



NIKKI HALEY
ANNOUNCES 2024 US
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INDIA DOES NOT WANT
TO REMAIN JUST AN
ASSEMBLY
WORKSHOP: RAJNATH
SINGH | P9

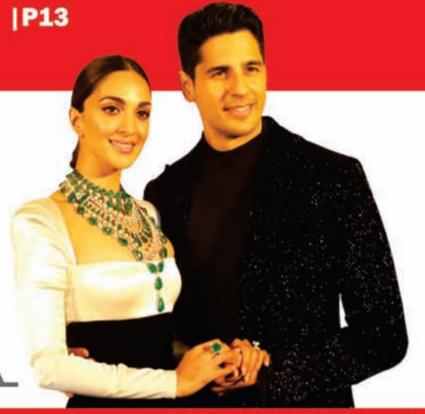
GLITTERING TURNOUT AT
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RECEPTION, BUT SO MANY SOLO
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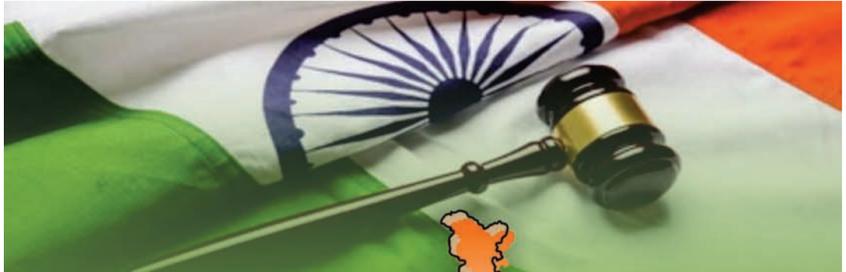


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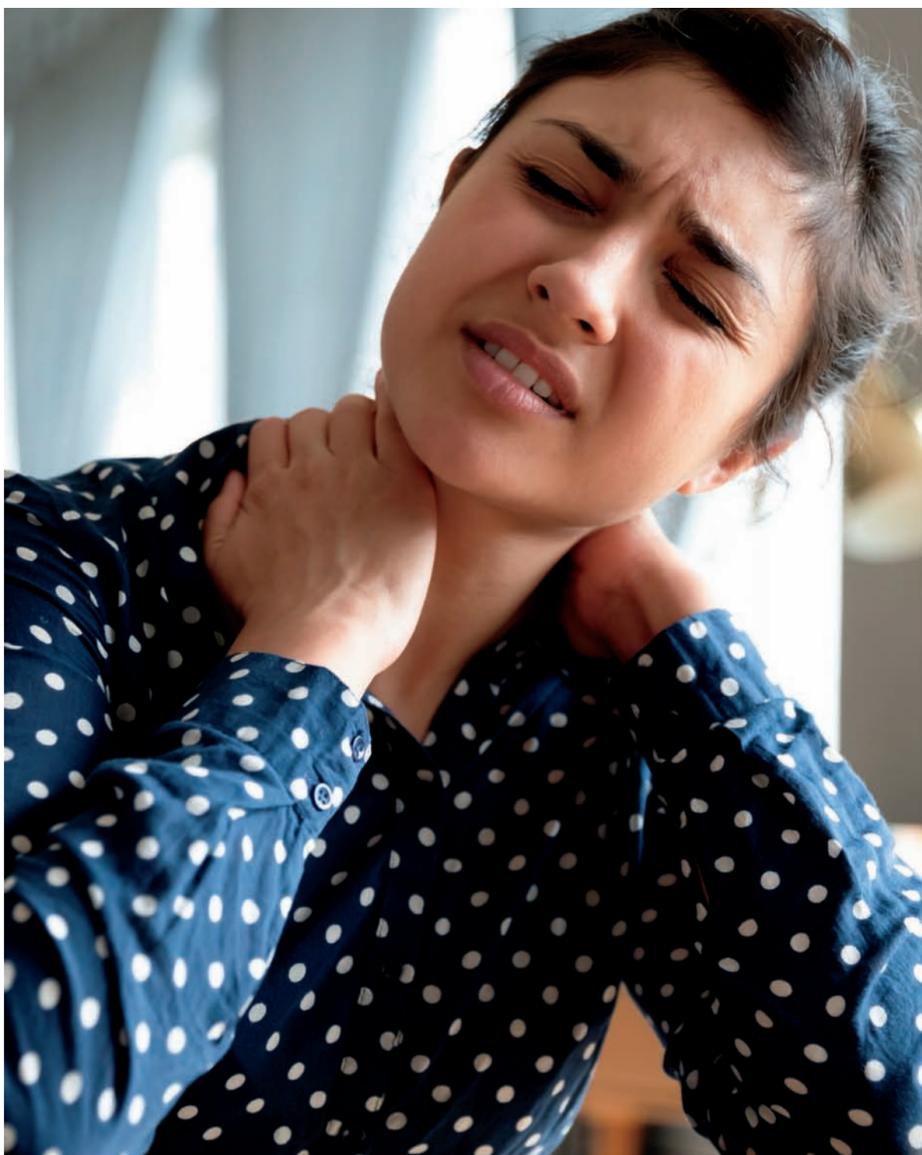
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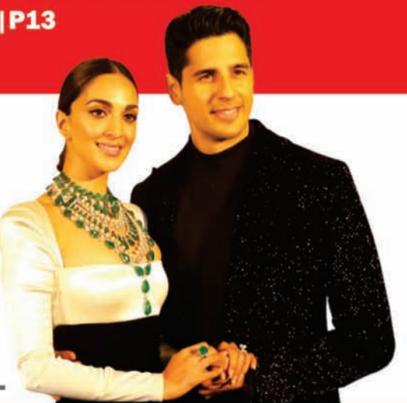


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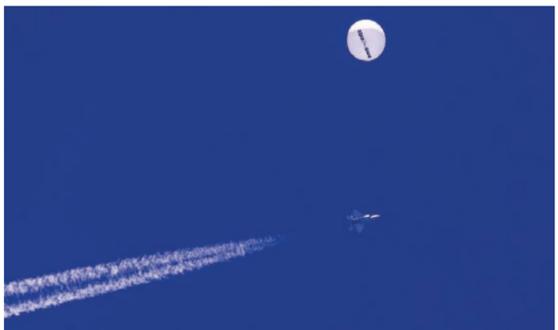
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TORONTO MAYOR JOHN TORY RESIGNS AFTER ADMITTING HAVING RELATIONSHIP WITH STAFFER.

US JETS SHOOT DOWNS ANOTHER AIRBORNE UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT OVER CANADA



The US downed yet another flying object on Saturday. This time over Canada in a closely coordinated action between the militaries of the two countries. The Saturday shooting was the third by the US starting with the downing of the Chinese spy balloon on February 4 after it had drifted across the American mainland for a week entering the US through Alaska on January 28. Another object was blown out of the skies on Friday over Alaska. There was no word from both the US and Canada on the origin, ownership and purpose of the object downed on Saturday. Following a call between the Prime Minister of Canada and the US President, President Biden authorised US fighter aircraft assigned to North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) to work with Canada to take down a high-altitude airborne object over northern Canada today," said the US Department of Defence on Saturday. NORAD detected the object on Friday over Alaska.

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BEIJING DENIES THREE 'OBJECTS' DOWNED BY US CAME FROM CHINA

BEIJING, (IANS) Beijing has denied any knowledge of the three "airborne objects" that the US military shot down in North American airspace over the weekend as China prepares to take down an unidentified flying object near one of its main naval bases, media reports said. Chinese Foreign Ministry's spokesperson Wang Wenbin told reporters in Beijing on Monday that any suggestion that they came from China is just a "smear", RFA reported. The US North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) announced that "an F-16 fired an AIM9x to successfully shoot down an airborne object flying at approximately 20,000 feet altitude in the US airspace over Lake Huron in the state of Michigan" at 2:42 p.m. on Sunday. This object was first spotted on Saturday over Montana, when it flew near sensitive military sites, U.S. officials told the media, RFA reported. However, NORAD said it was not assessed "to be a kinetic military threat to anything on the ground," but a safety flight hazard and "a threat due to its potential surveillance capabilities." Before this, a "high-altitude object" was shot down on Saturday over the Yukon territory in Canada and another "flying object" on Friday off the Northern coast of Alaska, both by US F-22 fighters. Authorities have yet to determine whether the flying objects are linked to China as recovery efforts continue, RFA reported. Meanwhile, China's Foreign Ministry said the US has flown balloons into its airspace more than 10 times in the past year, BBC reported. Questioned on Monday, Beijing said the US had made many airspace breaches. "It's not uncommon as well for the US to illegally enter the airspace of other countries," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin at a regular press briefing.



SPACE SHOOTING SPREE TARGETS WERE NOT ALIENS OR ETS: US

WASHINGTON, (IANS) The US does not quite know what it has shot off the skies in the last three instances, but officials assured Americans on Monday that they were not alien airships. The first object downed was a Chinese spy balloon on February 4. But officials have acknowledged they know little or nothing about the last three objects - two by the US acting alone and one in a joint operation with bordering Canada; not their origin, owner or purpose.



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PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD LAUNCHES SEARCH FOR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

REGION OF PEEL - The Peel Police Services Board today launched a process to select a Chief Administrative Officer to join Chief Nishan Duraipappa's executive team. The Board has contracted the services of Odgers Berndtson, who will assist the Board to coordinate the process. The search process will be open until March 6, 2023.



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OVER 34,000 KILLED, ANOTHER 4.7 MAGNITUDE QUAKE HITS TURKIYE'S KAHRAMANMARAS



The death toll from the earthquakes in Turkey and northwestern Syria has gone past 34,000 as rescue efforts continue, reported CNN. It reached at least 34,179 on Sunday. The death toll in Turkey has reached 29,605, said the Turkish Emergency Coordination Center SAKOM. The confirmed death toll in Syria is 4,574. That number includes more than 3,160 in opposition-held parts of northwestern Syria, according to the health ministry of the Salvation Government governance authority.

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VFS GLOBAL: THE INDIAN BORN TRAVEL STARTUP THAT EASED INTER-COUNTRY TRAVEL

VFS Global, one of the world's largest travel facilitation companies, has come a long way since its inception in 2001. The company was founded by Zubin Karkaria, an Indian-born entrepreneur, who had a vision to make visa applications simple and convenient for travelers across the world. With a team of dedicated professionals and a passion for excellence, Karkaria built VFS Global from the ground up to become the leading visa processing company it is today. VFS Global provides a range of visa and passport services for clients in over 130 countries. The company has a global network of over 200 visa application centers, staffed by highly trained professionals who provide a seamless and hassle-free experience for travelers. With a client-focused approach, VFS Global has successfully partnered with numerous governments to streamline their visa application process, making it easier and more convenient for travelers to visit their countries.



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INDIA NOW HAS NEARLY 27,000 ACTIVE TECH STARTUPS, ADDS 1,300 LAST YEAR

India added over 1,300 active tech startups last year, taking the total tally of active tech startups to 25,000-27,000, a Nasscom report said on Wednesday. India continues to be the third largest tech startup ecosystem globally (after the US and China). The country also added the second highest number of unicorns in the world, with over 23 added in the CY2022. Simultaneously, the potential pipeline of unicorns expanded to over 170, growing at a pace equivalent to 2021, according to the report by the National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom), in collaboration with Zinnov. "Despite the current downturns, opportunities abound for innovative companies that are leveraging emerging technologies to create actionable impact while prioritising business fundamentals over growth," said Debjani Ghosh, President, Nasscom. Despite the headwinds, while total funding in CY2022 dropped 24 per cent over 2021, the annual investments at \$18.2 billion were higher than the pre-pandemic levels of \$13.1 billion in 2019.



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'NO SOUND' OF HOPE NEAR AS TURKEY CLOSES IN ON FINAL HOURS OF SEARCH OPS

Stories of rescues have flooded the airwaves in recent days. But tens of thousands of dead have been found during the same period, and experts say the window for rescues has nearly closed. The desperate search for earthquake survivors in Turkey and Syria entered its final hours on Monday as rescuers using sniffer dogs and thermal cameras surveyed pulverized apartment blocks for any sign of life a week after the disaster. Teams in southern Turkey's Hatay province cheered and clapped when a 13-year-old boy identified only by his first name, Kaan, was pulled from the rubble. In Gaziantep province, rescue workers, including coal miners who secured tunnels with wooden supports, found a woman alive in the wreckage of a five-story building. Stories of such rescues have flooded the airwaves in recent days. But tens of thousands of dead have been found during the same period, and experts say the window for rescues has nearly closed, given the length of time that has passed, the fact that temperatures have fallen to minus 6 degrees Celsius (21 degrees

Fahrenheit) and the severity of the building collapses. The 7.8 magnitude earthquake and its aftershocks struck southeastern Turkey and northern Syria on Feb. 6, reducing huge swaths of towns and cities to mountains of broken concrete and twisted metal. The death toll has surpassed 35,000. In some areas, searchers placed signs that read "ses yok," or "no sound," in front of buildings they had inspected for any sign that someone was alive inside, HaberTurk television reported. Associated Press journalists in Adiyaman saw a sign painted on a concrete slab in front of wreckage indicating that an expert had inspected it. In Antakya, people left signs displaying their phone numbers and asking crews to contact them if they found any bodies in the rubble. The quake's financial damage in Turkey alone was estimated at \$84.1 billion, according to the Turkish Enterprise and Business Confederation, a non-governmental business organization. Calculated using a statistical comparison with a similarly devastating 1999 quake, the figure was considerably higher than any official estimates so far.

Nikki Haley announces 2024 US presidential bid, challenges Trump

Former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley said on Tuesday that she will seek the Republican presidential nomination in 2024, putting her at odds with one-time boss Donald Trump, the ex-president also seeking to win back the White House.

"I'm Nikki Haley and I'm running for president," Haley said in a video that her team sent out by email.

Haley, a former South Carolina governor who served as Trump's U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, will lay out her campaign plans in a speech in Charleston, South Carolina, on Wednesday.

She became Trump's first direct challenger in a Republican field expected to grow in coming weeks and months.

Other high-profile Republicans looking at a 2024 run include Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, former Vice President Mike Pence, U.S. Senator Tim Scott of South Carolina, New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu and former Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, among others. "It's time for a new generation of leadership – to rediscover fiscal responsibility, secure our border, and strengthen our country, our pride and our purpose," Haley said in her video.



She also harked back to her foreign policy experience. "China and Russia are on the march. They all think we can be bullied, kicked. You should know this about me: I don't put up with bullies. And when you kick back, it hurts them more if you're wearing heels," she said.

'Sky is the limit': UK PM Sunak hails Air India-Airbus-Rolls Royce deal

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Tuesday hailed a multi-billion-pound deal by Airbus and Rolls-Royce to supply new aircraft to Air India as a landmark moment for the country's aerospace sector and reiterated his commitment to continue building ties with India.

The agreement, which involves the Tata Group-owned Indian carrier buying 250 jets, was announced by the three companies at the ongoing Aero India 2023 in Bengaluru. The UK government said the pact will create highly skilled jobs in Wales and Derbyshire, eastern England, helping boost exports and the economy. "This landmark deal between Air India, Airbus and Rolls-Royce demonstrates that sky is the limit for the UK's thriving aerospace sector," Sunak said. "It will create better-paying jobs and new opportunities in manufacturing hubs from Derby to Wales, so we can grow the economy and support our agenda to level up – helping to deliver on my five priorities for the country. The UK is already a top investment destination, and by building trade ties with growing economic powers like India we will ensure UK businesses remain at the forefront of global growth and innovation," he said. According to Downing Street, a significant portion of the manufacturing process for the new aircraft is expected to take place in the UK. The wings will be designed at Filton and assembled at Broughton, which is expected to bring an additional 450 manufacturing jobs and more than GBP 100 million of investment to Wales. "This is a significant win for the UK's world-leading aerospace sector and one which will help secure thousands of highly skilled jobs



across the country and drive economic growth," said UK Trade Secretary Kemi Badenoch. "It's a shot in the arm for UK exports as we aim to sell GBP 1 trillion of goods and services a year to the world by the end of the decade. We're currently negotiating a trade deal with India which could boost trade by up to GBP 28 billion a year by 2035. Export wins like this are another big step to our nations forming a closer trading relationship," she said. The large A350 aircraft being supplied are exclusively powered by Rolls-Royce XWB engines, which are assembled and tested in Derby, England.

US JETS SHOOT DOWNS ANOTHER AIRBORNE UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT OVER CANADA

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Two US F-22 fighter jets monitored the object to study and characterize it, the Department of Defence said and added the monitoring continued till the object floated into Canadian airspace, with the US jets joined by Canadian CF-18 and CP-140 aircraft. A US F-22 shot down the object in Canadian territory using an AIM 9X finally, in a mission closely coordinated by US and Canadian authorities. There had been no statement from Canada till the filing of this report. The Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Anita Anand, issued the following statement: "Today at the Pentagon, United States Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III and I participated in a call with NORAD Commander, General Glen VanHerck regarding a high-altitude object detected over Alaska. The object did not fly into Canadian airspace. "During this conversation, I conveyed Canada's support for taking action to take down this object. NORAD deployed aircraft to track and monitor the object and provided important information to decision-makers - and the object was taken down earlier today by United States Northern Command. "The Canadian Armed Forces, the Department of National Defence and I will continue to work closely with our American allies to ensure the protection of North American airspace."

US SHOULD CONSIDER BANNING TIKTOK, SAYS SENATOR

TikTok has been banned in India since 2020, in the aftermath of the violence in Ladakh in which 20 Indian soldiers died for their country. United States senator Chuck Schumer believes a proposal to ban popular short-form video hosting service TikTok in the country 'should be looked at'. Schumer told ABC news Sunday, "We do know there is Chinese ownership of the company that owns TikTok. And there are some people in the Commerce Committee that are looking into that right now. We'll see where they come out."

Meanwhile, Republican senator from Florida Marco Rubio and Angus King, an independent lawmaker from Maine, have reintroduced a new legislation aimed at target TikTok - unless it cuts ties from its current owner, a report by US broadcaster CNN said.

TikTok - which hosts user-submitted videos ranging from three seconds to 10 minutes long - is owned by a Chinese firm, ByteDance. The service has been banned in India since 2020, in the aftermath of the violence in Ladakh in which 20 Indian soldiers died for their country.

US lawmakers and officials have often raised concern over Chinese laws they say force TikTok to provide data about US-based users that may be misused by Chinese intelligence or for disinformation purposes. Such concerns prompted the US administration to ban the app from devices used by government officials. Earlier this month, Michael Bennet, a Democratic senator from Colorado, urged tech giants Google and Apple to remove TikTok from their app stores over concerns about national security. In a letter to the tech companies, Bennet called TikTok 'an unacceptable threat to the national security of the United States'.

CANADA ADDS 150,000 JOBS IN JANUARY



OTTAWA, (IANS) Canada's employment increased by 150,000 in January and the unemployment rate held steady at 5 per cent, Statistics Canada said. Employment gains were driven primarily by people aged between 25 to 54 years, split evenly between women and men in this group, the national statistical agency said on Friday, adding that employment also increased among people aged 55 years and above, while it was little changed among youth aged between 15 to 24 years. There were gains across several industries, led by wholesale and retail trade, health care and social assistance and educational services. At the same time, employment declined in transportation and warehousing, the agency said. According to the agency, total hours worked rose 0.8 per cent in January and were up 5.6 per cent on a year-over-year basis. The proportion of employees absent due to illness or disability was 7.1 per cent during the reference week. This was below the record-high 10 per cent observed in January 2022 and on par with a typical January, Xinhua news agency reported. The unemployment rate in January was just shy of the record-low 4.9 per cent observed in June and July 2022. The total number of unemployed people stood at 1 million, similar to the level observed since the summer of 2022, the agency added.

TAIWAN SAYS IT HAS SPOTTED NO CHINESE SURVEILLANCE BALLOONS



Taiwan has not spotted any surveillance balloons from China in its vicinity, the island's defence ministry said on Tuesday, as a dispute between China and the United States over spy balloons triggers worries about rising military tensions. The U.S. military on Feb. 4 shot down what it called a Chinese spy balloon over South Carolina. China said the balloon was a civilian research craft that had mistakenly blown off course and on Monday it accused the United States of sending its spy balloons over China. The United States denied that. A Taiwan military intelligence officer said the armed forces had not seen any surveillance balloons from China near the island that were similar to the one shot down over the United States. "The majority of the balloons near our waters were used for meteorological purposes," the officer, Major General Huang Wen-chi, told a regular briefing in Taipei, adding that the weather balloons posed no serious security threat. He said the military would destroy any balloon approaching Taiwan's territory that posed "high security threats" but no such action had been necessary. The balloons detected near Taiwan has no steering capability and thus they were unlikely to be used for surveillance purposes, he added. Beijing claims self-ruled Taiwan as its territory and has ramped up its military activities near the island in recent years, raising fears Beijing might try to take control of the it by force. Taiwan vows to defend itself if attacked, saying Beijing's sovereignty claims are void as the People's Republic of China has never governed the island.

SPACE SHOOTING SPREE TARGETS WERE NOT ALIENS OR ETS: US

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"I know there have been questions and concerns about this, but there is no - again, no indication of aliens or extraterrestrial activity -- with these recent takedowns," Karine Jean-Pierre, the White House press secretary, told reporters.

She added: "Again, there is no indication of aliens or (extra)terrestrial activity with these recent takedowns. Wanted to make sure that the American people knew that, all of you knew that. And it was important for us to say that from here because we've been hearing a lot about it." US fighter aircraft blew up an airborne object over Alaska on Friday, then one over Canada on Saturday and a third over Michigan state on Sunday. All of them came in the highly charged environment following the downing of the Chinese spy balloon on February 4. The Chinese balloon was big, with a payload the size of three school buses. And its origin and ownership became clear overnight as a contrite Beijing owned it up and said it was a civilian use airship engaged in meteorological studies; and that it had strayed off course into the US.

PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD LAUNCHES SEARCH FOR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) is responsible for providing strategic leadership, direction and oversight for the general business, administration, and support functions across Peel Regional Police with the goal of ensuring that the Service meets Police Services Board requirements and policies, and operations are properly supported administratively. "The selection of a Chief Administrative Officer is a critical step in our ongoing efforts to strengthen Peel Regional Police and enhance its ability to serve the community," said Police Services Board Chair Ron Chatha. "The Board looks forward to working together with Chief Duraipapp to ensure that Peel Regional Police continues to be a leader in policing in Canada." Peel Regional Police is one of the largest municipal police services in Canada, serving more than 1.4 million residents in Brampton and Mississauga. With a strong commitment to community safety and well being, Peel Regional Police is committed to being the most progressive, innovative and inclusive police service in Canada. The Board encourages interested and qualified candidates to apply for this exciting opportunity. For more information and to apply, please visit: <http://www.odgersberndtson.com/en/careers/18393>

VFS GLOBAL: THE INDIAN BORN TRAVEL STARTUP THAT EASED INTER-COUNTRY TRAVEL

CONTD. FROM PAGE 3

Karkaria's vision of creating a company that prioritizes customer satisfaction and efficiency has paid off, as VFS Global has become the go-to choice for millions of travelers around the world. The company's success has not gone unnoticed, and it has received numerous accolades and awards for its outstanding performance and commitment to customer service.

The company's growth and success can be attributed to Karkaria's innovative approach and his determination to bring about positive change in the visa application process. He has always believed that technology and customer-centric solutions are key to making the visa application process simple and seamless. He has invested heavily in technology and has introduced several cutting-edge solutions that have revolutionized the way visas are processed.

"We launched in July 2001, and then 9/11 happened. But, despite difficulties, we opened centers in Pune and Ahmedabad two days before Christmas because we had promised the US Embassy that we would be live in three major cities of western India," recalls Sonia Dhayagude, Head Americas, VFS Global.

Karkaria's leadership and entrepreneurial spirit have not only made VFS Global a global leader in the travel facilitation industry but have also made it a valuable partner for governments around the world. The company's work has been instrumental in boosting tourism and economic growth in many countries, and it continues to expand its reach and services to meet the growing demand for travel facilitation services.

According to Dhayagude, VFS provides passport and visa services for multiple countries in addition to E-visa, biometric, document verification, digital application assistance, global entry program, and fee collection services on behalf of Consulates and Embassies.

VFS has recently launched the visa-at-your-doorstep program, which is gaining a lot of momentum. About the program, she said, "We carry the mobile kits to capture biometrics of individuals in their homes. We also go to companies, corporates, and universities where students are a huge market for us," adding that it makes more sense for large



groups to utilize this program instead of making multiple in-person appointments at VFS centers.

For India related processes, she said, the Indian Government has not yet mandated biometrics in the US, but authorized VFS to provide services including passports and visas, overseas citizen of India, police clearance certificates, global entry program, passport renunciation, and collecting fees on behalf of Indian Embassy in Washington DC, and Consulates in other cities.

VFS's global experience has been very positive so far, although there are challenges in the diversity of nuances and customization requirements when dealing with different countries. Dhayagude said the most common mistake applicants make is they don't furnish proper documentation. As such, she requested that they verify their documents against the checklist on the website. The checklist is prepared based on requirements of local Consulates and Embassies, and therefore VFS does not have the authority to overlook any document, she stressed.

Whether it is creating websites or call centers to suit different languages to phone filling service in countries with low literacy, VFS has learned to effectively deliver. In U.S. post the pandemic, VFS Global has been facilitating Consular Camps for the Indian Consulates across the U.S. VFS has conducted 26 consular camps so far in coordination with the Indian Embassy, Consulates, and the Federation of Indian Americans in different cities.

FLOODS, LANDSLIDES, HOUSES SWEEP AMID CYCLONE GABRIELLE IN NEW ZEALAND: UPDATES



New Zealand declared a national state of emergency for only the third time in its history as Cyclone Gabrielle's landfall caused widespread flooding and landslides in the country forcing evacuations and stranding people on roof tops. New Zealand declared national emergencies after an earthquake in 2011 and when the Covid pandemic hit in 2020. Country's prime minister Chris Hipkins said, "It has been a big night for New Zealanders across the country, but particularly in the upper North Island ... a lot of families displaced, a lot of homes without power, extensive damage done across the country."

Here are top updates on Cyclone Gabrielle in New Zealand:

1. Cyclone Gabrielle is 100 km (60 miles) east of Auckland, near the east coast of the New Zealand's North Island.
2. The severe storm is expected to move east-southeast, roughly parallel to the coast, Reuters reported.
3. New Zealand's minister of emergency management Kieran McAnulty, minister of emergency management said that New Zealand has now been through the worst of the storm, although more rain and high winds were expected.

IMRAN KHAN'S FRESH SALVO AT EX-PAK ARMY CHIEF BAJWA OVER RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR, CLAIMS....



Imran Khan, who was ousted as Pakistan prime minister after an overnight vote of confidence in April last year, claimed he had spoken to Russian president Vladimir Putin regarding procurement of oil at cheaper rate.

Former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan has hit out at ex-Pakistan army chief Qamar Javed Bajwa once again. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief claimed Bajwa asked him to condemn the Russian invasion of Ukraine soon after he returned from Moscow, Geo News reported.

Khan, who was ousted after an overnight vote of confidence in April last year, claimed he had spoken to Russian president Vladimir Putin regarding procurement of oil at cheaper rate. But when he returned to Pakistan, Bajwa asked him to decry Russian invasion in Ukraine.

In a video address, the former premier claimed when he advised the then army chief to stay 'neutral' like India, but Bajwa started condemning Russia. Continuing his attack on the United States, Khan claimed a top civil servant issued a foreign policy statement to 'please' US.

Ever since his removal from office following the vote of confidence, Imran Khan has been critical of the Pakistan Army, with whom he once had cordial relations. In an interview to Voice of America Urdu, the 70-year-old politician demanded an internal military inquiry against Bajwa for his alleged 'admission' on involvement in his ouster.

SYRIA OPENS 2 BORDERS, ALLOWS MORE UN AID ACCESS FROM TURKEY



Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has agreed to allow UN aid deliveries to opposition-held northwest Syria through two additional border crossings from Turkey for three months, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Monday.

Assad agreed to open the crossings of Bab Al-Salam and Al Ra'ee, Guterres said in a statement after UN aid chief Martin Griffiths met with the Syrian president in Damascus on Monday. Griffiths told the UN Security Council of Assad's decision during a closed-door meeting, diplomats earlier told Reuters.

"As the toll of the Feb. 6 earthquake continues to mount, delivering food, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, winter supplies and other life-saving supplies to all the millions of people affected is of the utmost urgency," said Guterres.

"Opening these crossing points - along with facilitating humanitarian access, accelerating visa approvals and easing travel between hubs - will allow more aid to go in, faster," he added. A devastating earthquake struck Turkey and Syria a week ago, killing more than 37,000 people.

Since 2014 the UN has been able to deliver aid to millions of people in need in the northwest of war-torn Syria through Turkey under a Security Council mandate, which was adopted after the Syrian government opposed the measure. But the United Nations has been restricted to using just one border crossing.

VLADIMIR PUTIN PLANNING A COUP IN THIS COUNTRY? US SAYS 'DEEPLY CONCERNED'

US National Security Council spokesman John Kirby called reports alleging that Russian President Vladimir Putin plotting a coup in Moldova "deeply concerning." The remarks came after Moldovan President Maia Sandu said that Vladimir Putin is planning to use foreign saboteurs to destroy Moldova's leadership and stop her nation from joining the European Union. Moldova has been an ally of Ukraine. "The [Russian] plan included sabotage and militarily trained people disguised as civilians to carry out violent actions, attacks on government buildings and taking hostages," Maia Sandu said, adding, "Reports received from our Ukrainian partners indicate the locations and logistical aspects of organizing this subversive activity. The plan also envisages the use of foreigners for violent actions."

Moldovan intelligence services also confirmed that Ukraine received a document which detailed Russia's alleged plot.

John Kirby said that while the United States has not verified the coup reports, he believes Vladimir Putin is capable of attempting such an act. "Deeply concerning reports. We absolutely stand with the Moldovan government and Moldovan people. We haven't seen independent confirmation, but it's certainly a page right out of Putin's



playbook," John Kirby said.

However, Russia rejected the accusation saying, "Such claims are completely unfounded and unsubstantiated" and blaming Ukraine for stirring tension between Russia and Moldova.

CHINA SAYS US FLEW HIGH-ALTITUDE BALLOONS OVER ITS AIRSPACE 10 TIMES SINCE LAST YEAR

BEIJING: China on Monday said US high-altitude balloons have illegally flown over Chinese airspace on more than 10 occasions since January 2022 last year without permission, widening the ongoing rift between the two countries over the shooting down of an alleged Chinese spy balloon over American airspace earlier this month. "Since last year, the US's high-altitude balloons have undergone more than 10 illegal flights into Chinese airspace without the approval of the relevant Chinese departments," Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said in Beijing, on Monday. Wang did not provide further details or whether the balloons were military in nature.

Wang said China's responses to the incursions were "responsible and professional", in a reference to the downing of the Chinese balloon, adding that Beijing reserves the right to employ necessary means to deal with such incidents.

The US is deservedly the world's largest repeat offender for spying and use of the surveillance empire, Wang was quoted as saying by state-run media. Wang added that the US has abused its technological advantages to carry out large-scale indiscriminate clandestine operations and stealing of secrets across the world, including its allies. China's latest statement comes after the US shot down what it says was a Chinese spy balloon off the coast of South Carolina earlier this month.

Strongly criticising the shooting down of the balloon, Beijing has said the balloon was a civilian research craft and accused



Washington of overreacting. The US military has subsequently shot down three other flying objects over North America, a Bloomberg report said. Washington on Friday blacklisted six Chinese aviation and technology companies as part of its response to a Chinese civilian balloon. The US commerce department said the five companies and one research institute were supporting "China's military modernisation efforts, specifically the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) aerospace programmes including airships and balloons". "Washington's escalation and expanding of the political implications of the airship case is a sign that US economic and foreign policy has been completely hijacked by its political machines, which is having economic consequences not only on the two countries, but also on global industrial chains," the state-run tabloid, Global Times, said in a report.

PUNJAB CM QUESTIONS APPOINTMENT OF GUVS, WANTS BANWARILAL PUROHIT SHIFTED ELSEWHERE

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Tuesday raised questions on the procedure of appointing governors of states while demanding that Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit should be immediately shifted elsewhere.

Mann's remarks have come after Governor Banwarilal Purohit sought a report on the selection procedure of government schools principals' who were sent for training to Singapore.

The Governor also sought a report from the state government on the expenses made during this training period.

The chief minister took a jibe at Banwarilal Purohit saying that only those 'elected' should take decisions while the 'selected' must not interfere.

"Before asking the state government to explain the criteria for sending principals to Singapore, the Governor must explain the qualifications being adopted by the Government of India for appointing a person to this coveted post," a state government statement said, quoting the CM.

You asked me about the basis for the selection of principals for sending them to Singapore for training," Mann wrote in his letter to Purohit.

In his letter to Governor, CM Bhagwant Mann asked Banwarilal Purohit that the people of the state also wants to know what criteria



is followed by the Government of India while appointing Governors to various states.

OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

D.C. PATHAK

A democratic state run by an elected political executive provides a government that is 'for the people' in the sense that it establishes the right to equality not only of opportunity but of the protection of the law as well and gives a public service orientation to its machinery of administration. Judged on these parameters the governance strives for improvement and this is precisely the hallmark of the Narendra Modi government.

In the regime of Prime Minister Modi, there has been a refreshing emphasis on the elimination of 'VIP culture' which is something that only bred corruption, an explicit direction from the top to the bureaucracy to be sensitive to the public good and be prompt in grievance redressal and a drastic 'correction' of the notorious delays that held up the formulation of policies and national projects for lack of inter-ministerial coordination.

In academic terms good governance operates at three levels - the decision-making process at the top, the functioning of the administrative machinery of the state particularly its coercive arms such as the body of tax collectors, regulators and the police force, and the state of development of infrastructure and public services such as medical, transport and public distribution. In a country afflicted by disparities, these services acquired special importance and urgency. Prime Minister Modi's arrival on the national scene reflected the popular will endorsing a new leader of the ruling party who had the image of personal integrity and a reputation for handling the administration on a tough note - in contrast with the preceding indecisive and not-so-clean UPA government.

The new Prime Minister's decisiveness and a new level of political will have given a notable upgrade to governance in the areas of economic development, foreign policy and national security. It has eliminated delays caused by sloppy coordination among various wings of the government, brought clarity and firmness in the handling of international relations and put a new focus on economic growth.

Prime Minister Modi himself reviewed the working of the ministries with their top bureaucrats which sent down the message of expectation of efficiency and quick delivery to all concerned in his administration. This had never happened before and the results were unmissable.

Economic development and people-related projects received special attention and specific guidance from the Prime Minister and this all made for a demonstrative assumption of responsibility for good governance at the highest national levels.

The new annual budget presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has to be appreciated for the collectivity of minds that went into a comprehensive examination of various facets of India's socio-economic situation, industrial growth and human development. It emphasised the steady advancement of the country towards its long-term goals and showed the Modi government's sincerity of purpose and commitment to the nation in this regard.



PRIME MINISTER MODI HIMSELF REVIEWED THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES WITH THEIR TOP BUREAUCRATS WHICH SENT DOWN THE MESSAGE OF EXPECTATION OF EFFICIENCY AND QUICK DELIVERY TO ALL CONCERNED IN HIS ADMINISTRATION. THIS HAD NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE AND THE RESULTS WERE UNMISSABLE. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PEOPLE-RELATED PROJECTS RECEIVED SPECIAL ATTENTION AND SPECIFIC GUIDANCE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER AND THIS ALL MADE FOR A DEMONSTRATIVE ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE AT THE HIGHEST NATIONAL LEVELS.

The people of India attach great value to the initiatives of the government of the day for building our defence capabilities and beefing up our national security set-up. Prime Minister Modi's National Security Advisor has been a source of strength for the Prime Minister on one hand and a visible pivot of security and defence upgradation in the eyes of the people, on the other.

Modi regime no doubt has earned the complete trust of citizens as far as the safeguarding of national security was concerned. They admired the surgical strike against Pakistan carried out by India in retaliation for the terror attack on a CRPF convoy at Pulwama in February 2019 and apparently supported the 'no talks' policy towards this hostile neighbour. As regards China, Prime Minister Modi's decision to order adequate military build-up on LAC in Ladakh and elsewhere to deal with any Chinese aggressiveness on the border, activate India's role in the Quad and step up diplomatic offensive in the UN and other international forums against the anti-India Sino-Pak axis, has proved to be a comprehensive security strategy to deal with the hostile adversary to our North.

The security set-up needs to further extend its outreach and develop new tradecraft techniques for collecting information of intelligence value because the enemy had taken to newer instruments of 'proxy war' such as the use of online channels for funding the low-cost offensive of terrorists and managing the 'perception battle'.

The Modi government is fully aware of the added challenges - beyond the use of terrorism by Pakistan as a weapon of asymmetric warfare against India.

While India is now well prepared to repel an external attack, the capacity to keep the nation secure would be tested by the new reality where external threats to internal security had multiplied because of the strategic alliance between Pakistan and China - mainly in operation against India. The two hostile neighbours had a certain capacity to fish in India's troubled waters. Their collusion on cross-border terrorism against India, opposition to the abrogation of Art 370 relating to J&K by the Indian Parliament and the meeting of minds on Afghanistan, indicate that India is in for a long-term security situation.

The objectives of governance in India were to establish a more robust internal security system fully utilising the state police -which is primarily responsible for law & order management - towards this objective, to take the central and state administration in the direction

of 'digitisation' to minimise corruption and optimise the efficiency of delivery and to maximise the state's outreach to the people at the lowest rungs of the socio-economic pyramid. That things are moving the right way in the perception of the people at large is something that directly goes to the credit of Prime Minister Modi who set the paradigms of progress for his team and effectively monitored it - a lesser political leader ruling a large aspirational country like India would not have been able to handle this.

Governance, however, is a work in progress and whereas the policy framework in the broad spheres of national security and economic development of the country had been put in place the ultimate test of success was the implementation down to the ground level where the people lived. The Centre-state division of powers and responsibilities has to rise above the political vested interests attributable to party politics so that progress towards the much desired 'Cooperative Federalism', was not impeded.

There is no doubt that the governance model of Prime Minister Modi, helped the rapid rise of India in the international community as a sane voice in these crucial times when there was a military conflict between Russia and West-supported Ukraine and a growing polarisation between the US and China suggestive of a new Cold War.

India's declared preference for a multipolar order in which major powers including India would have a role in building a world consensus in favour of global peace and economic advancement for all is creating an impact. All of this represents the quintessential foreign policy of India that will be pushed forth during its Presidency of G20 - the motto 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' appropriately presenting this ethos.

The wide range of national initiatives from 'Swachh Bharat' and 'ease of doing business' to encouraging re-skilling and 'Start Ups', add to good governance and show how the democratic state felt sufficiently concerned with youth, women and the 'have-nots'.

Without being an economist Prime Minister Modi has a firm grip on the problems of economic growth and though in politics he knows the importance of pursuing a moral streak in public life. He also realises that preserving internal peace and cohesion was as important as protecting India from an external attack.

India needs continuity of these policies on various fronts as they gelled into a comprehensive framework for achieving national resilience and strategic autonomy.

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GURPREET SINGH LOONA
CONTENT EDITOR

DR. PUSHPINDER BRAR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

SIA LAKHANPAL
REBECCA TANDON
POOJA LUTHRA
REPORTERS

SUNIL VERMA
GRAPHICS DEPARTMENT

IMRAN MAHMOUD
PHOTOGRAPHERS

BASHIR NASIR
PHOTOGRAPHERS

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MINISTER ANAND TO TRAVEL TO BRUSSELS TO PARTICIPATE IN UKRAINE DEFENSE CONTACT GROUP AND NATO

The Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of National Defence, will travel to Brussels, Belgium, from February 14 to 15, 2023 to participate in meetings with Allies and partners on global defence and security issues. On February 14, Minister Anand will participate in a meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group, hosted by United States

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III, to continue discussions on the coordination of international military assistance to Ukraine. On February 14 and 15, Minister Anand will participate in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Defence Ministers' Meeting where Allies will discuss a number of shared priorities and issues.

GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND ONTARIO WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD LARGEST ELECTRICITY BATTERY STORAGE PROJECT IN CANADA

OHSWEKEN - The governments of Canada and Ontario are working together to build the largest battery storage project in the country. The 250-megawatt (MW) Oneida Energy storage project is being developed in partnership with the Six Nations of the Grand River Development Corporation, Northland Power, NRStor and Aeon Group. The federal government is today providing a further \$50 million in funding; the Canada Infrastructure Bank has played a key role supporting project development and is collaborating with the Oneida Energy storage project on an investment agreement. This project is another milestone in Canada and Ontario's plans to build the reliable and affordable clean electricity grid that will help to power the future of Ontario's economy.

"When our two governments work together, in partnership with Indigenous communities, we can help to build a stronger economy and a more sustainable province," said the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance. "With this new federal investment and significant support from the Canada Infrastructure Bank this project will help make electricity more affordable for Ontario families, and play an important role in building the clean electrical grid that Ontario will count on for generations to

come." Ontario has directed the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to enter into a 20-year contract for the Oneida Energy storage project to support the growth of the province's clean energy supply.

"I'm thrilled to see so many great partners come together to build this world-class project that will provide affordable, clean energy for generations to come," said Premier Doug Ford. "With a growing population and as we secure game-changing investments in our economy, our government is supporting innovative and bold energy solutions to meet the increasing demand for power, including battery storage and small modular reactors."

The Oneida Energy storage project will support the operation of Ontario's clean electricity grid by drawing and storing electricity off-peak when power demand is low, and returning the power to the system at times of higher electricity demand. The project will begin operations in 2025 and provide enough power to meet the peak demand of a city the size of Oshawa. It will more than double the amount of energy storage resources on Ontario's clean electricity grid from approximately 225 MW today to approximately 475 MW upon its completion in 2025.

SPRING INTO CITY OF MISSISSAUGA'S PROGRAM REGISTRATION

For those of us who are not winter activity enthusiasts, we anticipate the arrival of spring. According to Ontario's beloved groundhog, Warton Willie, we are headed for an early spring, although Willie's pals across the country may have conflicting reports.

To help you get thinking of warmer days, what better way than a sneak peek at the programs, classes, activities and summer camps being offered by the City of Mississauga! On Monday, February 13 at 6 a.m., you will have a chance to preview all our spring and summer programs. Official registration opens online and in-person on Tuesday, February 21 at 6 a.m. for Mississauga residents and Monday, February 27 at 6 a.m. for non-residents. You will be able to register for spring programs, summer programs and summer camps at the same time. Those interested are encouraged to register for both seasonal programs and summer camps as early as possible as spots are in high demand and will fill up fast! Please note that during this sign-up period Library programs will only be available through June, with summer programs available for registration at a later date. Please visit Active Mississauga for more information and be sure to follow on social media.

Recreation, Culture and Library spring programs start the week of March 25. They will take place at various facilities across the city including: community centres, pools, libraries, museums and the Living Arts Centre.

The City of Mississauga offers a wide selection of programs. Swimming, summer fun camps, story time at the library and art classes are always enjoyable and in high demand. In addition, discover some hidden gems like Photography for Beginners and Outdoor Explorers for kids. Outdoor Explorers: Participate in nature hikes, tree and plant exploration, bird and insect observation and more! Explore a different theme and environmental learning piece each week through games, activities and crafts. It's important to remember to dress for the weather as this program will be outside. Note: Children from the ages of 3-5 years require a parent or guardian.

6-8 year old children can participate without a parent or guardian.

FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY SERVICE HOURS AT THE REGION OF PEEL

BRAMPTON, ON. - Region of Peel offices and non-emergency services will be closed for the Family Day Holiday on Monday, February 20, 2023.

The following non-emergency services are closed and will reopen on Tuesday, February 21, 2023:

- * Access Peel Counters at 10 Peel Centre Dr., Brampton and 7120 Hurontario St., Mississauga
- * Dental Services Contact Centre
- * Early Years and Child Care Services
- * Family Health Call Centre
- * Healthy Sexuality Clinic
- * Needle Exchange Program and Harm Reduction - Mobile Van
- * Ontario Works in Peel
- * Peel Living Office
- * Housing Services - Client Service

Vaccine Clinics

COVID-19 vaccine clinics and routine school immunization clinics will be closed on Monday, February 20. Clinics will resume regular hours of operations on Tuesday, February 21.

Emergency shelter, food or personal support For urgent homelessness supports, including food, supplies, referrals, and shelter, call the Street Helpline 24/7 at 1-877-848-8481. For information on emergency shelter, visit the emergency shelter web page or call 905-450-1996.

FORD MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR GREENBELT MISCONDUCT

QUEEN'S PARK - Ontario Greens leader and MPP for Guelph Mike Schreiner released the following statement in response to continued reports about the inappropriate presence of Greenbelt-linked developers at events related to Doug Ford's daughter's wedding.

"Let's be clear. Developers who stand to benefit from the government's Greenbelt land swaps attended multiple Ford family events and gave money to Doug Ford's family members. They sat at his own table during his daughter's wedding.

We cannot accept this kind of behaviour from Ontario's Premier. It undermines trust and confidence in the government.

No one who stands to benefit from government decisions should be giving money to the Premier's family members. Full stop.

Ford should understand this.

It doesn't matter that these were private events, that the developers in question may or may not be Doug Ford's personal friends, or that the integrity commissioner found no conflict of interest based on the limited information Ford's own office provided after the fact.

The people of Ontario should be able to trust their elected officials to make decisions that are in the public interest. It's the foundation of a functional democracy.

Ford has betrayed the public trust, destroyed public confidence in the government and eroded the integrity of the Premier's office. He must be held accountable for his actions.

And that begins by repealing Bill 23 and cancelling the government's Greenbelt land deals."

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'PM'S HANDS WERE SHAKING...': RAHUL IN WAYANAD, ATTACKS GOVT OVER ALLEGED MODI-ADANI LINKS

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on Monday targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi alleging his relationship with industrialist Gautam Adani and said that the Prime Minister's hands were shaking when he was drinking water during his speech in the Parliament last week. Rahul Gandhi said this while addressing party workers in his Lok Sabha constituency in Wayanad, Kerala.

The Congress MP once again questioned the government that why a major part of his speech was removed from the records. Rahul Gandhi said that he didn't insulted the Prime Minister and only pointed to the link between Modi and Adani.

"...and I have written to the Speaker with every single point they have removed and supporting proof," Gandhi said.

"After my speech, most of it (speech) was edited out and was not

allowed to go on record in Parliament... I don't expect that my words will be allowed to go on record," the Congress leader said as he addressed a gathering at Meenangadi. "He says why is your name Gandhi and not Nehru. So the Prime Minister of the country directly insults me. But his words were not taken off the record," Gandhi pointed out. "It doesn't matter whether he is Prime Minister of India, whether he has all the (investigating) agencies... because the truth is not on his side. And one day, he will be forced to face his truth", the Wayanad MP said. "I asked the Prime Minister some questions. I asked him about his relationship with Mr Adani. I asked him about how Adani has grown so fast. The Prime Minister did not answer a single question. His response to my questions was why you are not called Nehru, why you are called Gandhi," Rahul said.

PUNJAB GOV SEEKS DETAILS OF PRINCIPALS TRAINING TOUR TO SINGAPORE FROM GOVT, CM MANN RETORTS

Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit has written to Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann seeking details on the selection of school principals sent to Singapore for training purpose.

The Governor has also sought details from the Chief Minister on appointment of Punjab Information and Communication Technology Corporation chairman.

Governor Banwarilal Purohit has asked CM Bhagwant Mann to reply to his letter within a fortnight, failing which he will be compelled to take legal advice, reports said.

"I have received complaints in respect to the selection of principals for sending them to Singapore for training. The complainants point out certain malpractices and illegalities in the selection of these principals. The allegation is that there is no transparency," Purohit said in his letter. "I, therefore, request you to send me the criteria and details of entire selection process. Please also give detail if it was widely published throughout Punjab. As per news reports since the first batch has come back, please let me have details of total expenditure incurred on travelling and boarding lodging and expenses towards training," he said. Retorting to Governor Purohit, CM Bhagwant Mann took to Twitter



and said, "...all the subjects written in the letter are all state subjects... I and my government are accountable to 3 crore Punjabis... and not to any Governor appointed by the central government."

"Treat this as my reply," the chief minister said in a tweet in Punjabi.

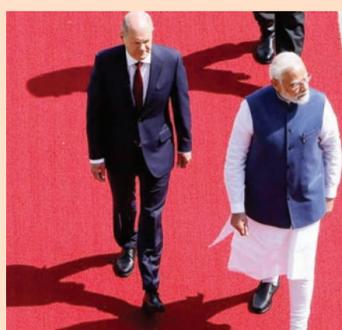
INDIA DOES NOT WANT TO REMAIN JUST AN ASSEMBLY WORKSHOP: RAJNATH SINGH

Defence minister Rajnath Singh Monday sought the industry's support on the government's endeavour to reach complete self-reliance in defence, through the design, development and manufacturing of cutting-edge products, using critical technologies, the defence ministry said. Singh made the comments while addressing over 70 CEOs of local and global Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) during a round table organised as part of Aero India 2023. More than 75 companies, including 28 foreign OEMs from 15 countries and domestic companies and Defence PSUs, participated in the discussion aimed at forging partnerships between domestic and global industries of the aerospace and defence sector. There was official participation from Sudan and Saudi Arabia as well. Companies such as Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Israel Aerospace Industries, General Atomics, Safran, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bharat Electronics Limited, Bharat Dynamics Limited, BEML Limited, Larsen & Toubro, Bharat Forge, Dynamic Technologies, and BrahMos Aerospace participated in the discussion. Emphasising that India does not want to remain just an assembly workshop and is looking to engage with friendly countries in defence and security, based on sharing expertise and capabilities, Singh told the industry leaders that the government is open to new ideas and is committed to harnessing the energy, entrepreneurial spirit and capability of the private sector partners in the area of defence production. The defence minister said the CEOs' round table will "sow the seeds of successful new ventures and partnerships, boost investment, expand indigenous manufacturing and bolster aerospace and defence ecosystem in India." "This platform was to address the present and future global needs and discuss the importance of supply chain strategy and operations as the world deals with the aftermath of the pandemic and global disruptions," the defence ministry said in a statement.



AHEAD OF SCHOLZ VISIT, GERMAN SECURITY ADVISER SAYS INDIA VOICE HEARD IN RUSSIA

WITH GERMAN Chancellor Olaf Scholz expected to visit India later this month — around the time when the Russia-Ukraine war will complete a year — his Foreign and Security Policy Advisor, Jens Plötner, said on Monday that Delhi's voice is "heard clearly" and "listened to" in Moscow, and that is important. Scholz is expected to come to India in the last week of February — the dates that are being explored by the two sides are February 25-26. This is significant since the Russia-Ukraine war will complete a year on February 24, and Scholz's first standalone visit is a signal that Delhi plays an important role in Berlin's strategic calculus. Plötner, who met his counterpart National Security Adviser Ajit Doval on Monday to prepare the ground for Scholz's visit, said the two countries are working together on a range of areas, and identified climate change, economic potential and geopolitics as the three major areas of potential cooperation. Calling it a "classic triple-win situation", he underlined the Russia-Ukraine conflict. "Now, obviously as wonderful as our bilateral relations are, they are not evolving in a kind of clean environment. We are embedded in a very messy international situation, which is full of challenges. The Russian war against Ukraine. This is a European war. But it is a war with global repercussions," he said. Underlining that the global repercussions, in an immediate sense, would mean "food shortages" and "skyrocketing energy prices" leading to inflation, he said: "But it also has another global implication — that a permanent member of the (UN) Security Council has decided to violate the charter of the United Nations, invading a smaller country simply because it can and is stronger and bigger, and that cannot go unchecked. Because otherwise, I think, the world would become a jungle... where the rule of the strongest would prevail." Emphasising that Berlin and Delhi are on the same page, Plötner said: "Now, in India, we feel we have a partner who... believes in the rules-based international order, is a strong proponent of the multilateral world and the multilateral system, a believer in the United Nations. And that is why we come together, working on the basis of these principles to see how we react to this world disorder and to see how we can make those values prevail, which we believe are the best basis for peaceful coexistence in our planet among the family of nations." Asked about India's possible role in mediating between Russia and Ukraine, he said: "I have great admiration for Indian diplomacy... we don't have a shortage of mediators. But we have an acute shortage of Russian willingness to stop this war and get out of its neighbouring country."



ADANI ROW: 'IF NOTHING TO HIDE, WHY GOVT RUNNING AWAY FROM JPC PROBE'- CONGRESS HITS BACK AT AMIT SHAH



Addressing a press conference at the AICC headquarters, New Delhi on Tuesday, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh responded to Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks that there is nothing to hide for BJP on Adani row.

Ramesh said, "If they do not have anything to hide, why are they running away from a Joint Parliamentary Committee (probe)." "They do not even allow us to raise the demand of the JPC in Parliament. When our leaders, including party president Mallikarjun Kharge ji, raised the demand for JPC, their remarks were expunged," Ramesh said.

If there is nothing to hide, the government should allow a JPC, he stressed. Ramesh said he has written to RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and SEBI chief Madhabi Puri Buch for an impartial probe into the Adani issue.

The Congress' attack on the government came hours after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's interview to a news agency in which he claimed that there is nothing for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to hide or be afraid of in the matter. His remarks came a day after the Centre agreed to the Supreme Court's proposal to set up a panel of experts to look into strengthening the regulatory mechanisms for the stock market in the wake of the recent Adani group shares crash triggered by Hindenburg Research's fraud allegations. Saying it has no objection to constituting the panel, the Centre, at the same time, stressed that market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and other statutory bodies are "fully equipped", not only regime-wise, but otherwise also to deal with the situation.

'MAN IN FANCY DRESS...': CONGRESS SWIPE AT PM MODI OVER AERO INDIA EVENT IN BENGALURU



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday (February 13) inaugurated the 14th edition of Aero India in Bengaluru showcasing the country as an attractive destination for investment in defence manufacturing sector. However, the Congress was not much impressed with the prime minister as it accused him of taking credit for an event that started in 1996 under its rule. Taking a swipe at PM Modi, Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said on Twitter, "The man in fancy dress claims credit for Aero India, the show held in Bengaluru. The truth is it started way back in 1996 and gained in strength over the years." "It's held in Bengaluru simply because of the presence of organisations there tracing their origins to the Nehruvian era," Ramesh added. Earlier, in his address after inaugurating the 14th edition of Aero India at the Yalahanka Air Force station complex on the outskirts of Bengaluru, PM Modi asserted that the Aero India was not only as show but also also reflection of India's self confidence and capabilities.

DELHI CM ARVIND KEJRIWAL GIVES NOD TO EXECUTIVE ENCLAVE, NATION TO GET NEW PMO SOON



The Delhi Government on Tuesday gave nod to the Executive Enclave under the Central Vista Project. According to officials the Delhi government has granted permission to the Central Public Works Department to transplant around 173 trees from the project site of the proposed enclave. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has cleared the way for the Prime Minister's Enclave.

The Executive Enclave will come up on the south side of South Block in plot number 36/38 in the high-security Lutyens' Delhi. "Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has cleared the way for (the) Prime Minister's (Executive) Enclave. "The CPWD (Central Public Works Department) had sought permission for transplantation of 173 trees from (the) project site from (the) Delhi government and the chief minister has cleared the file, thereby expediting the project," an official said. The Kejriwal government has approved the proposal upon the condition that the agency would take up 10-times compensatory plantation. The Executive Enclave will be constructed under the Centre's ambitious Central Vista redevelopment project.



US RESPONDS AS MEDIA REPORTS LINK 'UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT' TO 'ALIEN'; REVEALS CHINA SPY BALLOONS SECRETS

Days after the United States shot down four unidentified objects, often touted as "UFOs" -- any unexplained moving object observed in the sky, especially one assumed by some observers to be of extraterrestrial origin - Pentagon refuted the claims and said details would be made public once the investigations were over.

The Pentagon clarified that the investigators did not find any evidence of aliens or any species belonging to "other universes". Addressing a regular press conference on Monday, US Press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre humorously said she wanted to reassure the US population before making reference to the movie ET.

"We did, however, assess that their altitudes were considerably lower than the Chinese high-altitude balloon and did pose a threat to civilian commercial air traffic. And while we have no specific reason to suspect

that they were conducting surveillance of any kind, we couldn't rule that out," she said.

Notably, the clarifications came as the United States shot down four flying objects, all having different shapes and sizes-- within two weeks after it discovered Chinese "spy balloons". This prompted several news outlets, as well as social media platforms, to link the recent appearance of unidentified objects to UFOs and aliens. Meanwhile, while answering the press questions about the details of the debris found following the shootout of "spy balloons", she said the investigators found some "priority sensor" and "electronics pieces". "Large sections of the structure" were also recovered on Monday off the coast of South Carolina," BBC quoted military officials as saying. "About 30-40ft of the balloon's antenna are among the items found," according to CBS.

SRI LANKA DISMISSES TAMIL NADU LEADER'S CLAIM THAT LTTE SUPREMO PRABHAKARAN IS 'STILL ALIVE'

Hours after a top Tamil nationalist leader's claim that LTTE supremo Velupillai Prabhakaran was still alive, Sri Lanka refuted the claims and termed it a mere "joke". Notably, Sri Lanka claims that the leader was killed in 2009 by the island nation's military.

The statement from the island nation came after Pazha Nedumaran, a noted nationalist leader in Tamil Nadu, claimed that the top leader of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) "is doing well" and added, "conducive atmosphere prevails for him to appear now."

"IT IS A JOKE"

The statement created a major row in the debt-ridden nation, with several calling Nedumaran's claim right while many claiming it a political statement. This resulted in Sri Lanka's defence ministry dismissing Nedumaran's claim as a "joke".

"It is confirmed that he was killed on 19 May 2009. The DNA has proved it," Colonel Nalin Herath, Sri Lanka's defence ministry spokesman told the news agency PTI. It is worth mentioning, Sri Lanka's military ended the nearly three-decade brutal civil war in the island nation in May 2009, by killing the leaders of the LTTE. The bitterly fought campaign began in 1983. The LTTE was fighting for an independent state for the Tamilians in Sri Lanka's North and Eastern provinces.



Though the exact date when Prabhakaran was killed by the Sri Lankan Army was not known, his death was announced on May 19, 2009. The then-president Mahinda Rajapaksa on May 18, 2009 declared the end of a 26-year war in which over 1,00,000 people were killed and millions of Sri Lankans, mainly minority Tamils were displaced as refugees inside the country and abroad.

PHILIPPINES ACCUSES CHINA OF USING 'MILITARY-GRADE' LASER AGAINST ITS VESSELS IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

In a major development, China allegedly used the latest military-grade laser technology in order to target the Philippines' vessels in the disputed South China Sea on February 6, Monday. According to the statement released by the Philippine coast guard, the incident happened earlier last week while supporting a rotation and resupply (RoRe) mission of the Philippine Navy (PN) in Ayungin Shoal in the West Philippine Sea.

The Philippines accused the Chinese ship illuminated the green laser light twice toward its vessel, the BRP MALAPASCUA, causing temporary "blindness" to her crew at the bridge.

Calling it a blatant violation of the international treaty, it claimed that the Chinese vessel also made dangerous manoeuvres by approaching about 150 yards from the vessel's starboard quarter.

"As part of her deployment plan, BRP MALAPASCUA altered her course from Ayungin Shoal and headed toward Lawak Island to continue her maritime patrol and support the BRP TERESA MAGBANUA (MRRV-9701) for the PCG's own RORE mission to its sub-stations in the Kalayaan Island Group," according to the statement released by the Philippines Coast Guard on Facebook. "The deliberate blocking of the Philippine government ships to deliver food and supplies to our military personnel

on board the BRP SIERRA MADRE is a blatant disregard for, and a clear violation of, Philippine sovereign rights in this part of the West Philippine Sea," it added. It is worth mentioning that Beijing claims the South China Sea virtually in its entirety, putting it on a collision course with other claimants. Notably, this was not the first incident when the Chinese military targeted other vessels in the disputed sea, but earlier in August last year, it had made similar attempts to counter vessels of other countries. However, this was the first incident when Beijing had used the latest military-grade laser technology against any country.

Besides, the developments are also believed to be stunning as both nations share "friendly relationships", with former Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and his successor, Ferdinand Marcos Jr., meeting Chinese leader Xi Jinping in January this year.

Meanwhile, China, on the other hand, acknowledged the claims made by Manila but added Philippine coast guard vessel trespassed into Chinese waters "without permission". "Chinese coast guard vessels responded professionally and with restraint at the site in accordance with China's law and international law," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said in response to the claims.

IMRAN KHAN ACCUSES PAKISTAN ARMY, SAYS 'SYSTEM CAN'T WORK IF...'

Former Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan on Sunday said that the country's system will fail if the authority lies with the army chief while the responsibility is handed over to the PM, local media reported.

Khan expressed his view in an interview with the US broadcaster, Voice of America, stressing that the elected governments must have authority as well as responsibility, The News reported. Khan had been ousted via a no-confidence motion last year.

"The leading principle of the balance (of power) is that the elected government that has the responsibility, which people have mandated through their vote, must also have the authority," the ousted PM said.

He said that responsibility and authority cannot be separated and hence a system cannot work if the two things are not vested in the same individual.

"If the authority lies with the army chief, (but) responsibility lies with the Prime Minister, no management system works," Khan added, the media outlet reported.

While responding to a question regarding his relationship with the military as the premier, the PTI chief said that all the policies of the military in Pakistan depend on one individual.

"Military (in Pakistan) means one man, the army chief. So, the whole policy of military vis-a-vis they are dealing with the civilian government depends on the personality of one man," he said.

Khan said that the positive side of his relationship with the then-army chief, General Qamar Javed Bajwa was his government having the 'organised strength of Pakistan army to help us'.



OVER 34,000 KILLED, ANOTHER 4.7 MAGNITUDE QUAKE HITS TURKIYE'S KAHRAMANMARAS

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

The Syrian death toll also includes 1,414 deaths in government-controlled parts of Syria, according to the state news agency SANA. Meanwhile, the World Health Organization (WHO) says it is waiting for final approval to send crossline deliveries into northwest Syria, where rebel groups in the country's long-running civil war control territory and aid deliveries have faced obstacles, reported CNN. The WHO hopes its Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus will soon be able to travel into the rebel-held areas hit by the devastating earthquake, the organization said Sunday. Tedros and a team of top WHO officials arrived in Aleppo on Saturday on a humanitarian aid flight carrying over USD 290,000 worth of trauma emergency and surgical kits.

UNITED STATES: 3 KILLED, 7 INJURED AT SHOOTING IN MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY; SUSPECT DEAD



At least three people were killed while five others were injured after a gunman opened fire at Michigan State University on Monday night and later shot himself miles away from the site. Police announced the man's death early Tuesday, four hours after shootings broke out at Berkey Hall, an academic building, and later nearby at the MSU Union, a popular hub to eat or study. "This truly has been a nightmare we're living tonight," said Chris Rozman, interim deputy chief of the campus police department. "This truly has been a nightmare we're living tonight," said Chris Rozman, interim deputy chief of the campus police department. Hundreds of officers had scoured the East Lansing campus, about 90 miles (145 kilometers) northwest of Detroit, for the suspect, whom police described as a short Black man with red shoes, a jean jacket and a ball cap. The 43-year-old man was confronted by police off campus before killing himself with a "self-inflicted gunshot wound," Rozman said. His name was not immediately released, nor any details about the gun or what police found at the scene. Rozman said the man was not a student or employee and had no affiliation with Michigan State.

IN PAKISTAN, MILK NOW COST PKR 210 PER LITRE, CHICKEN MEAT PKR 700-780 PER KG AMID ECONOMIC CRISIS



Prices of basic necessities such as milk, and fuel in economic crisis-hit Pakistan, are now getting out of the reach of the common man.

Waiting for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout for the 9th time, the price of one litre of milk in Pakistan is currently PKR 210, Rs 20 up from 190 per litre last week while broiler chicken now costs PKR 480-500 per kg, up by PKR 30-40.

At the same time, the price of chicken meat is PKR 700-780 per kg, almost 100 up from prices that were last week.

Meanwhile, the cash-strapped country may witness another surge in the prices of fuel in the next two weeks which is already running in shortage.

Islamabad said that it will impose new taxes of 170 billion rupees this month in a bid for a massive bailout.

The first installment of USD 1.1 billion of the 2019 IMF bailout worth USD 6 billion has been kept on hold since December last year as Pakistan is yet to agree on deal terms.

"The imposition of more taxes means tough days are ahead for the majority of the people in Pakistan who are already facing higher food and energy costs, but there is no other way out if Pakistan needs the IMF loans, and Pakistan desperately needs it," said Ehtisham-ul-Haq, a veteran economist.

ISRAEL: THOUSANDS JOIN PROTESTS AGAINST PM BENJAMIN NETANYAHU-LED GOVT'S JUDICIAL OVERHAUL PLANS

Thousands of people in Israel took to the streets in several cities, demonstrating against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu-led government's plans to revamp the judiciary in the country. Meanwhile, critics claim that the new hard-line government's policies will undermine the Supreme Court, reduce judicial monitoring, and give politicians more authority. That, according to protesters, would weaken democracy. The rift over the power of courts is deepening as the government is set to introduce some of the legislation in parliament Monday amid calls for partial strikes by businesses and professional groups. For the sixth week, protesters pressed on with large rallies, with the main one in the central city of Tel Aviv and several smaller gatherings in other cities. The government's proposed measures, which it believes are required to rein in activist judges' overreach, have been met with vehement resistance from various organisations, including lawyers, and concerns from business executives, further widening the country's already sharp political divisions. "We are really afraid that our country is going to lose the democracy and we are going to a dictatorship just for reasons of one person who wants to get rid of his law trial," said Danny Simon, a protester from Yavne, south of Tel Aviv.

PAKISTAN, INCHING TOWARDS BANKRUPTCY, TO FURTHER INCREASE PETROL PRICE



Pakistan which is inching towards bankruptcy may drop another 'bomb' on its people in terms of fuel prices. The Shehbaz Sharif government is likely to further increase petrol prices in the country. The new prices may be effective from February 16. According to reports, the government may increase petrol cost by as much as 12.5 per cent. "The ex-depot litre price of petrol is calculated to go up by at least PKR 32.07, High Speed Diesel (HSD) may see an increase of PKR 32.84 per litre, kerosene oil by PKR 28.05 per litre and Light Diesel Oil (LDO) by at least PKR 9.90 per litre from February 16," sources said. "Likely, the new prices are based on current government taxes and estimated PSO incidentals," the source added. "The estimated dollar/rupee adjustment applies PKR 15 per litre for both petrol and HSD while it is assumed that the petroleum levy (PL) on HSD will rise to PKR 50 per litre," the source added.

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TURKEY PRESIDENT SAYS LAST WEEK'S EARTHQUAKE COUNTRY'S WORST DISASTER IN A CENTURY, OVER 35,400 KILLED

Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Tuesday said that last week's earthquake was country's worst disaster in a century that has killed more than 35,418 people so far.



Thanking countries that are helping the disaster hit nation, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, in a video message, said, "rescue teams have pulled out more than 8,000 people alive from the rubble since the strong quakes jolted Turkey."

The President further informed that over 81,000 people injured in the quake in Turkey have been discharged from hospitals.

Meanwhile, in Syria, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has called the disaster an "unfolding tragedy that's affecting millions."

"The compounding crises of conflict, COVID, cholera, economic decline, and now the earthquake have taken an unbearable toll," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said.

Tedros said WHO experts were waiting to enter northwestern Syria "where we have been told the impact is even worse."

UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Martin Griffiths, visiting the Turkish-Syrian border Sunday, said Syrians are "looking for international help that hasn't arrived."

"We have so far failed the people in northwest Syria. They rightly feel abandoned," he said, adding, "My duty and our obligation is to correct this failure as fast as we can."

HARDEEP GREWAL
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Happy Family Day!
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MidWeek ENTERTAINMENT

KANGANA RANAUT QUOTES SADHGURU AS SHE SHARES CRYPTIC MESSAGE ON FALLING IN LOVE: 'IF YOU DON'T KNOW...' | P16

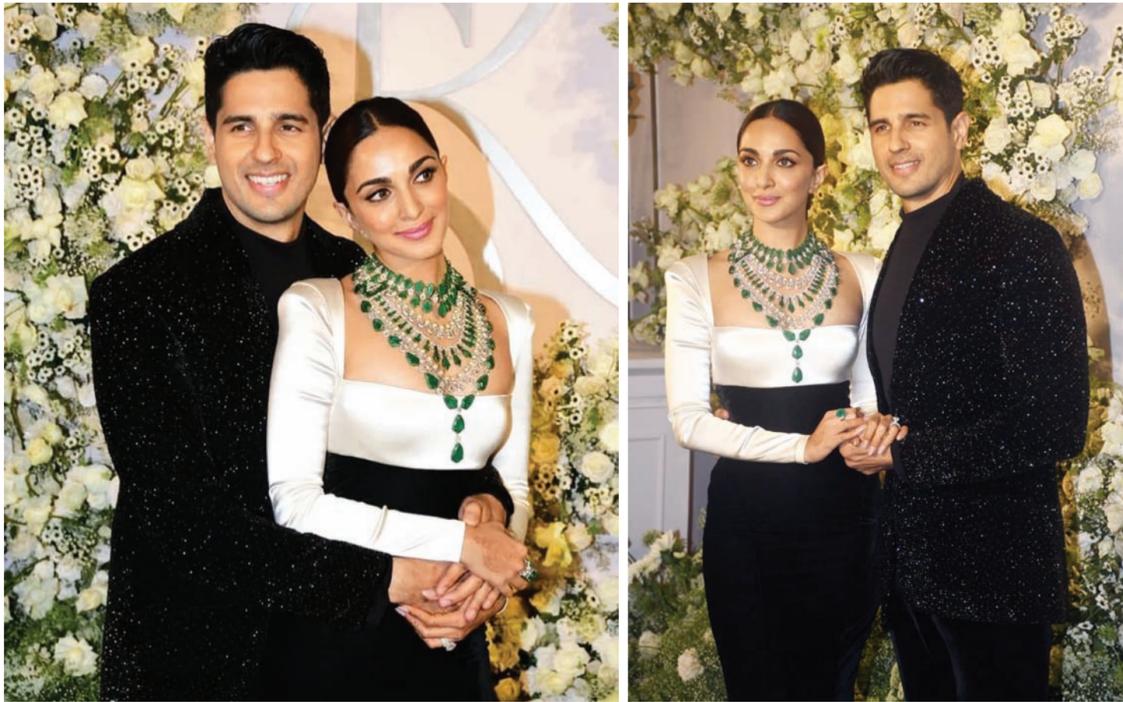


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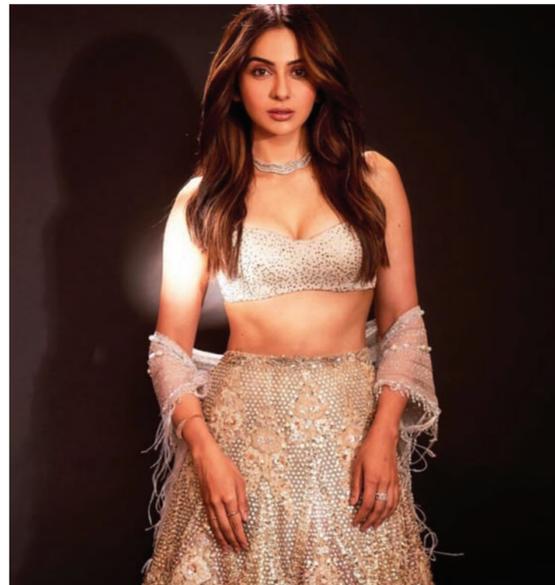
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GLITTERING TURNOUT AT SIDHARTH-KIARA MUMBAI RECEPTION, BUT SO MANY SOLO SHOWS!



SO, VIKRANT AND DIMPLE WERE FINALLY UNITED AND PRESENTED TO THE WORLD AT A STAR-STUDED RECEPTION IN MUMBAI ON SUNDAY EVENING. A RECEPTION THAT WILL BE REMEMBERED AS MUCH FOR THE GLITTERATI TURNOUT AS FOR THE NUMBER OF SOLO SHOWS. SIDHARTH MALHOTRA AND KIARA ADVANI, WHO PLAYED THE STAR-CROSSED LOVERS IN 'SHERSHAAH' ON PRIME VIDEO IN 2021, HAD THEIR HAPPY EVER AFTER AT THEIR WEDDING RECEPTION AT THE END OF HECTIC FESTIVITIES THAT TOOK THEM FROM THE GLORIOUS RESORT OF SURYAGARH IN JAISALMER TO THE MALHOTRA HOME IN DELHI AND FINALLY TO HIS ADOPTED HOME IN MUMBAI. THE COUPLE (LOOKING PICTURE-PERFECT AS USUAL, DESPITE ONLINE CRITICISM OF KIARA APPEARING WITHOUT A MANGALSUTRA) POSED FOR PAPS AS A STREAM OF STARS GREETED THEM. THEY INCLUDED MALHOTRA'S FORMER CLASSMATE AND RUMOURED GIRLFRIEND FROM 'STUDENT OF THE YEAR' (2012), ALIA BHATT (WHO CAME WITHOUT RANBIR, BUT WITH AYAN MUKERJI), AND RECENT CO-ACTOR FROM 'THANK YOU', AJAY DEVGN, WHO ARRIVED WITH WIFE KAJOL.

RAKUL PREET SINGH'S STELLAR LOOK FROM HER LATEST PHOTOSHOOT IS VIRAL



Popular actress Rakul Preet Singh recently shared a few pictures from Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani's wedding reception. In the photos, the actress dazzled in a sequined lehenga and looked like a dream. Her ethnic fashion is top-notch and nobody carries it better than her. Rakul often posts photos and videos, raising the glam bar on the internet. Now, her recent pictures from the couple's wedding reception are making a huge noise on the internet. For the occasion, Rakul Preet opted for a gorgeous metallic lehenga from the designer label Tarun Tahiliani. The sparkling sequined lace work will surely grab your attention. Rakul paired her glamorous lehenga with a strappy blouse, which showcased delicate sequins all over.

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TORONTO, ONT. — Packed with the utmost in luxury vehicles, super cars and hyper cars — from today and days gone by — Auto Exotica at the Canadian International AutoShow is where automotive dreams live. Consistently one of the most popular features at the AutoShow, Auto Exotica is a showcase of vehicles most of us can only look at longingly. They represent the pinnacle of automotive production and performance, from the ultra luxurious to the super fast. "Toronto is renowned as a leading market for luxury and super cars, and that is reflected at the Canadian International AutoShow," says Jason Campbell, General Manager of the AutoShow. "Year in and year out, Auto Exotica has been a showcase of the finest automobiles in the world, and it is annually ranked as a fan favourite — an indication of how important the feature is for Show goers here in Toronto." Auto Exotica, moving to a new location on the 800 level of the South Building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, is returning with a packed lineup of dream cars.

JANHVI KAPOOR TO MAKE TELUGU DEBUT OPPOSITE JR NTR IN NTR 30, PROJECT TO ROLL IN MARCH



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JANHVI KAPOOR IS ALL SET TO MAKE HER TELUGU DEBUT ALONGSIDE ACTOR JR NTR, AS PER SOURCES.

RUMOURS OF URVASHI RAUTELA JOINING 'KANTARA 2' CAST ARE 'BASELESS, UNTRUE'



16

A SOURCE CLOSE TO PRODUCTION HAS COME UP WITH THE CLARIFICATION STATING THAT ALL THESE RUMOURS ARE BASELESS.

I'VE ALWAYS LOOKED AT LOVE WITH A LOT OF LOVE: TARA SUTARIA



16

TARA SUTARIA HAS SPOKEN ABOUT WHAT SELF LOVE MEANS TO HER AND SAID THAT SHE HAS ALWAYS LOVED THE IDEA OF LOVE.

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



MOHAMMED SHAMI TAKES OFF IN CELEBRATION AFTER PICKING UP THE LAST WICKET AS ROHIT SHARMA'S MEN SPIN KANGAROOS TO EMBARRASSING INNINGS DEFEAT IN NAGPUR. | DETAILS ON PAGE 17

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JANHVI KAPOOR TO MAKE TELUGU DEBUT OPPOSITE JR NTR IN NTR 30, PROJECT TO ROLL IN MARCH

Actor Janhvi Kapoor, who was recently seen in survival thriller Milli, is all set for her big Telugu debut opposite Jr NTR in an upcoming yet-untitled project which will be directed by Koratala Siva. Jr NTR is reuniting with Koratala Siva for NTR 30 after Janatha Garage. The project is expected to be officially launched later this month and will go on the floors next month.

A source from the film's unit has confirmed that the makers recently signed Janhvi Kapoor. She will soon join the team for a photoshoot with Jr NTR. "It is true that Janhvi has been signed. The makers did

have a few options in mind but they eventually went ahead with Janhvi. In a couple of weeks, the team is planning to do a photoshoot with the lead pair. The project will go on the floors next month," the source said. Ever since the project was officially announced, fans have taken over social media demanding updates on the film.

Recently, Jr NTR requested fans to not keep asking for updates all the time as it puts a lot of pressure on a lot of people. Speaking at the pre-release event of his brother Kalyan Ram's film Amigos, NTR requested his fans to not keep asking for updates.

HRITHIK ROSHAN GIVES SHOUTOUT TO GIRLFRIEND SABA AZAD, SHARES REACTION TO ROCKET BOYS SEASON 2 TEASER: 'CAN'T WAIT'

Rocket Boys 2 teaser featuring Jim Sarbh, Ishwak Singh and Saba Azad was released on Sunday. Actor Hrithik Roshan, who is dating Saba, took to Instagram Stories on Monday to share the teaser posted by Saba on Instagram. Along with the video, Hrithik wrote, "Season 2!! Can't wait!!" He added heart eyes emoji to the post. Created by Nikkhil Advani, Roy Kapur Films and Emmay Entertainment, Rocket Boys 2 will begin streaming on SonyLIV in March. In the original Instagram Reels shared by Saba Azad on Sunday, the actor-singer wrote in her caption, "Amidst global conflict and enemies charging our borders, India becoming a nuclear nation was the only deterrent to imminent threats of war. Witness the incredible journey of India's greatest scientists shaping a new era where no one dared to challenge their country's sovereignty. Rocket Boys 2 – streaming this March only on SonyLIV." In November last year, Saba Azad, who was seen in the role of lawyer Parvana Irani in the first season of the web series Rocket Boys, announced that she had wrapped up filming for the second season of the show, which revolves around the lives of nuclear physicists Dr Vikram Sarabhai and Dr Homi J Bhabha. She had shared snippets from the shoot, her prep and look from the series, and written in her caption on Instagram, "Season wrap on the rocket ship!! Up, up and away Rocket Boys season 2." Last month, Saba was among the many artists that performed at Lollapalooza, one of the biggest music festivals in the world, in Mumbai. Saba, one half of Mumbai-based band Madboy/Mink, was joined by Hrithik, who came to watch her perform. The actor's ex-wife and interior designer Sussanne Khan also attended the music festival along with her boyfriend, actor Arslan Goni. Hrithik's son Hridaan Roshan was also present at the festival. Hrithik's cousin, budding actor Pashmina Roshan, as well as Saba and Sussanne had shared pictures and videos from the festival on Instagram Stories.



AKSHAY KUMAR THANKS TIGER SHROFF FOR CHALLENGING HIM ON SETS OF BADE MIYAN CHOTE MIYAN: ROZ PHYSIOTHERAPY CHAL RAHI HAI



Akshay Kumar is currently working on his first film with Tiger Shroff, titled Bade Miyan Chote Miyan. The 55-year-old has penned a letter for Tiger and shared it on Instagram, along with a video of them playing volley ball with other team members. Akshay has written about how he is pushing his limits each day to work with Tiger, whose age is equal to Akshay's 32-year-long career.

Akshay wrote, "Dear Tiger, I'm not someone who writes letters. Infact I am someone who does not write at all. But today I felt like doing this to make a special point. It was 32 years ago when I started my career with an action film. In these decades, I thought I had done it all. But just 15 days into filming one of our most ambitious projects, Bade Miyan Chote Miyan, I already feel tested. Both physically and mentally." He added, "Pain, injuries, broken bones, these are not new to me. But nothing has ever pushed me out of my comfort zone the way @aliabbasazfar, his team...and you have, in just two weeks. Bhai roz physiotherapy chal rahi hai (I undergo physiotherapy daily). And I'm not complaining. Because the magic of life is always outside the comfort zone. New doors open when we push. Mountains move when we push."

'WHEN I GO BACK HOME TO UP, MERA BHAIKAAL BANEGA': ARCHANA GAUTAM

Archana Gautam may not have won Bigg Boss 16 but she definitely earned the tag of 'Entertainer of the season'. The bikini model turned politician shared that she's happy with her journey on the show. "Seeing so many new faces, meeting people and most importantly, I can eat whatever I want now. Araam se adark daal ke chai peeyungi bina ration ki fikr kare (I can have ginger tea without worrying about ration)," she told indianexpress.com, after the grand finale on Sunday night. As seen in the episode, the actor was seen breaking down after she ended her journey in fourth place. Sharing that like any human, she did feel bad about not making it to the top 3, Archana added, "Dukh toh definitely tha. I felt I entertained so much but couldn't be in the top. Laanat hai mujhpe (I should be ashamed). However, my father and everyone around made me understand that winning is not just about the trophy. I won India's heart and so much love."

Going back in time, Archana Gautam shared that when she entered the show she was conscious, given she was also representing the Congress party. The actor fought the MLA elections in 2022 and said that her didi (Priyanka Gandhi) has always supported her dreams. "She told me to go and enjoy myself in Bigg Boss. However, she did tell me to make sure I don't let the party down. I think this is why I held myself back initially. But the house is such that you cannot pretend and your real personality will come forth. Itna control nahi hota waha. I do feel it went a little overboard at times but then if it didn't happen, I don't think people would have remembered my journey. They laughed with me, at me, and also gave me so much love." She also added that now that the show is over, she plans to call Priyanka Gandhi's office and meet her. The actor added that she wants to know her didi's feedback on her performance and also discuss the future course of action. When we asked her if she will use her new-found popularity in politics or plans to focus on her acting career, Archana Gautam was quick to reply, "Of course, acting. That has also been one of my dreams. While that will be the priority I also want to serve my constituency. I come from a society where girls do not get a chance to educate themselves."



MC STAN WINS BIGG BOSS 16; TAKES HOME TROPHY AND RS 31 LAKH PRIZE MONEY



Rapper MC Stan takes the trophy home with the prize money of Rs. 31 lakhs. Yes! his killer attitude and epic one-liners helped win the hearts of the audience and he has been declared the winner of Bigg Boss 16. MC Stan also took home a car. His journey of laughter and conflict throughout the season kept the audience on the edge of their seat in anticipation. In his initial days on the show, he was many times misunderstood since he was not very vocal about his feelings and his opinions. He got indulged in many ugly fights and was even schooled by Salman Khan on Weekend ka Vaar. But he has now proved his worth and has shut all the mouths who talked against him. His journey in the Bigg Boss house has been constantly filled with hurdles. He was one of those contestants who was often mocked for keeping quiet and asking to leave the show. However, his fans' support kept him going. Now, he is standing by the example that a person coming from a small town can also make it big with calmness and fire. He was the epitome of patience and was never seen fighting unnecessarily with anyone. While MC Styan was accused of standing behind 'mandali' and listening to Shiv most of the time, the rapper held his own and won hearts. The social media is already enjoying his win and has been making his name trend since Sunday morning.

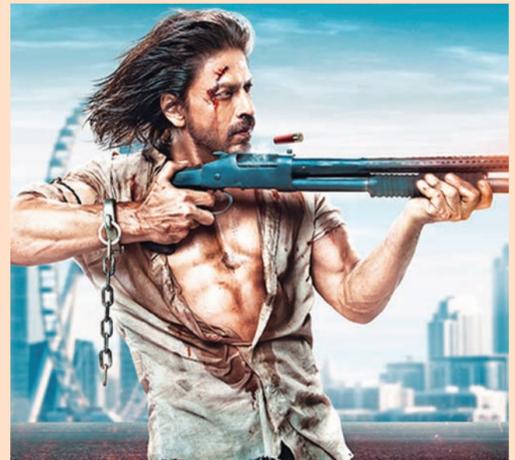
BIGG BOSS 16: ABDU ROZIK PARTICIPATES IN BIG BROTHER UK AFTER WINNING HEARTS IN INDIA



Bigg Boss 16 fame Abdu Rozik has bagged another reality show after winning hearts in India. The Salman Khan hosted show gave name and fame to the Tajikistan singer as he became the youngest person to participate in the show. Now, he is all set to impress fans with his appearance in Big Brother UK. During the grand finale of Bigg boss 16, Bollywood superstar Salman Khan congratulated the singer and he also confirmed that Abdu Rozik will be seen in Big Brother UK.

Big Brother UK is all set to return after 5 years with a reboot run. Abdu Rozik will leave for the reality show in July or July. Abdu has had a glorious journey in Bigg Boss 16. Talking about the same, the singer told India Today, "I am really very happy. Thanks to Bigg Boss. Thanks to all my fans for supporting and voting for me. I am very happy. I am also happy that I have come out because I have a lot of work. And for this, I have come out." Meanwhile, Abdu Rozik is a Tajikistan singer, blogger and musician, known primarily for singing in films and for making videos on YouTube. The 19-year-old, who currently has a fan following of 6.9 million on Instagram, will soon be seen in Salman Khan-starrer 'Kisi Ka Bhaia Kisi Ki Jaan.'

PATHAAN BOX OFFICE COLLECTION: SHAH RUKH KHAN'S FILM TOUCHES RS 900 CRORE MARK GLOBALLY



Shah Rukh Khan is riding high on the success of his film Pathaan. The Siddharth Anand directorial has been breaking records at the box office since its release on January 25. Pathaan was also superstar Shah Rukh Khan's return to the big screen after four years and fans were eagerly waiting to see him do high-octane action scenes. Continuing its winning streak, SRK's film has raised Rs 901 crore gross at the worldwide box office. According to Yash Raj Films (YRF), the action film raised Rs 5.90 crore nett in India on its third Friday. "The total worldwide gross is an incredible Rs 901 crore (India gross: Rs 558.40 crore, overseas: Rs 342.60 crore)" the studio said in a press note. YRF said "Pathaan" has become the highest-grossing Hindi film worldwide in the history of Hindi cinema. The stylish action thriller follows the titular spy (Shah Rukh) who comes out of exile to stop terrorist group Outfit X from launching a debilitating attack on India. The film also features John Abraham, Deepika Padukone, Dimple Kapadia and Ashutosh Rana. "Pathaan" is the fourth movie in YRF's ambitious spy universe, following Salman Khan's "Ek Tha Tiger" (2012) and "Tiger Zinda Hai" (2017), and "War", featuring Hrithik Roshan (2019).

KANGANA RANAUT QUOTES SADHGURU AS SHE SHARES CRYPTIC MESSAGE ON FALLING IN LOVE: 'IF YOU DON'T KNOW...'

Kangana Ranaut took to Instagram and shared a video from Sadhguru, where he discusses how love for someone or something can motivate a person to move forward in life. In the video, he says that if you don't find someone, then a person to look for something else to drive them—else nothing will make sense to them.

Kangana captioned her story, "Fall in love, if you don't know the joy of falling, you will never rise." A person asks Sadhguru in the video that they are unable to stay motivated and want to overcome their laziness. He answers, "You must fall in love with somebody or something. Something means something to you, you will wake up in the morning. If nothing means anything to you, where is the reason to wake up in the morning?" Kangana Ranaut has met Sadhguru in person as well, notably in 2018, where she discussed several issues plaguing India, including food shortage and population expansion. Many celebrities have interacted with Sadhguru of late, including Sidharth Malhotra, Samantha Ruth Prabhu and Mike Tyson. Sadhguru's Save Soil movement had also gained much support from several celebrities, including Madhavan, Prem Chopra, Juhi Chawla, AB De Villiers, Vivian Richards, Shreya Ghoshal and Ajay Devgn among others.

Recently, Kangana made headlines after she alleged that a particular Bollywood couple was spying on her. "I am certain my WhatsApp data is being leaked, professional deals or even personal life details, his obsessed nepo mafia clown who once landed at my doorstep uninvited and forced himself on me is a known womaniser and Casanova but now vice president of nepo mafia brigade as well forces his wife to become producer, do more female-centric films, dress like me even make home interiors like me they even hired my stylist and even home stylists of many years who then refused to work with me," she had written on Instagram earlier. Later, Kangana said that the 'suspicious activities' had all stopped.



RUMOURS OF URVASHI RAUTELA JOINING 'KANTARA 2' CAST ARE 'BASELESS, UNTRUE'



The news about actress Urvashi Rautela joining the cast of Rishab Shetty's 'Kantara 2' are reportedly "baseless and untrue." Urvashi on Saturday had announced on social media with a picture with Rishab stating that she will be seen in the second installment of the film. A source close to production has come up with the clarification stating that all these rumours are baseless. A source close to the production house has revealed: "All the rumours around Urvashi Rautela cast in Kantara 2 are totally baseless and untrue."

I'VE ALWAYS LOOKED AT LOVE WITH A LOT OF LOVE: TARA SUTARIA



Bollywood actress Tara Sutaria has spoken about what self love means to her and said that she has always loved the idea of love. Tara has collaborated with Bumble, the women-first dating app, to launch a new campaign 'Before anyone else, there was you' ahead of Valentine's Day to encourage self-love. Asked about what self-love means to her, Tara said: "I think self-love or loving yourself means so many different things to different people. To me and to so many of us, I know that this will resonate because we all went through a pretty rough time recently when Covid hit the world and I think self-love took a new shape and meaning for all of us. "All of us learnt to slow down and truly understand ourselves, begin to hear ourselves and therefore, love ourselves."

YAMI PREPPED FOR HER 'LOST' BY TALKING TO CRIME JOURNALISTS

MUMBAI, (IANS) Yami Gautam Dhar, who is awaiting the release of her upcoming streaming film 'Lost', met real life crime journalists during the course of the film's shooting in which she essays the role of a crime reporter in hot pursuit of a story. The actress told IANS, "I didn't meet any crime journalists prior to the shooting but yes, I did meet them while we were shooting, and they were very senior. They were very kind." "It was a pleasure meeting them because if they hadn't told me who they were, I would never know their significant body of work. I wouldn't have known their background. They were extremely warm."

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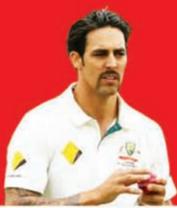
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I WOULD DROP DAVID WARNER AND BRING TRAVIS HEAD INTO THE MIDDLE ORDER, SAYS MITCHELL JOHNSON | P18



I MADE THE SELECTOR'S JOB BIT TOUGHER, SAYS SCOTT BOLAND AMID SELECTION SQUEEZE | P18

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ROHIT SHARMA'S MEN SPIN KANGAROOS TO EMBARRASSING INNINGS DEFEAT IN NAGPUR

Well, the inevitable has happened and as Thanos would say, 'Dread it. Run from it. Destiny Still Arrives.' The Australians came to India looking like a strong side and heading into the 1st Test match at Nagpur, they sure looked like they were up to something this time around. As it turns out though, they had no idea what they were getting themselves into. It looked bad, Even painful, as India spun Australia to an embarrassing defeat by an innings and 132 runs, bowling them out for just 91 runs in the 2nd innings. This is Australia's second lowest total against India, the first being 83 in 1981 in Melbourne. It all started as the Kangaroos won the toss and opted to bat on a pitch that looked dry. With all the hullabaloo surrounding spin, it was the duo of Shami and Siraj that scalped out both openers. Smith and Labuschagne looked like they came prepared for what was to come,

but Sir Jadeja had other plans. He sent them both packing and wrecked absolute havoc as India folded Australia for just 177 runs. Coming to bat, Rohit Sharma led from the front, smashed 120 runs and was then supported by Ravindra Jadeja (70), Axar Patel (84) and Mohammed Shami (37) to put up a massive 300 on board. Now if Australia were to even get close in this game, someone from their camp had to play a once-in-a-lifetime innings. Unfortunately though, that did not happen as the Indian bowlers just didn't let the Aussie batters off the hook. India's dominance was on full display as they scaped 10 Australian wickets within a session, and that goes a long way in saying how poor Australia were in this Test. The caravan now moves to Arun Jaitley Stadium, Delhi, where the 2nd Test match is set to be played, starting on Feb 17.

WOMEN'S T20 WORLD CUP: HARMANPREET LAUDS STAR DUO AFTER WIN, SAYS 'JEMIMAH AND RICHA BATTED REALLY WELL'



India skipper Harmanpreet Kaur has lauded the star duo of Jemimah Rodrigues and Richa Ghosh after they helped India to an emphatic win on Sunday at the Newlands in Cape Town. The seven-wicket win saw India start the T20 World Cup campaign on a high as they look to go one better than the 2020 edition, where they finished runners-up to Australia. "Pakistan batted well but at the end of the day we wanted to win the game. Jemimah and Richa batted really well," said India captain Harmanpreet Kaur in the post-match presentation ceremony. Jemimah Rodrigues and Richa Ghosh struck an unbeaten partnership of 58 runs for the fourth wicket after the fall of captain Harmanpreet Kaur's wicket. Rodrigues scored an unbeaten 53 off 38 balls and Richa Ghosh scored an unbeaten 31 off 20 balls helping India chase down a 150-run target with an over to spare.

SHUBMAN GILL NAMED ICC MEN'S PLAYER OF THE MONTH FOR JANUARY

DUBAI, (IANS) India's Shubman Gill, who hammered a magnificent double hundred against New Zealand last month, has been named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for January 2023, voted ahead of New Zealand's Devon Conway and compatriot Mohammed Siraj. This is the first time that Gill has won the ICC Player of the Moth award following another fine series of performances in ODI cricket. Gill was the top contender in the shortlist With 567 runs during January, which included three century-plus scores, and the 23-year-old batter expectedly won the award. Gill had wowed fans in January with a lethal combination of graceful and attacking strokeplay. In a month in which India played a lot of white-ball matches, there were several highlights for Gill. His stand-out performance came in the form of a stunning double-hundred in the nail-biting victory over New Zealand in the series opener in Hyderabad.

I MADE THE SELECTOR'S JOB BIT TOUGHER, SAYS SCOTT BOLAND AMID SELECTION SQUEEZE

NEW DELHI, (IANS) Australia pacer Scott Boland believes that his performance has convinced Australia's selectors to retain him for the second Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Delhi despite the expected return of Mitchell Starc following a finger injury. Australia slumped to an embarrassing loss by an inning and 132 runs inside three days in Nagpur Test where Boland, despite going wicketless, was tidy with 0-34 from 17 overs as Australia. Boland was not initially set to play in thru the first Test, but Josh Hazlewood's Achilles injury has opened the door for the speedster. Starc missed the series opener with a finger injury and is set to be Australia's second fast bowler in Delhi. The selectors may consider going with three frontline spinners, should all-rounder Cameron Green, who is also recovering from a finger injury, return to the side.

I WOULD DROP DAVID WARNER AND BRING TRAVIS HEAD INTO THE MIDDLE ORDER, SAYS MITCHELL JOHNSON

NEW DELHI, (IANS) After the horrific show in the first Test, former Australia pacer Mitchell Johnson has urged the selectors to take a bold call and axe David Warner, elevate Matthew Renshaw to open and bring Travis Head in the middle-order in the second Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy here. Warner, who has played nine Tests in India and scored 399 runs at an average of 22.16, has been facing criticism after failing to deliver with the bat in the first Test in Nagpur getting dismissed for mere scores of 1 and 10 as the visitors suffered a huge loss by an innings and 132 runs within three days. "I would drop David Warner, elevate Matthew Renshaw to open and bring Travis Head into the middle order. If it's about horses for courses policy based on the previous form in the subcontinent, why didn't that apply to Warner? That's where it got murky for me," Johnson wrote in a column for Western Australia.

EINO MORGAN ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM ALL FORMS OF CRICKET

Former England white-ball captain Eoin Morgan announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on Monday. "It is with great pride that I am announcing my retirement from all forms of cricket. After much deliberation, I believe that now is the right time to step away from the game that has given me so much over the years. From moving to England in 2005 to join Middlesex, right up to the very end, playing for Paarl Royals in SA20, I have cherished every moment," he tweeted on Monday confirming his decision. He went on to add: "Since my retirement from international cricket, I have been able to spend more time with loved ones, and I looked forward to being able to do so more and more in the future. Having said that, I will undoubtedly miss the adventure and challenges of playing professional cricket." As an England player, he has experienced success in both the ODI World Cup and the T20 World Cup. He had announced retirement from international cricket last year. He captained the national team in a record 126 ODIs and 72 T20s. The 118 victories he led the side to over the two formats is also a record.



ASHWIN EQUALS LEGENDARY ANIL KUMBLE'S RECORD TO TOP THIS UNIQUE LIST, KNOW DETAILS

Ravichandran Ashwin was the highest wicket-taker in India vs Australia's first Test which ended with India's win with an innings and 132 runs. Ashwin finished with figures of 8 for 79, with a five-wicket haul in Australia's second innings on the third day on Saturday. With his five-for, Ashwin equaled legendary player Anil Kumble's record for most five-wicket hauls in Tests on home soil for India. Ashwin became the joint-highest with Kumble to take 25 five-fors at home. The only two players who have registered more five-wicket hauls on home ground are Muthiah Muralidaran with 45 five-fors and Rangana Herath with 26 five-wicket hauls for Sri Lanka. "The wicket was very slow. I have been saying this all through the Test. Not one of those pitches where you might get the gloves ripping off at short leg or silly point. You need to get the batsman driving on this wicket," Ashwin said after the match. "So I thought giving them (Australia batters) one of two balls to drive, induce them into shots and probably induce the other half of the bat as well."



RAVINDRA JADEJA HANDED PENALTY FOR BREACHING ICC CODE OF CONDUCT

India's Ravindra Jadeja has been handed a penalty for breaching the ICC Code of Conduct as India defeated Australia in the first Test in Nagpur. Rohit Sharma's men outclassed the Australian side by a big margin of an innings and 132 to go 1-0 up in the series. However, their star all-rounder Jadeja, who was adjudged as Player of the match has been sanctioned by ICC. Ravindra Jadeja has been fined 25 per cent of his match fee for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct. He was found to have breached Article 2.20 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel. This relates to displaying conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game. The incident happened in the first innings of Australia's batting as Jadeja was seen applying soothing cream to his index finger. Jadeja took the substance from Mohammed Siraj's palm and appeared to rub this onto the index finger of his left hand.



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You read that right! On February 18th, families can take their kids and their favourite toy and visit the GO Transit booth at York Concourse at Union Station, between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and get a FREE custom GO Toy Pass! The pass contains the toy's photo along with quirky details such as its "special power" and who their "best friend" is (which is obviously the kid!) Important safety information for kids to know when riding on GO is also included on the back of the card. This event is being held as a reminder of GO Transit's "Kids GO Free" policy, under which kids 12 and under always travel for free on GO buses and trains. GO wants to emphasize that it can help families of all backgrounds to stay connected and to get wherever they need to go, while being wholeheartedly accommodating of kids and their favorite toy travel companions!

In case families are unable to make it to the February 18th event, they can visit www.gotransit.com/toypass and follow some simple instructions to make the pass for their kid's toy right at home!

GO Transit has also taken many steps to make kids' rides more appealing and their journeys more enjoyable, such as a GO colouring book which features many instances of GO's beloved mascot - GO Bear (who will also be at the Union Station event ready to offer high-fives and take selfies!)

GO Transit has numerous connection options across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton regions, which enables families to plan their next adventure and visit popular attractions like Hockey Hall of Fame, Royal Ontario Museum, Ripley's Aquarium, and scenic destinations like Niagara Falls and Barrie. With March Break just around the corner, families can start planning adventures throughout the week and take advantage of GO's Weekday Group Pass which can help them save greatly on costs as kids ride free. More information can be found at www.gotransit.com/toypass.





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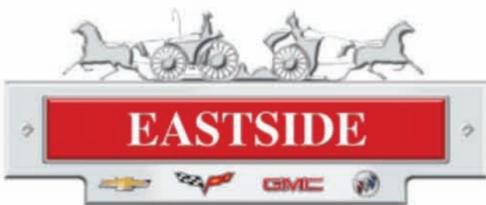


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