

## Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH MANINDER SIDHU, MP, BRAMPTON EAST

### Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE



**SHAILI SAINI**  
CONTENT MANAGER,  
Y MEDIA GROUP

NORTH AMERICAN LEADERS' SUMMIT WAS A SUCCESS FOR CANADA: SIDHU.

TRADE BETWEEN CANADA, US, AND MEXICO SHOULD BE FAIR AND INCLUSIVE.

I WAS ABLE TO TALK ABOUT BRAMPTON, REGION OF PEEL, AND TRANSPORTATION DURING THE SUMMIT: SIDHU.

OUR INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY SECTOR IS GROWING RAPIDLY.

BRAMPTON FACTORY TO MAKE ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND BATTERIES STARTING NEXT YEAR.



**MANINDER SIDHU**  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT,  
BRAMPTON EAST, ONTARIO

WATCH Y MEDIA'S EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH MANINDER SIDHU, MP, BRAMPTON EAST, ON NORTH AMERICAN LEADERS' SUMMIT ONLY ON CHANNEL Y BELL 828, TELUS 2418, ROGERS 857, IGNITE 707, Y MEDIA PLUS & LISTEN ON RADIO Y 91.9 FM.

## 2 MEN FACING MULTIPLE CHARGES IN DEATHS OF INDIAN FAMILY WHO FROZE CROSSING INTO US

The Ahmedabad crime branch has arrested two travel agents, who were allegedly responsible for the death of four members of a family in illegal migration to the US. These four people including two minors had frozen to death while illegally crossing from Canada to America in January 2022. Crime Branch Deputy Commissioner of Police Chaitanya Mandlik told the media on Monday, "On Saturday evening, the crime branch team arrested Bhavesh Patel from Palsana village in Gandhinagar district and Yogesh Patel from Ahmedabad city's Vastrapur area."

They were allegedly involved in illegally sending Jagdish Patel, Vaishali Patel and their children Vihangi and Dharmik to the US. They froze while crossing the Canada-US border near Emerson, on the Canadian side.

The officer said, "Bhavesh and Yogesh sent 11 persons from Kalol and Mehsana to Canada, from where they were asked to cross over to the US illegally. From

Canada, two others Fenil Patel and Bittu Paji helped these two agents in an illegal migration racket."

Allegedly, the agents had given these 11 persons instructions that "You have to walk in -35 degree temperature to avoid arrest by Canadian or US security agencies." They were supposed to follow American gas station lights for directions.



## ELNAZ HAJTAMIRI ABDUCTION: POLICE ISSUES \$100,000 REWARD FOR INFORMATION ON HER WHEREABOUTS



A year later, the victim has yet to be located and the family and police continue to appeal for any information from the public.

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), in conjunction with York Regional Police (YRP), are offering a \$100,000 reward to anyone with information that will lead to the location of Elnaz HAJTAMIRI.

Anyone with any information is asked to call the OPP non-emergency line at 1-888-310-1122. Should you wish to remain anonymous, you may call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or submit tips online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca/submit-a-tip. Members of the public are strongly urged to help share previously released social media information and photos of Elnaz HAJTAMIRI using the hashtag #BringElnazHome.

### Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE



**YUDHVIR JASWAL**  
Group Editor - Y MEDIA

GRAHAM MCGREGOR ON FORD GOVERNMENT'S 3-STEP PRIVATE SURGERIES PLAN.

ONTARIANS WILL NOT HAVE TO USE CREDIT CARDS FOR PRIVATE SURGERIES.

PRIVATE SURGERIES WILL REDUCE WAIT TIMES: GRAHAM MCGREGOR.

NEW HEALTH PLAN WILL NOT LEAD TO STAFF SHORTAGE IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS: GRAHAM MCGREGOR.

PEEL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL WILL BE UPGRADED SOON.



**GRAHAM MCGREGOR**  
MPP BRAMPTON NORTH

WATCH Y MEDIA'S EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH GRAHAM MCGREGOR, MPP BRAMPTON NORTH, ONLY ON CHANNEL Y BELL 828, TELUS 2418, ROGERS 857, IGNITE 707, Y MEDIA PLUS & LISTEN ON RADIO Y 91.9 FM.

## CANADA TO BUY U.S. MADE MISSILE DEFENCE SYSTEM FOR UKRAINE

Defence Minister Anita Anand announced that Canada is purchasing a National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System (NASAMS) and associated munitions from the United States to donate to Ukraine. This high-priority donation is the first Canadian donation of an air defence system to Ukraine.



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## 'TEAM CANADA' TRADE MISSION TO VISIT JAPAN IN OCTOBER: PM TRUDEAU



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau met with the Prime Minister of Japan, Kishida Fumio. The leaders reaffirmed the strength of Canada and Japan's strategic partnership as well as their shared commitment to a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific region. The leaders committed to continue working closely to grow our economies, create good jobs in both countries, strengthen the rules-based international system, and improve regional security, including through Canada's recently announced Indo-Pacific Strategy and Japan's National Security Strategy.

CONTD. ON PAGE 5

## ONTARIO REDUCING WAIT TIMES FOR SURGERIES AND PROCEDURES

**TORONTO** — The Ontario government is making it easier and faster for people to access the publicly-funded surgeries and procedures they need by further leveraging community surgical and diagnostic centres to eliminate surgical backlogs and reduce wait times.

CONTD. ON PAGE 5

## 17-YEAR-OLD TAREN SINGH LAL DIES IN CAR CRASH IN B.C

A 17 year-old Indo-Canadian student died after he lost control of his vehicle due to bad weather conditions and crashed into a utility pole, media reports said. Taren Singh Lal was driving home when his Tesla crashed into a utility pole near the intersection of Fraser Highway and 228th Street in Langley, British Columbia.



CONTD. ON PAGE 4

## Y MEDIA POLITICAL SENSEX

## PM TELLS BJP LEADERS TO MEET 'EDUCATED MUSLIMS WITHOUT EXPECTING VOTES

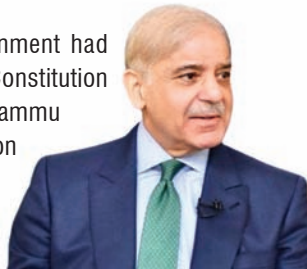
Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on the second and final day of the the party's National Executive meeting on Tuesday, made several important points to BJP leaders to strengthen the party in view of the Lok Sabha elections next year, sources said. According to the source, PM Modi emphasised on meeting people of all religions and asked party leaders to go to universities, churches, etc to meet and interact with people. He asked them to meet Pasmanda, Bohra, professional, and educated Muslims without expecting votes in return.



## NEGOTIATIONS WITH INDIA IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL REVERSAL OF 'AUGUST 5 ACTION': PAK PMO

A day after Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif offered to talk to India on "burning issues", the country's PMO clarified that it will not hold negotiations with its neighbour until it reverses the "August 5, 2019 illegal action" on Kashmir.

On August 5, 2019, the Indian government had abrogated Article 370 of the country's Constitution which granted special status to the Jammu and Kashmir. "Without India's revocation of this step, negotiations are not possible," Dawn News reported quoting the PMO as saying.



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NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



SAFE CENTRE  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
BY PEEL POLICE

PEEL POLICE AND OHRC  
MEET WITH SOUTH ASIAN  
COMMUNITY



SHEREF SABAWY'S  
2023 NEW YEAR'S  
OPEN HOUSE





## INDIAN-AMERICAN SWORN-IN AS OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

Indian-American attorney Janani Ramachandran became the youngest and first queer woman of colour to take oath as City Council member for Oakland's District 4. Ramachandran, 30, became the first Oakland City Council candidate to declare her victory in the November 8 mid-term election where she edged past her opponent Nenna Joiner by winning 18,874 in total. "Immensely grateful for all those who believed in me, and helped build our movement. Honoured to have my loved ones by my side as I took the ceremonial oath! Let's get to work," Ramachandran, who took oath in a saree last week, tweeted. A graduate of Stanford University and Berkeley Law, Ramachandran has worked at various legal nonprofits, and served on the board of violence prevention nonprofits across Oakland. Ramachandran, an East Bay native and a former professional musician, serves as a Commissioner on the California Commission for API American Affairs.

Born to immigrant parents from South India, she previously served on the City of Oakland Public Ethics Commission. Prior to law school, Ramachandran worked as a home-visiting case manager for low-income immigrant mothers. She later founded a domestic violence advocacy programme across five community health clinics, where she led training for medical staff, supervised advocates, and launched public education campaigns. As a law student, she worked for several legal aid organisations on the intersections of domestic violence, housing, and other social justice causes. At just 16, Ramachandran founded a nonprofit that built libraries in under-resourced schools in her local community. In her 2021 run for State Assembly, Ramachandran, then a first-time candidate, shocked political experts by advancing to the special election runoff in August, coming out on top amongst a field of previously elected officials, says her website.

## DELHI RECORDS EIGHTH COLD WAVE DAY IN JANUARY; TRAINS, FLIGHTS DELAYED DUE TO LOW VISIBILITY

As several parts of north India continues to reel under cold wave, the national capital logged its eighth chilly day in January on Wednesday. So far Delhi has witnessed the most cold wave days in the month in at least 12 days, as per the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The Safdarjung observatory, Delhi's primary weather station, recorded a minimum temperature of 2.6 degrees Celsius. It was 2.4 degrees Celsius on Tuesday and 1.4 degrees on Monday. In 2020, the national capital recorded seven cold wave days in the month of January, whereas, it did not have any such day last year. The IMD stated that the city recorded an intense coldwave spell from January 5 to 9, the second longest in the month in a decade. It has also logged over 50 hours of dense fog this month so far, the most since 2019. Meanwhile, the weather department also said that the coldwave conditions would abate from Thursday-Friday under the influence of two western disturbances that are likely to affect the region in quick succession.



## UK NURSES STAGE NEW WALKOUT AS STRIKE WAVE INTENSIFIES

Thousands of nurses in Britain walked out Wednesday in a new protest over pay, with no end in sight to a wave of strikes that has piled pressure on the UK's overburdened public health system. Two 12-hour strikes on Wednesday and Thursday affect about a quarter of hospitals and clinics in England. Emergency care and cancer treatment will continue, but thousands of appointments and procedures are likely to be postponed. Nurses, ambulance crews, train drivers, airport baggage handlers, border staff, driving instructors, bus drivers, and postal workers have all walked off their jobs in recent months to demand higher pay amid a cost-of-living crisis. Inflation in the UK hit a 41-year high of 11.1 per cent in October, driven

by sharply rising energy and food costs, before easing slightly to 10.5 per cent in December. The nurses' union has been seeking a pay raise of 5 per cent above inflation, though it has said it will accept a lower offer. The Conservative government argues that double-digit public sector pay increases will drive inflation even higher. "Unaffordable pay hikes will mean cutting patient care and stoking the inflation that would make us all poorer," Health Secretary Steve Barclay wrote in the independent newspaper. The government also has angered unions by introducing a bill that will make it harder for key workers to strike by setting "minimum safety levels" for firefighters, ambulance services, and railways that must be maintained during a walkout.

## CALIFORNIA FLOOD STORM: 19 DEATHS REPORTED FROM DROWNING, FALLEN TREES; MORE HEAVY RAIN, POWER OUTAGES

The ninth atmospheric river in a three-week series of major winter storms was churning through California on Monday, leaving mountain driving dangerous and the flooding risk high near swollen rivers even as the sun came out in some areas. California is once again being battered by rounds of heavy rain, wind, and snow, causing flood advisories and power disruptions in various areas. Heavy snow fell across the Sierra Nevada and the National Weather Service discouraged travel. Interstate 80, a key highway from the San Francisco Bay Area to Lake Tahoe ski resorts, reopened with chain requirements after periodic weekend closures because of whiteout conditions. At least 19 deaths have been reported in the state in the past two weeks of storms, many from drowning and fallen trees. "If you must travel, be prepared for dangerous travel conditions, significant travel delays and road closures," the weather service office in Sacramento said on Twitter. The University of California Berkeley Central Sierra Snow Lab tweeted Monday morning that it had recorded 49.6 inches (126 cm) of new snow since Friday.



## CANADA TO BUY U.S. MADE MISSILE DEFENCE SYSTEM FOR UKRAINE

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A NASAMS is a short to medium range ground-based air defence system that protects against drone, missile, and aircraft attack, with a high success rate. Canada's NASAMS donation will help Ukraine strengthen its air defence systems against destructive air attacks on military sites, civilian critical infrastructure, and population centres. This donation, valued at approximately \$406 million, comes from the additional \$500 million in military aid to Ukraine that Prime Minister Trudeau announced on November 14, 2022. The donation builds on Canada's longstanding military support to Ukraine, including our training mission – Operation UNIFIER, donations of armoured vehicles, artillery, drone cameras, and winter clothing, and ongoing efforts by the Royal Canadian Air Force to transport Ukraine-bound military aid donated by Canada, Allies, and partners. Canada remains committed to providing Ukraine with the military aid that it needs to defend itself from Russia's illegal and unjustifiable attacks, including intensifying Russian air raids.

## 17-YEAR-OLD TAREN SINGH LAL DIES IN CAR CRASH IN B.C

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The force of the crash, which occurred earlier this month, flattened a fence and toppled a tree, the Global News reported. The Langley Royal Canadian Mounted Police said they were called to the accident site near Fraser Highway and 228th Street. Lal, who was a student of Tamanawis Secondary School in Surrey, died on the spot. His mother told Omni News that she spoke to her son just before the crash, and had asked him to pick up some food on his way home. The family told the channel that they call police every day, with no updates. In a statement to OMNI News, the Langley RCMP said: "Investigators continue to look into all causal factors. These are complex investigations and it is still very early in the investigation." GoFundMe page has been set up to support Lal's family, especially his 12 year-old sister. The page described Lal as "a loving son, protective older brother, unforgettable friend, and a beloved role model to those around him". He was involved in the community through sports activities and had hoped to join the police force in the future.

## ENBRIDGE GAS TEAMS UP WITH BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT THROUGH SAFE CAOMMUNITY PROJECT ZERO



Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas), the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council (FMPFSC) and Burlington Fire Department announced they are working together to improve home safety and bring fire and carbon monoxide-related deaths down to zero in Burlington. The Safe Community Project Zero is a public education campaign that is providing alarms to residents in 50 municipalities across Ontario. Through this project, the Burlington Fire Department has received 438 combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. In 2022, Enbridge Gas invested \$250,000 in Safe Community Project Zero, and over the past 14 years, the program has provided more than 76,000 alarms to Ontario fire departments. The alarms provided to Burlington will be distributed through a combination of public events, the Alarm Assistance Program and response calls when needed. When properly installed and maintained, combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms help provide the early warning to safely escape from a house fire or carbon monoxide exposure. Carbon monoxide is a toxic, odourless gas that is a by-product of incomplete combustion of many types of common fuels.

## 62-YEAR-OLD BURLINGTON MAN ARRESTED AFTER ALLEGEDLY LURING CHILDREN ON SOCIAL MEDIA

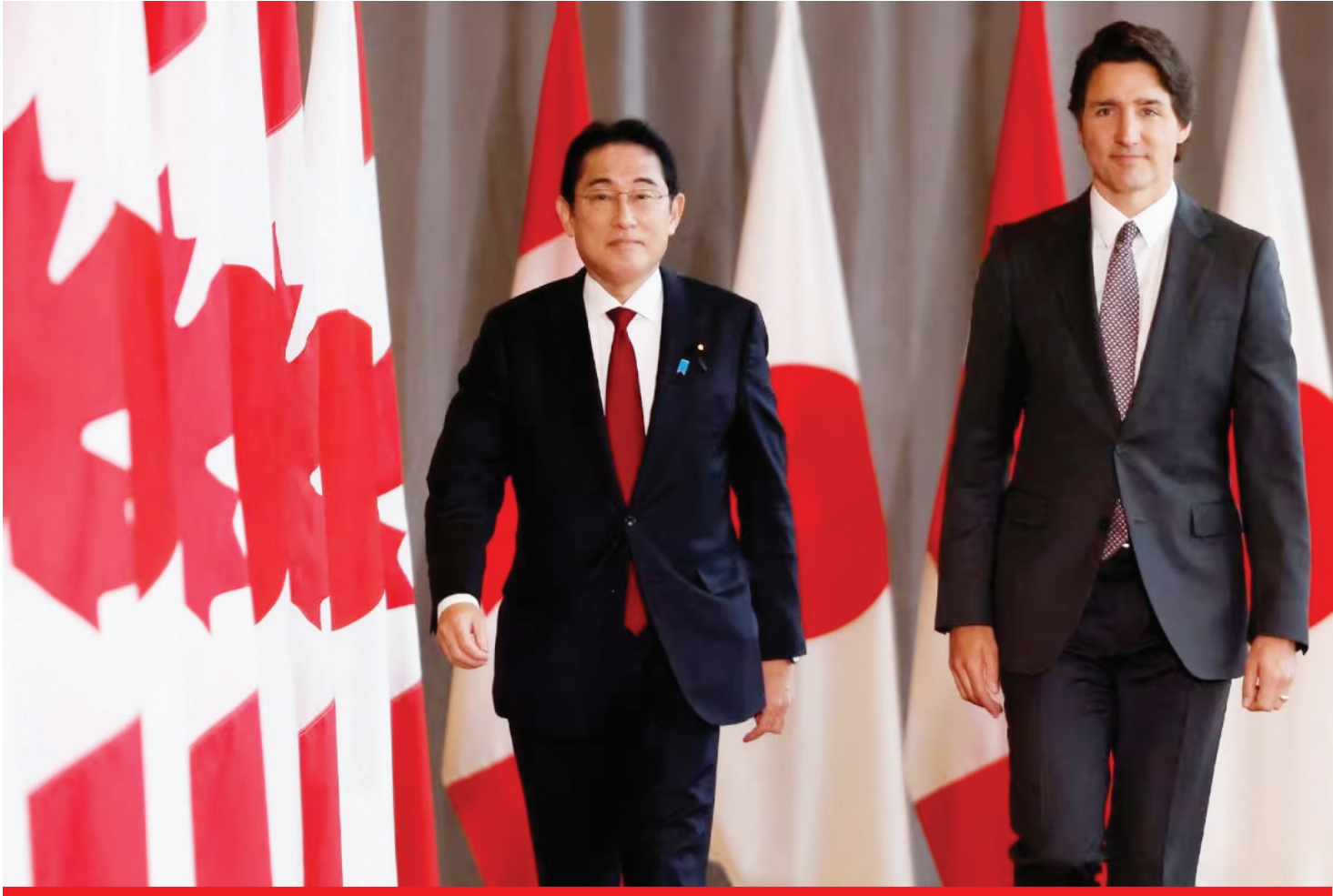
The Toronto Police Service would like to make the public aware of an arrest made in a Child Sexual Abuse Material investigation. On December 6, 2022, police became aware of an incident involving the online luring of a child. It is alleged that: \* a man was contacting children on various social media platforms for a sexual purpose \* the man used "MadelnItalyMale" and "Nico Albertini" as usernames on various social media platforms On Thursday, January 12, 2023, Nicola Colella, 62, of Burlington, was arrested and charged with: 1. four counts of Luring a Child Under 16 Years 2. Invitation to Sexual Touching 3. Sexual Assault - Attempt 4. Sexual Interference - Attempt 5. Transmit Sexually Explicit Material to a Person Under 16 Years 6. Possession of Child Pornography He is scheduled to appear in court at 2201 Finch Avenue West on January 12, 2023. Attached are images of Colella, including one being used on social media. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 416-808-8500, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477), or at www.222tips.com.

The Toronto Police Service recognizes that parents and caregivers are the frontline when it comes to protecting children on the Internet and electronic devices. We encourage you to remain vigilant in your efforts – the safety tips outlined below are recommended for children of any age. Reporting of any online exploitation can also be made at Canada's National Tipline for Reporting the Online Sexual Exploitation of Children at cybertip.ca. This project has been made possible by a grant from the Ministry of the Solicitor General. There are also resources available through the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health for those who have a sexual interest in children. The new Talking for Change program is the first of its kind in Canada and provides national and all-ages help for those concerned about their risk to use child sexual exploitation material or offend sexually against a child.

## SUSPECT OF MISSISSAUGA 'UNPROVOKED' STABBING ARRESTED

Police have taken a suspect into custody allegedly responsible for a stranger stabbing on January 10, 2022, in Mississauga. On Tuesday, January 10, 2022, at approximately 4:40 p.m. Peel Regional Police responded to Hurontario Street and John Street for reports of a stabbing. Officers arrived on the scene and located a 19 year-old-male suffering from a significant stab wound. The suspect was seen fleeing the scene in a southern direction. The victim was taken to a trauma centre, where he remains in serious but stable condition. The suspect and victim do not appear to be known to each other. Detectives from the 11 Division Criminal Investigations Bureau quickly identified the man believed to be the suspect as 34-year-old David Dytlow of Toronto, and a warrant for his arrest was sought. On Wednesday, January 11, 2022, at approximately 9:30 a.m., while on an unrelated matter, patrol officers from 11 Division spotted Dytlow at a Mississauga Hospital and swiftly took him into custody without incident. David Dytlow has been charged with the following Criminal Code Offences : \* Attempted Murder \* 3x Fail to Comply with Release Order At the time of his arrest, Dytlow was on judicial release for several criminal offences, including assault, assault with a weapon, assault causing bodily harm and uttering threats. One of these incidents took place in Peel Region in 2021, where Dytlow is alleged to have stabbed an individual. Dytlow was prohibited from carrying weapons. Dytlow remains in custody pending a bail hearing at the Ontario Court of Justice in Brampton.





## 'TEAM CANADA' TRADE MISSION TO VISIT JAPAN IN OCTOBER: PM TRUDEAU

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The leaders discussed strengthening bilateral trade, investment, and innovation, and reinforcing supply chain resilience and economic security to create good middle-class jobs and new opportunities for our businesses. They talked about expanding cooperation in areas such as agriculture and agri-food, energy, critical minerals, and emerging technologies. They also discussed their shared commitment to maintain and build on the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership's (CPTPP) high standards, which facilitate growth and job creation for both countries. They announced a planned incoming mission to Canada in early spring of 2023 welcoming Japanese companies seeking new partners and investment opportunities in Canada related to zero-emission vehicles and batteries. They also announced Canada's plan to undertake a Team Canada trade mission to Japan in October as part of Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy. The prime ministers discussed Japan's priorities for its upcoming G7 Presidency and the importance of continued G7 coordination to uphold the rules-based international system, in light of new and emerging global challenges. They will maintain close cooperation between G7 members to denounce Russia's unjustifiable and illegal aggression against Ukraine, and to protect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Prime Minister Trudeau raised the importance of maintaining work on the G7's Gender Equality Advisory Council. The leaders shared concerns about the wider global impacts of Russia's

military aggression against Ukraine, notably for the Global South, with shortages and rising prices of food, fuel, and fertilizer. They committed to working together, including with G7 partners, to find practical ways to mitigate these impacts, particularly for the most vulnerable people, and to address their significant implications for the Indo-Pacific region. Prime Minister Trudeau also raised the importance of G7 members engaging on issues around the world, including anti-regime protests in Iran and the humanitarian and security crisis in Haiti. Prime Minister Kishida shared details of Japan's new National Security Strategy. The two leaders discussed their concerns about China's actions in the region and agreed on the importance of a coordinated approach to security in the Indo-Pacific. They talked about their deep concern with the threat of North Korea's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs and reiterated their support for a complete, verified, and irreversible dismantlement of North Korea's nuclear weapons. The prime ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the multinational effort to help monitor United Nations sanctions against North Korea, to which Canada is contributing through Operation NEON. The prime ministers also hosted Canadian and Japanese business leaders for a luncheon, to share their vision for a stronger trade, investment, and innovation partnership. They highlighted the growing and exciting business potential between the two countries. Prime Minister Trudeau and Prime Minister Kishida agreed to remain in close contact as Japan prepares to host the G7 Summit in Hiroshima, in May 2023.

## PUNJAB EX-FINANCE MINISTER MANPREET SINGH BADAL JOINS BJP HOURS AFTER QUITTING CONGRESS



Former Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal on Wednesday quit the Congress and joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the presence of Union Minister Piyush Goyal in Delhi. In his resignation letter to Rahul Gandhi, Badal said he was "disillusioned" by the Congress. "I devoted every ounce of energy to every office I have had the honour of holding, both in the party and the government. I thank you for having provided me these opportunities and for the kindness and courtesy you have shown me in the past," he said in the letter which he posted on his Twitter handle. "Regretfully, given the prevalent culture within



the party and the defiant desire in the present course, I no longer wish to be a part of the Indian National Congress," he said. Badal, who served as the finance minister in the previous Congress government, said, "Seven years ago, I merged the People's Party of Punjab with your party. I did so with immense hope and an expectation of being integrated into an organisation with a rich history that would allow me to serve both the people of Punjab and its interests to the best of my ability. "Initial enthusiasm gradually gave way to disappointing disillusionment," he added.

## ONTARIO REDUCING WAIT TIMES FOR SURGERIES AND PROCEDURES

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As the government significantly expands the number of surgeries being done through community surgical and diagnostic centres, it will do so with measures in place to protect the stability of health human resources at public hospitals, including requiring new facilities to provide detailed staffing plans as part of their application and requiring a number of physicians at these centres to have active privileges at their local hospital. "When it comes to your health, the status quo is no longer acceptable," said Premier Doug Ford. "Our government is taking bold action to reduce wait times for surgeries, all while ensuring Ontarians use their OHIP card to get the care they need, never their credit card." Community surgical and diagnostic centres have been valuable partners in responding to the pandemic and addressing the pandemic-related backlog in surgeries. Increasing community delivery of surgeries has proven to increase patient and provider satisfaction and reduces the risk of a rescheduled appointment. Surgeries performed at these centres will be publicly-funded. Ontario has a three-step plan that better integrates and uses these state-of-the-art facilities to speed up how quickly people are able to get surgeries and procedures using their health card. Step One: Ontario is urgently tackling the existing backlog for cataract surgeries, which has one of the longest waits for procedures. New partnerships with community surgical and diagnostic centres in Windsor, Kitchener-Waterloo and Ottawa will add 14,000 additional cataract surgeries that will be performed each year. This number represents up to 25% of the province's current cataract waitlist, and accounts for the estimated COVID-related backlog of cataract surgeries. These centres will perform the 14,000 additional surgeries with existing health human resources. Ontario is also investing more than \$18 million in existing centres to cover care for thousands of patients, including more than 49,000 hours of MRI and CT scans, 4,800 cataract surgeries, 900 other ophthalmic surgeries, 1,000 minimally invasive gynecological surgeries and 2,845 plastic surgeries such as hand soft tissue repair. Surgical wait lists are anticipated to return to pre-pandemic levels by March 2023, barring operational issues. Step Two: To further reduce wait times, Ontario is expanding the scope of community surgical and diagnostic centres to address regional needs with a continued focus on cataracts, as well as MRI and CT imaging and colonoscopy and endoscopy procedures. To start as early as 2023, these procedures will be non-urgent, low-risk and minimally invasive and, in addition to shortening wait times, will allow hospitals to focus their efforts and resources on more complex and high-risk surgeries.

## 'WE NEED JUSTICE': WIFE OF EDMONTON MAN, BARINDER SINGH SHOT DEAD ON NEW YEAR'S DAY SEEKS JUSTICE



The wife of a 51-year-old Sikh man, who was shot dead when intruders broke into his Mill Woods house in Canada on New Year, has said that she needs swift justice for her husband. Barinder Singh, who hails from Punjab and had moved to Edmonton in 2019 along with family, was asleep when intruders broke into his house at Mill Woods Road and started firing, the Global News reported. Police responded to a disturbance around 2.45 a.m., and arrived at the complex in the Pollard Meadows neighbourhood to find an injured 51-year-old man lying in a pool of blood. "It's all like a nightmare for us," a shattered Jasjeet Kaur, wife of Singh, told Global News. Singh was taken to a hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. The autopsy revealed that he died from gunshot wounds and the medical examiner said that the manner of death was a homicide. "We need justice. I just want to know who did this. I need to know. Why? Why my family was the target? And it was not just him -- it was the whole family," Jasjeet Kaur told the Canadian news channel. "I want the culprits. I want to know the reason why it happened." A GoFundMe page set up for Singh described him as an "honest, family man who worked hard to provide for his family". "(He was) a devoted son, a good brother and a caring father -- he kept us going through good times and tough times. Through his work, he supported my grandparents in Punjab, while providing for us in Delhi, India," the page quoted his two daughters as saying. Police said it is still working to establish a motive for this violent crime. So far, the homicide unit has found a burnt-out white Dodge Ram truck in the nearby Laurel neighbourhood, which they think is connected to the crime. They are looking for home security and dashcam footage in the area where the burned-out truck was located.

## CANADA AND ONTARIO INCREASING ACCESS TO HIGH-SPEED INTERNET SERVICE IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY



The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing more than \$1.8 million to bring fast, reliable high-speed internet to more than 640 homes, farms and businesses in Middlesex County. In partnership with Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) Inc, the completion of construction of broadband infrastructure in the county is now providing access to fast, reliable high-speed internet service to families, farms and businesses in the communities of Putman, Crampton, Avon, Mossley, Harrietsville, Gladstone, Kerwood, Napperton and Strathroy. "Providing reliable internet access is especially important for rural communities to prosper in our increasingly digital world," said Peter Fragiskatos, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Revenue and Member of Parliament for London North Centre, on behalf of the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities. "Today's announcement will ensure that hundreds of homes, businesses, and farms in Middlesex County can connect to essential online services and enjoy the additional economic opportunities made available through high-speed internet." "I'm proud that our government continues to deliver on our commitment to expand access to high-speed internet in rural communities across the province," said Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. "Building new broadband infrastructure in Middlesex County is helping to connect rural Ontario and strengthen communities by helping people stay connected with loved ones and enable them to access supports they need.

## UKRAINE SETS TO GET 3 BN EUROS FROM EU THIS WEEK: PM



Ukraine is set to receive 3 billion euros (about \$3.25 billion) from the European Union (EU) this week as a part of fresh financial aid, Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal has said. Shmyhal wrote on Telegram that Ukraine and the EU signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the macro-financial program for Kiev worth 18 billion euros (about \$19.5 billion), Xinhua news agency reported. The funds will help Ukraine to maintain macroeconomic stability and cover all critical expenses this year amid the ongoing war with Russia, Shmyhal said. In 2022, Ukraine received \$32.1 billion in international aid, with \$8 billion of the funds coming from the EU, according to the country's central bank.



# BIDEN'S LEGAL TROUBLES

Recent revelations that classified documents going back to US President Joe Biden's term as vice-president have been found in his private office and at his home, may become a political - and possibly legal -- liability for the president.

President Biden's own handling of classified materials is now under scrutiny given the revelations that documents were stored at his private office and home.

In his defence Biden said he was "surprised" to learn of the discovery of the records. Earlier, he had branded his predecessor, Donald Trump, "irresponsible" for storing classified documents at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida.

## BIDEN'S HEADACHE

The latest imbroglio could become a headache for Biden; as first, the US Congress may investigate this oversight. The Republican Party feels emboldened by its majority in the House of Representative and it may issue a subpoena to Biden. Republican members of the Congress are already gearing up for a series of investigations into the Biden family's and his son Hunter's finances.

Congress Speaker Kevin McCarthy said last week that he think that the Congress has to investigate this.

Meanwhile, letters have been sent to Attorney General Merrick Garland and Avril Haines, director of national intelligence, by Representative Mike Turner, the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, requesting a classified briefing on 23 January on the latest detection.

In his letter Turner wrote that the presence of classified information at the two locations "could implicate the president in the mishandling, potential misuse and exposure of classified information."

Meanwhile, the US Attorney General Merrick Garland has appointed two different special counsels to independently investigate the handling of classified records by former Republican president Donald Trump and his Democratic successor, President Joe Biden.

Trump is being investigated by Jack Smith, a war crimes prosecutor, on whether he or his associates improperly retained classified records at his Florida estate after he left office in 2021 and then tried to obstruct a federal investigation. Former

US Attorney Robert Hur has been appointed by Garland to investigate the removal and retention of classified records from Biden's time as vice-president, and their discovery at two locations.

## SIMILARITIES BETWEEN BIDEN AND TRUMP'S CASES

According to the US, laws neither Trump nor Biden should have had any classified material in their possession. The records from each administration are supposed to be turned over to the legal custody of the U.S. National Archives, during a presidential transition period.

In addition, it is unlawful to knowingly or wilfully remove or retain classified documents. Failure to properly store and secure classified material poses risks to national security if it should fall into the wrong hands.

On the recovery, Biden has said he was surprised to learn he had classified information in his possession. While, Trump has said on social media,



“THE REPUBLICAN PARTY FEELS EMBOLDENED BY ITS MAJORITY IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE AND IT MAY ISSUE A SUBPOENA TO BIDEN. REPUBLICAN MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS ARE ALREADY GEARING UP FOR A SERIES OF INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE BIDEN FAMILY'S AND HIS SON HUNTER'S FINANCES. CONGRESS SPEAKER KEVIN MCCARTHY SAID LAST WEEK THAT HE THINK THAT THE CONGRESS HAS TO INVESTIGATE THIS. MEANWHILE, LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL MERRICK GARLAND AND AVRIL HAINES, DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, BY REPRESENTATIVE MIKE TURNER, THE TOP REPUBLICAN ON THE HOUSE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE, REQUESTING A CLASSIFIED BRIEFING ON 23 JANUARY ON THE LATEST DETECTION. IN HIS LETTER TURNER WROTE THAT THE PRESENCE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION AT THE TWO LOCATIONS "COULD IMPLICATE THE PRESIDENT IN THE MISHANDLING, POTENTIAL MISUSE AND EXPOSURE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION." MEANWHILE, THE US ATTORNEY GENERAL MERRICK GARLAND HAS APPOINTED TWO DIFFERENT SPECIAL COUNSELS TO INDEPENDENTLY INVESTIGATE THE HANDLING OF CLASSIFIED RECORDS BY FORMER REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP AND HIS DEMOCRATIC SUCCESSOR, PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN.

without providing evidence, that he de-classified the records, though his attorneys have declined to repeat that assertion in court filings.

The materials in question date back to when Biden was former President Barack Obama's Vice President from 2009 to 2017, and when Trump was President from 2017 to 2021.

Legal experts say there are unambiguous contrasts between the two cases. In Trump's case, the National Archives tried for more than a year after Trump left office to retrieve all of the records he retained, without success. When Trump finally returned 15 boxes of documents in January 2022, Archives officials discovered they contained classified materials. The matter was referred to the Justice Department, which issued a grand jury subpoena last year in May seeking the return of all classified records. Investigators then visited Trump's home, where his attorneys handed over more material and asserted there were no more documents on the premises. That turned out to be false. Additional evidence collected by the FBI, including surveillance footage from the Mar-a-Lago estate, prompted agents to seek court approval to execute a search warrant on 8 August 2022, amid concerns over possible obstruction. The FBI recovered an additional 13,000 documents, about 100 of which were marked as classified. In Biden's case, Garland said the president's attorneys informed the Archives and the Justice Department in November 2022 that they had discovered fewer than a dozen classified files inside a closet at the Penn Biden Centre think-tank in Washington D.C. earlier that month.

After the discovery, the attorneys continued to conduct additional searches at Biden's homes in Wilmington and Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, where more documents were found in both December 2022 and January 2023. All were turned over to the authorities.

## LEGAL PERILS FOR BIDEN AND TRUMP

The US law is very clear that it is a crime only if the retention and removal of classified records is intentional. Prosecutors typically won't pursue charges for the accidental retention of classified records, but if there is evidence of possible obstruction of justice, that could change things.

On their part legal experts say, Trump faces considerably more legal liability than Biden. To date, there has been no suggestion by the Justice Department that Biden knowingly retained the records or refused to return them to the government.

Also, as the current president, Biden is unlikely to face prosecution. The Justice Department has not changed its long-standing policy that a sitting president cannot be indicted.

The same policy helped insulate Trump when he was president and under investigation by the then Special Counsel Robert Mueller. In that case, Mueller declined to determine whether Trump had obstructed his investigation into possible ties between Russia and Trump's 2016 election campaign because of the department's policy.

However, from a political perspective, questions about Biden's handling of classified documents could not come at a more inconvenient time for him and his party.

Biden ended 2022 with a number of late-year victories, his approval ratings had started to tick back up, and he is expected to announce in the coming weeks that he will run for a second term in 2024.

The documents debacle provides the Republicans with a new line of attack to use against him during the upcoming campaign and makes it more difficult for him to turn the issue against Trump, who has already announced he will seek the Republican nomination for president.

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## ONTARIO ATTRACTS \$15 MILLION INVESTMENT FROM CANADA'S LARGEST BAKERY

The Ontario government is welcoming an investment of \$15 million by Bimbo Canada, the largest and oldest commercial bakery in the country. This new investment will boost local manufacturing and create new, good-paying jobs in the Hamilton area.

"Our government is thrilled to support this investment from Bimbo Canada - a growing Ontario company that believes in its community and is creating jobs for the people of Hamilton," said Premier Doug Ford. "As we continue to navigate global economic uncertainty, our government will continue to work tirelessly to create the economic conditions that attract investments like these. We're cutting red-tape, keeping taxes low and making investments to improve our province's competitive advantage."

Headquartered in Etobicoke, Bimbo Canada has produced high-quality baked goods and snacks for families across the country for more than 110 years. They employ more than 4,300 people across the 16 bakeries and 11 distribution centres they operate across the country. The company produces and distributes more than 1,000 products for 18 brands, including Dempster's, Villaggio, POM, and Stonemill. Their investment will be used to build a new state-of-the-art tortilla production line that will help them meet growing market demand in Western Canada. As part of this investment, the government is providing Bimbo Canada with \$1.5 million through the Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Competitiveness stream of the province's Regional Development Program.

"Investments by local manufacturers, like Bimbo Canada, demonstrate

the strength of Ontario's manufacturing might and world-class workforce," said Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. "Supporting these efforts is a key part of our plan to build a strong Ontario, and we look forward to working with the sector to create good-paying jobs and foster economic growth. We thank Bimbo Canada for making a significant contribution to our province's dynamic manufacturing sector."

"We would like to thank the Ontario Government for their support in installing a new innovative and high-speed Tortilla Production Line at our Trillium bakery in Hamilton," said Marie-Eve Royer, President at Bimbo Canada. "Not only will it bake the highest quality Dempster's tortillas that Canadians love, but it will also create jobs for the region and improve food security in Ontario. As we continue to strive to feed Canadians, we look forward to continuing to work with the province, as well as local and industry partners, on this important mission."

Ontario is investing more than \$100 million through the Regional Development Program from 2019 to 2023 to strengthen advanced manufacturing sectors in regions across the province. The program provides cost-shared funding to businesses, municipalities and economic development organizations to help local communities attract investment, diversify their economies, and create jobs.

To date, Ontario has provided more than \$70 million in support to 67 companies through the Regional Development Program, leveraging close to \$800 million in investments and helping to create more than 1,400 jobs in the province.

## PEEL REGIONAL POLICE ANNOUNCES SAFE CENTRE RESPONSE TEAM TO ADDRESS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Victims of intimate partner violence in Peel Region will now receive improved up-front care and referrals with the launch of the Safe Centre Response Teams.

This pilot program is developed through collaboration between Safe Centre of Peel and Peel Regional Police. Two response teams comprised of a mobile support worker with experience in gender-based violence and a specially trained police constable, will provide appropriate, timely and complex care and support in intimate partner incidents. This initial response will ensure victim safety, early intervention and supporting individuals and families to receive the help they may need. The key function of the Safe Centre Response Team is to:

- \* Connect families with existing community services to help stabilize the family situation over the short term and help increase their resiliency over the extended period.
- \* Help bridge the gap between identifying risk factors and direct intervention, thereby reducing the number of families looking for help being overlooked.
- \* Ensure a range of existing prevention and intervention services are provided in a timely manner, to reduce the risk of harm and increase the safety of family members.

In 2021, 17,000 calls for service were related to Family and Intimate Partner Violence in Peel Region, which translates to an average of 45 disputes are reported per day - or about two every hour. Between 2016 and 2021, the rate of intimate partner violence increased by 3.5 percent.

Safe Centre Response Teams have been created in response to this significant public health and safety issue. SCRT teams will rotate on 12-hour shifts and be dispatched to non-criminal, non-violent calls focused on intimate partner violence and are a part of the continuing evolution of the Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) plan.

"The Safe Centre Response team is yet another new pathway in service delivery for our community. This non-traditional response will provide compassionate, upfront care, referrals and resources for people in need and address intimate partner incidents. These teams will bridge the gap that currently exists between initial in-crisis response and the provision of complex care typically provided post-incident by community human service providers. We are committed to delivering on our Community Safety and Well-Being strategy by continually seeking new and innovative partnerships and programs, such as the Safe Centre Response Team, to better meet the needs of our community."

Chief Nishan Duraiappah  
Peel Regional Police

"We are excited to be a part of this ground-breaking initiative with Peel Regional Police. The Safe Centre Response Team is an important step in extending community support to at risk couples and families before an intimate partner assault occurs. Earlier intervention will not only save lives, but it will also minimize the impacts of trauma on victims, their children, families, and communities and connect them to the services they need when they need them the most."

Sharon Mayne Devine  
CEO, Catholic Family Services Peel Dufferin - Lead Agency for the Safe Centre of Peel

## CONSTRUCTION COMPANY CHARGED IN CONNECTION WITH BARRIE CRASH THAT LED TO DEATHS OF 6

On Sunday, August 28, 2022, at approximately 2:00 a.m., while conducting a missing persons investigation, uniformed officers from the Barrie Police Service located a fatal motor vehicle collision that occurred on McKay Road, just east of County Road 27. The collision claimed the lives of two females and four males who range in age from 20-23. An investigation was immediately initiated by members of the Barrie Police Service Traffic Unit and Investigative Services. With the assistance of the Office of the Chief Coroner and Ontario Forensic Pathology Service (OCC-OFPS), the deceased victims were positively identified. Also, in early September, investigators determined that the collision occurred shortly after 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 27 as the deceased persons were traveling to a nearby casino. Over the past few months, this complex investigation has continued under the direction of the Barrie Police Service Major Crime Unit. As a result of the thorough investigation and review of all the available material, Con-Drain Company (1983) Ltd. has been charged with six counts of Criminal Negligence Causing Death, contrary to section 220(b) of the Criminal Code of Canada and are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice located in Barrie on February 13, 2023. The Barrie Police Service will not be providing any additional comments regarding this incident or to the investigative process that has led to the release of information contained within this media release.



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## PM MODI TO KICK OFF POLL CAMPAIGN IN KALYAN KARNATAKA REGION ON JAN 19

Karnataka's ruling BJP is all set to kick-off its poll campaign for the upcoming Assembly elections in the Kalyan Karnataka region with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit on January 19 to Yadgir and Kalaburagi districts to participate in various programmes. Kalyan Karnataka region comprises Bidar, Kalaburagi, Raichur, Yadgir, Ballary, Vijayanagar and Koppal districts. All districts are aspirational districts and considered as most backward in the state. Kalaburagi is the home turf for Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge. He was defeated by the BJP in elections, the BJP wants to retain its influence in the region. Though, Lingayat vote bank is supporting BJP, a challenging situation has been created for BJP to garner votes of other communities, say BJP insiders. With mining baron-turned-politician Gali Janardhana Reddy launching

a new party focusing on Kalyan Karnataka region, BJP party leaders are hopeful that PM Modi's visit will boost the BJP party workers morale and strengthen the party's base. The PM will land at Kalaburagi Airport on January 19 and travel to Kodekal village in Yadgir to lay foundation stones for Narayanapura left canal network extension, modernisation of Narayanapura canal, and Surat-Chennai Expressway Package 3. He will also inaugurate newly-built 356 automated gates of Basava Sagar dam in Yadgir at a cost of Rs 1,050 crore. Modi will address a public rally in Kodekal. Holiday has been declared for schools and colleges in the Hunasagi taluk in Yadgir for his visit. Later, he will take part in a programme at Mulakheda in Kalaburagi to distribute property documents to beneficiaries in newly-built revenue villages.

## MY IDEOLOGY DOESN'T MATCH WITH VARUN GANDHI'S: RAHUL GANDHI

Former Congress President Rahul Gandhi, while responding to a question on BJP leader Varun Gandhi, said on Tuesday that his ideology doesn't match with the latter, adding that he'd rather be beheaded than go to the office of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). Commenting on his estranged cousin, Rahul Gandhi said, "He (Varun Gandhi) is in the BJP. If he walks into the Bharat Jodo Yatra, he might be in a problem. My ideology does not match his ideology. My family has an ideology, we have different ways of thinking... But Varun has adopted the RSS ideology, which is not acceptable." "I can meet him, I can hug him, but I cannot accept the RSS ideology. There is a clash between the two ideologies. Many years ago, Varun had told me that RSS is also doing good work. I had told him then that 'you have not studied the history of the family; had you did, you would not have said this'," Rahul Gandhi said.



## DELHI HIT-AND-DRAG CASE: COURT GRANTS BAIL TO ONE ACCUSED

A Delhi court on Tuesday granted bail to Ashutosh Bhardwaj, an accused in the infamous hit and drag case, in which a 20-year-old woman died a painful death after being dragged by a car for about 12 km in the early hours of January 1. "He is admitted to bail on furnishing bail bond of Rs 50,000," the order said, adding that Bhardwaj's role came after the crime was committed. A detailed order in the matter is awaited. On January 16, Additional Sessions Judge Susheel Bala Dagar reserved its order on Bhardwaj's bail plea. Delhi Police had opposed the bail plea, contending that it is a serious case and they are in the process of invoking Section 302 (murder). On January 12, the court had dismissed Bhardwaj's bail plea. Metropolitan Magistrate Sanya Dalal had said that considering the gravity of the offence, the fact that the investigation is at an initial stage, and the offences alleged against the accused are exclusively triable by the sessions court, this court is not inclined to grant bail. By claiming that co-accused Deepak was driving the car, Bharadwaj allegedly deceived the inquiry, according to Additional Public Prosecutor Atul Srivastava. "There is a thin line of difference between having knowledge and subsequently having knowledge. We are investigating the case... When he (Bharadwaj) was a free man, he misled the investigation. He can mislead the probe again in future," Srivastava said. As per sources, Bhardwaj had talks with the five accused persons and as co-accused Amit did not have a driving licence, another co-accused Deepak was told to tell the police that he was in the driver's seat at the time of the incident. Counsel representing Bhardwaj had moved the plea on January 9



seeking bail on grounds that the offences are bailable in nature and that the accused has cooperated with the police post the incident. However, Srivastava had opposed the plea arguing that Bhardwaj had handed over the car involved in the incident to the co-accused, who did not possess a driving licence. On January 9, the court had sent the six accused persons to 14-day judicial custody. Other than Bhardwaj, the other accused persons are Deepak Khanna, Amit Khanna, Krishan, Mitthun and Manoj Mittal.

**AI 'PEE GATE': CREW REPORT SUGGESTS WOMAN INSTIGATED BY CO-PASSENGER**

The report of the Air India crew on the urination incident on a New York-New Delhi flight, states that there might be potential instigation by co-passenger S. Bhattacharjee, who was seated on seat 8A, in front of the elderly woman victim (on 9A), and next to accused Shankar Mishra, who was on 8C. The crew members' four-page report stated that the complainant may have been instigated by a co-passenger and that her subsequent behaviour casts a doubt about her "intent and integrity" while Bhattacharjee had requested an upgrade to first class on boarding, but was turned down, according to media reports. There is even some contradiction in the statements made by the complainant and the passenger on 9C, sitting right next to the complainant. The crew members have stated that she came to the galley and said that she required cleaning as a co-passenger had urinated on her and her clothes were wet. She was provided with a towel, slipper, socks, antiseptic (Savlon) and even nightwear was also given by the airline. "Her seat, the area around, her shoes, and the bags of both the passengers were sanitised," stated the report. However, it said that the woman demanded compensation for her soiled articles and spoke about filing a police complaint, though the crew promised her all help. They also shifted her to a new seat though she had not demanded this. Recently after accused Shankar Mishra claimed that the complainant had soiled her own seat, the latter rubbished the allegation saying that it was "completely false and concocted". "The said allegation is also in complete contradiction and a complete volte-face of the statements and the pleaded case of the accused in his bail application," she said. The victim said that her intention has all along been of ensuring that institutional changes are made so that no individual has to go through the "horrendous experience" she went through. "Instead of being remorseful for the utterly disgusting act committed by him, he has adopted a campaign of spreading misinformation and falsities with the intent of further harassing the victim," she further said. On January 13, Mishra told the court that he is not the accused. "There must be someone else who peed or it must be her who urinated," he had said. He further claimed that the woman was suffering from some prostate-related disease. "Her seat was such that it could only be accessed from behind and in any case, the urine could not reach the seat's front area. Also, the person sitting behind the complainant did not make any such complaint," he had said. On January 11, Mishra's counsel had contended that his actions, while obscene, were not intended to sexually harass the victim. Mishra has been booked under Sections 510 (misconduct in public by a drunken person), 509 (insulting the modesty of a woman), 294 (sings, recites or utters any obscene song, ballad or words, in or near any public place), and 354 (intending to outrage modesty) of the IPC as well as a section of the Aircraft Rules Act in a case registered at the IGI Airport police station.

## THREE PAKISTANIS ARRESTED IN NEPAL FOR KIDNAPPING COMPATRIOT



Three Pakistani nationals have been arrested by Nepal Police in Kathmandu on the charge of kidnapping and holding their compatriot hostage for ransom after luring him with a promise of a lucrative job in Canada, local police authorities said. The arrested Pakistani nationals have been identified as Mohamad Rashid, 30, Mohamad Asif, 35, and Mohamad Fida Hussain, 35, according to the Kathmandu Valley Crime Investigation Office under the Nepal Police. Police investigation has revealed that the three Pakistani nationals invited their fellow countryman Mohamad Sami Khan to Kathmandu giving a false hope that the visa process to Canada would be much easier from Nepal than from Pakistan. Accordingly, Khan came to Nepal on a tourist visa on January 7. Then, the Pakistanis took him to a hotel in Thamel, downtown Kathmandu. The very next day, on January 8, they took him to Budhanilkantha area, held him hostage at a rented house and demanded a ransom of 2.6 million Nepali rupees. The kidnappers asked the victim to telephone his brother in Pakistan so that they can get the money immediately. After receiving the ransom amount, the kidnapper left Sami Khan halfway at Sinamangal area in Kathmandu and ran away. Acting on a complaint filed by the victim at Tourist Police in Kathmandu, a joint team of police from the District Police Range, Kathmandu and Kathmandu Valley Crime Investigation Office, launched a massive search operation across the Nepali capital. Three days after the kidnapping, local police authorities nabbed all the Pakistani nationals from Budhanilkantha area. Krishna Prasad Koirala, a spokesperson for the Kathmandu Valley Crime Investigation Office, said that the Pakistanis have been charged for abduction under the Criminal Code Act (2017) of Nepal. "They will be sent to jail once our investigation is over," Koirala told India Narrative. This is not the first time that Pakistani nationals are found to have been involved in criminal activities in Nepal. Mostly, they are arrested for being involved in fake Indian currency notes in Nepal. (Santosh Ghimire is India Narrative's Nepal correspondent based in Kathmandu) (The content is being carried under an arrangement with indianarrative.com)

## CBI FILES FRESH FIR IN CHINTELS PARADISO BUILDING COLLAPSE

Nearly a year after a tower collapsed in the Chintels Paradiso residential apartment complex in Gurugram that claimed two lives, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Tuesday lodged a fresh FIR in connection with the case. Two women were killed when the floor of a sixth-floor apartment of Tower D at Chintels Paradiso in Sector 109 came down on February 10 last year, triggering the collapse of roofs and floors directly under it, till the first floor. Luckily, the flats between the sixth and first floor were vacant, otherwise there could have been more casualties. The CBI filed the fresh FIR against the MD of Chintel Group after the Haryana government directed the agency to look into the matter. Initially, a case was lodged under Sections 304A and 34 of the Indian Penal Code at the Bajghera police station. Now, the central probe agency has added Sections 304 (II), 338, 427, 465, 468, 471, and 120-B of the IPC and Sections 10 and 12 of the Haryana Development and Regulation of Urban Areas Act in the matter. Rajesh Bhardwaj, a resident of Chintels Paradiso, had first lodged a complaint with the local police in connection with the ceiling collapse. Rajesh's wife Ekta Bhardwaj (31) got trapped under the debris and later succumbed to her injuries. Rajesh had alleged that the incident happened due to the substandard construction work carried out by the MD of Chintel Group, Ashok Saloman, and the contractor.

## DELHI HC ADJOURNS HEARING ON SHARJEEL IMAM'S BAIL PLEAS

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday adjourned, to January 30, the hearing of JNU student Sharjeel Imam's two different pleas seeking regular bail and interim bail in connection with a 2020 riots case involving allegations of sedition. A division bench of Justices Siddharth Mridul and Talwant Singh was dealing with a petition seeking interim bail in a case where he was charged under Section 124A (sedition) of the Indian Penal Code. Counsel for Imam said that he has been granted bail in another case where sedition charges were present. However, the court said that as the pleas are based on same FIR, they will have to hear them together as same issues cannot be agitated more than once. The bench said: "Two of your appeals (against denial of regular bail and interim bail by trial court) are pending for the same FIR. We will hear them together; you can't agitate same issue more than once. It can't be heard like this." Imam's counsel informed the court that his regular bail plea is scheduled for hearing in April and he has sought interim bail until the Supreme Court decides the constitutional validity of offence of sedition. The court observed that the apex court has not ordered the release of all those charged with sedition. Moreover, Imam, in this case has been charged with not just sedition but more offences, it noted. "The end result of both (pleas) is the same. You can't have it both ways. We have two bail applications before us today. We can't hear you today and then later. We will hear you together. Nowhere has Supreme Court said that you have to be enlarged on bail," the court said. Imam's counsel also made a point that his client's plea regarding the framing of charges in the matter is also pending. The court listed the matter for hearing on January 30 instead of April.





# CHINA'S POPULATION DIPS FOR 1ST TIME IN 6 DECADES, INDIA TO TAKE TOP SPOT

China's population has declined for the first time since 1961 as the national birth rate fell to a record low of 6.77 births for every 1,000 people last year, media reports said on Tuesday.

With China's population decline, India is projected to overtake China as the world's most populous country this year, according to the United Nations. The South China Morning Post reported that the national birth rate for 2022 fell to a record low in China.

Deaths outnumbered births in China as its overall population plummeted by 850,000 people - to 1.4118 billion in 2022, down from 1.4126 billion a year earlier, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

The national death rate was 7.37 per thousand last year, putting the national growth rate at negative 0.6 per thousand people in the country currently going through a Covid crisis that killed nearly 60,000 people in about a month's time.

"China's population declined the first time since 1961. The population will likely trend down from here in the coming years. This is very

important, with implications for potential growth and domestic demand," Zhang Zhiwei, chief economist at Pinpoint Asset Management, was quoted as saying.

The report said that the population growth had been slowing since 2016. In 2021, China eased birth restrictions to allow couples to have three children, entitling them to childcare and other benefits. Shenzhen is among the latest cities to incentivise childbirth via cash handouts. The UN also expects China's population to drop to 1.313 billion by 2050 and fall below 800 million by 2100.

However, as the number of new births fall, China's ageing crisis is deepening. The country had 280.04 million people aged over 60 at the end of 2022, up from 267.36 million people or 18.9 per cent of the population at the end of 2021. China's working-age population -- those between 16 and 59 years old -- stood at 875.56 million at the end of 2022, representing 62 per cent of the population, down from 62.5 per cent a year earlier. Without proper change, the ageing population will have a long-term effect on economic growth, said the report.

## SIKH FAMILY ALLEGES RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AT WINDSOR CASTLE, THREATENS LEGAL ACTION

Accusing two British Army guards of racially discriminating against them at Windsor Castle, a Sikh family has threatened to take legal action against the UK government.

Rapinder Kaur, 36, said she, her turban-wearing husband and their two-year-old child were subjected to racial taunts by guards during a visit to the castle last year, The Independent reported.

She said that as the family were walking alongside the castle's wall, two soldiers standing in a palace window made inappropriate "We are watching you" gestures while laughing and showing them the middle finger. According to the report, the family then complained to the Royal Collection Trust, which operates the palace, and the Ministry of Defence (MOD), which bears responsibility for the guards.

But the family said that all they have received is an email apology from a top-ranking lieutenant, and guidance that the soldiers would receive refresher training.

"The claimant believes that the sole reason for being targeted and singled out by the soldiers was because of their skin colour and the fact that her husband was wearing a turban," a letter sent from the

family's solicitors to the Government Legal Department in January 2022 read.

It further said that Rapinder Kaur's family members were the only non-white people there. In a reply in June 2002, the government's lawyers denied any knowledge of the incident and stated that the lieutenant's apology was "not an admission of liability."

"It is disappointing (that) the Government Legal Department has denied any record of this incident. First, the lieutenant who investigated the incident apologised, but then the Government Legal Department denied it happened, asking me to prove it. Why apologise at all if there was nothing to apologise for?" Rapinder Kaur told The Independent.

"I feel that there is a level of protection afforded to individuals within certain institutions, which does not apply to people like us, minorities," she rued. This comes as King Charles III visited a gurdwara in Luton, England, last month, and had a wholesome interaction with community leaders, volunteers, and students of Sikh community.

Respecting Sikh traditions, the 74-year-old monarch covered his head with a kerchief, offered prayers, and sat on the floor with Sikh devotees.

## FORMER SCBA PRESIDENT SHOT DEAD INSIDE PESHAWAR HIGH COURT

In a shocking incident of targeted killing, former president of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) and senior lawyer Latif Afridi was shot dead inside the Peshawar High Court (PHC) bar room.

As per details, the shooter entered the bar room and opened fire, hitting Latif Afridi with at least six bullets. Latif Afridi was rushed to the Lady Reading Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries during treatment.

"Latif Afridi was sitting with the other lawyers in the PHC bar room when a gunman opened fire at him. The police have arrested the gunman who has been identified as Adnan Afridi. The attacker is related to Latif Afridi," said Senior Superintendent of Police, Kashif Abbasi. "A small weapon, an identity card and a student card have been recovered from the attacker. We suspect that the attack was carried out because of personal enmity," Abbasi said. The killing of Latif Afridi is not a first in his family. His cousin Aftab Afridi, who was an anti-terrorism judge in Swat, Khyber Pukhtunkhwa (KP), was also killed in a firing incident in 2022. In that case as well, family members were held accused, who were later acquitted by the anti-terrorism court in Swabi. Monday's incident has sent shockwaves among the lawyer community, who have expressed serious concerns over the security arrangements in the Peshawar High Court. The Peshawar High Court Bar Association (PHCBA) has termed the incident as a major security lapse, raising questions as to how a man with a weapon could reach the bar room, located deep inside the high court building. The

brutal murder of Latif Afridi has been widely condemned, with senior politicians, including the Prime Minister, expressing their grief over the incident. "I pray that the bereaved family bears this loss with fortitude. The worsening law and order situation in Khyber Pukhtunkhwa is alarming. The provincial government should take immediate measures in this regard," said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. Former President Asif Ali Zardari said that "Afridi was a strong supporter of democracy and a staunch opponent of extremism". Former SCBA president Ahsan Bhoon termed Latif Afridi as an upright man since his student days who faced tough times during Ayub Khan's martial law. "He was part of the students' union in his young days and later he joined the ANP (Awami National Party). Afridi had also suffered tough times during martial law during ex-dictator Ayub Khan's tenure. Afridi was a strong advocate of democracy. He resisted all anti-democratic forces throughout his life," said Bhoon. In view of the tragic incident, the Lahore High Court Bar Association (LHCBA) and the Khyber Pukhtunkhwa Bar Council (KPBC) have announced a strike on Tuesday. The lawyers' associations have called on the government to ensure protection of lawyers and judges, who are unsafe even inside the court and bar rooms.



## INDIAN STUDENT FROM PUNJAB DIES IN AUSTRALIA CAR CRASH

A 21 year-old student, who had moved to Australia eight months back from Punjab's Ferozepur, died on the spot after his car collided with a truck in Canberra, a media report said.

Kunal Chopra was returning from work when his Hyundai Getz collided head-on with a concrete pumping truck on William Hovell Drive last week, SBS Punjabi, a multicultural and multilingual broadcaster in Australia, reported.

The Australian Capital Territory Ambulance Service paramedics declared Chopra dead on the scene.

The driver of the concrete pumping truck was taken to a hospital for mandatory drug and alcohol testing, according to the report.

William Hovell Drive was closed for several hours after the crash.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the Hyundai crossed to the wrong side of the road into the path of the city-bound truck.

Acting Inspector for Road Policing Travis Mills told SBS that the major collisions team was continuing to investigate the incident and will prepare a report.

Chopra was living with his cousin Honey Malhotra in Canberra.

"We are heartbroken, and his family back home is shattered and inconsolable," Malhotra told SBS Punjabi, adding that they are making arrangements to send Chopra's mortal remains to his family back in India.

### IRAN TO GET RUSSIAN SU-35 FIGHTERS SOON

Iran will take delivery of a number of Su-35 fighter jets from Russia in the early days of the next Iranian year, which will start on March 21, an Iranian lawmaker has said.

In an interview published by Tasnim news agency, Shahriar Heydari, a member of the Iranian Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, revealed that Iran had previously ordered the fighter jets, Xinhua news agency reported.

The lawmaker noted that Iran has also ordered a number of defense and missile systems as well as helicopters, most of which will be soon delivered by Russia. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said in December 2022 that cooperation between Tehran and Moscow in different areas, particularly the defense sector, is not against any third country. Ukraine and some Western countries have recently accused Iran of exporting suicide drones to Russia for use in the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Iran has admitted to supplying Russia with a small number of drones in the months before the Ukraine conflict, but has denied supplying Moscow with unmanned aerial vehicles for use against Kiev.

## INDIAN-AMERICAN TAKES OATH AS KANSAS STATE SENATOR



Indian-American city commissioner Usha Reddi took oath as senator in the US state of Kansas, replacing current Manhattan Senator Tom Hawk, who announced his retirement last month. Reddi, who has served on the Manhattan City Commission since 2013, was appointed by Democratic precinct leaders in Riley, Geary and Clay counties.

"I was sworn in this afternoon as State Senator for District 22. It was great to have my family join me today. I look forward to representing you," Reddi tweeted after taking oath on Thursday. Reddi will complete the remainder of Senator Hawk's term, which expires in 2025.

"Thank you, Senator Tom Hawk for your dedicated service. You lead with sincere love for community and built strong relationships along the way. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement," Reddi wrote in a tweet.

She was first elected to the Manhattan City Commission for a four-year term in April 2013 and re-elected in 2017 and 2021. She served as Mayor in 2016-2017 and in 2020. Her family immigrated from India to the US in 1973, when she was eight years-old.

She was raised in Columbus, Ohio, along with her two brothers. "Many of us have known Usha in her capacity as a community leader for years now, and we look forward to bringing her into the fold when she joins us as a legislative colleague next week," Senate Democratic Leader Dinah Sykes told ksn.com.

Sykes added that she is eager to use Reddi's strengths in the Legislature to help move Kansas forward Manhattan resident for more than 28 years.

Reddi earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Developmental Psychology from Ohio State University, a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from Kansas State University. She taught 1st grade for over 10 years and received the Elected Women of Excellence Award from the National Foundation of Women Legislators in 2020.

## ITALY'S MOST-WANTED MAFIA BOSS ARRESTED AFTER 30 YEARS ON THE RUN

After 30 years on the run, notorious mafia boss Matteo Messina Denaro was arrested in Sicily, the Italian authorities have said. He was captured by the police at a private health clinic where he was receiving treatment in Sicilian capital Palermo, Xinhua news agency reported.

Messina Denaro, 60, is considered the top boss of the Cosa Nostra crime syndicate, one of Italy's three most powerful mafia groups (along with 'Ndrangheta and Camorra).

He had been on the run since 1993. A year later, the first international arrest warrant was issued against him.

He was sentenced in absentia to a life term for his role in several murders, including those of top anti-mafia magistrates Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino in 1993 and of an 11-year-old boy.

Currently on an official visit to Turkey, Italy's Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi expressed his "great satisfaction" at Messina Denaro's arrest.

"This is an extraordinary day for the state and for all those who have always been fighting against the crime syndicates," Piantedosi said in a statement.

Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni said she would travel to Palermo to congratulate the prosecutors and the police forces.

## NEPAL PLANE CRASH VICTIM LOST PILOT HUSBAND IN ANOTHER CRASH 17 YEARS AGO

A woman who was killed in the Yeti Airlines plane crash in Nepal had lost her pilot husband also in a tragic plane crash 17 years ago. The victim, Manju Khatiwada, 44, was the co-pilot of the ill-fated plane that crashed on Sunday in the western city of Pokhara. He husband, Dipak Pokharel died in 2006 during a plane crash in the Jumla district.

According to the Kantipur national daily, after the death of her pilot husband, her father, Govinda was planning to send her to India for nursing study but she denied it and went to the US to undertake a pilot course. She was supposed to be promoted to the rank of pilot after undertaking a few more flights.

In order to become a pilot, one needs at least 100 hours of flying experience.

Manju had successfully landed in almost all of Nepal's airports earlier. After one more successful landing, she was about to get a chief pilot's license on Sunday.

She is survived by her daughter. Dipak Pokharel had died when a 9N AEQ aircraft of Yeti Airlines en route from Nepalgunj to Jumla via Surkhet crashed, killing six passengers and four crew members. The plane that crashed on Sunday was piloted by Senior Captain Kamal KC. She died while fulfilling the dream of her first husband, Santosh Timilsina, manju's second husband, told the media in Biratnagar, an eastern town of Nepal where she was born and brought up.



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# Mid Week ENTERTAINMENT

ALIA BHATT SAYS SHE 'RELATES' WITH  
WOMEN WHO WANT TO LOSE WEIGHT  
IMMEDIATELY AFTER DELIVERY: 'BUT I  
WON'T TORTURE MYSELF' | P16



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## PRIYANKA CHOPRA HEAPS PRAISE ON PAKISTAN'S OSCAR ENTRY JOYLAND, CALLS IT 'A MUST WATCH'



JOYLAND, THE PAKISTANI FILM CREATING WAVES WORLDWIDE, EARNED ANOTHER FAN RECENTLY. INDIAN ACTRESS PRIYANKA CHOPRA PRAISED THE FILM ON SOCIAL MEDIA ON WEDNESDAY, CALLING IT A MUST WATCH. JOYLAND IS CURRENTLY IN THE 10-FILM SHORTLIST FOR THE OSCARS' BEST FOREIGN FILM CATEGORY, WHERE IT IS COMPETING WITH INDIAN FILM CHHELLO SHOW (LAST FILM SHOW). PRIYANKA TOOK TO INSTAGRAM STORIES ON WEDNESDAY MORNING, SHARING A VIDEO OF THE FILM'S TRAILER. ALONGSIDE, THE ACTRESS WROTE, "#JOYLAND IS TRULY A JOY TO WATCH. BRAVO TO THE ENTIRE TEAM FOR BRINGING THIS STORY TO LIFE. IT'S A MUST WATCH." SHE TAGGED THE FILM'S MAKERS, DIRECTOR, AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE CAST AS WELL IN HER POST. JOYLAND FOLLOWS A PATRIARCHAL FAMILY, CRAVING FOR THE BIRTH OF A BABY BOY TO CONTINUE THE FAMILY LINE. THE FAMILY'S YOUNGEST SON, THE PROTAGONIST, SECRETLY JOINS AN EROTIC DANCE THEATRE AND FALLS FOR A TRANS WOMAN. THE FILM IS SAIM SADIQ'S DIRECTORIAL DEBUT. THE FILM FEATURES AN ENSEMBLE CAST OF SANIA SAEED, ALI JUNEJO, ALINA KHAN, SARWAT GILANI, RASTI FAROOQ, SALMAAN PEERZADA AND SOHAIL SAMEER. IT WAS RELEASED IN PAKISTAN IN NOVEMBER AFTER A SHORT BAN THAT WAS LATER UPLIFTED.

### MAHARASHTRA WOMEN'S PANEL ASKS MUMBAI POLICE TO LOOK INTO UORFI JAVED'S SECURITY DEMAND



MUMBAI POLICE ON SATURDAY RECORDED A STATEMENT OF UORFI JAVED IN CONNECTION WITH A COMPLAINT FILED AGAINST HER BY CHITRA WAGH.

### SELENA GOMEZ ADDRESSES BODY-SHAMING COMMENTS RECEIVED FOLLOWING GOLDEN GLOBES APPEARANCE



SELENA GOMEZ DREW SEVERAL BODY-SHAMING COMMENTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA AFTER HER GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS 2023 SHOW APPEARANCE.

### ATHIYA SHETTY-KL RAHUL'S WEDDING PREPARATIONS BEGIN; PICS OF CRICKETERS DECKED-UP HOUSE GO VIRAL



ATHIYA SHETTY AND KL RAHUL MADE THEIR RELATIONSHIP OFFICIAL IN 2021 AND NOW THE TWO ARE RUMOURED TO GET MARRIED IN JUST A FEW DAYS.

## KIARA ADVANI BLUSHES AS PAPS ASK HER ABOUT WEDDING DATE WITH SIDHARTH MALHOTRA



The rumours around Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani's relationship is getting stronger with each passing day. Shershaah's co-stars often give away major hints about their bond, and they give away couple goals to their fans. Last night, Kiara attended Sidharth's upcoming movie, Mission Majnu's screening. Advani arrived after Nora Fatehi, Sajid Khan, and other guests, but she stole the limelight. The entire media was focusing on Sid-Kiara, and they were busy looking too good. Kiara even hugged Sidharth with happiness, and the latter was there with him while interacting with other guests. This video itself proves that Kiara's presence means a lot to Sidharth. While posing for the media, one of the paparazzi teased Kiara about the rumoured wedding date of Sidharth Malhotra. As soon as pap commented 'madam February 6,' Advani laughed and walked further to meet other guests. Two days ago, Sidharth Malhotra celebrated his 38th birthday. On his special occasion, Kiara Advani dropped a scenic picture wishing him. In the photo, the rumoured lovebirds are seen staring into each other's eyes against a beautiful scenic view background.

## KANGANA RANAUT 'CAN'T BE TAUGHT' AS SHE WAS BORN WITH 'SWAG', SAYS 'WHEN I WAS TEENAGER...'



Bollywood actress Kangana Ranaut, on Tuesday, reshared a clip from her blockbuster Fashion and said she was born with 'swag'. In the clip, she can be seen doing a catwalk on the stage in Madhur Bhandarkar's film Fashion. Resharing the clip, Kangana wrote, "When I was a teenager just 18 years old, didn't even know a word called swag exists...I had it...ha ha one is born with it... can't be taught (wink face emoji)." The clip was originally shared by DietSabya, with the caption, "When it comes to fashion and cinema, this moment is thee cultural reset. Very few things come close. Thoughts. Feelings. Discuss." A fan commented, "Till date when that music starts it gives me goosebumps. Absolutely legendary scene." Another person said, "Kangana's walk is closest to how Jesse Randhawa used to walk."

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SHUBMAN GILL SCORED HIS MAIDEN ODI DOUBLE-CENTURY DURING FIRST ODI VS NEWZEALAND.

### NEW ZEALAND TOUR OF INDIA, 2023

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VS



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#### ODI

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|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> ODI | 18 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY | 📍 HYDERABAD |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> ODI | 21 <sup>st</sup> JANUARY | 📍 RAIPUR    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> ODI | 24 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY | 📍 INDORE    |

#### T20I

|                      |                          |             |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> T20I | 27 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY | 📍 RANCHI    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> T20I | 29 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY | 📍 LUCKNOW   |
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## PATHAAN ON OTT: SHAH RUKH KHAN'S FILM TO ARRIVE ON STREAMING PLATFORM ON THIS DATE, DETAILS LEAKED

Shah Rukh Khan will be returning to the big screen after a gap of four years. Naturally, the audience is super excited to see the Baadshah of Bollywood in an action avatar. The actor has been joined by Deepika Padukone and John Abraham in the spy thriller, Pathaan. As the film is braving its share of controversies, Delhi High Court has suggested some changes in the film's OTT version. As the proceedings were underway, some crucial details about the film's release on the streaming platform were leaked online. The Bollywood film will hit the streaming platform three months after its release in cinema halls. SRK's film will be released on Amazon Prime Video on April 25. Meanwhile, for making it accessible for hearing and visually impaired audience, the Delhi High Court on Monday directed Yash Raj Films to develop subtitles, close captioning and audio description in Hindi for 'Pathaan' movie's OTT release and submit the same to the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) for a decision on re-certification by February 20. The High Court directed

that a decision on the recertification of the film be taken by March 10. A single-bench judge Justice Pratibha M. Singh was dealing with a petition filed by people with disabilities including a law student, lawyers and a disability rights activist seeking a direction to YRF, OTT platforms and the government to make arrangements as per the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. Justice Singh observed that the petition raises very important concern about entertainment accessibility for the visually and hearing impaired people and the authorities should make sure that the content is available for them in accessible formats. The court also noted that special measure will have to be taken to make sure that the persons with disabilities are not denied theatre experience. The court listed the matter for next hearing on April 6. Justice Singh also impleaded the Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation, Film Producers Association and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology as respondents in the matter.

## ARJUN KAPOOR'S FILM COULDN'T DRAW AUDIENCE TO THEATERS



Kuttey Box Office Collection Day 2: Arjun Kapoor's film had a dismal start at the box office. The only earned Rs 1 Cr on its opening day and it did show any improvements on day 2. The film is struggling to gain an audience and the reviews aren't working in the film's favour. If the film doesn't have a surprise growth, it wouldn't be able to earn Rs 5 Cr at the ticket window in its opening weekend. **Kuttey Box Office Report** Kuttey had an underwhelming performance on its first day at the box office. It has earned Rs 1.07 Cr India nete. On it's second day, early estimates suggest that the Arjun Kapoor starter minted only Rs 1.25 Cr nett. Box Office India reported that the film needs a big jump to sustain itself. "There will be an upward trend for the film on Saturday but unless its more than double its not likley to help much in the long run as the core mass audience will slam the door on the film on Sunday," the report stated.

**About Kuttey** "Sabke sab kuttey hai saale!" Arjun Kapoor says sarcastically and sets the tone for a rollercoaster ride with this thrilling, raw and earthy trailer, tinged with dark humour. Starring Arjun, Tabu, Naseeruddin Shah, Konkona Sen Sharma, Radhika Madan, Kumud Mishra, the seven grey-shaded characters appear to reflect what they will portray in the movie. In the film, Arjun turned on his action mode as he and Tabu play a cop and an investigating officer. On the other hand, Naseeruddin Shah is essaying the role of a gangster. Interestingly, Vishal Bhardwaj, who composed it (and directed Kaminey), has also composed the music for Kuttey and recreated the Kaminey title track in Aasmaan's movie. Arjun Kapoor starrer is produced by Luv Ranjan, Vishal Bhardwaj, Ankur Garg and Rekha Bhardwaj under the banner of Luv Films and Vishal Bhardwaj Films and presented by Gulshan Kumar and Bhushan Kumar's T-Series.

## SHILPA SHETTY GIVES A SHOUTOUT TO SISTER SHAMITA SHETTY AS SHE IS SET TO MAKE A COMEBACK WITH THE TENANT

Over the course of her career, Shamita Shetty has worked on a number of intriguing and experimental projects. The actress is incredibly talented and has a wealth of industry knowledge. After a brief absence, Shamita Shetty is all set to make her big-screen comeback with The Tenant. The trailer of the same was released today and fans seem quite impressed. Meanwhile, her sister Shilpa Shetty is all praise for the movie and her performance. Shilpa Shetty uploaded the trailer of the movie on her Instagram handle. She captioned it, "The trailer looks fabbb! Picture abhi baaqi hai, doston! Can't wait to see you in and as The Tenant, my Tunki shamitashetty\_official! So excited for you!" She also tagged the film's official handle and Sushrut Jain, the director. In response, Shamita Shetty said, "Thank You my Munki." Earlier in the day, Shamita Shetty also shared the trailer on her Instagram handle with the caption, "NEW MOVIE ALERT ! Follow a Bollywood drama of a woman's conflict with a traditional housing society that spirals into interesting yet shocking incidents that show us the true nature of human beings. THE TENANT, A film in Hinglish starring Shamita Shetty, Rudraksh Jaiswal, Swanand Kirkire, Sheeba Chadha and many more...In Cinemas FEB 10!!!"

## LARA SAYS 'HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU KID' AS HARNAAZ PAYS TRIBUTE TO HER, SUSHMITA WITH HER MISS UNIVERSE GOWN

Harnaaz Sandhu, who was crowned Miss Universe 2021, has always maintained a high level of fashion by choosing a variety of stunning outfits. She once again became the talk of the town with her ensemble at her final performance as the current pageant champion on the stage of Miss Universe 2022 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Sandhu made sure to draw all the attention with her outfit as she handed over the crown to R'Bonney Gabriel. The 22-year-old, Harnaaz Sandhu, walked down the runway of the pageant. But what drew everyone's attention was the images of previous Indian Miss Universe winners Sushmita Sen and Lara Dutta printed on the back of her gown. Harnaaz was seen wearing a black ball gown featuring a plunging neckline, a cut-out back, a giant bow at the back, and a voluminous floor-sweeping skirt. The images were placed with sheer detail on the skirt. Her gown was designed by Saisha Shinde who had also designed her winning gown last year.



## ATHIYA SHETTY-KL RAHUL'S WEDDING PREPARATIONS BEGIN; PICS OF CRICKETERS DECKED-UP HOUSE GO VIRAL



Athiya Shetty and KL Rahul's wedding preparations have seemingly begun. It appears that the celebrity duo will tie the knot in just a matter of days. While both families are tight lipped about the occasion and have refrained from making any statements regarding the same, photos and videos of the Indian cricketer's house have gone viral on social media. In the viral pics, the cricketer's Mumbai residence in Bandra is seen all decked up. Sandhu Palace in Mumbai's Pali Hill has been decorated with lights ahead of the rumoured wedding. According to several media reports, Athiya Shetty and KL Rahul have planned to have a three-day wedding extravaganza. The couple is expected to get married on January 23 at Suniel Shetty's family home in Khandala with family and close friends in attendance. As the videos went viral, netizens reacted to them by congratulating the couple and dropping heart emojis under the post. Earlier in July, when the marriage rumours first surfaced on the internet, the actress dispelled the rumours on her Instagram story in a hilarious manner. The actress wrote, "I hope I'm invited to the wedding that's taking place in 3 months, Lol." Athiya and Rahul made their relationship official in 2021. The star cricketer wished the actor on her birthday with a social media post featuring the two. However, the two have never spoken about their wedding publicly. The two have been in a relationship for almost four years. They have been spotted in movie screenings, and parties and posts pictures of each other on social media.

## RANBIR KAPOOR'S CO-STAR EVELYN SHARMA ANNOUNCES PREGNANCY: 'BABY #2 IS ON THE WAY!'



It is a good news again for actress Evelyn Sharma as she announced her pregnancy today in her Instagram post. Ranbir Kapoor's co-star is expecting a baby for the second time. The actress took to her Instagram handle and posted a series of photos flaunting her baby bump. It was in November 2021, when Evelyn announced the birth of her baby girl and now, the doting mommy is all set to welcome her second child with her husband, Tushaan Bhindi. Sharing the pictures, Evelyn wrote, "Can't wait to hold you in my arms! Baby 2 is on the way. #babybhindi #babynumber2 #anotherone #evelynsharma #growingourfamily #familyiseverything #love." It is a raining good news for all her fans and friends. As soon as she announced the news many celebrities were seen commenting well wishes to her. Celebrities like Neha Dhupia commented, "Many congratulations. twice the love and fun." Actress Sonal Chauhan said "Awwwww Congratulations my love." Neil Nitin Mukesh wrote, "Congratulations to you my dearest. such great news". Lisa Haydon wrote, "Congrats Evelyn. Beautiful news".

## SELENA GOMEZ ADDRESSES BODY-SHAMING COMMENTS RECEIVED FOLLOWING GOLDEN GLOBES APPEARANCE



American singer and actor Selena Gomez, who has been a longtime advocate for body positivity, recently responded to the criticism that came her way after she walked the 2023 Golden Globes red carpet. According to E! News, a USA-based entertainment news outlet, Selena drew several body-shaming comments on social media after her award show appearance. For the event, she was dressed in a strapless, plum velvet gown with puff sleeves and a long train. Later, she appeared on Instagram Live with her little sister Gracie Elliot Teefey and spoke about gaining weight.





## RAKHI SAWANT'S HUSBAND ADIL SHARES WEDDING PHOTOS, ACCEPTS MARRIAGE SAYING 'HAD TO HANDLE FEW THINGS'

akhi Sawant has been grabbing many eyeballs yet again for her personal life. It was just two days ago when the controversy queen was spotted crying inconsolably after Adil Khan Durrani allegedly refused to accept her as his wife. While Rakhi did not reveal the reason, she was seen being devastated about the same. Now, Adil Khan has finally accepted his marriage to Rakhi Sawant and showered her with love in new Instagram photos. Adil shared a photo of his wedding with Sawant and clarified that he had to take care of some things which is why he did not openly come out with the wedding news. Rakhi Sawant's husband Adil Khan Durrani said, "So here's an announcement finally, I never said I am not married to you Rakhi. Just had to handle few things so had to be quiet, happy married life to us Rakhi (pappudi)" In the picture, the duo can be seen wearing garlands and posing for a picture after getting married. Earlier, speaking to ETimes, Rakhi Sawant indicated that things aren't going well between

her and her husband, Adil Durrani. Talking about the marriage, she said, "Yes, I got married to Adil in July last year after three months of knowing him. We had a nikah ceremony and a court marriage. Since he stopped me from disclosing it, I remained tightlipped for the past seven months. He felt that it would get difficult to find a suitor for his sister if people got to know about our marriage. According to him, 'tum Rakhi Sawant ke saath judoge toh tumhe badnaami hi hai'." She further went on to say, "We are husband and wife and still staying together. But a lot is happening between us that I don't want to reveal now. I shall open the cards when the time is right. I want to remain married to Adil and I am sure about that. I have seen a few things that make me feel that a lot has happened." On the other hand, Rakhi is reported to have changed her name after Nikaah with Adil. As per the marriage certificate procured by Telly Talk, the actress is now Rakhi Sawant Fatima. There were also rumours that Sawant is pregnant which is why she has revealed about her marriage. However, she refused to comment on rumours.

## ALIA BHATT SAYS SHE 'RELATES' WITH WOMEN WHO WANT TO LOSE WEIGHT IMMEDIATELY AFTER DELIVERY: 'BUT I WON'T TORTURE MYSELF'

Bollywood star Alia Bhatt has been talking of body positivity a lot lately, after giving birth to her and actor Ranbir Kapoor's daughter Raha Kapoor. Alia said that she wants everyone to eat healthy, but also take a moment out of their busy lives to appreciate their own bodies. The actor spoke candidly about the pressure to remain fit, more so after giving birth. Speaking with Bombay Times, the actor said that women often want to lose weight immediately post delivery, and that she could 'relate' with that sentiment. Adding that women should be appreciative of their bodies and what it is able to do for them in the long haul, Alia mentioned how she is a big foodie, but since she works in a visual medium, she cannot afford to let herself go. The actor, however, said that she has allowed herself to be a bit on the 'chubbier' side now and again, since it is only natural for our bodies to undergo that journey. And instead of beating herself up about it, Alia wants to celebrate her body in all its glory: "I am going to celebrate it. I won't torture myself," the actor concluded. On the work front, Alia Bhatt was last seen in the Ayan Mukerji fantasy-drama Brahmastra, which saw her opposite her real-life partner Ranbir. The film was received decently at the box office. Besides Brahmastra, Alia saw three other releases last year, including a cameo in RRR — Netflix film Darlings and the Sanjay Leela Bhansali directorial Gangubai Kathiawadi.



Alia Bhatt is now looking forward to the release of the Karan Johar feature Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani, which will reunite her with her Gully Boy co-star Ranveer Singh. Besides the two lead stars, the movie will also feature Dharmendra, Jaya Bachchan and Shabana Azmi in pivotal roles. Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani will release sometime in April.

## SHAH RUKH KHAN REVEALS 'GENTLE GIANT' JOHN ABRAHAM REFUSED TO PUNCH HIM WHILE SHOOTING PATHAAN, SAID, 'I WILL NOT HURT YOU, I CAN'T'

Actor Shah Rukh Khan is all set to return to the big screen with Pathaan, his first film in a starring role in over four years. In a new featurette for the movie, Shah Rukh spoke about his co-stars Deepika Padukone and John Abraham, and jokingly admitted that 'it's been a long time since (he) has entertained people with a good film.' He said that Pathaan is a good movie that has been made with love by a lot of talented people, and that he hopes people watch it on the big screen 'two or three times' before catching it on streaming. He said that it checks all the boxes of big screen entertainment, and described his character as an 'easy guy' who 'very single-mindedly thinks of India as his mother'. Shah Rukh plays a spy in the film, and he said in the video that he has always wanted to be an action hero. In fact, that was his goal when he came to Mumbai to become an actor over three decades ago. But he went on to become the country's foremost romantic hero instead. It was fortunate to have a veteran action star like John Abraham on board, Shah Rukh said, because John would offer valuable insights into performing fight scenes. John plays the villain in the film, and Shah Rukh said that he was hesitant about fighting him on screen because he wasn't sure if it would look believable that a star of SRK's stature was getting beaten up. John described Shah Rukh



as a 'national treasure', and said to him, "I will not hurt you, I can't." But Shah Rukh encouraged him to, and described him as a 'gentle giant'. "It took a lot of convincing to tell him that it's okay, you can punch me, I won't get hurt. But he's so proficient in action, he really helped me look nicer, in body language. Many a times, he would say, 'Shah bhai, do it like this'. It was very kind of him. If you're doing an action film, and you have John with you, there's a lot to learn. Being the star that he is, and the respect that he has for me, the way the film has gone smoothly, it's a big challenge for someone like him. I hope, genuinely, that when Pathaan comes out, the most liked character is John's. I really wish for this. Because it takes a lot of guts to do what he has done, as an actor, as a star." Shah Rukh was equally effusive about Deepika. He said, "You need someone of the stature of Deepika to be able to pull off a song sequence like Besharam Rang and then you know, to be able to do action, where she takes a guy and pulls him right over herself and beats him, she's tough enough to do that too. That kind of a combination could have only been achieved with someone like Deepika. It's a quite a layered character for an action film heroine so to say."

## BIGG BOSS 16: SUMBUL TOUQUEER KHAN TO TAKE VOLUNTARY EXIT? HERE'S WHAT HER FATHER HAS TO SAY



Bigg Boss 16: In spite of a number of fights and controversies, Sumbul Touqueer has maintained her position on the show. She has survived more than 100 days and fans can't be more proud of her. Recently some rumors were doing the rounds that she is going to leave the show and take a voluntary exit due to her father's health issues. Clearing the air, Sumbul's father issued a video statement rubbishing all the rumors. In the video clip, Sumbul's father clarified that she will not leave the show and urged her fans to keep voting for her. He said, "I have been receiving messages and calls from this morning. I have learnt that some news portals and YouTube channels are claiming that I am not well because of which Sumbul will take a voluntary exit from Bigg Boss 16. Let me tell you that this news is fake. I am perfectly fine. I do not have any issues at all. Confusion is being created. Please do not believe any rumors. Keep voting for Sumbul. With your blessings, I will live for 100 years". He also apologized to Sumbul for not being there during the family week. "Please forgive me for not being able to meet you during the family week but my blessings are always with you. I am writing this to lighten my heart. I feel proud that I am Sumbul Touqueer's father", he said in the video. Meanwhile, Sumbul has been making the headlines as she has been nominated for elimination this week. She has been nominated along with Shalin Bhanot, Soundarya Sharma and Tina Datta. It will be interesting to see who will walk out of the house this week. Sumbul has faced a lot of criticism for her childish behaviour and her closeness with Shalin Bhanot but she has maintained her dignity in the show and proved that the world was thinking wrong about her and that she isn't obsessed with Shalin Bhanot.

## ANUSHKA SHARMA CHEERS AS VIRAT KOHLI BREAKS SACHIN TENDULKAR'S RECORD & SMASHES CENTURY



Anushka Sharma was Virat Kohli's biggest cheerleader as the Indian cricket player gave an exemplary performance in India vs Sri Lanka's 3rd ODI match. Virat Kohli's fantastic 46th ODI century innings helped India to a thumping 317-run win and 3-0 series victory over Sri Lanka at the Greenfield International Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram. Not just this, but Virat also went on to break Sachin Tendulkar's records. Kohli is now ahead of Tendulkar in the list of most ODI centuries at home, in addition to holding the record of scoring the highest number of tons against a single team in the 50-over format of international cricket. Anushka who was watching her husband play, turned to social media to share a photo of a TV screen, which showed Virat Kohli raising his bat and helmet, and looking up towards the sky after his hundred in the third ODI against Sri Lanka. "What a guy...Shabaaash...What an innings played," she wrote along with the post. Notably, the ace Bollywood actress often praises his cricketer husband for his match performances. Anushka, who is set to play cricketer Jhulan Goswami in the upcoming biopic Chakda Xpress, had also taken to her Instagram last year to share pictures of her husband after the thrilling India-Pakistan match and called it the 'best match' of her life.

## MAHARASHTRA WOMEN'S PANEL ASKS MUMBAI POLICE TO LOOK INTO UORFI JAVED'S SECURITY DEMAND



The Maharashtra State Commission for Women has written to the Mumbai police commissioner asking to look into model and social media influencer Uorfi Javed's demand seeking security, an official said. Javed had submitted a complaint letter to the MSCW claiming Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Chitra Wagh filed a complaint against her for political mileage and threatened to beat her during an interaction with media. Javed stated she was feeling unsafe outside her home, the official said on Tuesday. In her letter, Javed demanded security and the MSCW asked Mumbai Police to take serious note of her complaint, the official said. Last week, Javed called on MSCW chairperson Rupali Chakankar. "The MSCW on Monday wrote a letter to the Mumbai police commissioner asking the police to look into Uorfi Javed's demand for security," the official said.

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# MidWeekSports



## WITH QUARTERFINALS IN SIGHT, INDIA SEEK BIG WIN AGAINST WALES

India, who have yet to lose a match, will look to improve their performance in penalty corners as they aim to secure a big win against Wales, who are at the bottom of the standings and participating for the first time. This will secure India's direct entry into the quarterfinals of the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup, which is taking place on Thursday.

India and England are on four points each after two matches with the latter ahead on goal difference, plus five as against the hosts' plus two. India, though, will have the advantage of knowing what to do before their match as they play after England's game against Spain on Thursday. If England loses or draws against Spain, there will be no headache for India as they just need to beat Wales by any margin to top Pool D, considered the group of death, and qualify directly for the quarter-finals. If England beat Spain, then India will need to defeat Wales by at least five goals. The number of goals India need to score will keep on increasing depending on England's victory margin. If two teams are on equal points and have the same number of wins, the rankings in the pool stage are decided based on goal difference. In any case, India will not be knocked out of the tournament as they will finish second if they beat Wales -- a task they are expected to accomplish. If India finish second in Pool D, they will play the third-place team in Pool C, which could be either New Zealand or Malaysia in the 'crossover' round.

India had beaten Spain 2-0 before drawing England 0-0, both matches played at the new Birsas Munda Stadium in Rourkela. They are going to play at the Kalinga Stadium for the first time in this World Cup. The winning team in each of the four pools qualifies directly for the quarter-finals. The second and third-placed finishers in each pool will feature in crossover matches. A second-place finisher of a pool will play a third-place side of another pool and the winning team will face a pool topper in the quarter-finals. If India top Pool D and qualify directly for the quarter-finals, they will play one match less and that may keep them fresh for the last-eight stage. "If we top our pool, we will play one match less and that will be good for us. We will try to play our best and play our normal game and execute our plans," said midfielder Manpreet Singh, who had led India to a historic bronze at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021. The main concern for India is their rate of penalty-corner conversion. They have got nine penalty corners

so far but have not scored even once from them directly, though Amit Rohidas found the target against Spain after captain Harmanpreet Singh's drag-flick rebounded off an opponent's stick. Drag-flicker Harmanpreet has been the country's top scorer in almost all tournaments in recent times, including the historic bronze-winning campaign in the Tokyo Olympics, but he has been struggling to find the target in this showpiece event. It will be easier for India to win by a big margin if Harmanpreet starts firing as his side is expected to get penalty corners in plenty against Wales. "I hope to start scoring goals from penalty corners in the next match," Harmanpreet had said after the England match. India will also need to convert field chances as they missed several scoring opportunities against England. "Missed opportunities and we next (against Wales) have to try and do better inside the opposition circle," head coach Graham Reid said. India were also dealt a blow after midfielder Hardik Singh injured his hamstring towards the end of the England match. He will be an unlikely starter in Thursday's match against Wales, though he is expected to recover in time for the quarter-final or the crossover stage. No doubt, Hardik will be missed but his absence is unlikely to affect India's chances against Wales, ranked 14th in the world as against the hosts' fifth as per the latest rankings. The likes of Vivek Sagar Prasad can fill in for Hardik. Wales will only be playing to maintain their dignity as they have very little chance of advancing to the next round due to their previous defeats against England (0-5) and Spain (1-5). Even if they were to win against India, which is not likely, and Spain were to beat England, Wales may not qualify for the crossover stage because of their negative goal difference of nine.

**The Squads**  
 India: Abhishek, Surender Kumar, Manpreet Singh, Jarmanpreet Singh, Mandeep Singh, Harmanpreet Singh (captain), Lalit Upadhyay, Krishan Pathak, Nilam Sanjeev Xess, PR Sreejesh, Nilakanta Sharma, Shamsher Singh, Varun Kumar, Akashdeep Singh, Amit Rohidas (vice-captain), Vivek Sagar Prasad, Sukhjeet Singh.  
 Wales: Rupert Shipperley (captain), Toby Reynolds-Cotterill, Rhys Payne, Gareth Furlong, Daniel Kyriakides, Hywel Jones, Ioan Wall, Steve Kelly, Lewis Prosser, Dale Hutchinson, Jacob Draper, Gareth Griffiths, Rhys Bradshaw, Fred Newbold, Ben Francis, Luke Hawker, James Carson, Jack Pritchard.



ROHIT SHARMA AND TOM LATHAM POSE WITH THE SERIES TROPHY.

## STAR INDIAN BOWLER TAKES BIG JUMP TO REACH TOP 3 AFTER IMPRESSIVE OUTING AGAINST SRI LANKA



The first off, the three-match ODI series between India and New Zealand will be played in Hyderabad on Wednesday (January 18). But, before the start of this series, Team India's star bowler has made a tremendous jump in the ICC rankings. This player has been doing wonders for Team India for the last several series. This player, who came in the Indian team in place of Jasprit Bumrah, has now become an important part of the Indian squad. The player is considered to be an important link in the BCCI's plan for the upcoming ODI World Cup to be held in India later this year. Mohammed Siraj has been working wonders for the Indian team ever since making his debut for the side. Siraj has reached the third position in the ICC ODI rankings for bowlers in the latest update from the ICC on their website. Siraj, who was ranked 279 at the beginning of the year 2020, has reached the third position today after three years of hard work.

## SAINA NEHWAL ISN'T FINISHED JUST YET; SAYS I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A FIGHTER



Saina Nehwal isn't done just yet! She still has some fight left in the tank and will keep putting up a fight until her body stops to support her. The former world No. 1, who has had a tough last few years mainly due to a knee injury, notched up a fighting 21-17, 12-21, 21-19 win over world No. 24 Mia Blichfeldt of Denmark in her opening match. "I have always been a fighter, I like to challenge," said the 32-year-old from Hyderabad, who will take on Olympic champion Chen Yu Fei of China next. "See, my mind sometimes stops working after losing so many matches. You are losing and losing but then today I was not thinking about match points. This was giving me tension in the last few matches because I was not pulling off matches. Confidence was lacking today but I am happy I played without any knee issues. In the last few months, it was a gradual improvement. I worked on my stamina, and overall hitting game and everything went well today," said Saina.

## I'M COMPLETELY IN FAVOUR OF MANKADING, IT'S IN THE LAW: ARJUN TENDULKAR



**NEW DELHI, (IANS)** Goa all-rounder Arjun Tendulkar conveyed his support for Mankading, saying, "I disagree with the people who say it's against the spirit of the game". "I'm completely in favour of Mankading. It's in the Law. For the people who say it's against the spirit of the game, I disagree." Arjun told CricketNext. "I personally won't do it because I can't stop and remove the bails in my run up. It's too much effort and I won't waste my energy in it but if someone does it, I'm in favour of it." Currently, Arjun is playing against Services in the Ranji Trophy, where he has done his bit with the ball in the first innings after picking up two wickets with a brilliant economy rate of 2.10. Recently, during the first match in Guwahati India pacer Mohammad Shami had attempted to run out Sri Lanka captain Dasun Shanaka, who was batting at 98, but skipper Rohit Sharma intervened and withdrew the appeal, citing this was not the way that they had planned to dismiss Shanaka.



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## ‘NEW SELECTION COMMITTEE WANTS TO GIVE MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO YOUNGER PLAYERS’: GAVASKAR ON KOHLI, ROHIT’S ABSENCE FROM T20IS

India skipper Rohit Sharma and former captain Virat Kohli’s continued absence from T20 cricket has raised a number of concerns, one of which is whether or not they would return to the shortest format of the game. Speaking about the new selection committee’s plans and Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma’s role in the 50-over World Cup, former batting great Sunil Gavaskar told India Today that the batters have been rested to prepare for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy and that the selectors are focusing on giving chances to youngsters in the team. “The way I see it is that, the next T20 World Cup is in 2024, next year, and the new selection committee that has come, wants to give more

opportunities to the younger players. That doesn’t mean that Kohli and Rohit won’t be considered anymore. And if they have an impressive form throughout 2023 then they have to be in the team. The other factor is with the Australia series starting, the selectors might have wanted to rest them for the big contest so that they can make a fresh start against the Aussies and that will benefit India,” Gavaskar said. After featuring in the last T20 World Cup, the duo missed two T20 series India played away from home against New Zealand and Sri Lanka. Both Kohli and Rohit have also not been included in the squad against New Zealand for the T20 series scheduled later this month.

### RISHABH PANT LIKELY TO BE DISCHARGED IN TWO WEEKS; REHABILITATION AFTER TWO MONTHS: REPORT

Team India wicket-keeper batsman Rishabh Pant, who has been receiving treatment for injuries sustained in a serious accident in December of last year, is expected to be discharged from the hospital in the coming weeks, according to reports. Pant underwent a successful major surgery on his medial collateral ligament (MCL) and minor repair on his anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), and is making a steady recovery. A report in The Times of India suggests that Pant is being closely monitored to determine if his ligaments are healing naturally. Once the ligaments have healed, he will begin his rehabilitation process. His progress will be reassessed in two months’ time, and he could potentially be ready to play in four to six weeks. The doctors have stated that the MCL surgery was absolutely necessary, and the road to the southpaw’s recovery will be arduous. “The ligaments usually heal in four to six weeks. After that, rehab and strengthening will begin. His return to play will be assessed in another two months. Pant realises that it will be a tough road. He would have to undergo counseling sessions too. It could be four to six months before he can start playing,” a BCCI source was quoted as saying to the TOI. Pant sustained lacerations on his forehead, multiple ligament ruptures in his knee, and severe other injuries, including a back abrasion, when his car collided with a divider on the Delhi-Dehradun highway. After several somersaults, the vehicle eventually caught fire as the cricketer was making his way back to his home in Roorkee at around 5:30 in the morning. Pant recently issued a statement, speaking for the first time since the accident saying, "I am humbled and grateful for all the support and good wishes. I am glad to let you know that my surgery was a success. The road to recovery has begun and I am ready for the challenges ahead. Thank you to the @BCCI, @JayShah & government authorities for their incredible support." Rishabh Pant, who made his international cricket debut in February 2017, was part of the triumphant Indian Test squad that secured a 2-0 series victory over Bangladesh in Dhaka in December 2022.

## RAFAEL NADAL CRASHES OUT OF AUSTRALIAN OPEN SECOND ROUND AFTER SUFFERING ANOTHER INJURY ISSUE



Rafael Nadal’s Australian Open title defence came to a whimpering end on Wednesday, as he was defeated 4-6, 4-6, 5-7 by World No. 65 Mackenzie McDonald in the second round. The Spaniard’s level was off throughout the first set, when he only made 65% of his first serves, and struggled with both depth and power on his groundstrokes. Midway through the second set, trailing McDonald by a break, Nadal pulled up at the baseline following a rally, clutching his body with a grimacing look on his face. 4-6, 3-5 down, Nadal took a match timeout to get treatment for what appeared to be his hip, and following the long delay, never looked at the same competitive level again. His body language was miserable, as the camera panned to his concerned-looking team, throughout the third set.

### WE WILL TRY TO EXECUTE PENALTY CORNERS AGAINST WALES: MANPREET



India were found wanting in penalty corner conversions in their first two matches in the FIH Men’s World Cup, but midfielder Manpreet Singh is hoping that the home side will hit the target against Wales here on Thursday. India have got nine penalty corners so far but have not scored once from them directly though Amit Rohidas found the target against Spain in the opening match in Rourkela after captain Harmanpreet Singh’s drag-flick was rebounded from an opponent’s stick. Against England, with whom they played out a goal-less draw, India got four penalty corners. “There were few misses but if you see, England also defended well and their goalkeeper did well. We cannot say that it was not our mistake, but somewhere, England also defended well.

| NEW ZEALAND TOUR OF INDIA, 2023 |                          |             |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| IND                             | vs                       | NZ          |
| ODI                             |                          |             |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> ODI             | 18 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY | 📍 HYDERABAD |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> ODI             | 21 <sup>st</sup> JANUARY | 📍 RAIPUR    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> ODI             | 24 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY | 📍 INDORE    |
| T20I                            |                          |             |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> T20I            | 27 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY | 📍 RANCHI    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> T20I            | 29 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY | 📍 LUCKNOW   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> T20I            | 1 <sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY | 📍 AHMEDABAD |

| AUSTRALIA TOUR OF INDIA 2023 |                      |           |           |            |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| M. NO                        | MATCH TYPE           | DATE      | DAY       | VENUE      |
| 1                            | 1 <sup>ST</sup> TEST | FEB 9-13  | -         | NAGPUR     |
| 2                            | 2 <sup>ND</sup> TEST | FEB 17-21 | -         | DELHI      |
| 3                            | 3 <sup>RD</sup> TEST | MAR 1-5   | -         | DHARAMSALA |
| 4                            | 4 <sup>TH</sup> TEST | MAR 9-13  | -         | AHMEDABAD  |
| 5                            | 1 <sup>ST</sup> ODI  | MAR 17    | FRIDAY    | MUMBAI     |
| 6                            | 2 <sup>ND</sup> ODI  | MAR 19    | SUNDAY    | VIZAG      |
| 7                            | 3 <sup>RD</sup> ODI  | MAR 22    | WEDNESDAY | CHENNAI    |

| FIH ODISHA HOCKEY MEN'S WORLD CUP 2023 BHUBANESWAR - ROURKELA |  |  |  |  |  | MATCH SCHEDULE   |             |    |                    |       |                                    |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------------|----|--------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| POOL A  |  |  |  |  |  | DATE   | PLACE       | N° | POOL               | TIME  | MATCH                              |
| AUSTRALIA   |  |  |  |  |  | FRI 13 JULY  | BHUBANESWAR | 1  | A                  | 13:00 | ARGENTINA vs SOUTH AFRICA          |
| ARGENTINA   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 2  | A                  | 15:00 | AUSTRALIA vs FRANCE                |
| FRANCE  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 3  | D                  | 17:00 | ENGLAND vs WALES                   |
| SOUTH AFRICA  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 4  | D                  | 19:00 | INDIA vs SPAIN                     |
| POOL B  |  |  |  |  |  | SAT 14 JAN   | BHUBANESWAR | 5  | B                  | 13:00 | BELGIUM vs KOREA                   |
| BELGIUM   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 6  | B                  | 15:00 | GERMANY vs JAPAN                   |
| GERMANY   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 7  | C                  | 17:00 | NEW ZEALAND vs CHILE               |
| JAPAN   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 8  | C                  | 19:00 | NETHERLANDS vs MALAYSIA            |
| KOREA   |  |  |  |  |  | SUN 15 JAN   |             |    | REST DAY           |       | REST DAY                           |
| POOL C  |  |  |  |  |  | MON 16 JAN   | ROURKELA    | 9  | C                  | 13:00 | MALAYSIA vs CHILE                  |
| CHILE   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 10 | C                  | 15:00 | NEW ZEALAND vs NETHERLANDS         |
| MALAYSIA  |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 11 | B                  | 17:00 | KOREA vs JAPAN                     |
| NETHERLANDS   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 12 | B                  | 19:00 | GERMANY vs BELGIUM                 |
| NEW ZEALAND   |  |  |  |  |  | TUE 17 JAN   | ROURKELA    | 13 | A                  | 13:00 | ARGENTINA vs AUSTRALIA             |
| POOL D  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 14 | A                  | 15:00 | FRANCE vs SOUTH AFRICA             |
| ENGLAND   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 15 | D                  | 17:00 | SPAIN vs WALES                     |
| INDIA   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 16 | D                  | 19:00 | ENGLAND vs INDIA                   |
| WALES   |  |  |  |  |  | WED 18 JAN   |             |    | REST DAY           |       | REST DAY                           |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | THU 19 JAN   | BHUBANESWAR | 17 | C                  | 13:00 | NETHERLANDS vs CHILE               |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 18 | C                  | 15:00 | MALAYSIA vs NEW ZEALAND            |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 19 | A                  | 17:00 | AUSTRALIA vs SOUTH AFRICA          |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 20 | A                  | 19:00 | FRANCE vs ARGENTINA                |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | FRI 20 JAN   | ROURKELA    | 21 | B                  | 13:00 | BELGIUM vs JAPAN                   |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 22 | B                  | 15:00 | KOREA vs GERMANY                   |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 23 | D                  | 17:00 | SPAIN vs ENGLAND                   |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 24 | D                  | 19:00 | INDIA vs WALES                     |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | SAT 21 JAN   |             |    | REST DAY           |       | REST DAY                           |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | SUN 22 JAN   | BHUBANESWAR | 25 | CO <sup>1</sup>    | 16:30 | 2nd POOL C vs 3rd POOL D           |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 26 | CO <sup>1</sup>    | 19:00 | 2nd POOL D vs 3rd POOL C           |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | MON 23 JAN   | BHUBANESWAR | 27 | CO <sup>1</sup>    | 16:30 | 2nd POOL A vs 3rd POOL B           |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 28 | CO <sup>1</sup>    | 19:00 | 2nd POOL B vs 3rd POOL A           |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | TUE 24 JAN   | BHUBANESWAR | 29 | QF <sup>2</sup>    | 16:30 | 1st POOL A vs Winner match 25      |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 30 | QF <sup>2</sup>    | 19:00 | 1st POOL B vs Winner match 26      |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | WED 25 JAN   | BHUBANESWAR | 31 | QF <sup>2</sup>    | 16:30 | 1st POOL C vs Winner match 27      |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 32 | QF <sup>2</sup>    | 19:00 | 1st POOL D vs Winner match 28      |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | THU 26 JAN   | ROURKELA    | 33 | 9/16 <sup>1</sup>  | 11:30 | 4th POOL A vs Loser match 25       |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 34 | 9/16 <sup>1</sup>  | 14:00 | 4th POOL B vs Loser match 26       |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 35 | 9/16 <sup>1</sup>  | 16:30 | 4th POOL C vs Loser match 27       |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 36 | 9/16 <sup>1</sup>  | 19:00 | 4th POOL D vs Loser match 28       |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | FRI 27 JAN   | BHUBANESWAR | 37 | SF <sup>3</sup>    | 16:30 | Winner match 29 vs Winner match 32 |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 38 | SF <sup>3</sup>    | 19:00 | Winner match 30 vs Winner match 31 |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | SAT 28 JAN   | ROURKELA    | 39 | 13/16 <sup>4</sup> | 11:30 | Loser match 33 vs Loser match 34   |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 40 | 13/16 <sup>4</sup> | 14:00 | Loser match 35 vs Loser match 36   |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 41 | 9/12 <sup>4</sup>  | 16:30 | Winner match 33 vs Winner match 34 |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | ROURKELA    | 42 | 9/12 <sup>4</sup>  | 19:00 | Winner match 35 vs Winner match 36 |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | SUN 29 JAN   | BHUBANESWAR | 43 | 3/4                | 16:30 | Loser match 37 vs Loser match 38   |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  | BHUBANESWAR | 44 | FINAL              | 19:00 | Winner match 37 vs Winner match 38 |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | Notes: Subject to the approval of the FIH any match(es) may be rescheduled.<br>1. The sequence of matches will be confirmed on completion of the pool matches.<br>2. The sequence of the Quarter-finals will be confirmed on completion of the Cross-Overs.<br>3. The sequence of matches will be confirmed on completion of the Quarter-finals.<br>4. The sequence of matches will be confirmed on completion of matches 29, 30, 31 and 32.<br>5. The World Ranking will be based on FIH World Rankings at midnight (GMT) on the final day of the Qualifiers when all sixteen (16) teams will be known. |             |    |                    |       |                                    |





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