON'T INCLUDE THEIR MORTGAGE IN MONTHLY BUDGETING: IG WEALTH MANAGEMENT MORTGAGE STUDY

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

The study, conducted in partnership with Pollara Strategic Insights, found that: More than two-thirds (67 per cent) of all Canadians reported having a budget that helps them manage their monthly cashflow. These budgets include expenses such as groceries (90 per cent), gas (72 per cent), and entertainment and savings (54 per cent each). However, despite the fact that mortgage payments are among the largest monthly expenses (35 per cent) for those who hold one, just two-fifths (39 per cent) reported that they factor in their mortgage when developing their monthly budget. "In many cases, monthly mortgage payments, along with taxes, account for one of the largest monthly expenses Canadians face," said Alana Riley, Head of Mortgage, Insurance and Banking, IG Wealth Management. "So, while it is encouraging that so many reported having a monthly budget, it's only providing a partial snapshot of their overall cashflow situation if they don't factor in their mortgage. In order to truly optimize the effectiveness of a monthly budget, it should include all major expenses and be a part of a comprehensive financial plan that captures all dimensions of an individual's financial world."

### Canadians Concerned About Rising Rates, Inflation

Ms. Riley noted the integration of one's mortgage in budgeting has taken on added importance in a rising interest rate and inflationary environment. In fact, the study found: More than half (56 per cent) of mortgage holders are concerned about their ability to make their mortgage payments should interest rates continue to rise. Just 45 per cent feel they will be mortgage free by the time they retire. Sixty per cent of all Canadians feel they will have to reduce their expenses given rising interest rates and costs, and 43 per cent are unsure how they will be able to make ends meet on a monthly

basis. "The combination of rising interest rates and inflation is causing stress for many Canadians and in some cases tense dinner table conversations across the country," stated Ms. Riley. "Canadian families are wrestling with questions such as should they go with a fixed or variable rate mortgage, how can they more effectively manage their money and what can they do to set themselves up for the future, whether it be their retirement, the purchase of a home or paying for their children's education. The value of advice and financial planning has never been more important."

"If you have questions about your finances or the current economic environment, seek out the help of a financial advisor who can work with you to build a holistic plan and help you face the future with confidence," concluded Ms. Riley.

### About IG Wealth Management

Founded in 1926, IG Wealth Management is a national leader in delivering personalized financial solutions to Canadians through a network of advisors located across Canada. In addition to an exclusive family of mutual funds and other investment vehicles, IG offers a wide range of other financial services. IG Wealth Management has \$110.4 billion in assets under advisement as of July 31, 2022 and is a member of the IGM Financial Inc. (TSX: IGM) group of companies. IGM Financial is one of Canada's leading diversified wealth and asset management companies with approximately \$252.9 billion in total assets under management and advisement as of July 31, 2022.

### About the Pollara Study

This study was conducted with an online sample of 1,590 adult Canadians between July 28th and August 08th, 2022. Results from a random sample of this size can be considered accurate to within ±2.5% per cent, 19 times out of 20. Results have been weighted to be reflective of the Canadian homeowner population.





## ABOUT 9K VOTERS TO ELECT CONGRESS PRESIDENT; ROW OVER ELECTORAL LIST DEEPENS

Over 9,000 Congress members would vote to elect the next party President, election for which would be held after a long gap 22 years on October 17. In the last such election that was held in 2000, current interim President Sonia Gandhi had defeated Jitendra Prasada, who managed just 94 out of 7,542 votes. Prior to that, Sitaram Kesri had defeated Sharad Pawar and Rajesh Pilot by securing 6,224 votes. Pawar had secured 882 votes, while Pilot got 354 votes. Former Congress President Rahul Gandhi has, however, declined to run for the party chief's post this time even as efforts are on to persuade him. Senior leaders such as Mallikarjun Kharge and Salman Khurshid have said that they will try to convince Rahul Gandhi on the matter. Ahead of the notification on the election, some Congress leaders have raised the issue of electoral rolls, saying it should be made public. Party leaders such as Anand Sharma, Manish Tewari, Karti Chidambaram and Shashi Tharoor have already expressed their opinion on the issue of electoral rolls. They have urged the party's Central Election Authority (CEA), headed by senior Congress leader Madhusudan Mistry, to make the electoral rolls public by making them available on the Congress website. However, the CEA has said that these rolls would be made available only to the candidates contesting the poll. Congress General Secretary (Organisation), K.C. Venugopal, said that it (the list) is an internal matter and hence, it cannot be made public. "The schedule for the party chief's election has already been announced, and those who want to contest for the post should file the nomination before September 30," he said. Underlining the need of a well-defined electoral college, Karti Chidambaram said any ad hoc electoral college is meaningless. He said: "Every election needs a well defined and clear electoral

college. The process of forming the electoral college must also be clear, well defined and transparent. An ad hoc electoral college is no electoral college." Leaders of the Congress' G-23 camp are also planning to contest the presidential polls slated for October 17 with former Union Minister Shashi Tharoor and former Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan being considered as "key candidates", sources said. However, there was no clarity on the situation while the G-23, which had sought wide-ranging reforms in the party that has lately been hit by the departure of senior leaders such as Ghulam Nabi Azad, Kapil Sibal and others. Tharoor had apparently dropped hints on contesting for the top party post in an article on Monday but has not clearly indicated if he would be jumping into the fray. According to party sources, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has emerged front-runner for the post of the Congress President -- being seen as choice of interim chief Sonia Gandhi even as some want the return of Rahul Gandhi. Interestingly, Gehlot has also proposed the Gandhi scion's name. Keeping that in mind, the G-23 was understood to have decided to file a candidate if no Gandhi stands in the poll for Congress president. However, it remains to be seen if the G-23 camp would do so as Sonia Gandhi's choice is unlikely to be challenged. According to poll schedule, the date of issuance of notification is September 22, while nominations can be filed between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. from September 24 to 30. The scrutiny will be done on October 1. The last date of withdrawal is October 8. The polling would be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on October 17 at all Pradesh Congress Committee headquarters. The counting of votes will be held on October 19.

## YOUNG TYCOON CYRUS MISTRY'S DEATH IN ROAD CRASH HIGHLIGHTS IMPORTANCE OF WEARING SEAT BELTS EVEN FOR REAR PASSENGERS

Wearing rear seat belts may be mandatory in India, but, a majority of people on rear seats don't bother - and this can be fatal, say experts. While the government has made it mandatory for car makers to install six airbags, but, experts said that people, especially rear seat passengers, need to be educated to wear seat belts as abroad. "It is to be kept in mind that in the event of a crash, if the passenger has not fastened his seat belt, the deployment of the airbag could end up killing the passenger, even if the crash does not kill. Six airbags imply that the rear seat passengers would also be covered. The practice of fastening seat belts in the rear seat is very low even in big cities and metros and near-zero in the mid to smaller cities of India. Worse still, the awareness that if an airbag deploys without a seat belt, it could be injurious or fatal - is very low in India," said K.K. Kapila, President(emeritus) International Road Federation (IRF). While referring to the Sunday's accident involving industrialist Cyrus Mistry and others, former Chief Election Commissioner, S.Y. Quraishi, in a tweet, said: "Now that it is confirmed that he and co passenger in the rear seat were not wearing a seat belt, the government must launch an awareness/ enforcement campaign. It's shocking information that airbags don't open if the belt is not worn".

Even Motor Vehicle Rules say that passengers in the rear seats (back seat) are also supposed to wear seat belts. As stated in Rule 138 (3) of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR), the driver and the person seated in the front seat or the persons occupying front facing rear seats, as the case may be, wear the seat belts while the vehicle is in motion. Failure to do so can result in a fine of Rs 1,000. As per a WHO report, wearing a seatbelt reduces the risk of death among drivers and front seat occupants by 45-50 per cent, and the risk of death and serious injuries among rear seat occupants by 25 per cent. Passengers sitting on rear seats have nothing to hold them into their position in case of an accident if the seatbelt is not strapped in. A rear passenger not wearing seat belts, in case of an accident, is prone to hitting the front seat's backrest. This can lead to whiplash injury, often impacting vertebrae and cutting oxygen supply to the brain in many cases. In many cases, a rear passenger without belts can collide with the front seat, pushing the front passenger into the dashboard or deploying an airbag, posing a fatal risk. It has been seen that in a few cases, the rear passengers can even fly out of the windscreen or hit the dashboard or steering wheel.

### AAP GOVT TOO HOLDS BACK TRIAL OF CORRUPT OFFICIALS IN RS 1,000 CRORE GST SCAM IN PUNJAB

The AAP Government in Punjab is sitting over a request of the state's Vigilance Bureau for sanction to prosecute a large number of senior excise and taxation officers accused of corruption in the collection of Goods and Services Tax (GST) due to which the cash-strapped state has been cheated of over Rs 1,000 crore in revenue. The Punjab Vigilance Bureau registered two FIRs in the year 2020 and exposed a nexus between a divisional excise and taxation commissioner (DETC), 3 assistant excise and taxation commissioners, and 11 excise and taxation officers (ETOs). Two transporters who represented the truckers in the state have also been booked in the case as they played a key role in the scam. The corruption scandal was detected in 2020 but was going on at least two or three years prior to this as well, senior officials said. The Vigilance Bureau after completing the investigation filed a challan in the special court, Mohali on September 26, 2020 but the trial of the accused could not start as the sanction for the prosecution from the then Congress government in the state led by Captain Amarinder Singh was held back. As many as 34 times the judge has taken up the matter for further hearing since the case was filed in 2020 but each time he was informed that the sanction from the government has not come through. While this had been happening in the case of the Congress government which had been accused of large-scale corruption, things were expected to change with the AAP government coming to power. However, the Bhagwant Mann government which had vowed to root out corruption in the state also appears to be dragging its feet over granting sanction for prosecution so that the trial can proceed in court. The sanctioning authority, in AAP government now is Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema who also holds the charge of the Excise and Taxation Department. Cheema when contacted on phone by Indian Narrative on Sunday said, "it is an old case, and I don't remember anything about it. I will have to check with my office before I answer your question." An email was sent to the financial commissioner, taxation Mr. Ajoy Sharma on Friday to know why the sanction for prosecution was not being granted, but he did not reply. The modus operandi of the accused officers was to allow trucks belonging to certain transporters to pass tax barriers without paying GST or to undervalue goods that were loaded. The services of some "passer boys" were taken who would in advance contact the excise officer concerned on his mobile phone informing him that such and such number of loaded trucks entering or leaving Punjab belonged to a particular transporter. This was a sufficient indication for the officer that the trucks were to be cleared without much ado. Those whom VB is seeking to prosecute are Simranjit Singh, DETC, Piara Singh, ETO, Moga, Ravinanadan, ETO, Fazilka, Varun Nagpal, ETO, Muktsar, Kalicharan, ETO, flying wing Chandigarh, Satpal Multani, ETO, Faridkot, Ved Parkash Jakhar, ETO, Fazilka, Lakhbir Singh, ETO, mobile wing, Amritsar 1, Japsimran Singh, ETO, Amritsar, Dinesh Gaur, ETO, Amritsar, Sushil Kumar, ETO, Patiala, and Ram Kumar, Inspector, mobile wing, Jalandhar. The investigating officer, Ashish Kapoor, the then AIG VB, informed the court through the challan that the phone calls of the accused with transporters Vijay Kumar of Ludhiana and Somnath of Phagwara were secretly recorded to reach the truth. The transcript of the recorded calls was presented in court wherein payment of bribes was openly discussed and confirmed.

### AROUND 25L DOMESTIC CONSUMERS IN PUNJAB GOT 'ZERO' ELECTRICITY BILL



Around 25 lakh domestic consumers in Punjab have got 'zero' electricity bill, state Power Minister Harbhajan Singh said on Saturday. The minister told the media in Amritsar that this is the first time the government is fulfilling its election promises in the initial year itself, "otherwise governments have been fulfilling election promises only in the last year of their tenure". He said due to the relief given by the Punjab government of 300 units per month, the electricity bills of 25 lakh domestic consumers of the state have been 'zero'. He said no caste or religion has been made a basis under this electricity amnesty scheme, but every household consumer who consumes up to 600 units of electricity in two months will get 'zero' electricity bill. If one uses more electricity than this, he will have to pay the entire electricity bill. The Power Minister also said due to the two-month bill circle with electricity waiver, consumers are getting 600 units of free electricity, which is more than the requirement of every normal household. He said due to the electricity waiver given from July 1, out of the bills that have come in August, 25 lakh consumers will not have to pay the bill. The minister said that out of the total 72 lakh domestic consumers, bills were sent to 42 lakh consumers, out of which 25 lakh families have received zero bills. Apart from this, 34 lakh families have got the benefit of subsidised electricity at Rs 3 per unit.

### PUNJAB: SIT CONSTITUTED FOR SPEEDY PROBE INTO DESECRATION, FIRING INCIDENT IN CHURCH



The Punjab government has constituted a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) for speedy investigation into the desecration and firing incident in a church at Thakarpura village in Tarn Taran district. The SIT, headed by Inspector General of Police (IGP) Ferozpur Range, includes SSP Tarn Taran and SP Investigation Tarn Taran. Four unidentified persons on Tuesday night entered the Infant Jesus Catholic Church, Thakarpura, tied the watchman at gunpoint, and mutilated Pieta, the statue of Jesus in the lap of his mother Mary. In a statement, DGP Gaurav Yadav said that the SIT will conduct day-to-day investigation into this case and ensure to submit a final report in the competent court at the earliest. The SIT can also co-opt any other officer/official for assistance in the investigation of the case, he added. The DGP reiterated that besides maintaining law and order, the Punjab Police is committed to maintaining a peaceful atmosphere and communal harmony in Punjab. He said that Police teams are investigating the case from all angles and all the culprits will be arrested soon and strict punitive action against them will be ensured. In connection with the incident, the FIR no. 148 dated 31-8-2022 had been registered under sections 295-A, 452, 427, and 34 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and section 25 of the Arms Act at Sadar Patti Police Station in Tarn Taran.

**CONG PREZ POLLS:  
MYTH OR REALITY? - I**

**THE LIKELY CONTENDERS**

**Ashok Gehlot** Rajasthan Chief Minister and Gandhi family loyalist. Choice of the Gandhis for the post, but said to be reluctant. He's pitching for Rahul Gandhi.

**Shashi Tharoor** Lok Sabha MP from Thiruvananthapuram since 2009, he has been vocal for party reforms. His recent meeting with Ashok Gehlot intensified speculation about his intention to contest.

**Prithviraj Chavan** Former Maharashtra Chief Minister, who was close to Rajiv Gandhi, and at present a member of the G-23 group of dissidents, has been a vocal critic of the party's "coterie culture".

**QUICK FACT**

**The Congress has not had an elected president since 2000** when Sonia Gandhi defeated Jitendra Prasada, who secured just 94 out of 7,542 votes.





# INDIA-BANGLADESH BILATERAL TIES: A ROLE MODEL FOR GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD DIPLOMACY

Ever since the Liberation War in 1971, Bangladesh and India have shared a special relationship not only due to their geographical boundaries, but also largely owing to their shared cultural, linguistic and historical connections. India, during the war for liberation of the Bangladeshi nation, provided much of the required humanitarian as well as militaristic support which was so duly needed at the time. Both the countries since then, have shared a gigantic 4000 km long border which makes Bangladesh India’s longest land sharing neighbour in the South Asian region. Bangladesh’s current Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina recently described the India-Bangladesh bilateral relations as a ‘role model of good neighbourhood diplomacy’. This statement hence came as an assertion of the long-shared friendship the two nations have had for the past five decades. India, on the other hand, was amongst the first countries in the world to establish its diplomatic relations with the newly independent nation in December of 1971. Since then, Bangladesh has gone on to become India’s biggest developmental and trading partner in South Asia. This has prompted the two neighbouring countries in contributing to each other’s economic and social prosperity. Major advancements have also been made on security and water sharing issues that have largely been a small thorn in the mutually cordial relations between the two nations. Soon after Bangladesh’s independence, both the nations went on to sign 13 agreements related to trade, telecommunication, culture and other domains in the early 1970’s. At the time this was seen in a way as the Bangladeshi nation’s approval for forging friendlier relations with their land sharing neighbour. The two countries also share around 54 common rivers amongst them; in 1972 a bilateral Joint River Commission was set up between the two to maintain mutual contact in order to maximize benefits for the shared river systems. In an advancement to such beneficial relations, Bangladesh and India signed a Framework

Agreement on Cooperation for Development, under which both parties agreed to narrow the trade imbalances by reworking their trade and non-tariff barriers while also agreeing to expand their cooperation to the sub-regional level as well. A recent development in their relations has also come by way of both the countries working towards signing a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which emphasises on three specific dimensions; trade in goods, services and investments. The goal of such an agreement is to open up newer avenues, including new markets and multi-modal connectivity while also focusing on reduction on trade gaps that have been persisting. In a testimony to such an enduring relationship based on mutually beneficial agreements, both the countries had also brought the Land Boundary Agreement into force in 2015 by exchanging the instruments of ratification. This came as a symbol of willingness in which both the countries were inclined towards resolving issues that were seen to be hindering the relationship. These ties however, have also been witnessing stronger political will to engage further than their current positions; in the recent past, India and Bangladesh both have substantiated their mutual trust beyond the general cooperation in specific sectors. In the past eight years, India has extended credit lines worth \$8 billion to its neighbour for developmental projects in sectors including roadways, shipping, ports and railways. This makes Bangladesh the recipient of India’s largest concessional credit lines to a single country around the globe. India is also contributing to various projects in Bangladesh which includes an upgradation of the Ashuganj river port and Akhaura land port road with a credit line of more than \$400 million. A road project connecting the India- Bangladesh border which eases connectivity to some of the north eastern states of India with Bangladesh is also being worked upon with a further line of credit worth \$80 million from the Indian nation.

## INDIA-CHINA – AN ESCALATING DISPUTE SINCE 1962

**CONTD. FROM PAGE 1**  
Experts, who keep eye on India-China bilateral relations, are of the view that the construction of roads in eastern Ladakh region is one the reasons why the tension between the two have escalated during the past few years. According to an annual report by the Indian Defence Ministry, an area for construction of 3,812 km-long road was identified near the India-China border, of which 3,418 km of construction work was given to the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) and most of the projects have been completed. Though instances of minor skirmishes on borders were reported in past as well, but now the things are getting uglier and these altercations are getting more frequent and violent. Chinese infrastructure built-up is getting dense on Line of Actual Control (LAC) with construction of bridges and runways, forcing India to increase its patrolling in the region. The escalation of conflict is linked to several crucial events during the recent years. One such event was India’s decision to carve out Ladakh into a separate Union Territory. China had opposed this decision, claiming that the reorganisation would directly “impede China’s sovereignty”.

## PAKISTAN'S PETTY POLITICS PUTS COUNTRY IN AN ECONOMIC TAILSPIN

**CONTD. FROM PAGE 1**  
Food inflation skyrocketed to a 47-year high at 27.3 per cent in August. And the global lender of the last resort, the IMF has warned that runaway inflation could trigger protests and instability in the cash-strapped nation. Federal Finance Minister Miftah Ismail wants Pakistan to import at least vegetables from India to tide over food crisis. But the issue has become a hot potato with the Opposition led by former Prime Minister Imran Khan kicking up a row over the proposal. The beleaguered Shehbaz Sharif government has turned to Iran and Afghanistan for onions and tomatoes but it is not clear to what extent the two neighbours can oblige Pakistan. The Imran Khan regime had banned trade with India three years ago after New Delhi did away with the special status to Jammu and Kashmir under the Indian constitution as a part of its drive to firmly deal with terrorism emanating from Pakistani soil and from Kashmir under Pakistan. And made normalization of bilateral hostage to a roll back of the decision. Now, propelled by political compulsions, the hanging-by-threat Prime Minister Sharif and his uneasy coalition government say now “no import from India, come what may”. A reminder of what late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had said: “Pakistanis will eat grass but will have the bomb.” Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the grandfather of incumbent Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, was solely responsible for the separation of Bangladesh from Pakistan in 1971 when he refused to let the majority party (Awami League of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman) to form the government. It will be interesting to watch how the UN terror funding watchdog, Financial Action Task Force (FATF), does about lifting Pakistan out of its grey list (since 2018). Its team is due to land in Islamabad for on-the-spot inspection of the measures taken to curb terror financing and money laundering in the land of the pure, as Pakistanis love to hail their country. Pakistan’s prayer to the FATF, and money lending agencies is “take a lenient view”.



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### Kitchen Range Hood

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## GOODBYE TRAILER OUT: AMITABH BACHCHAN, RASHMIKA MANDANNA FAMILY SAGA PROMISES LAUGHTER AND DRAMA

Amitabh Bachchan and Rashmika Mandanna-starrer is set to hit the theatres on October 7. The film, which happens to be a saga of family bonds, is Rashmika's Bollywood debut film. Helmed by Vikas Bahl, Goodbye is touted as a heart-warming story about life, family and relationships. Dropping the trailer, the Pushpa actress wrote, "A part of our #Goodbye baby is now yours.. This one is special for so many reasons but for now I hope you and your family like this.." Goodbye, a celebration of life, also stars Neena Gupta, Pavail Gulati, Elli AvrRam, Sunil Grover and Sahil Mehta in pivotal roles. The film will take the audience on a roller-coaster of emotions filled with laughter, warmth and tears. Talking about the film, Pavail Gulati told HT, "It is a family entertainer and has lots of drama and comedy. It is about a family which is going through something. I am dying for its

trailer to be out. I am attempting comedy for the first time. I was so nervous before doing it but once I entered it, I thoroughly enjoyed myself." A couple of days back, Amitabh Bachchan took to his Instagram handle and dropped the first look poster of the film in which he was seen flying a kite while Rashmika, who will play his daughter in the film, was seen holding the thread behind him. "Family is important. When everyone leaves you, it is family that remains," Big B wrote in Hindi, adding, "Goodbye releasing in cinemas near you on October 2022!" In the poster, Big B wore a white kurta which he paired with a blue puffer jacket, while Rashmika donned salwar suit. Produced by Ektaa R Kapoor's Balaji Motion Pictures in association with Good Co, Goodbye is all set for worldwide release in cinemas on 7th October 2022.

### JANHVI KAPOOR REMINISCES PLAYING 'TEACHER-TEACHER' WITH SISTER KHUSHI

On the occasion of Teachers' Day on Monday, actress Janhvi Kapoor has recalled how she used to play 'teacher-teacher' and enact scenes from the Hollywood blockbuster 'Titanic' with her younger sister Khushi. During a conversation on the platform Moj, Janhvi reminisced her childhood days with Khushi, revealing her undying love for ice cream, and sharing many more fun anecdotes. On being asked how Janhvi Kapoor used to celebrate Teachers' day, the actress said: "As a child, I had a big white wall in my room, and whatever I used to learn in that week in school, I used to make Khushi sit and played 'teacher teacher' with her. The white wall used to be my white board." Reminiscing her filmy childhood days, Janhvi added: "I used to play the role of 'Rose' and Khushi used to play the role of 'Jack' from Titanic. We used to make the bed our boat and enact the iconic scene from Titanic together. "Moreover, I used to also play the role of Deepika Padukone, and Khushi used to play the role of Shah Rukh Khan. We used to enact the scene from 'Om Shanti Om' where Deepika waves at the audience." On the acting front, Janhvi is currently shooting for 'Bawaal', which also stars Varun Dhawan. It is produced by Sajid Nadiadwala, under the banner of Nadiadwala Grandson. The film is directed by Nitesh Tiwari and will hit the screens on April 7, 2023. Khushi is all set to make her acting debut with Zoya Akhtar's directorial 'The Archies', which is produced under the banner of Tiger Baby Films. It also stars Shah Rukh Khan's daughter Suhana Khan, megastar Amitabh Bachchan's grandson Agastya Nanda, Mihir Ahuja, Dot, Yuvraj Menda, and Vedang Raina. The film is due for a 2023 release on streaming platform Netflix.



## Brahmastra runtime revealed, censor board clears the film with UA certificate

Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt starrer Brahmastra is all set to release on September 9. The film has been cleared by the Central Board of Film Certification with a U/A certificate. As per a report in Bollywood Hungama, the film's run time was also revealed to be close to three hours. The fantasy saga is clocked at 166 minutes (2 hours 46 minutes), making it a pretty lengthy film. Early trends suggest that the film's opening day collection could mint around Rs 18-22 crore. With many Hindi films not performing well at the box office in the recent past, the film industry's hopes are pinned on Brahmastra as it is reportedly the costliest film to emerge out of Bollywood. A previous report in Bollywood Hungama suggested that the film's budget is around Rs 410 crore. Apart from pan-Indian films such as RRR, 2.0, Saaho, and a few others, the most expensive Hindi film ever made has been YRF's 2018 period adventure Thugs of Hindostan, which was reportedly made on a budget of Rs 310 crore. Leading up to the release of Brahmastra, the makers have been releasing a new promo of the film every day. One of the promos also



gave an insight into the story of the film where Ranbir's Shiva is supposed to collect three artefacts to save the world from being demolished. The film also stars Amitabh Bachchan, Mouni Roy, Nagarjuna Akkineni. Shah Rukh Khan will also be seen in a special appearance in the film, as confirmed by Mouni Roy.

### TIFF ANNOUNCES A SURPRISE SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF BIOSPHERE SCREENING SEPTEMBER 10 IN THE VISA SCREENING ROOM AT THE PRINCESS OF WALES THEATRE

TORONTO — TIFF is excited to announce Biosphere, the directorial debut from award-winning producer Mel Eslyn and produced by Duplass Brothers Productions, will have its World Premiere on September 10 at 2:30pm as a surprise Special Presentation at the 47th edition of the Toronto International Film Festival. Eslyn has been the long-time president of Duplass Brothers Productions, producing some of the company's most acclaimed films and TV projects including Room 104, The Lady and the Dale, the Indie-Spirit winner 7 Days, The One I Love, and Language Lessons. She also collaborated on and produced a number of the late Lynn Shelton's films, including Your Sister's Sister and Outside In.



"I can't wait for Toronto audiences to take the ride that Biosphere offers," said Cameron Bailey, CEO of TIFF. "Mel Eslyn, Mark Duplass, and Sterling K. Brown have crafted a completely original movie that dazzles with its audacity. It just has to be seen." Set in the not-too-distant future, Biosphere follows the last two men on Earth as they adapt and evolve to save humanity. The film is co-written and directed by Eslyn and stars Brown and Mark Duplass, the latter of whom also co-wrote the film. Executive producers are Mark Duplass and Jay Duplass, and the producers are Zackary Drucker, Mel Eslyn, Maddie Buis, and Shuli Harel.

### Tamannaah Bhatia wants to become Hrithik Roshan and Vicky Kaushal's bouncer for a day

Tamannaah Bhatia launched the trailer of her upcoming comedy-drama Babli Bouncer in Mumbai on Monday, September 5. Set in Asola Fatehpur, known as the village of bouncers, the actress plays Babli, a 'desi pehelwaan' in the film who takes up a job as a lady bouncer in a club. At the trailer launch event, the Baahubali actress was asked to name two male Bollywood heroes whom she would like to protect as their bouncer. Tamannaah was quick to take the names of Hrithik Roshan and Vicky Kaushal as she said, "Kaafi saare log hain jinki bouncer main banna chahungi, abhi aapne mujhe wishlist de hi di hai toh might as well, Hrithik (Roshan) is someone I would love to be, in fact, if I get a chance to be a bouncer for a day, I would love to be his bouncer. Would love to be Vicky Kaushal's bouncer for a day. Ya, favourites", as per a report in IndiaToday.in. Babi Bouncer marks Madhur Bhandarkar's return to direction after five years as his last directorial Indu Sarkar, set during the emergency period in India, was released in 2017. Madhur has helmed critically acclaimed films like Traffic Signal, Corporate, Page 3, and Chandni Bar in the past.

### AKSHAY SAYS KAPIL SHARMA 'CAST AN EVIL EYE' ON HIS MONEY AND FILMS



As the popular comedy-based reality series 'The Kapil Sharma Show' is back with a new season and many fresh faces, the first episode welcomes Bollywood star Akshay Kumar along with Rakul Preet Singh, Sargun Mehta, producer Jackky Bhagnani and Chandrachur Singh.

It will also be the reunion for Kapil and Sargun on the show as she also appeared on it in a guest role in 2016.

In his hilarious style, the latest promo shows Kapil welcomes the guests and asks Akshay how he is looking young with every passing year to which Khiladi Kumar responds that he keeps an evil eye on everything and because of him his movies are not working at the box office.

"Yeh aadmi itni nazar lagata hai, sab cheezo pe. Dekho, meri filmon pe, poison pe nazar daal di. Ab filmein nahi chal rahi koi." (This man had an evil eye on everything from my money to films and see now none of my movies are working).

Kapil introduced his family on the show with new contestants including Srishty Rode, Gaurav Dubey, Shrikant Maski and Siddharth Sagar. Later, comedian Kiku Sharda entered as laundry waali Gudiya and asks Akshay to apologise to Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh, saying he took his clothes for washing and got delayed due to which he got himself clicked without them. Kiku hinted towards Ranveer's recent nude photo shoot. He said: "Unka kapda bhi hum hi dhote hain. Aur ek din kapda pohochane mein thoda sa late ho gaye, koi aake unka bina kapde ka photo le liye. (I wash his clothes. One day, I got a little late in getting them across to him, and that was when somebody came and took his photos without clothes)." 'The Kapil Sharma Show' is going to start from September 10 on Sony Entertainment Television.

### OSCAR-WINNING FILMMAKER JORDAN PEELE'S NOPE WILL SCREEN AT TIFF 2022



TORONTO — Rounding out this year's 2022 Toronto International Film Festival lineup is a special screening of Nope, writer-director Jordan Peele's latest boundary-breaking cinematic experience. Nope will screen as a special IMAX® presentation at the Cinesphere Theatre at Ontario Place, which has the distinction of being the world's first permanent IMAX® theatre. Following the screening, TIFF CEO Cameron Bailey will lead an engaging Q&A session with Jordan Peele. "Nope, like all of Jordan Peele's brilliant films, invites and rewards repeat viewings," said Bailey. "We're excited to offer TIFF audiences the chance to watch Nope in the spectacular setting of the world's first IMAX® cinema, and to hear insights from Peele himself on one of the most original, exciting films of the year." Nope is the story of OJ and Emerald Haywood, who have inherited a horse ranch from their father, carrying the torch of his craft as an animal wrangler for film and television. When they observe unexplained phenomena on the ranch, they attempt to capture the mystery on camera, drawing them into the eye of an irreversible storm. Written and directed by Peele (2017's Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay winner Get Out; 2019's Us), Nope stars Daniel Kaluuya, Keke Palmer, Steven Yeun, Michael Wincott, and Brandon Perea.

### TIFF ANNOUNCES IN CONVERSATION WITH... TAYLOR SWIFT

TORONTO — TIFF is thrilled to announce a special In Conversation With... Taylor Swift on Friday, September 9, at 7pm at TIFF Bell Lightbox as part of the 47th annual Toronto International Film Festival. Swift will introduce the first-ever screening of All Too Well: The Short Film on 35mm, and join TIFF CEO Cameron Bailey in an engaging conversation about filmmaking and the visual aspects of her music.

"We love the intersection of film and other art forms, and Taylor Swift is a brilliant visual thinker," said Bailey. "We're excited to hear Taylor's version of how absorbing influences from cinema led to her creating All Too Well: The Short Film, which we'll present in its original 35mm form for the first time at TIFF."

Swift is a creative powerhouse. Singer, songwriter, producer, actor, director — this multi-hyphenate artist is the only woman in history to win the Grammy Award for Album of the Year three times, tying for the most wins by any artist (alongside Frank Sinatra, Stevie Wonder, and Paul Simon), as well as earning prizes in eight other categories. In addition to music, Swift has long been a visual storyteller. From influencing the edits of her music videos, to writing the treatments herself and then making the jump to director, she has defined a distinct style that extends out of her songwriting. In 2021, she released re-recordings of Fearless (Taylor's Version) and Red (Taylor's Version), her acclaimed second and fourth albums, as an act of reclamation and creative empowerment. The latter release was followed by All Too Well: The Short Film, which she directed, wrote, produced, and appeared in. This year's In Conversation With... series connects audiences and film lovers around the world with some of the most talented artists working today. The 2022 lineup includes award-winning actors and creators who have helped shape the discourse in the entertainment industry.



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## INDIA LOSE TO SRI LANKA, MOVE CLOSER TO ELIMINATION

Defending champions India moved closer to elimination after a six-wicket defeat against Sri Lanka in their super four-stage match of the Asia Cup 2022 on Tuesday.

India skipper Rohit Sharma's 41-ball 72 went in vain, as the islanders completed a chase of 174 with a ball to spare.

India's journey to the final of the Asia Cup has now become dependent on the results of the other matches and India's remaining match. On the other hand, Sri Lanka topped the table by registering the second consecutive win.

Needing 21 in 12 balls, Sri Lanka scored 14 runs off the penultimate over bowled by Bhuvneshwar Kumar, almost sealing it in their favour.

Chasing what looked like a par score at the innings break, the Sri Lankans were off to a blazing start with openers Kusal Mendis (57 off 37 balls) and Pathum Nissanka (52 off 37 balls) putting on 91 runs at a brisk rate.

The fifty was up in the sixth over with both batters regularly finding the gaps and the boundaries with consummate ease, putting tremendous pressure on the Indian bowling attack that looked clueless against the positive approach adopted by the two Lankan batters. However, leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal had other ideas as he struck twice in the 12th over to put the brakes on Sri Lanka's march. Ravichandran Ashwin sent back Danushka Gunathilaka (1) to leave Sri Lanka in a spot of bother at 110 for three in the 14th over. In the first ball of the next over, Sri Lanka suffered a body blow as Chahal got the big wicket of Mendis, who has trapped lbw in front of

the wicket. But Sri Lanka skipper Dasun Shanaka (33 not out) and Bhanuka Rajapaksa (25 not out) remained till the end to complete the task for their team with a match-winning, fifth-wicket partnership of 64 runs. Earlier, Rohit played a fine knock.

Rohit blazed away after India lost two early wickets, hitting five fours and four sixes during his entertaining knock. He was well supported by Suryakumar Yadav (34 off 29 balls) during a stand of 97 runs for the third wicket.

But Rohit's dismissal triggered a slide as India added 63 runs after being 110 for three in the 13th over, when the skipper got out.

Sri Lanka were off to a dream start as they removed opener KL Rahul (6) and one-down Virat Kohli (0) in quick succession, leaving defending champions India in early trouble at 13 for two in the third over.

Rohit though remained positive and kept the scoreboard moving at a healthy rate, making his intention clear when he played Chamika Karunaratne over wide mid-on for a boundary.

The Indian captain then hit Theekshana for a four over square leg, helping India score 44 runs in the six powerplay overs.

Leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga and Karunaratne then bowled a couple of tight overs, succeeding in containing the duo of Rohit and Suryakumar Yadav.

However, Karunaratne dismissed Rohit and the batting line-up of India struggled after that. India kept losing wickets and managed to add just 173 runs on the board which was certainly not enough for the aggressive Sri Lanka batting line-up.

## INDIA'S FIRST T20 BATTING GREAT SURESH RAINA RETIRES FROM IPL, READY TO GO FREE AGENT TO PLAY IN T20 LEAGUES AROUND THE WORLD



Suresh Raina, the IPL giant, has finally freed himself from the shackles of Indian cricket. He has retired from IPL and Indian domestic cricket, and is now ready to play in the T20 leagues around the world. Will the Hundred in England, the CPL in West Indies, the BBL in Australia, the UAE league pick up Raina?

Of all the modern-day Indian batsmen, who saddled pre-IPL days with the IPL era, Raina took to T20 like a duck to water. His Test cricket days were threatened, the ODI cricket itself would slowly lose its buzz, and he identified T20 as the universe where he belongs. It was his spiritual home where he got the elusive respect.

He found all he had to do was to tweak a bit to his batting to fit right into the T20 world. In one technical aspect, he is certainly the lodestar of T20 and modern-day cricket in India. It was Suresh Raina who perfected the arm-extension after the bat made impact with the ball – especially for the six over covers off length deliveries from pacers. He would lean across, and not just punch but extend his forearm fully while following through. If one cuts out that last-instant post-impact extension, the shot would seem just like a normal traditional punch. The beefy big hitters don't need it. They can just flex the muscles or have golf-like swings. The compact ones need these extra wings to make the ball fly. One can see that Raina imprint in the likes of KL Rahul. He sensed T20 moments better than most batsmen. He had the courage to go big from first ball.

What is now called the new Indian approach, Raina had it pat years ago. He knows the exact moment when something clicked in his head, regarding that approach: a meeting in his early days with the Chennai Super Kings team when Matthew Hayden spoke up in a team meeting. "Hayden, [Michael] Hussey came to team and I thought, yaar yeh sab toh bade players hain. (These are all big players, I thought). There was a meeting before a KKR game. Someone said we should take a few balls to settle in, assess the pitch. Hayden stood up, and said: "No I will take on Ishan Sharma or whoever from the first ball. I am thinking, "Yaar, pehli ball sey marega? (He will hit from the first ball?) and he did exactly that. Went in, and tak-a-tak diya. Then I thought, I should play more freely — main bhi maar saktha hoon. (I can also hit)". As he would find out in the ensuing years, he certainly could. But this is the story of how it all began for him, what happened in his early years with the Indian team, and how he developed to become a great T20 batsman.

## THREE REASONS WHY INDIA'S SHIP FAILED TO SAIL PAST PAKISTAN'S CHALLENGE

India vs Pakistan matches is always full of excitement, drama and joy. When the two cricketing giants collide, the stakes get pretty high, the expectations reach the stratosphere and the quality of play also gets to its peak. On Sunday, September 4, the two neighbours again collided in the Super Four of the ongoing Asia Cup 2022 and all the buzz about these Indo-Pak encounters proved to be true yet again. This time around Pakistan got the better of India as they won by 5 wickets and a ball to go.

**Openers fell in quick succession after providing a good start**

The Indian opening pair of Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul finally provided a good start after some matches as they took on the Pakistani seamers. India was 54/0 after five overs when Haris Rauf sent Rohit Sharma back to the hut. The Indian skipper was soon followed by his partner KL Rahul, who fell prey to Shadab Khan in the next over. This forced India into a rebuild situation after the powerplay.

**The middle order's approach didn't yield results**

The Indian middle order, which has been the torch bearer of the team in the previous two matches, looked flat on Sunday's defeat. The trio of Suryakumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant and Hardik Pandya fell cheaply, which disallowed India to finish better despite being dominant in the first half of India's batting.

**Indian spinners could not create a big impact**

One more glaring difference between India and Pakistan was the impact created by spinners in holding the batters. The Pakistani spin duo of Shadab Khan and Mohammad Nawaz took crucial wickets and were also economical. Shadab scalped two wickets and ended with the figures of 4-25-2 while Nawaz was more economical and scalped one wicket. He ended with the figures of 4-25-1. Meanwhile, the Indian spinners were not as effective as their counterparts. Though Bishnoi was economical and ended with figures of 4-26-1, Chahal faced the brunt of the batters. He ended up with figures of 4-43-1.

## CANADA DEFEATS U.S. TO CAPTURE GOLD AT WOMEN'S HOCKEY WORLDS



THE CANADIAN WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM POSE WITH THE TROPHY AND THEIR GOLD MEDALS FOLLOWING THEIR 2-1 WIN OVER THE UNITED STATES ON SUNDAY IN THE WOMEN'S HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL IN HERNING, DENMARK.





## RIDERS ON THE STORM: HOW HAVE VIRAT KOHLI, ROHIT SHARMA, AND KL RAHUL FARED WITH INDIA'S NEW BATTING APPROACH SO FAR?

The Asia Cup campaign was to decide the expiry date of the Indian top three. Would it force India to blood Rishabh Pant and Suryakumar Yadav/Deepak Hooda into the top 3 or could KL Rahul and Virat Kohli keep them at bay?

The question blowing in the wind recently was whether the Indian top three was skill wise incapable of upping the ante or were they just taking time to internalise the new aggressive philosophy? In other words, was it a matter of skill or intent? Once they imbibed and bought into the new approach, could they shed off the self-imposed shackles and sparkle? It's in this context that India entered this Asia Cup. The answers are coming in; a closure hasn't been arrived yet but the top three have pitching strong cases for themselves.

The second legal ball that Rohit Sharma faced the Sunday before against Pakistan was not unplayable. A standard good length ball that shaped a fraction away. But Sharma made it look unplayable, pressing forward half-heartedly from the crease, inside the line of the ball, the bat coming down at an angle, as the ball screamed past him. Sharma blew his cheeks in relief that the ball had just eluded his bat. He was just happy, surviving the pacer's onslaught, seeing off his torment, his face betraying uncertainty.

The second ball that Sharma faced last Sunday against Pakistan was similar. A standard good length ball destined to shape away. Except that Sharma intervened much before the ball had begun to embark on its familiar journey after landing. Sharma, gliding down the surface, as though he was wearing a skater's shoe, rerouted the ball through extra cover with a dismissive slap. He didn't bother standing in his follow-through and admiring the shot. He turned back, knocked the turf a few times and took guard, ready to deliver another knockout blow, his face now glowing with confidence.

In the space of eight days, there was a different Rohit Sharma, an

uninhibited throwback avatar. In the same duration, stirred by Rohit's blitz, manifested a different KL Rahul, an unrestrained counterpunch. In the same span, India showed their unshakable commitment to their brave new top-order batting approach that had seemed diluted after the return of Sharma, Rahul and Virat Kohli. The doubts whether the trio is equipped to alter the game with the skyrocketing demands of the game, whether their approach was outdated and counterproductive, were dispelled.

Some doubts were genuine as despite being home to IPL, the premier T20 brand in the world, India were a touch outdated in their approach. For a while, India were blind to the altering landscape and were bound by their safe comfort zone. Lack of form, injuries, lockdown and workload-management contributed and coincided to their stasis. But they have emerged out of the ivory tower and begun to sniff the air outside it. Their most recent showing was gleaned from the postmodern manual of top-order batting in T20s. Sharma hammered 28 off 16 balls; Rahul rolled out a delicious 28 off 20 balls. When Sharma perished attempting a stroke of extravaganza, the pair had piled 54 runs in five at run-rate of just a shade under 11, their 50-run partnership consuming only 26 balls, that is almost two runs a ball, against a top-pace bowling firm. Their aggression was relentless—they did not wait for the loose or semi-loose balls to attack, but even punished the good balls too, by stepping out of the crease, by manufacturing room, by shuffling this way and that way in the crease, by dishevelled bowlers lengths and manipulating their lines. The definitive feature, and the most encouraging one, was that none of it looked forced or artificial. Everything looked seamless. Staying in and grinding out the runs so that you become undroppable is often incompatible with the needs of the team. In T20 cricket such caginess can hinder the side's progress.

## 'THIS COULD BE PAKISTAN'S YEAR': VIRENDER SEHWAG BACKS BABAR AZAM- LED SIDE TO WIN ASIA CUP



It was India's first loss in the ongoing Asia Cup after Pakistan avenged its five-wicket defeat against its subcontinent neighbour in the opening match. All of a sudden, on Tuesday, India are in a must-win situation against Sri Lanka. Rohit Sharma-led team need to win the match to stay alive in the competition.

Former India opener Virender Sehwag feels Pakistan have emerged as the firm favourites to win the Asia Cup after their win over India. "If India lose another match by chance, they will be out of the tournament. Pakistan have the advantage because if they lose one match and win another, their net run rate will take them to the final as they have lost one match and won two. India have lost one and if they lose another, they are out. So pressure is on India," Sehwag said on Cricbuzz. "Pakistan will play in the final after a long time and have also beaten India after a long time in the Asia Cup. This could also be Pakistan's year," he added.

On Sunday, Pakistan rode on Mohammad Rizwan's successive half-century and Mohammad Nawaz's 42 off just 20 balls to set up their highest successful run-chase in a T20 against India.

## CRICKETING LANDSCAPE IS CHANGING FAST, NEED TO STRIKE BALANCE: KANE WILLIAMSON

New Zealand captain Kane Williamson feels the cricketing landscape around the world is witnessing a rapid change with the emergence of T20 leagues and striking a balance between franchise cricket and national duty has become the need of the hour. Williamson's comments came at a time when cricketers around the world are preferring playing in cash-rich T20 leagues over international cricket. "It's a tricky one because it is changing. So much seems to have happened so quickly," Williamson told reporters. "It does seem to be a movement in the landscape of the game. Every case is unique and every case has got their individual needs at different stages of their lives. "There are a lot of different franchise events happening and seeing players make decisions on their playing careers... suggests that there is a balance to strike and some things to work through," he added. Recently, Trent Boult was released from his central contract after the star New Zealand pacer made a request to spend more time with his family and also take part in T20 leagues across the world.

## BABAR AZAM TO LOSE HIS T20I THRONE

India and Pakistan are not only going against each other on the field but are also up against each other in the latest ICC T20I rankings. Three batsmen from both these teams are up against each other to grab the top spot in the rankings table. Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan, and Suryakumar Yadav, all these three batsmen are going head-to-head with each other to claim the top spot in the T20I rankings. The International Cricket Council (ICC) will announce new T20I rankings tomorrow and it will be interesting to see how things pan out for all three players. Pakistan skipper Babar Azam right now tops the chart but irrespective of the kind of form he has been in, Babar has underperformed in the Asia Cup, but Pakistan will be thankful that it hasn't hurt them that much. On the other hand, there are Mohammad Rizwan and India's Suryakumar Yadav who have been in an amazing touch and are challenging Babar's throne for supremacy in the ICC T20I rankings. The Asia Cup is currently underway in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Pakistan skipper Babar Azam has managed to score just 33 runs so far. On the other hand, Mohammad Rizwan sits comfortably at the top with 192 runs in the ongoing Asia Cup. Suryakumar Yadav too has shown signs of prominence as he has made 99 runs. Pakistan's Rizwan as of now has a strike rate of 128, whereas Surya has a staggering strike rate of 183. Considering the scenario, it is almost given that Babar Azam will be dethroned from the top.

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## WASIM AKRAM, RAVI SHASTRI QUESTION PANT'S SHOT SELECTION AGAINST PAKISTAN

Former cricketers Ravi Shastri and Wasim Akram have criticized Rishabh Pant for his poor shot selection during the Super 4 match between India and Pakistan where the Men in Blue suffered a five-wicket loss in the Asia Cup. Pant dismissed off a googly by Shadab Khan, as he tried a reverse sweep, an attempt that experts found to be trifle indiscreet. The wicketkeeper-batter's poor execution resulted in the ball going straight into the hands of Asif Ali at backward point and he was dismissed. India eventually lost the Super 4 match that went down to the wire on Sunday. Legendary Pakistan pacer Akram felt that the southpaw, known for his power-hitting skills, could have avoided the reverse hit during the middle overs.

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