

Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH SONA MEHTA, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CANADIAN PERSONAL BANKING, TD BANK



YUDHVIR JASWAL
Group Editor - Y MEDIA

Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE

MY PARENTS CAME HERE IN 70s, I UNDERSTAND THE IMMIGRANT JOURNEY.

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SAVINGS WAS ALWAYS A KEY PART OF MY MINDSET.

HUMILITY HELPS EVERYBODY.

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MONEY TRANSFERS IN THE FIRST YEAR TO BE FREE FOR NEWCOMERS.


Sona Mehta

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT,
CANADIAN PERSONAL BANKING, TD BANK

WATCH Y MEDIA'S EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH SONA MEHTA, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CANADIAN PERSONAL BANKING, TD BANK, ONLY ON CHANNEL Y BELL 828, TELUS 2418, ROGERS 857, IGNITE 707, Y MEDIA PLUS & LISTEN ON RADIO Y 91.9 FM.

PAKISTAN'S EX-PRESIDENT PERVEZ MUSHARRAF, DIES AGED 79

Former President and military ruler of Pakistan General (Retd) Pervez Musharraf breathed his last in Dubai after being critically ill for about two years. Musharraf, 79, was in Dubai since 2006. He was suffering with amyloidosis, a rare disease caused by an abnormal development of protein called amyloid in organs and tissues of the whole body. The increasing development of amyloid tissues made it difficult for the organs and tissues to work properly, which became the reason for Musharraf's extended illness and death. Musharraf's illness was revealed in 2018 when his political party All Pakistan Muslim League (APML) said that he was suffering from the rare disease. Musharraf's death is being condoled by political and military quarters as despite his departure from Pakistan and re-settlement in Dubai, he enjoyed close support from the military leadership of Pakistan. "May Allah bless the departed soul and give strength to bereaved family," said a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) on behalf of Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) and Services Chiefs in their heartfelt condolences. Musharraf's time in power as military chief, and later a politician is filled with major incidents, which are criticised by many as the worst possible blunders, brunt of which is still being suffered by the country at large. Musharraf's time of dictatorship is criticised for not only attracting political embarrassment for Pakistan due to the Kargil operation; but also the Lal Mosque operation which became the trigger point for a reactionary offensive by terrorists on Pakistan after Musharraf made the country an ally to the US-led war on terror.



I CONTD. ON PAGE 10

OVER 5000 DIE AS QUAKE ROCKS TURKEY-SYRIA BORDER; WORLD PLEDGES HELP



Over 5000 people were killed in Turkey and Syria, thousands more injured, and extensive damage caused in both countries, including fires in fuel pipelines and oil refineries, as a massive quake, measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale, struck the two countries' border region early on Monday. As rescue teams scrambled in freezing weather to extricate trapped people from under debris of collapsed buildings and arrange shelter for the affected, another major earthquake, measuring 7.5, rocked the same region, as did dozens of after-shocks. Some of these were so powerful as to be classed as major quakes in their own right. The death toll in Turkey has risen to 1,541, according to Vice President Fuat Oktay, while more than 9,700 people have been injured after the two quakes. He said that there were as many as 145 aftershocks following both quakes, three of whose magnitudes were larger than 6. Figures from Syria put the toll at above 800, across government and rebel-held areas, the BBC reported.

I CONTD. ON PAGE 10



SHAILI SAINI
CONTENT MANAGER,
Y MEDIA GROUP

Y MEDIA EXCLUSIVE

ONTARIO RELEASES NEW HEALTHCARE PLAN WITH FOCUS ON 'CONVENIENT CARE.'

IF YOU CAN BE A NURSE IN INDIA, YOU CAN BE ONE IN ONTARIO.

WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF EXPEDITING 5000 APPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED NURSES: GRAHAM MCGREGOR.

'IT'S DISAPPOINTING': MCGREGOR ON NDP'S ALLEGATIONS ON GREENBELT DEVELOPMENT.

WE ARE HOLDING THE BUILDERS ACCOUNTABLE, IF HOMES AREN'T BUILT THE LAND GOES BACK TO GREENBELT.

ONTARIO WILL BE THE FIRST PROVINCE TO ROLL OUT PORTABLE HEALTH BENEFITS.

Graham McGregor

MPP BRAMPTON NORTH

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

PREMIER FORD ANNOUNCES IMPROVEMENTS TO ONLINE TOOLS AT SERVICE ONTARIO

TORONTO — The Ontario government is making it faster, easier and more convenient for people and businesses to access driver's licences, health cards, birth certificates and other services. An enhanced appointment booking system at ServiceOntario is now available at 64 of its busiest centres. Customers requiring in-person visits can book multiple services in a single appointment on their smartphone or computer or book a single appointment for the whole family.



I CONTD. ON PAGE 5

STATE FUNERAL WILL BE HELD FOR HAZEL MCCALLION ON FEB 14

TORONTO — Ontarians are invited to commemorate the life of the late Hazel McCallion, who passed away on January 29, 2023, at the age of 101. Mrs. McCallion served 12 consecutive terms as Mayor of Mississauga. For more details on Hazel McCallion's life, please visit the City of Mississauga's memorial page. A state funeral for Mrs. McCallion will be held at Paramount Fine Foods Centre on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 11 a.m. Limited seating will be available for members of the public who wish to attend.



I CONTD. ON PAGE 5

PROJECT CERRO: TORONTO POLICE ARREST FOUR MEN, SEIZE ALMOST 400 KGS OF ILLICIT DRUGS



A significant quantity of drugs, four fully loaded handguns, seven vehicles and over \$500,000 were seized by police during Project Cerro launched in October 2022. On January 17, Toronto Police Drug Squad members executed search warrants at seven condominiums and made four arrests. Paul Lelutiu, Troy Anthony Robinson, Manasinh Jittavong and Soheil Baharloo, all of Toronto, have been charged.

I CONTD. ON PAGE 5

ONTARIO RELEASES NEW HEALTH-CARE PLAN WITH FOCUS ON 'CONVENIENT CARE'



TORONTO — The Ontario government today released Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care. The plan focuses on providing people with a better health care experience by connecting them to more convenient options closer to home while shortening wait times for key services across the province and growing the health care workforce for years to come.

I CONTD. ON PAGE 5

PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD CHAIR AND PEEL REGIONAL POLICE CHIEF ADVOCATE FOR BAIL REFORM

Region of Peel -Peel Police Services Board Chair Ron Chatha and Peel Regional Police Chief Nishan Duariappah have written to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, along with various federal and provincial stakeholders, calling for change to bail and judicial interim release decisions for violent and chronic offenders.



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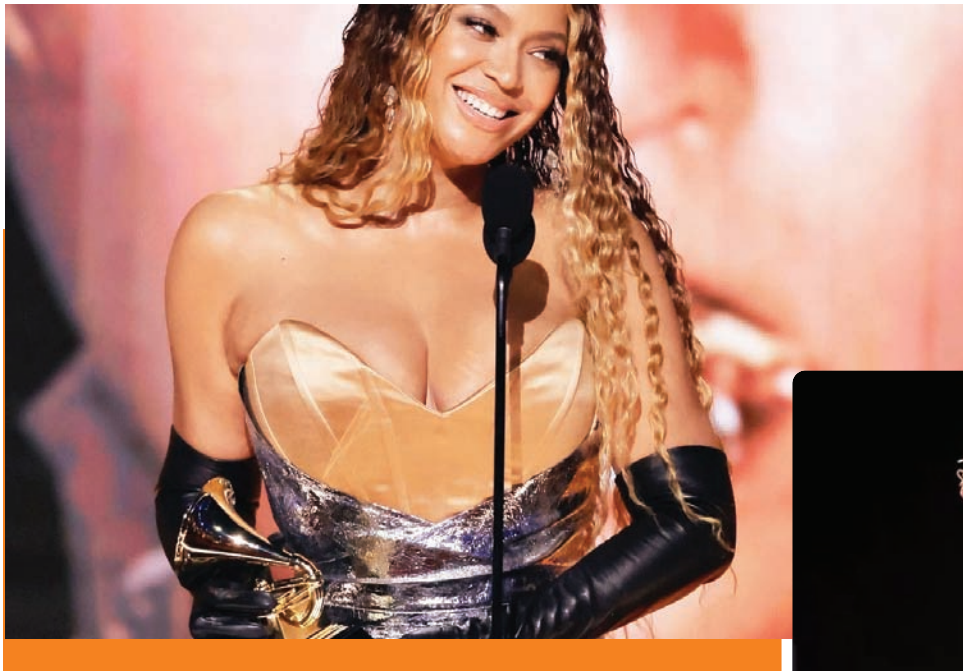
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SWEETS AND RESTAURANT MALTON,
TO HONOR DO GUTTAN WALE BABA
JI'S BIRTHDAY AND BARSII

04



NORTH AMERICA INSURANCE
DEPOT'S ANNUAL KICK-OFF
PARTY 2023

GURUJAS KAUR KHALSA WINS
GRAMMY AWARD FOR HER
CHANTS IN 'MYSTIC MIRROR';
ALBUM HAS SHABAD FROM
GURU GRANTH SAHIB



GRAMMYS 2023: BEYONCÉ
MAKES HISTORY AND
HARRY STYLES WINS
ALBUM OF THE YEAR



REGION OF PEEL'S 2023 BUDGET APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Today, Regional Council approved the 2023 Operating and Capital Budget, investing in the community and preparing Peel for the future. The development of the 2023 Budget was guided by the strategic plan, with priority focused on the challenges Peel is facing as a growing community with increased service demands. Ongoing challenges include heightened inflation, supply chain issues, and changing legislation (specifically Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 which will see changes to the way that municipalities can collect development charges to fund infrastructure).

The 2023 Budget includes a property tax increase of 2.8 per cent for the Regional portion. This will contribute an annual increase to the typical residential property and commercial/industrial property tax bills of \$144 and \$255 respectively. Additionally, the average home will see an increase to their utility bill of 16¢ per day (or \$58 per year), while the average commercial/ industrial property will see an increase of 42¢ per day (or \$152 per year).

Community Investments Overview

The 2023 Budget includes investments of \$5.0 billion to maintain current service levels for a growing population, while addressing priority community needs. Critical urgent needs being addressed include:

- * Increased investment in public safety including police and paramedic services
- * Housing affordability
- * Stabilization of Public Health service delivery to sustain immunization services
- * Programming to eliminate systemic discrimination
- * Climate change initiatives (a regionally declared emergency)
- * Psychological health and well-being initiatives

Service investments to support the community

Peel Regional Police

- * Increased investment in public safety through the addition of 70 uniformed officers
- * Capital investments to replace infrastructure, vehicles and equipment, expansion of facilities and advancing technological innovation

* 2023-2026 Peel Regional Police Business Plan and 2023 Budget

Ontario Provincial Police - Town of Caledon

- * Investments to support traffic safety, community engagement and property and violent crime reduction

* 2023-2026 Ontario Provincial Police Business Plan and 2023 Budget

Paramedic Services

- * Addition of 44 new paramedics to address the growth in call volume and four more 24/7 ambulances on the road
- * Land acquisition for sixth reporting station and one additional satellite station
- * Enhancements and state of good repair for ambulances, other fleet, and equipment
- * New ambulances and equipment replacements to support growth

* 2023-2026 Paramedic Services Business Plan and 2023 Budget

Housing Support

- * Implementing the Housing Master Plan to create more affordable housing
- * Grants for developers to create more affordable rental housing units
- * The Wilkinson Road Men's Shelter Redevelopment to reduce street homelessness
- * Ensuring the state of good repair of the Peel Living housing stock

* 2023-2026 Housing Support Business Plan and 2023 Budget

Waste Management

- * Design and construction of a new Mixed Waste Processing Facility
- * Zero Emissions Vehicle pilot to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

- * Maintenance of facilities and equipment to ensure a state of good repair

* 2023-2026 Waste Management Business Plan and 2023 Budget

Seniors Services

- * Expansion of the virtual delivery of Adult Day Services and introduction of short-stay respite, supporting the operationalization of the Seniors Health and Wellness Village
- * Replacement of kitchen appliances, flooring, washrooms, and furniture across various Long Term Care Homes

* 2023-2026 Seniors Services Business Plan and 2023 Budget

Public Health

- * A new immunization program to prevent and control COVID-19 and provide stability to meet projected COVID-19 vaccination demands
- * Increased capacity to work with community partners on Community Safety and Wellbeing
- * Three clinics for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program

* 2023-2026 Public Health Business Plan and 2023 Budget

Early Years and Child Care

- * Roll out Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care plan to reduce the cost of child care by 2025
- * Maintain Workforce Strategy to address staff shortages and meet the demand for child care in Peel
- * State of good repair projects for child care facilities

* 2023-2026 Early Years and Child Care Business Plan and 2023 Budget

Water and Wastewater

- * Additional operating resources to address growth demands
- * A health and safety specialist to ensure the effective management of Health and Safety requirements
- * Billing system upgrades to address software security challenges
- * Installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure at various Public Works facilities to support Peel's greenhouse gas reduction targets
- * Various water main replacements and construction, pumping station rehabilitation and expansions, and expansion of Water Resource Recovery Facilities

* 2023-2026 Water and Wastewater Business Plan and 2023 Budget

Transportation

- * Support to negotiate agreements with Metrolinx to expedite the implementation of higher order transit, and protect Regional infrastructure

Funding for road construction, road resurfacing, intersection improvements, and active transportation

- * Rehabilitation and upgrades to the Region's stormwater system to adapt to climate change impacts
- * Conversions and replacements of various Noise Walls abutting Regional Roads across Peel

* 2023-2026 Transportation Business Plan and 2023 Budget

To address the challenges being faced, the 2023 Budget also reflects \$4.0 million in savings and cost avoidances found through continuous improvement efforts and cost containment measures. The Continuous Improvement Program contributes to a strong culture of driving value, efficiency, and innovations at all levels of the organization and is directly tied to the Region's annual budget process.

Additional resources

- * Copies of the 2023 Regional Operating and Capital Budgets are available at peelregion.ca/budget.
- * The 2023 Budget enables the achievement of Peel's vision of a Community for Life with investments balanced between the needs of residents and businesses and the infrastructure needs of the broader community, advancing Council's priorities and long-term objectives.
- * The Region of Peel Data Portal provides a central place to access data about Peel Region, on topics such as demographics, population, housing, and economic activity.

MISSISSAUGA SUBMITS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2023 FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL BUDGETS

Mississauga Council endorsed the City's 2023 federal and provincial pre-budget submissions. The submissions include recommendations that ensure Mississauga remains inclusive, world-class and resilient while addressing day-to-day pressures like the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and inflation, as well as dealing with the impacts of issues like housing affordability, traffic and congestion, climate change, and job creation and investment.

"Maintaining the services and high quality of life that our residents deserve and have come to expect are more important than ever as we continue to support our City's recovery from the pandemic. From delivering reliable public transit to addressing the housing crisis to building more complete, walkable and sustainable communities, we're taking strides to build a bright and prosperous future for Mississauga," said Mayor Bonnie Crombie. "Cities like Mississauga are the backbone of our province and country, and we know that city building is nation building. Strong, long-term and predictable funding partnerships and investments from our federal and provincial partners play a critical role in service delivery, and even more so during times of economic uncertainty. By working together, we can address the pressures facing our residents and economy and emerge stronger on the other side."

Mississauga's pre-budget submissions include recommendations grouped in three themes: City Building, Housing Affordability and the Local Economy. Highlights of the recommendations, which form the City's key federal and provincial priorities for 2023, include:

City Building

Pause the implementation of Bill 23 and fully compensate the City of Mississauga for any and all financial losses incurred as a result of the legislation including but not limited to, losses related to development charges and cash in lieu of parkland. Work with municipalities to develop new revenue and funding tools, as well as predictable funding streams, to ensure cities can fulfill their responsibilities and properly invest in infrastructure growth and renewal.

Provide the additional Justices of the Peace required to address the growing backlog of Provincial Offences Act notices in our court system.

Provide the funding and support necessary to assist the City of Mississauga in achieving its priority transit projects.

Provide investments in projects that mitigate the impacts of climate change and increase the resiliency and adaptability of our communities.

Housing Affordability

Partner with cities to fund and build affordable housing to close the supply gap and ensure everyone has a safe place to live, including nine recommended actions to advance this goal.

Local Economy

Continue targeted support for sectors hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic, including main street businesses, recreation, travel and tourism, creative sector and air travel. Support should be sector specific when appropriate and prioritize non-repayable financial assistance.

Invest in talent development and access.

Prioritize investments that support a fair and inclusive economic recovery, including access to affordable childcare, providing adequate sick pay and other actions to advance this goal.

Develop and fund education and skills-retraining programs to ensure an adequate supply of labour in the trades and construction industry to meet the demands as a result of the province's housing target of 1.5 million homes in 10 years (120,000 in Mississauga).

"The City of Mississauga continues to be a strong municipal partner with a thriving local economy and a lean and effective government. We have maintained a 'AAA' credit rating for the past 19 years and continue to deliver value for money and exceptional customer service despite the increasing pressures we face from the pandemic, housing crisis, inflation and supply shortages," said Shari Lichterman, Acting City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer. "Now more than ever, increasing costs exceed the revenue we can generate through property taxes and user fees. To continue providing the programs and services our residents rely on every day, we need our federal and provincial partners to support our recommendations."

The City is submitting its recommendations as part of the 2023 federal and provincial pre-budget consultations currently underway.

CANADA TO CREATE 10 NEW NATIONAL MARINE CONSERVATION AREAS

The Canadian government said it will create ten new national marine conservation areas (NMCAs) with a target of protecting 30 percent of lands and waters by 2030.

To kick-off the Fifth International Marine Protected Areas Congress, IMPAC5, which is underway in Vancouver of Canada until February 9, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault announced the establishment and management of NMCAs to help chart a course toward achieving the marine conservation targets negotiated at COP15, the UN Biodiversity Conference, in December 2022, reports Xinhua news agency.

Currently, Parks Canada administers five NMCAs like Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, and Haida Heritage Site along the northern British Columbia Coast, with active proposals for another seven, including NMCAs in the Magdalen Islands, the Southern Strait of Georgia, the Central Coast of British Columbia, the northern coast of Labrador, and along James and Hudson Bays. Work continues to confirm at least three additional candidate sites.

Canada is committed to conserving 25 per cent of lands, freshwater, and oceans by 2025, and 30 per cent by 2030.

The National Marine Conservation Areas System Plan divides three oceans and the Great Lakes in Canada into 29 marine regions and Parks Canada is working toward the long-term goal of establishing at least one national marine conservation area in each of these 29 marine regions.

To date, six regions are represented by the five existing national marine conservation areas.

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PREMIER FORD ANNOUNCES IMPROVEMENTS TO ONLINE TOOLS AT SERVICE ONTARIO

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

Ontarians will also have the option to identify accessibility needs ahead of the appointment so services can be provided to meet their individual needs efficiently and effectively.

“We’re making it easier for people and businesses to connect with ServiceOntario, putting customers first and saving people time and money,” said Premier Doug Ford. “Across our government, we’re making it less complicated and more convenient for people to interact with government. We’ll never stop working to improve the services we offer people.”

ServiceOntario is also enhancing the customer experience through a number of pilot programs including virtual services. Eligible Ontarians who may find it difficult to visit a ServiceOntario centre in person can book virtual appointments to have their health cards renewed through live video calls. For those phoning the Contact Centre, new technology is rolling out to cut down the time callers spend on the line with quicker interactive responses or call-backs.

“Our government continues to modernize the way we deliver services, using data and technology to design programs that put customers first,” said Kaled Rasheed, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery. “Ontarians are already benefiting from our improved services that are easy-to-use, more accessible and digitally enabled. They can choose to access services in person, by phone, or online – taking advantage of more than 55 online services available anywhere, anytime, any day.”

New online services are being added regularly and these include

PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD CHAIR AND PEEL REGIONAL POLICE CHIEF ADVOCATE FOR BAIL REFORM

Together, Chair Chatha and Chief Duraipppah have requested an immediate re-evaluation of the bail system's public safety considerations. Over the years, Peel Region has seen high-risk, violent offenders released back into our community, who then await their trials for extended periods due to backlogs in the criminal justice system. Responsible for policing in Mississauga and Brampton, one of Canada's fastest-growing urban regions, Peel Regional Police and our residents have witnessed the violent and tragic, yet preventable, outcomes of criminal acts committed by repeat offenders ingoring conditions of their release.

The Board and Peel Police supports amendments to the Criminal Code that expand reverse onus offences to address chronic, violent



renewal of health cards, licence plates and other government identification and permits. Convenient renewal reminders by email, text or phone call help Ontarians keep their important documents up to date. Almost all transactions related to Accessible Parking Permits are online.

As part of the work to provide customers with more online delivery options, in the coming months, soon-to-be-married couples can apply for a marriage licence online through a new secure portal in participating municipalities. As well, by spring, digital dealership registration — providing on-site registration of vehicle purchases at dealerships — will be expanding to trade-ins and used cars.

Now more than ever, Ontarians expect improved, consistent and safe services designed for them by their government. Ontario will continue to deliver simpler, faster and better services to hard-working Ontarians.

offenders, such as those charged with illegal firearm possession and intimate partner violence where there are prior offences committed to intimidate, threaten, or cause fear to an intimate partner, regardless of the use of violence. This is a complex issue and the Police Services Board and Peel Regional Police is committed to working with Federal and Provincial criminal justice stakeholders to develop legislative, policy, and resourcing solutions that protect victims and strengthen the safety of our communities.

Subscribe to us on YouTube and follow us on Twitter, Facebook, TikTok, and Instagram.

For media inquiries, don't hesitate to get in touch with the on-duty Public and Media Relations Officer at 905- 453-2121, extension 4027.

STATE FUNERAL WILL BE HELD FOR HAZEL MCCALLION ON FEB 14

CONTD. FROM PGAE 1

Ticket information will be available at Paramount Fine Foods Centre as it becomes available.

For those unable to attend in person, the funeral service will be livestreamed on the Government of Ontario's YouTube channel with closed captions and ASL interpretation. The funeral will also be livestreamed at the Living Arts Centre (4141 Living Arts Dr, Mississauga, ON L5B 4B8). Ticket information will be available at the Living Arts Centre as it becomes available.

Lying in Repose – Mississauga City Hall – February 12-13

Ahead of the funeral, Mrs. McCallion will lie in repose and Mayor Crombie invites the public to visit Mississauga City Hall (300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, ON, L5B 3C1) on Sunday, February 12 and Monday, February 13 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. You can sign an online condolence book or a printed version, which will be available at Mississauga City Hall.

PROJECT CERRO: TORONTO POLICE ARREST FOUR MEN, SEIZE ALMOST 400 KGS OF ILLICIT DRUGS

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

A total of 364 kilos of crystal meth, 20 kilos of cocaine and 3.8 kilos of fentanyl were seized. The street value of the drugs is about \$32 million.

Police allege the condos were stash houses for the drugs seized At a press conference at police headquarters on February 1, Superintendent Steve Watts said this investigation is an extension of Project Zafiro, a four-week investigation that led to the largest single-day drug seizure in the Service's history – 520 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine and 151 kilograms of cocaine.

At that time, Terry Popovich and Nicole Watts of Toronto and Cindy Macias of Mississauga were charged. They will appear on court on March 14.

In total there have been seven people arrested in relation to Projects Zafiro and Cerro. The two projects have also resulted in the seizure 1,058 kilos of illegal drugs with a street value of over \$87 million. “Organized crime groups continue to seize on the opportunity to

State Funeral – Paramount Fine Foods Centre – February 14

Those who wish to attend the state funeral on Tuesday, February 14 should arrive at Paramount Fine Foods Centre (5500 Rose Cherry Place, Mississauga, ON L4Z 4B6) by 10 a.m. The memorial may also be viewed at the Living Arts Centre.

Mrs. McCallion's family, alongside Her Honour the Hon. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Michelle DiEmanuele, Secretary of the Cabinet and Clerk of the Executive Council for the Government of Ontario and Bonnie Crombie, Mayor of Mississauga, will be in attendance to pay their respects.

Half-Masting

Flags will be flown at half-mast across the province on the day of the funeral, February 14, 2023.

Camera coverage of the funeral will be pooled for media.

profit from the harm caused to the community and cause significant public safety and public health concerns. This is occurring in all of our neighbourhoods in Toronto, the GTA and the smaller towns and municipalities of Ontario through the organized crime Groups importation and distribution of illicit substances sometimes laced with toxic opiates.” Watts said this distribution fuels gun violence that is ravaging communities. One of the most effective and proven ways to reduce the violence on our streets is to disrupt these criminal groups and associated individuals that are responsible for the importation and distribution of these controlled substances,” he pointed out. Deputy Chief Pauline Gray said the Service will continue to dedicate the necessary resources to keep dangerous drugs and people off the streets. “I want to personally thank all of the members, including the Drug Squad who participated in this investigation,” she added. “Investigations like these and the seizures and arrests that result from them save lives and prevent further violence in our city.”

ONTARIO RELEASES NEW HEALTH-CARE PLAN WITH FOCUS ON 'CONVENIENT CARE

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

“When it comes to your health and the health of all Ontarians, the status quo isn’t working,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “As we put our bold plan into action, you will be connected to care when you need it most and where it's most convenient, whether that’s closer to home in your community or even at home.”

The plan lays out a broad series of initiatives under three pillars: The Right Care in the Right Place, Faster Access to Care and Hiring More Health Care Workers. Designed to work together and work for people, these pillars will deliver connected and convenient care in hospital emergency rooms, in community settings like pharmacies and community organizations and doctors’ offices, in long-term care homes and through care delivered right at home.

Key initiatives in the plan include the following, some of which are being implemented immediately as the province takes action to address pressing issues, while other changes will take time but are still important to improving the care people receive:

Pillar One: The Right Care in the Right Place

Expanding the role of pharmacists so that people can connect to care closer to home at their local pharmacy, and giving family doctors more time for appointments with people who need more specialized care for more serious concerns. As of January 1, 2023, pharmacists are able to prescribe medications for 13 common ailments to people across Ontario at no extra cost. As of January 29, 2023, nearly 40,000 assessments for minor ailments have been completed and over 31,000 prescriptions have been issued, with 65 per cent of pharmacies across all public health units having provided minor ailment services and increasing. Making it faster and easier for youth to connect to mental health and substance use support, primary care, social services and more by adding eight additional Youth Wellness Hubs to the 14 that are already operating across the province.

Expanding team-based care through Ontario Health Teams to better connect and coordinate people's care within their own community by

improving their transition between various health care providers and ensuring their health records follow them wherever they go for care. Introducing new primary care networks under Ontario Health Teams and expanding team models of primary care with up to 1,200 more physicians being added to family health organizations.

Pillar Two: Faster Access to Care

Making it easier and faster to get publicly funded surgeries and procedures by further leveraging the support of community surgical and diagnostic centres to eliminate surgical backlogs and reduce wait times. This includes investing more than \$18 million in existing centres to cover care for thousands of patients, including more than 49,000 hours of MRI and CT scans, 4,800 cataract surgeries, 900 other ophthalmic surgeries, 1,000 minimally invasive gynecological surgeries and 2,845 plastic surgeries.

Providing paramedics more flexibility to treat people who call 9-1-1 at home or on scene in the community rather than in emergency rooms. Successful 9-1-1 models of care have been expanded in more than 40 communities across the province, resulting in patients receiving the care they needed up to 17 times faster with 94 per cent of patients avoiding the emergency room in the days following treatment.

Building almost 60,000 new and upgraded long-term care beds to help address wait lists for long-term care and ensure seniors are being cared for in the right place, where they can connect to more supports, activities and social activities. This is in addition to the more than 3,500 hospital beds added across the province in the last three years to ensure access to hospital care when it is needed.

Pillar Three: Hiring More Health Care Workers

Moving forward with the largest medical school education expansion in more than a decade by adding 160 undergraduate seats and 295 postgraduate positions over the next five years. This expansion includes the new Toronto Metropolitan University's School of Medicine that recently found its new home in Brampton.

ASSOCIATION OF FOREIGN-TRAINED DENTISTS, ITDAOC ORGANISED PROTEST AT DUNDAS SQUARE

“Thousands of immigrant dentists are prevented from working as dentists in Canada in a reasonable and timely manner by the National Dental Examining Board of Canada”, says Dr. Luca Salvador, president of the Internationally Trained Dentists Association of Canada.

“The process can take 3-5 years to complete, it can cost over \$100000, and only between 2-20% of applicants complete the process” says Dr. Salvador “We are willing to demonstrate our competence through examinations.”

says Dr. Salvador. “However, we have issues with the lack of examination seats; the unfair assessment methods used; the complete lack of transparency and unwillingness of the dental board to communicate with us.”

“We have proposed simple, no-cost solutions that would ease this process for internationally trained dentists, but until now, they are unwilling to even hear us out.”” He indicated that immigrant dentists all over Canada are suffering from problems in taking required tests given by the National Dental Examining Board of Canada.

For example: “The most recent examples of issues that internationally trained dentists face are the registration for the May ACJ exam, which was at full capacity within one minute of the registration opening; and the recent release of results for the newly-launched NDECC, which had an all-time low pass rate of 14%” says Dr. Salvador Also it is our understanding that according to the Canadian Occupational Projection system, there will be a shortage of 6000 dentists in Canada by 2028 (25% of all dentists).

“This is very unfair both to immigrant dentists, who are eager and ready to work, and to the public. One in five Canadians do not have access to a dentist,” said Dr. Salvador. “If this issue is not resolved now, we could be looking at an oral healthcare crisis not unlike the general health crisis we find ourselves in now”

Signed, Dr. Luca Salvador, president of the Internationally Trained Dentists Association of Canada.

Email:luca.salvador@itdaoc.ca

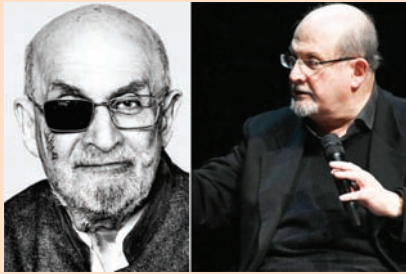
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'FIND IT DIFFICULT TO WRITE': SALMAN RUSHDIE SPEAKS OUT AFTER ATTACK

Months after a near-lethal attack that left him debilitated and without vision in one eye, Sir Salman Rushdie says that he is "lucky" and has been told that he is "doing very well". But he still finds it difficult to type or write.

I was "lucky ... my main overwhelming feeling is gratitude. I've been better. But, considering what happened, I'm not so bad," he said in an interview with journalist-author David Remnick in 'The New Yorker', the BBC reported.

The award-winning novelist was attacked on stage at an event in New York state last August and spent many weeks in hospital. He subsequently lost vision in one eye. "The big injuries are healed, essentially. I have feeling in my thumb and index finger and in the bottom half of the palm. I'm doing a lot of hand therapy, and I'm told that I'm doing very well," he said. Rushdie said it was difficult to type and to write due to a lack of feeling in some of his fingertips. He also said that he has barely been out since the attack, other than to go for hospital appointments. "I'm able to get up and walk around. When I say I'm fine, I mean, there are bits of my body that need constant check-ups. It was a colossal attack," Rushdie said. He said he also has mental scars from the attack and that he is having to rethink his approach to security. Rushdie has lived without security for more than two decades. "There is such a thing as PTSD, you know," he said. "I've found it very, very difficult to write. I sit down to write, and nothing happens. I write, but it's a combination of blankness and junk, stuff that I write and that I delete the next day. I'm not out of that forest yet, really."



SIKH BOY ASKED TO REMOVE PATKA DURING FOOTBALL MATCH IN SPAIN

A 15-year-old Sikh boy was asked by a referee to remove his 'Patka' (under-turban) during a football match in Spain, saying that wearing "a hat" is prohibited according to game rules.

In all previous matches, referees allowed Gurpreet Singh from Arratia C team to wear his Patka, the Sikhexpo's Instagram page said quoting La Vanguardia newspaper.

"He has been playing normally for at least five years, even in his first year as cadets and so far this season. We have never had the slightest problem," Pedro Ormazabal, president of Arratia, told the paper.

"It has been something that has been carried out with absolute normality," he said, adding that the whole situation was "humiliating" for Gurpreet.

The Arratia players, who were to play against the local Padura de Arrigorriag team, interceded on Gurpreet's behalf to explain that it is an element linked to his religion.

But with the referee insisting on the rules, Gurpreet's teammates decided to leave the field as a sign of solidarity.

"The kids were the first to support him. The coach was also very clear... Afterwards, he received the support of the rival team, and from the families that had attended the game," Ormazabal was quoted as saying in the Instagram page.

Gurpreet is set to return to the competition with a hope that the situation that occurred will not be repeated.

"I hope the referee is open to learn more on this and not as stubborn as he reacted that day. But I am glad to see the solidarity of the team! Much respect," Jaskeerat Kaur, an Instagram user, commented.

According to a FIFA ruling, male football players can wear turbans during matches. Young boys from the Sikh community wrap their hair in a smaller under-turban called a Patka, with their hair knotted on top of their head.

MUSHARRAF: THE COMMANDO WHO COULD BE PAKISTAN'S LAST MILITARY DICTATOR

Pakistan's fourth military dictator Pervez Musharraf, who passed away on Sunday, had, like his predecessors, an eventful, even tumultuous, tenure and left a contested legacy. Like them, he was not very successful in his attempts at changing the country, and did not escape the virulent odium they faced after they demitted - or were made to demit - office. But what will be his particular legacy?

In one respect, it will be very mixed. He is the one who took his country to the brink of war with India - twice, and then, to the brink of peace, before his domestic misadventures and misfortunes left the latter prospect a tantalising mirage. And then, his quick support to the US post 9/11 - after a not-so veiled threat, was also not as full-hearted as it later emerged - and had consequences for him too, in the form of two assassination attempts in quick succession.

However, Musharraf has to be seen in the light of his uniformed predecessors in power - and as per an Indian observer, he did not score very highly compared to two of them - at that point in time. Veteran Indian diplomat M.K. Rasgotra, who met him in 2000, soon after his coup, termed him "shrewd, also perhaps also not without cunning but he is not wily like Gen. Zia ul-Haq. Nor does he possess the bluff exuberance of Gen. Mohd Ayub Khan".

But, Rasgotra's estimate did not hold true in the long run. For those who remember his official visit to India - in 2006, though not in 2001 for the abortive Agra Summit, and subsequently, for various media summits, Musharraf proved to be an extremely telegenic and effective in media and personal interactions.

I remember Musharraf effectively dominating the breakfast meeting with editors in 2005, when he came to New Delhi see the cricket match, and dealing jocularly with questions like if South Asia catches a cold if the US sneezes, in his trademark bluff joviality, or drolly recounting how his and Manmohan Singh's plan to catch another session of the match was derailed by his team's collapse. Earlier, leaving for an official engagement, he especially came to the group of cameramen, photographers, and the odd journalist (including me) waiting for him, shook hands, and asked: "Gentlemen, you did not go to see the match?"

But, personality apart, Musharraf, like his predecessors Ayub Khan and even Zia-ul-Haq - came very close to peace with India, but some spoilers - Ayub's civilian ministers like Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and in the later case, a gaggle of US Congressmen who termed a proposed India-Pakistan Friendship Treaty, on the verge of signature, as anti-US - did not allow this particular course in the history of South Asia to be pursued.



“ HOWEVER, MUSHARRAF HAS TO BE SEEN IN THE LIGHT OF HIS UNIFORMED PREDECESSORS IN POWER - AND AS PER AN INDIAN OBSERVER, HE DID NOT SCORE VERY HIGHLY COMPARED TO TWO OF THEM - AT THAT POINT IN TIME. VETERAN INDIAN DIPLOMAT M.K. RASGOTRA, WHO MET HIM IN 2000, SOON AFTER HIS COUP, TERMED HIM "SHREWD, ALSO PERHAPS ALSO NOT WITHOUT CUNNING BUT HE IS NOT WILY LIKE GEN. ZIA UL-HAQ. NOR DOES HE POSSESS THE BLUFF EXUBERANCE OF GEN. MOHD AYUB KHAN". BUT, RASGOTRA'S ESTIMATE DID NOT HOLD TRUE IN THE LONG RUN. FOR THOSE WHO REMEMBER HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO INDIA - IN 2006, THOUGH NOT IN 2001 FOR THE ABORTIVE AGRA SUMMIT, AND SUBSEQUENTLY, FOR VARIOUS MEDIA SUMMITS, MUSHARRAF PROVED TO BE AN EXTREMELY TELEGENIC AND EFFECTIVE IN MEDIA AND PERSONAL INTERACTIONS. I REMEMBER MUSHARRAF EFFECTIVELY DOMINATING THE BREAKFAST MEETING WITH EDITORS IN 2005, WHEN HE CAME TO NEW DELHI SEE THE CRICKET MATCH, AND DEALING JOCULARLY WITH QUESTIONS LIKE IF SOUTH ASIA CATCHES A COLD IF THE US SNEEZES, IN HIS TRADEMARK BLUFF JOVIALITY, OR DROLLY RECOUNTING HOW HIS AND MANMOHAN SINGH'S PLAN TO CATCH ANOTHER SESSION OF THE MATCH WAS DERAILED BY HIS TEAM'S COLLAPSE. EARLIER, LEAVING FOR AN OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENT, HE ESPECIALLY CAME TO THE GROUP OF CAMERAMEN, PHOTOGRAPHERS, AND THE ODD JOURNALIST (INCLUDING ME) WAITING FOR HIM, SHOOK HANDS, AND ASKED: "GENTLEMEN, YOU DID NOT GO TO SEE THE MATCH?"

However, when it comes to the conditions when he took over power, Musharraf, like Ayub Khan and Zia, was seen a force for deliverance.

Ayub Khan, whose rule ended a near decade of turbulence in Pakistan where autocratic civilian governor generals freely dismissed elected governments, did not technically stage a coup, but managed to nudge aside the man who actually did - Gen Iskandar Mirza. And his near-decade long rule was seen as among the most peaceful in Pakistan. Zia, on the other hand, overthrew a civilian near-dictator Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was facing widespread public protests after a questioned election. Likewise, when Musharraf overthrew Nawaz Sharif in October 1999, it must be recalled that Sharif was at the height of his powers, having dislodged a President and an Army Chief, and having introduced the 15th Constitutional Amendment to introduce Sharia law in Pakistan.

Under Musharraf, as was in the Ayub era, there was a stress on moderation and modernisation but Musharraf went much further

in press freedom too, presiding over a bouquet of new news channels - that are still vibrant despite the recent attempts at repression by both the secret services and terrorists.

And then like Ayub, Yahya Khan and Zia, Musharraf was done in mostly by the civilian politicians he backed.

But, where Musharraf might differ from his predecessors, as could be evinced from some actions like Kargil, the Lal Masjid episode, the suspension of Chief Justice Iftikhar Chowdhury, the imposition of a state of emergency after the lawyers' agitation, could probably be attributed to his service background - of being a commando. For commandos, unlike other armed force personnel, are trained to be independent-minded but also fixated on bold - but tactical - operation or course before them. If it succeeds, it is great but, if it blows up in one's face?

Possibly, Musharraf's major impact could be how his particular example made the army chary of taking power directly again - despite worse cases of political instability or misrule. That might be his most abiding legacy.

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ONTARIO WELCOMES \$33.4 MILLION INVESTMENT IN MISSISSAUGA MANUFACTURING

MISSISSAUGA — The Ontario government is welcoming a \$33.4 million investment by Mother Parkers Tea & Coffee, a leading coffee and tea manufacturer in Mississauga. This investment will boost local manufacturing and create new, good-paying jobs in the community.

“Local manufacturers, like Mother Parkers, are at the heart of communities across the province, creating good-paying jobs for local families and attracting more investments,” said Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. “We’re proud to support this homegrown success story through our Regional Development Program as they continue to innovate and grow.”

Mother Parkers is a fourth-generation family-owned manufacturer and supplier and a true Ontario success story. Over the last century, Mother Parkers has grown from a small wholesale grocery distributor in Toronto into a global tea and coffee company, manufacturing private label products for some of the world’s largest retailers and restaurant chains, as well as its own brands. The company’s investment will add a new cold coffee and tea extracts manufacturing facility next to its existing facilities. This will enable the company to expand its product offerings with a completely new product line. As part of this investment, the Ontario government is providing Mother Parkers with \$5

million through the Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Competitiveness stream of the province’s Regional Development Program.

“We are very pleased to have the Ontario government’s investment as Mother Parkers continues to expand our Mississauga campus and grow our contributions to the regional economy,” said Fred Schaeffer, President & CEO of Mother Parkers Tea & Coffee. “The support we’ve received through the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation and Competitiveness Fund is helping us to move quickly to compete in one of North America’s fastest-growing beverage categories.”

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

To date, Ontario has provided companies with \$74 million in support through the Regional Development Program. This funding leverages \$804 million in investments for 71 projects, helping to create more than 1,425 jobs in the province.

CHAI WITH CG: SPECIAL EVENT ORGANISED BY THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CANADA

TORONTO- “Chai with CG”, a special event was organized by International Youth Canada (IYC) on January 24, in Toronto. The event brought together 22 student leaders from Ontario Colleges and Universities, educators, and members of the community youth groups. Student leaders discussed several key issues and challenges faced by international students in Canada. These included difficulty in finding rental accommodation, safety and security while travelling on public transits, precarious employment, exploitation, racial profiling and need for more support from Canadian authorities. Student leaders shared their concerns with the Consul General that many international students are being misguided by some unscrupulous agencies until boarding flights in India and when they arrive in Canada things are often quite different. Odd work shifts/conventional shifts often lead students to reduced ability to focus on their academic program, or adding more stress to an already stressful life of newcomers to Canada. Student leaders brought up out more than 20 areas where some forms of interventions are essential or desirable. Mrs. Apoorva Srivastava, the Consul General endorsed the need for an action plan to redress or to minimize the impact of most pressing issues, and offered her support. Consul General also encouraged International Youth Canada to create more awareness before or as and when students need it. Providing more platforms for students to stay connected and reaching out to resources is a key area where IYC and Community agencies can work together. IYC is a non-profit organization that supports students new to Canada to enhance their capabilities to through various measures like networking events, awareness building, and guiding and connecting them to resources. The Consulate General of India has been taking a keen interest in ameliorating the challenges through various channels and directly interacting with students and community organizations.



Jerin Raj, President of International Youth Canada welcomed the Consul General and appreciated the participants for joining the program. Prashant Srivastava, Director, for International Business Development Seneca College moderated the discussions highlighting key issues involved. Nagasarath Pandurangi, presented a preview of the most updated version of the International Student guide for wider circulation among International students. Jose Varghese, acknowledged the great support offered by the Consulate General’s Office and thanked CG Apoorva Srivastava, for her extensive initiatives connecting International students. The ‘Chai with CG’ is a platform that has come up as the inspiring driving force for international students in Canada.

CANADA'S WONDERLAND HIRING BEGINS, 4,000 POSITIONS OPEN FOR 2023 SEASON



VAUGHAN, ON– In preparation for opening day May 5, Canada’s Wonderland today said it plans to hire 4,000 seasonal associates for the 2023 season. The park anticipates filling the majority of those roles during a week-long hiring blitz to be held Feb. 18-24 as part of the largest-ever recruiting campaign by Cedar Fair, Canada’s Wonderland’s parent company, across all its parks in the United States and Canada.

All available positions are listed on the Canada’s Wonderland Job Site and applications are currently being accepted. The hiring event will take place at the park (Human Resources Centre, 1 Amusement Drive, Vaughan) from 10am to 3pm, Saturday, Feb. 18 through Friday, Feb. 24 – excluding Family Day, Feb. 20. It will feature:

- A chance to speak with recruiters about available positions.
- An opportunity to submit your application onsite (online applications also welcome anytime).
- Candidates may apply to a job, interview and be hired within the week!

Positions are available across all departments, including:

- Ride Operators
- Food and Beverage
- Lifeguards
- Security
- Guest Services and Admissions
- Retail (Merchandise and Games)
- Maintenance
- Park Services
- And many more!

The minimum age to work at Canada’s Wonderland is 15. Candidates who are 16 years and older will earn a premium rate above minimum wage. Rehire candidates from 2022 applying for the same position will be offered premium rates.

“Our seasonal associates play an important role in our mission of delivering amazing experiences to all of our guests,” said Norm Pirtovshek, general manager at Canada’s Wonderland. “We’re proud to offer highly competitive wages, amazing perks, and an opportunity to make lifelong friends and develop essential leadership skills to help build future careers.”

Canada’s Wonderland is committed to fostering a workplace culture in which diversity, equity and inclusion are embraced and promoted. Associate benefits include free and unlimited use of the park and water park during off hours, free promotional tickets for friends and family, access to exclusive employee events and activities throughout the season, discounts to partnering Ontario attractions, employee discounts on food, merchandise and more.

Visit the Canada’s Wonderland Job Site for more details.

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CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY AND FAMILY DAY THIS FEBRUARY AT PAMA AND MUCH MORE!

Visit the Peel Art Gallery Museum and Archives (PAMA) in historic downtown Brampton to experience two new exhibitions opening on Family Day - Generations Lost: Healing the Legacy of Residential Schools and Beyond Bars: The History of the Peel County Jail. There are also a variety of fun new events, activities and workshops all February long for all ages! Admission continues to be free all of February; paid admission will be resuming on March 4, 2023.

What's on this February

PAMA Paints (18+) Workshop

Thursday, Feb. 9, 7 - 9 p.m.

Unleash your creative side and get an exclusive look at the PAMA Art Collection.

Public \$15 +HST, Members \$12.75 +HST

Registration is required. Reserve your Spot now

PAMA Talks (and Skates)

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2 - 5 p.m.

2 - 3 p.m. In conversation at PAMA

4 - 5 p.m. Skating at Gage Park

Join Brampton's own Mikyla Grant-Metis in conversation with event MC Jacintha Braithwaite. Mikyla is a top professional hockey player currently playing with the Buffalo Beauts of the Premier Hockey Federation. Jacintha is an actress from Brampton and experienced ice dancer. Mikyla will discuss her career, her goals, diversity in hockey, and more! After our discussion, grab your skates and meet Mikyla and Jacintha at Gage Park.

Black History Month Celebration in partnership with the Brampton Museum of African History and Culture

Sunday, Feb. 12, 2 - 4:30 p.m.

Discover the bold rhythms and sounds of African drums featuring performances by Toronto Burundi Drummers and Master Drummer Amadou Kienou. Plus enjoy a presentation on drums, including what makes the Burundi drums considered Heritage.

This program is free, but space is limited. Register now to reserve your spot

Family Day

Monday, Feb. 20, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Skate into Family Day with fun for the whole family! Take an inclusive look at Canada's most beloved sport, hockey, while enjoying a free day to explore, create and connect as a family!

Take a shot on our inflatable hockey net, tap your toes to the tunes of the



Brampton Folk Club (2-3:30 p.m.) and create your own hockey inspired masterpieces.

Sunday Funday

Sunday, Feb. 26, 1 - 4:30 p.m.

Drop in and engage with art through our special instructor-led activities that are fun for the whole family!

February's activity: create an artwork inspired by the UN/COVERINGS exhibit. Activities are recommended for children ages 4-12 and guardians must accompany children.

Exhibitions on Now and Coming Soon

* We Are Hockey - on now

* UN/COVERINGS: Mennonite & Muslim Heads and Hearts - on now

* Facing Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore - on now

* Sedna: Inuit Goddess of the Sea - on now

* Russna Kaur: Maze of control and slightest chaos - on now

* Generations Lost: Healing the Legacy of Residential Schools - Opening Feb. 20

* Beyond Bars: The History of the Peel County Jail - Opening Feb. 20

About PAMA

PAMA is a place to explore and learn about Peel Region's culture and heritage, as well as use conversation, questions and stories to help make new and fascinating connections to the surrounding community. Throughout the year, PAMA offers a variety of workshops and programs for all ages, families and adults. With so many different programs to choose from, PAMA has something for everyone. Operated by the Region of Peel, PAMA is located at 9 Wellington Street East in Brampton. Visit pama.peelregion.ca to learn more.

PIZZA NOVA TURNS ICONIC JINGLE INTO A RINGTONE FOR 60TH ANNIVERSARY AND IN TIME FOR NATIONAL PIZZA DAY



PIZZA NOVA CELEBRATES ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR. GNW.

The famous "439-Oh-Oh-Oh-Oh Pizza Nova" jingle is now available on Spotify, Apple Music and the iTunes Store. The initiative kicks off Pizza Nova's 60th anniversary celebrations and National Pizza Day, which takes place annually on February 9. As an ode to the company's heritage and passion for family, friends and delicious pizza, the famous jingle is going retro with its ringtone.

"Good things last," says Domenic Primucci, president of Pizza Nova. "Looking back, we're extremely grateful to my father and our founder, Sam Primucci, for inspiring the creation of a jingle that reflects the timelessness and quality of our pizza and is woven into the fabric of our communities. These are classics - for both the tastebuds and the earbuds." The legendary jingle created in 1987 was written and produced by Syd Kessler, sung by Canadian musician Alfie Zappacosta and has been used in the company's advertisements ever since.

The ringtone launch kicks off Pizza Nova's 60th anniversary celebrations - expected to run throughout the year.

"We're setting the tone, so to speak, and can't wait to share with you what's next," says Primucci.

About Pizza Nova

Founded in 1963, Pizza Nova is a family-operated business that is committed to sharing the rich taste of Italy with Canadians. Pizza Nova has more than 150 stores and concession locations in Southern Ontario and inspired by family values such as trust, integrity, and authenticity. They are known for fresh toppings, high-quality ingredients and a wide range of authentic Italian menu items including lasagna, panzerotti, Italian sandwiches, chicken wings, arancini and FOCACCIA BARESE™. They also have a line of Primucci branded products featuring Extra Virgin Olive Oil, Homestyle Tomato Sauce, Italian Hot Peppers, Spicy Green Olives, and Sundried Black Olives. Taste the Difference or Learn more at pizzanova.com.

ONTARIO LAUNCHES HYDROGEN INNOVATION FUND

TORONTO – The Ontario government is establishing a Hydrogen Innovation Fund that will invest \$15 million over the next three years to kickstart and develop opportunities for hydrogen to be integrated into Ontario's clean electricity system, including hydrogen electricity storage. This launch marks another milestone in the implementation of the province's Low-Carbon Hydrogen Strategy, positioning Ontario as a clean manufacturing hub.

"When energy is reliable, affordable and clean our whole province wins," said Todd Smith, Minister of Energy. "The Hydrogen Innovation Fund will help to lay the groundwork for hydrogen to contribute to our diverse energy supply, supporting game-changing investments in electric vehicle production, green steelmaking and clean manufacturing that will create good paying jobs, grow our economy and reduce emissions."

Hydrogen Innovation Fund projects would support electricity supply, capacity, storage and demand management, and support growth in Ontario's hydrogen economy. The Fund will support projects across three streams:

Existing facilities already built or operational and ready to evaluate how hydrogen can support Ontario's clean grid.

New hydrogen facilities not yet constructed but could be in-service by a specified date to demonstrate how hydrogen can support Ontario's clean grid.

Research studies investigating the feasibility of novel applications of hydrogen or support future hydrogen project decision making.



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SHOWCASE 'BRAND PUNJAB' GLOBALLY, CM BHAGWANT MANN ASKS INDUSTRIALISTS

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Monday called upon the industrialists to showcase 'Brand Punjab' before the global industry coming to the state for participating in the Invest Punjab Summit on February 23-24. Interacting with industrialists during a session organised here, the Chief Minister said Punjabis are known world over for their hard work and entrepreneurship skills. He said Punjabi entrepreneurs have proved their mettle across the globe, adding now the time has come to showcase the vast potential of the state to the world. Mann said it is the need of hour to make the state an industrial hub of the country. The Chief Minister said he was not here amongst the industrialists to invite them for the summit. Rather the industrialists should support the government and act as hosts to the global captains coming to the summit. Mann envisioned that the day is not far when Punjab will emerge as a frontrunner state in industrial growth. The Chief Minister said the state contributes 3 per cent in the national

GDP. He said Punjab is a blessed land which has fertile land and innovative people who can do anything for the country and its people. "The state is number 1 in startups and the entrepreneurs from Punjab have left an indelible imprint in the world economy." The Chief Minister said the government has introduced the new industrial policy to give impetus to industry and commerce. This policy has been framed after due consultations with all stakeholders, especially the industrialists. Mann said any other suggestion in regard to this policy is always welcome, adding the government will soon introduce colour coding for stamp papers to facilitate the industrialists for early clearance of their new projects. The Chief Minister said the Invest Punjab Summit will prove to be a milestone in giving a major fillip to industrial growth. The government has already finalised arrangements for this mega event. Mann said the main motive behind giving fillip to industrialisation in the state is to reverse the trend of brain drain in the state by opening new vistas of employment for the youth.

JOSHIMATH CRISIS: CRACKS INCREASE, CRACKOMETER INSTALLED IN HOUSE SHIFTS

The cracks that have developed in the houses and structures in Uttarakhand's Joshimath have started increasing again, after no new cracks were seen for around a week. A crackometer installed in a house in Singhdhar ward has shifted from its place due the widening of cracks. The affected resident, Ashish Dimri has demanded that the administration mark his house unsafe, as the cracks in its walls have increased in the last three days. Dimri alleged that he had informed the administration about the matter, who deemed the situation as normal. Scientists of the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) said that crackometers had been installed in more than 60 houses of the ward,

which had been inspected for about 15 days. The cracks on the Badrinath Highway near Singhdhar Ward have also been increasing. The administrative officers inspected the spot after receiving information about it. At present, no other report of an increase in cracks has surfaced. The Rapid Action Force (RAF) which was deployed by the Centre in the city left on February 5. The team was expected to stay in Joshimath till February 10 to carry out inspections and investigations in various affected areas. RAF Deputy Commandant Mukesh Kumar, who reached Joshimath with 50 personnel on February 4, had said that the team would collect data and assess the damage in the areas affected by land subsidence.

PM MODI TARGETS CONGRESS OVER RAFALE PROTESTS, SAYS 'TRUTH REVEALING ITSELF TODAY'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's largest helicopter manufacturing facility in Karnataka's Tumakuru on Monday (February 6). PM Modi used the occasion to launch a scathing attack at the Congress-led Opposition's allegations against his government over Rafale fighter jet deal with France. Addressing a public gathering at Tumakuru, around 70 km from state capital Bengaluru, PM Modi said the opposition worked to spread misinformation about Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and wasted Parliament's precious time too. "Misinformation was spread about HAL, and many false allegations were made against our govt. Many working hours of Parliament were wasted over it. HAL's Helicopter Factory and its rising power will unveil those who levelled false allegations. HAL boosting self-reliance in defence," PM Modi said without naming the Congress. "Karnataka is the land of innovation. From drones to Tejas aircraft manufacturing is being done in the state. The state has become the first choice for investors. From modern assault rifles, aircraft carrier, to fighter jets are being manufactured by India," he went on to add. Assembly elections are due in Karnataka later this year. Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi led his party's campaign for 2019 Lok Sabha elections alleging wrongdoings in Rs 59,000 crore fighter jet deal. Rahul Gandhi repeatedly alleged that the Modi government was trying to kill HAL and snatching jobs from people of the state.

S&P GLOBAL REVISES ADANI ELECTRICITY, ADANI PORTS RATINGS TO 'NEGATIVE'

Global credit rating agency S&P Global Ratings on Friday said it has revised the rating outlook of Adani Electricity Mumbai Ltd and Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd to negative from stable. "The negative outlook reflects the risk of a deterioration in the credit profile of Adani Ports and Adani Electricity Mumbai due to governance risks and funding challenges for the larger Adani Group," it said. The rating agency said a short-seller report alleging significant governance issues for the Adani Group, many of which relate to disclosures and actions at the shareholder level, has triggered a sharp fall in Adani Group entities' equity and bond prices. There is a risk that investor concerns about the group's governance and disclosures are larger than it has currently factored in the ratings, or that new investigations and negative market sentiment may lead to increased cost of capital and reduce funding access for Adani Ports and Adani Electricity, S&P Global said. According to the credit rating agency, it has affirmed issuer and issue ratings on the entities as their business fundamentals remain intact, short-term liquidity is adequate, and debt maturities in the next 12 months are manageable.

PUNJAB EX-MINISTER DHARAMSOT ARRESTED

The Punjab Vigilance Bureau on Monday arrested former Congress minister Sadhu Singh Dharamsot for amassing assets disproportionately to his known sources of income. A spokesperson for the Vigilance Bureau said following investigations of an enquiry a case under the Prevention of the Corruption Act has been registered against Dharamsot. Giving details, he said from March 1, 2016, to March 31, 2022, the income of the former minister and his family was Rs 2,37,12,596 while the expenditure was Rs 8,76,30,888, which was 269 per cent more than his known sources of income. He said the former minister would be produced before the competent court in Mohali on Tuesday.

PATIALA MP PRENEET KAUR SLAMS CONGRESS FOR SHOW-CAUSE NOTICE

Lok Sabha MP from Punjab's Patiala constituency and former Union Minister Preneet Kaur on Monday hit back at the Congress for its show-cause notice to her for alleged anti-party activities. Preneet Kaur is the wife of former Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh. She is a four-time MP from Patiala. In her letter addressed to Congress disciplinary action committee's member secretary Tariq Anwar, the Patiala MP said: "At the onset I am surprised to see that a person who left the Congress party in 1999 on the issue of Sonia Gandhi being a foreign national, and stayed out for 20 years till 2019, and had to face disciplinary action himself, is now questioning me on a so-called disciplinary matter." Talking about the Punjab leaders, she said: "The Congressmen in Punjab who have made allegations against me are those who have many issues pending against them. "If you call my husband (Amarinder Singh), who was then Chief Minister, he will give you details about their doings. He protected them because they were from his own party. However, I suppose you will not do that." The Patiala MP further said she will keep on working for her constituents. "As per your show-cause notice, I have always stood by my constituents, constituency and my state, Punjab, and have taken up their issues regardless of which government is in power. I hope you are aware that every minister of the Congress government in any state has to meet his department, the Union Government Minister, in this case the BJP government, to get their state's issues resolved. "This was done in the past Congress government in Punjab and today I am sure that it is being done by the Congress government in Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan as well. I too shall always continue to meet the state and governments to resolve such issues, whether you like it or not." Kaur ended the letter by saying, "As to action against me, you are free to take whatever action you wish."

PM LAUDS HAL'S NEW FACTORY, UNVEILS LIGHT UTILITY HELICOPTER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday dedicated HAL's new helicopter factory to the nation during a function at Gubbi near Tumakuru district in Karnataka. Speaking on the occasion, he hailed HAL's efforts in strengthening 'Aatmanirbharta' in the defence sector by building India's largest helicopter factory. "From drone manufacturing to building Tejas fighter, naval carrier and transport aircraft, India is now producing everything indigenously," he said. "HAL is manufacturing Tejas for the Indian Defence Forces and is the centre of global attention. The factory will produce hundreds of helicopters and generate business to the tune of Rs 4 lakh crore besides generating direct and indirect employment boosting the regional economy," he added. Modi said that after laying the foundation stone in 2016, it was a momentous occasion to see the factory operational today. He unveiled a Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) produced by HAL. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated HAL and said that the inauguration of the Tumakuru factory is a big milestone in India's journey towards 'Aatmanirbharta'. The Tumakuru factory will boost India's defence services. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said HAL is one of the leading companies and is the pride of Karnataka. He welcomed its presence in Tumakuru. The Tumakuru factory will become a one-stop solution for all helicopter requirements of the country. With the establishment of facilities like Heli-Runway, Flight Hangar, Final Assembly Hangar, Structure Assembly Hangar, Air Traffic Control (ATC) and various supporting service facilities, the factory is fully operational. This factory is being equipped with state-of-the-art Industry 4.0 standard tools and techniques for its operations. The Light Utility Helicopter (LUH), initially being built in this factory is an indigenously designed and developed 3-ton class, single engine multipurpose utility helicopter with unique feature of high manoeuvrability. Initially, this factory will produce around 30 helicopters per year, and it can be enhanced to 60 and then 90 helicopters per year in a phased manner. The factory will also produce Indian Multi Role Helicopter (IMRH) and undertake Maintenance Repair & Overhaul (MRO) of helicopters in the future.

DELHI HC ADJOURNS HEARING ON SHARJEEL IMAM'S BAIL PLEA IN UAPA CASE

The Delhi High Court on Monday adjourned, to Tuesday, the hearing of former Jawaharlal Nehru University student and activist Sharjeel Imam's bail plea seeking bail in a Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) case related to alleged conspiracy behind the 2020 northeast Delhi Riots. The violence had erupted while protesting against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). Due to Justice Rajnish Bhatnagar's unavailability, the matter was adjourned. A Delhi court, on January 4, discharged Imam with 10 other accused persons in a case related to the incidents of violence at Jamia Millia Islamia in December 2019. The violence had erupted after a clash between the police and people protesting against the CAA in December 2019. Additional Sessions Judge of Saket Court Complex, Arul Verma, had passed the order. He had held that the police were unable to apprehend the actual perpetrators behind the commission of the offence, but surely managed to rope in the 11 accused as "scapegoats".

846 DOMESTIC, 458 INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS DELAYED AT IGI AIRPORT IN DEC-JAN

A total of 20 domestic departures, three international departures, 31 domestic arrivals and three international arrivals were cancelled at IGI Airport in December 2022 and January 2023, while 13 flights were diverted, 846 domestic flights and 458 international flights delayed, the Parliament was told on Monday. Fog and congestion may lead to delays as well as diversion of flights which lead to increase of operating costs of the airlines which are part of their financial statements, Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Gen V.K. Singh (retd) told the Rajya Sabha in a reply to a question. In order to avoid flight disruption due to fog in winter season, the DGCA conducted stakeholders annual meeting prior to commencement of fog period with airline operators, and aerodrome operators including defence, Air Navigation service providers, and Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) to ensure safe and smooth conduct of flight operations during fog. All airlines were directed to roster only those pilots who are qualified for CAT-II/ III and certified for LVTO for operating flight between the time period 9 p.m. to 10 a.m. (IST) of following day during the fog period. Further, the DGCA checked the preparedness of aerodrome and ATM facilities during scheduled surveillance inspections, said the reply.

AAP TO APPEAL IN SC FOR COURT-MONITORED DELHI MAYORAL POLLS

After the Delhi Municipal House was adjourned for the third time on Monday without electing a mayor, AAP leader Atishi said the party will move the Supreme Court and seek the conduct of the polls within a week to ten days under its supervision. After the House was adjourned, Atishi, while addressing a press briefing, said, "The Aam Aadmi Party is going to the Supreme Court today. We will appeal to the apex court that the MCD elections should be held within one week to ten days under their supervision. Satya Sharma arbitrarily adjourned the House indefinitely." She said, "We will also challenge the BJP's decision to give the voting rights to the aldermen. "Last time we withdrew our petition against the BJP because by then the dates for mayor polls were approved and the voting rights of aldermen were also not clear whether the nominated members will vote or not, but today it is clear, they have illegally given the Voting rights to aldermen. We will move to the Supreme court and challenge the BJP's decision," she said. She alleged, "It was their pre-planning to stall the mayoral election as many of their MPs were not present in the House. Manoj Tiwari, Gautam Gambhir, Hans Raj Hans were not present in the House, that's why they did not allow the election to take place," she claimed.



OVER 5000 DIE AS QUAKE ROCKS TURKEY-SYRIA BORDER; WORLD PLEDGES HELP

The 7.8 magnitude quake struck near Turkey's Gaziantep early on Monday (local time) and its tremors were said to be felt all around the Middle East region from Cairo to Beirut to Baghdad. It even prompted Italy to declare a tsunami warning.

The new 7.5-magnitude tremor hit at around 1.30 p.m. local time and was described, by officials, as a new quake, not an aftershock.

Pictures from the affected areas were harrowing, showing widespread destruction of public and private property, including some ancient cultural sites, and traumatised people. People, who were lucky enough to escape into the open, were seen crying about their kin still trapped under the debris of collapsed buildings as others tried to provide solace and assurance.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's adviser Inur Cevik, terming the disaster "widespread and devastating", said there was no shortage of resources in trying to find survivors, but rather that it was a race against time.

"The adverse weather conditions and people that are under the rubble, you have to save them before the weather drops in and kills these people because of the cold, so people who are now under the rubble, there's a mad rush to get them out," Cevik told the BBC.

"We have radars, body sensors, but you know there's so much widespread devastation that you can't reach everywhere - some of it you have to listen (for)... (People are asked to stay) silent so that they can hear some people calling for help."

The wave of destruction swept through 10 Turkish provinces, including Kahramanmaraş, Gaziantep, Sanliurfa, Diyarbakir, Adana, Adiyaman, Malatya, Osmaniye, Hatay, and Kilis, while in Syria, northern Aleppo, Hama, Latakia, and Tartus were the affected areas, RT reported.

In both countries, the quake caused damage to key infrastructure. In Turkey's Kilis Province, natural gas pipelines ruptured, with the fuel bursting into large plumes of flame, according to footage circulating online. Operator BOTAS said it cut the flow, but pressurized gas in the pipeline continued to feed the fires.

In Syria, a refinery in the city of Baniyas, one of the largest in the country, had to be shut down for at least 48 hours due to cracks in the chimney of its power unit, the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources reported. Train services were also shut as a precautionary measure.

The leaders of countries around the world have pledged to send support

to help rescue efforts in Turkey and Syria, while the UN held a minute of silence as a gesture.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says Canada "stands ready" to provide help after a powerful earthquake toppled buildings and killed thousands of people in Turkey and Syria.

In a statement, Trudeau called the reports and images from Turkey and Syria "devastating" and extended his thoughts to those affected.

Russian President Vladimir Putin sent messages of condolence to his Turkish and Syrian counterparts Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Bashar al Assad and said his government was ready to help. Russian rescue teams have been sent to both countries to assist at the disaster sites, RT reported.

US President Joe Biden, in a tweet, said: "I am deeply saddened by the loss of life and devastation caused by the earthquake in Türkiye and Syria. I have directed my team to continue to closely monitor the situation in coordination with Türkiye and provide any and all needed assistance."

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said in a statement: "My thoughts are with the people of Türkiye and Syria this morning, particularly with those first responders working so valiantly to save those trapped by the earthquake. The UK stands ready to help in whatever way we can."

French President Emmanuel Macron described the images coming from both countries as "terrible" and said his country "stands ready to provide emergency aid", while German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said his country mourned with the relatives of those killed and "will of course send help".

India on Monday said it was ready to help Turkey in its hour of crisis. Expressing concern and shock over the massive earthquake, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated that India's "140 crore people are with the victims of the earthquake in Turkey".

In response to a tweet by President Erdogan, Modi said, "Anguished by the loss of lives and damage of property due to the Earthquake in Turkey. Condolences to the bereaved families. May the injured recover soon. India stands in solidarity with the people of Turkey and is ready to offer all possible assistance to cope with this tragedy."

Israel has said it will send search and rescue and medical teams to both Turkey and Syria.

"This is what we do around the world and this is what we do in areas close to us," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, the BBC reported.

Other countries like Azerbaijan, Greece, Serbia, and Spain have also offered help.

AVERAGE GRADES FOR SUNAK ON 100 DAYS AS UK PM

As the incumbent British Prime Minister has completed 100 days in office, The Times, a centre-right daily, headlined: "How Rishi Sunak's first 100 days as PM have been shaped by strikes and scandals."

The leftist Guardian's heading was: "Ratings sink and obstacles amass as Sunak completes first 100 days as PM."

The left-of-centre Independent highlighted: "Scandals, sackings and U-turns: Rishi Sunak's first 100 days in the job."

But most damaging of all, the right-wing pro ruling Conservative party Daily Mail bemoaned: "Rishi Sunak mocked for "migraine-inducing" new video to mark his first 100 days in office."

Finally, YouGov, a polling agency, extrapolating from data gathered by it, gave its verdict as: "100 days in, Rishi Sunak's rating are lacklustre and he has failed to salvage the Tory (Conservative) brand."

It went on to say: "During (Sunak's predecessor) Liz Truss's time as Prime Minister the Conservatives plummeted in the headline voting intention polls, with (the main opposition) Labour (party) taking the largest lead over the party -- 33 points -- since YouGov was founded in 2000. "Since Sunak has taken over, the polls have stabilised and the Labour lead has narrowed, but nevertheless a significant gap of 20 points remains." On the Sunak's personal rating, YouGov assessed: "The Prime Minister's personal favourability rating is comparatively better than those of his predecessors, sitting at -29 compared to Boris Johnson's final score of -40 and Truss's rock bottom -70." More worryingly for the Prime Minister though, the pollster underlined: "Sunak is increasingly seen as a bad Prime Minister, with 56 per cent of Britons saying so as of late January."

Only 22 per cent of his compatriots would choose him over the opposition Labour leader Keir Starmer as Prime Minister.

The Mail's view was: "Mr Sunak's video attracted a predictably poor reception on social media..."

He is about to lose his third cabinet colleague in as the Guardian put it in "ignoble circumstances" -- deputy prime minister Dominic Raab -- thereby reflecting an ill-judged choice of ministers.

PAKISTAN'S EX-PRESIDENT PERVEZ MUSHARRAF, DIES AGED 79

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

Musharraf had several cases against him being heard in the Pakistani courts including that of treason, after he imposed a martial law by ousting the then sitting premier Nawaz Sharif in 1999. This happened after Nawaz Sharif tried to dismiss Musharraf as the army chief, having appointed him above more senior officers just the year before.

Musharraf was declared as an absconder as he refused to appear before the Pakistani courts in various cases against him. Musharraf was also someone who used to showcase the Kargil operation as a feather in his cap whenever he would be addressing the India-Pakistan relations. Musharraf was also among those who had given a four-point solution to the India-Pakistan dispute on Kashmir, which analysts say was on the verge of being finalised. But because Musharraf's government ended, that major understanding did not materialise.

Musharraf had always remained on the target hit list of terrorists as he narrowly escaped at least three assassination attempts on his life by terrorists. His tenure from 2001 to 2008 was ruled under the backdrop of 9/11 terror attacks on the US, which led to the initiation of military operation by the US against terrorists in Afghanistan. As per details, Musharraf's body will be brought back to Pakistan on Monday. A special chartered plane will leave from the Nur Khan airbase in Rawalpindi for Dubai and will bring the body of Musharraf back to Pakistan.

MAINLAND CHINA FULLY RESUMES HONG KONG, MACAO TRAVEL

The Chinese mainland on Monday fully resumed normal travel with Hong Kong and Macao, in what is expected to be a strong boost for the two regions' economic development. Starting Monday, the Lo Wu Control Point, the Lok Ma Chau/Huanggang Control Point and the Heung Yuen Wai/Liantang Control Point opened up, marking the full resumption of the functioning of all seven boundary control points between Shenzhen and Hong Kong, reports Xinhua news agency. Monday's first group of travellers included students and people travelling for business and family reunions.

At the Liantang Control Point, red welcome banners and flower bouquets added to the joyful atmosphere greeting commuters.

At around 6:30 a.m., cross-boundary students and their parents, who were about to leave for Hong Kong for the new semester, had queued up for departure. Pan Qiaojuan, who lives in Shenzhen's Luohu district, arrived early with her son for the long-awaited trip. "I've been looking forward to this moment. Today, my son will go back to his middle school in Hong Kong and we will also visit his grandparents there. We haven't seen one another for a long time." Group tours between the mainland and the two regions also resumed on Monday.

CHINA DENOUNCES US MOVE TO SHOOT DOWN UNMANNED 'AIRSHIP'



China expressed strong dissatisfaction and opposition towards the US use of force to attack China's civilian unmanned airship, Chinese Foreign Ministry said on Sunday in a statement.

The Chinese side has, after verification, repeatedly informed the US side of the civilian nature of the airship and conveyed that its entry into the US due to force majeure was totally unexpected, the statement said, noting the Chinese side has clearly asked the US side to properly handle the matter in a calm, professional and restrained manner, Xinhua News Agency reported. A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on Friday when answering a relevant query that the civilian airship is used for research, mainly meteorological purposes. Affected by the Westerlies and with limited self-steering capability, the airship deviated far from its planned course.

According to the statement, the spokesperson of the US Department of Defense also noted the balloon does not present a military or physical threat to people on the ground.

Under such circumstances, the US use of force is a clear overreaction and a serious violation of international practice. China will resolutely safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of the company concerned, and reserve the right to make further responses if necessary, said the statement.

2 ARRESTED OVER 'CARTEL LIKE EXECUTION' IN CALIFORNIA

Police in California have announced the arrest of two men over a "cartel like execution" of four generations of a family, including a teen mother and her 10-month-old baby, last month.

The carnage took place inside a private residence in Goshen, Tulare County, and the victims were identified as Rosa Parraz (72), Eladio Parraz Jr (52), Jennifer Analla (50), Marcos Parraz (19), Elyssa Parraz (16) and Nycholas Parraz (10 months), reports the BBC.

Addressing a press conference on Friday, Tulare County Sheriff Mike Boudreaux said Angel Uriarte (35) was arrested after a shootout with the police.

He was injured and was currently undergoing surgery, the Sheriff said. Meanwhile, Noah David Beard (25) was taken into custody without incident, he added.

"I'm happy we were able to put these two men behind bars," said Boudreaux, adding that the two suspects and members of the victims' families were known to have a long history of gang violence. Following the killings, authorities had offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the suspects' arrests. Boudreaux said the manhunt was known as "Operation Nightmare", and it involved around-the-clock surveillance of the suspects and multiple search warrants, some of which included inmates' cells in state prisons.

UTAH STATE SENATE PASSES RESOLUTION HONOURING SIKH COMMUNITY

The Senate in the US state of Utah unanimously passed a resolution highlighting the history and significant contributions of the Sikh community. The resolution, which was passed last week, appreciated the Sikhs for their humanitarian services, despite receiving hate and facing oppression for their faith worldwide. "The Senate unanimously passed H.J.R (House Joint Resolution) 4, a resolution highlighting the history and significant contributions of the Sikh community. We were joined by members of Utah's Sikh community as well as those from India and other parts of the world," a tweet from the Utah Senate read. The resolution was moved by Representative Angela Romero and Senator Luz Escamilla from Salt Lake City. It noted Sikhism as one of the largest religions in the world focused on "loving service to humanity," but has for long faced "oppression and discrimination throughout the world".

PART OF ROAD IN CANADA TO BE NAMED KOMAGATA MARU WAY

A portion of a road in Abbotsford, British Columbia, will be named Komagata Maru Way in the memory of 376 Indians who sailed to Canada from India in 1914, but were turned away by the country. Abbotsford City Council voted unanimously last week to rename a portion of South Fraser Way - which extends from Ware Street to Fairlane Street - to Komagata Maru Way, the Surrey-Now Leader reported.

The decision comes after descendants of those trapped aboard the Komagata Maru ship in Vancouver, asked the council to commemorate the humanitarian role played by Abbotsford's South Asian community at the time.

The project will cost \$4,000 for the renaming. The council has also voted to fund a plaque at the Abbotsford Sikh temple at a cost of \$10,000, and educational kits to inform future generations about the Komagata Maru incident. "The gesture shows a commitment to promoting and understanding inclusiveness, and belonging to all residents regardless of their cultural background. It sends a strong message to our future generations that we must look ... to make sure we have a just society for everybody," Councillor Dave Sidhu told Surrey-Now Leader. The Sikh residents of Abbotsford rallied together to assist passengers aboard the Komagata Maru... They provided food, housing, information, and community connection," a committee that was created in 2021 to study the incident, said in its findings. "This Abbotsford connection to the plight of the Komagata Maru passengers is not well-known locally, and should be recognised as an important point of community pride," the report, which was submitted before the council, said. The 376 Indians, including Sikhs, Muslims and Hindus, who sailed to Canada from India in 1914, were mostly from Punjab. They were kept from docking for several months in dire conditions, and eventually forced to return to India. They reached Budge Budge near Kolkata on September 23, 1914.



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\$5.99 lb

Hot! Frozen Lamb Shank

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Save: \$1.00

\$4.99 lb

Hot! Frozen Baby Goat

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Reg: \$2.99

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MidWeek ENTERTAINMENT

WHEN NORA FATEHI SAID
AUDITIONING IN INDIA WAS
'TRAUMATIC': 'I WAS BULLIED, TOLD
TO GO BACK TO MY COUNTRY' | P16



February 07, 2023

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SIDHARTH MALHOTRA, KIARA ADVANI ARE NOW HUSBAND AND WIFE AB HUMARI PERMANENT BOOKING HOGAYI HAI



THE WAIT IS FINALLY OVER! SIDHARTH MALHOTRA AND KIARA ADVANI'S WEDDING PICTURES ARE FINALLY HERE. THE TWO ACTORS TIED THE KNOT ON TUESDAY IN JAISALMER IN PRESENCE OF THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS AND CLOSE FRIENDS. AND THEIR PHOTOS AS GROOM AND BRIDE ARE FINALLY OUT. IN ONE OF THE PHOTOS, SIDHARTH AND KIARA CAN BE SEEN GREETING EACH OTHER WITH FOLDED HANDS. IN ANOTHER CLICK, KIARA CAN BE SEEN PLANTING A KISS ON HER HUSBAND'S CHEEK. SHARING THE PICTURES ON HIS INSTAGRAM HANDLE, SIDHARTH MALHOTRA WROTE, "AB HUMARI PERMANENT BOOKING HOGAYI HAI" WE SEEK YOUR BLESSINGS AND LOVE ON OUR JOURNEY AHEAD." SOON AFTER THE PICTURES WERE SHARED ON SOCIAL MEDIA, FANS AND FRIENDS FLOODED THE COMMENT SECTION SHOWERING LOVE ON THE NEWLYWED COUPLE. WHILE SAMANTHA RUTH PRABHU WROTE, "CONGRATULATIONS", RAM CHARAN'S WIFE UPASANA ALSO SHARED, "CONGRATULATIONS THIS IS SO BEAUTIFUL. SORRY WE COULDN'T BE THERE. LOTS OF LOVE TO BOTH OF YOU." AMONG OTHERS, KARAN TACKER AND VAANI KAPOOR ALSO SENT WISHES TO THE COUPLE.

KANGANA RANAUT ALLEGES 'CASANOVA' AND HIS WIFE ARE SPYING ON HER; INTERNET BELIEVES IT'S RANBIR-ALIA



Actress Kangana Ranaut, who is known for her candour and straight-forward behavior, has made a big allegation against a well-known actor. She has alleged that he and his wife are "spying" on her. On Sunday, the actress took to her Instagram account and shared a long note using the story feature on the platform. In the note, she talked about how she is being followed by an actor who once came to her doorstep uninvited and tried to force himself on her. She also alleged that the actor's wife is well aware of her husband's actions, but instead of putting an end to them, she is supporting her husband's behaviour. Her post stirred discussion on Reddit and netizens are certain that she is hinting at Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt. Kangana started off her note by saying, "Everywhere I go I am being followed and spied on, not only on the streets even in my building parking and home terrace they put zoom lenses to capture me, everyone knows paparazzi only visit stars if they are tipped these days they even started to charge to click actors, my team or I aren't paying them so who is paying them?"

YAMI GAUTAM PLAYS CRIME REPORTER INVESTIGATING A DISAPPEARANCE IN ANIRUDDHA ROY'S FILM



Yami Gautam is now set to entertain you all with another nail-biting performance as a journalist trying to piece together the puzzle of a missing person's story, with a sense of strong danger. Directed by Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury, Lost also stars Pankaj Kapur, Rahul Khanna, Neil Bhoopalam, Tushar Pandey and Pia Bajpiee in key roles. On Wednesday, the makers unveiled the film's trailer which has taken the audience's curiosity levels one notch higher. The two-minute-19-second video begins with the disclaimer that around 885 people go missing in India every year. Yami plays a dynamic crime reporter who is on a relentless search for the truth behind the sudden disappearance of a young theatre activist played by Tushar Pandey. The movie showcases a battle between what's right versus what's the ultimate truth and it represents a higher quest and a search for lost values of empathy and integrity.

MOUNI ROY SETS INTERNET ON FIRE WITH SULTRY PHOTOS IN GREY BRALETTE



MOUNI ROY LOOKS SMOKING HOT IN HER LATEST PHOTOS WEARING GREY BIKINI TOP AND BLACK SARONG. CHECK OUT THE DIVA'S SULTRY PHOTOS THAT DISPLAYS HER TONED FIGURE.

PROUD OF ADIPURUSH, KRITI SANON HOPES THEIR ADAPTATION OF RAMAYANA GETS ITS DUE



TALKING ABOUT ADIPURUSH, KRITI SANON SAID, "IT IS JUST NOT A FILM FOR US, IT IS WAY MORE THAN THAT. I HOPE IT GETS ITS DUE. I HAVE A FEELING IT WILL."

RAKUL PREET SINGH IS A SIGHT TO BEHOLD IN SILVER SEQUIN LEHENGA



RAKUL PREET SINGH LOOKS ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS IN A SILVER LEHENGA IN HER RECENT PHOTOSHOOT.

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SHAH RUKH KHAN REVEALS HIS FAVOURITE MOMENT FROM PATHAAN WITH DEEPIKA PADUKONE. CAN YOU GUESS?

Shah Rukh Khan's Pathaan is roaring high at the box office. The film has broken several records and proven to be SRK's perfect return to the big screen. Pathaan has crossed Rs 700 crore mark at the worldwide box office. The UK, US, Canada and the Gulf countries are its biggest markets overseas. With Pathaan's release, King Khan has made a staggering comeback in the box office business as it has become his highest-grossing film in just under a week. The movie is not only performing well in mass centers and single screens cinema halls but also doing exceptionally well in national multiplex chains, despite high ticket prices. Now, recently King Khan conducted his infamous #AskSRK session on Twitter. Among many questions, a Twitter user asked the megastar about his best moment in the movie

while shooting. In response to the question, SRK recalled filming the famous scene in which he and Deepika had to steal a lock and key. His tweet read, "Deepika and me trying to open the locker professionally. We dropped everything and goofed up every move..including losing the lock and key during the jump." During the session, SRK was also asked about Pathaan ending and what happened to Jim, the Bollywood superstar gave a cryptic response. SRK tweeted, "I don't know after dropping him I went straight for a shampoo...remember. #Pathaan (sic)." Meanwhile, Shah Rukh Khan will be seen in two more films this year. Jawan, which is directed by Atlee and co-stars Nayanthara. He is also set to feature in Rajkumar Hirani's Dunki, opposite Taapsee Pannu. Dunki is set for Christmas release, later this year.

LEAKED GADAR 2 CLIP SHOWS SUNNY DEOL GETTING INTO HULK MODE

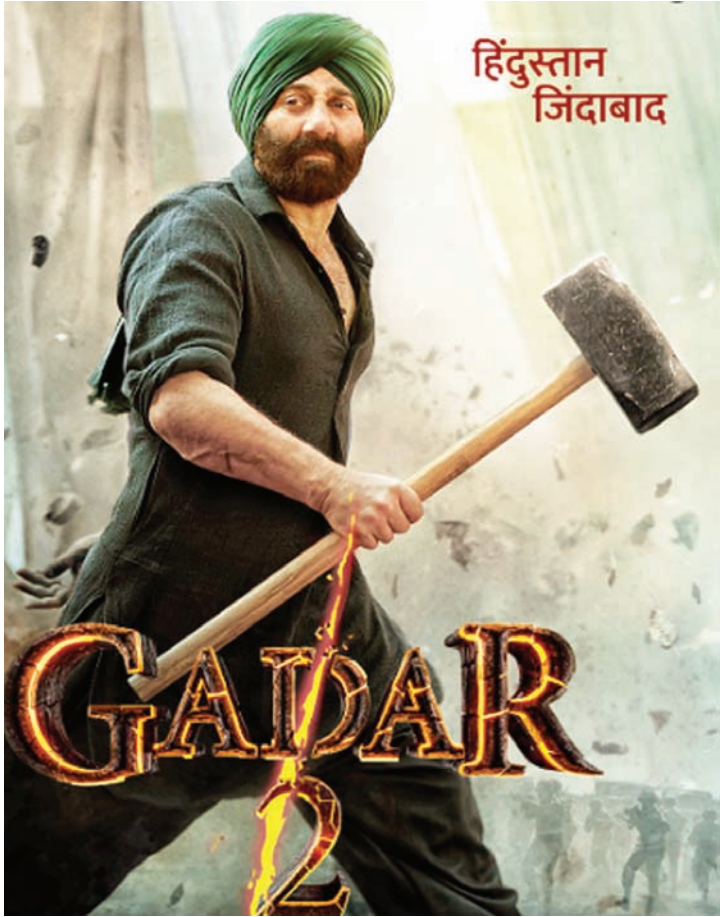
Gadar 2 is one of the most awaited Bollywood sequels of 2023. Sunny Deol will be reprising his popular character Tara Singh in the action drama film 22 years on. The movie has raised anticipation ever since it was announced and is all set to hit the big screens on August 11 later this year. A clip from the time the film was being shot has been going viral on social media and showed Deol in full-on action mode. The leaked video has hinted that the action in Gadar 2 will be a notch above the first film, which was released in 2001.

Gadar 2 action clip leaked

A small video clip has been doing the rounds on social media and seems to be from the shoot location of Gadar 2. In the video, Sunny gets into action mode and as the camera rolls, he unearths a pole to which he is tied down. A waft of air blows for effect and the camera moves on the trolley. Two other characters are tied down to the same structure with Sunny and some men holding guns are seen charging towards an angry Tara Singh. The clip has hinted that Gadar 2 will be loaded with high-octane action scenes.

Gadar 2 poster and release date

A small clip featuring Sunny Deol from Gadar 2 was also featured in the Zee Studios' 2023 release slate video. In a passing glimpse, it was seen that Sunny held a huge wooden wheel over his shoulders. Recently, Gadar 2 makers revealed the first look poster of the upcoming movie. The release date of the action drama was confirmed as August 11, a few days before the Independence Day celebrations. Gadar has elements of patriotism and there could not be a better time to release the film on the big screens than the I-Day weekend. In the film's first official poster, Sunny looked intense wielding a sledgehammer in his hand.



MOUNI ROY SETS INTERNET ON FIRE WITH SULTRY PHOTOS IN GREY BRALETTE



RAKHI SAWANT'S HUSBAND ADIL DURRANI ARRESTED, ACTRESS ALLEGES HE 'TOOK MONEY, JEWELLERY'



After public drama over her alleged marriage with Adil Durrani, actress and Bigg Boss participant Rakhi Sawant filed a complaint against him claiming that he took her money and jewellery. Following this, an FIR was filed and Adil has been arrested by Oshiwara Police. As per the news agency ANI, Oshiwara Police filed an FIR on the basis of Rakhi's complaint. Now, news comes in that Adil has been arrested and will be questioned on the charges that Rakhi has levied on him. Rakhi and Adil's videos have been circulating on social media for some time and as per Rakhi, Adil has denied that she is his wife despite their nikah. The FIR against Adil Durrani has been registered under the IPC sections 406 & 420.

RAVEENA TANDON ON BEING BODY-SHAMED IN BOLLYWOOD: 'I WAS CALLED THUNDER THIGHS'



She was the quintessential symbol of sensuality during the '90s. Even when her iconic number "Tip Tip Barsa Paani" was recreated by a leading actor (Katrina Kaif) of the current generation, a majority of netizens opined that the '90 star's oomph factor can't be matched. She is none other than the 'Mast Mast' girl Raveena Tandon. Speaking exclusively with ANI, Raveena spoke about issues ranging from body shaming to toxic gossip magazines which could ruin someone's career. Asked about the gossip magazines of the bygone eras, Raveena said quite unambiguously, "90s gossip magazines were the worst. And some of those women, now I see roaming around carrying the women's lib badge over their heads and hearts. They were the worst enemies of women. They body-shamed women, slut shamed women and would do everything possible to bring another woman down. Today they roam around as the biggest feminists. I wonder when did that happen? If I start telling stories about them...(chuckles)." Raveena Tandon is celebrated for her charm and beauty till date. Common people don't believe that she was ever body-shamed in the film industry. During her interaction with Smita Prakash, the Daman actor said, "No no. I was called a lot of things. 90s ke kholo, TTs, thunder thighs...miss this and miss that..." The actor continued, "I was plump actually. Started at 16 and a half years, and I was full of baby fat yaar... which still hasn't gone. Though I don't care now."

RAKUL PREET SINGH IS A SIGHT TO BEHOLD IN SILVER SEQUIN LEHENGA



RAKUL PREET SINGH LOOKS ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS IN A SILVER LEHENGA IN HER RECENT PHOTOSHOOT. CHECK OUT THE DIVA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL DESIGNER LEHENGA COLLECTION.



PROUD OF ADIPURUSH, SHEHZADA ACTRESS KRITI SANON HOPES THEIR ADAPTATION OF RAMAYANA GETS ITS DUE

Actress Kriti Sanon has been riding high on success with back to back blockbusters films and many more in her kitty. She was recently praised for her performance in Varun Dhawan starrer Bhediya and now, she is gearing up for the release of her upcoming movie Shehzada alongside Kartik Aaryan. Kriti also has much-anticipated film Adipurush with Prabhas which she says she is "extremely proud" of. The film is the big screen adaptation of the Ramayana with Prabhas playing the title role as Lord Ram and Saif Ali Khan in the role of Lokesha and Sanon as Sita. "It is a film that the entire team is extremely proud of. I hope and pray that people will also equally be proud of it. It is something that is so important to all of us. It is just not a film for us, it is way more than that. I hope it gets its due. I have a feeling it will," Sanon told PTI in an interview. There was some controversy over the depiction of Ravana in the film after the makers launched the teaser in October last year. The film was earlier scheduled to arrive in theatres on January 12 but the release date has now been shifted to June 16. It is directed by Om Raut and produced by Bhushan Kumar-led T-Series.

The "Mimi" star, who did not get to see Ramanand Sagar's "Ramayana" while growing up, hopes the film appeals to the younger generation. "It is important to make these stories. It is educational for kids. I feel if I had not seen it then, today's children would also have not seen it," she said. "I feel visual memory is way stronger than anything else. The best way to make kids know (this) story is to have it imprinted in their minds, it is important to watch it. If you are getting it out now after so many years, that same story also needs to relate to the audience it is catering to." On the other hand, Kriti Sanon's action-drama Shehzada is a remake of a 2020 Telugu blockbuster "Ala Vaikunthapuramuloo", which featured Allu Arjun and Pooja Hegde. The Hindi movie, directed by Rohit Dhawan, will release theatrically on February 17. She will be reteaming with her "Heropanti" co-star Tiger Shroff for a futuristic action film "Ganapath". The Vikas Bahl directorial will arrive in cinemas this year. Sanon is also excited to be collaborating with Shahid Kapoor for a movie, to be backed by Maddock Films and to be working with stalwarts like Kareena Kapoor Khan and Tabu on "The Crew".

PATHAAN BOX OFFICE DAY 13: SHAH RUKH KHAN'S ACTION FILM ALL SET TO BEAT KGF 2'S RECORD IN INDIA



ALL RECORDS ARE MEANT TO BE BROKEN AND SHAH RUKH KHAN STARTER PATHAAN IS PROVING IT RIGHT. LAST YEAR, WHEN YASH-STARRER KGF: CHAPTER 2 WAS BEING LAPPED UP BY THE AUDIENCE, EVERYONE WAS QUICK TO RULE OUT BOLLYWOOD. NOW, WITH THE RELEASE OF PATHAAN, NOT ONLY HAS SHAH RUKH KHAN RECLAIMED THE THRONE OF THE MOST POPULAR INDIAN STAR BUT ALSO BREATHED LIFE INTO THE HINDI FILM INDUSTRY. PATHAAN HAS EMERGED AS THE FIRST BLOCKBUSTER OF 2023 WITH OVER RS 400 CRORE COLLECTIONS FOR THE HINDI VERSION IN INDIA. OVERSEAS TOO, IT IS DOING TREMENDOUS BUSINESS. ON MONDAY, PATHAAN COLLECTED RS 8 CRORE AT THE BOX OFFICE IN INDIA FOR THE HINDI VERSION. THE DIP WAS EXPECTED DUE TO THE WEEKDAY AND SINCE THE TICKET PRICES HAVE BEEN SLASHED, THE NUMBERS WERE EXPECTED TO FALL. THE TOTAL 13-DAY BUSINESS OF THE FILM NOW STANDS AT RS 420 CRORE, WHICH IS A FIRST FOR AN ORIGINAL HINDI TITLE. PATHAAN WILL BECOME THE SECOND HIGHEST-GROSSING FILM IN INDIA ON WEDNESDAY AS IT CROSSES THE NUMBERS OF KGF 2. THE ONLY FILM IT WILL THEN TRAIL IS PRABHAS' BAAHUBALI: THE CONCLUSION.

SANJAY DUTT PRAISES SHAH RUKH KHAN'S MASSIVE SUCCESS, SAYS 'IT IS A REASON TO CELEBRATE'

Shah Rukh Khan's comeback film has been smashing all records and the entire nation is celebrating the massive success of the movie. The film has set the box office on fire and seems unstoppable in churning money. As the Pathaan fever is

high worldwide; Bollywood's baba Sanjay Dutt has wished Shah Rukh and the entire team for the great success.



The legendary actor took to his Twitter handle to extend his wishes. Expressing his joy, Dutt wrote, "The success of #Pathaan is a reason to celebrate, bringing audiences back to the theatres. A big round of applause to @AdityaChopra, @SiddharthAnand, @iamsrk, @TheJohnAbraham, @deepikapadukone and the entire team for their efforts and success." Sanjay Dutt has worked under YRF for Shmsherha and Samrat Prithviraj. The actor is enjoying his villain phase with blockbuster movies like KGF. He will next be seen in Thalapathy 67 opposite Vijay Thalapathy, according to the reports Sanjay Dutt will again be seen in a negative role in this movie. This movie also marks Dutt's Tamil debut.

NIMRIT KAUR AHLUWALIA OPENS UP ON HER EQUATION WITH PRIYANKA CHAHAR CHOUDHARY



Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia was evicted from the BB house after completing 128 days inside the house. The eviction happened days after Sumbul was eliminated from the race. Nimrit was ousted from the reality show after failing to reach the top five in an eviction task involving live audience voting inside the house. After her eviction from the Salman Khan-hosted reality show, Nimrit spoke about her bond with Priyanka Chahar Choudhary and her journey in the house. Speaking to India Today, Nimrit said, "There is nothing wrong with that human being and in me. We are just two very different people with different mindsets and thought processes. Among 16 contestants, there's a possibility that I could get along well with someone or I could not. She couldn't relate to me and I couldn't relate to her. I couldn't associate myself with her ways. I would find certain things very bizarre and absurd considering we are on a reality show and not doing a daily soap. She is a nice girl and I wish her luck. You never know when we are going to cross paths. It's a small industry. I don't think there is a need to carry any baggage. It's just two people who don't get along well. That's okay." The actor also spoke about her bond with Abdu in the house and said, "I could kill someone for Abdu. That's how protective we would feel towards him. There was a point in the journey where I could not be honest with anyone else except for him."

VICKY KAUSHAL, AMMY VIRK, TRIPTII DIMRI JOIN FORCES FOR ANAND TIWARI'S UNTITLED NEXT



Vicky Kaushal, Ammy Virk, and Triptii Dimri are all set to star together for the first time in an Anand Tiwari directorial. The title of the film is not yet revealed. It is produced under the banner of Dharma Productions. Earlier, the stars had shared BTS pictures from their shoot that piqued fans' curiosity for the film, and now finally, the makers have announced the release date. The movie will hit theatres on August 25. On Friday, Dharma Productions officially announced the film on their Instagram account and shared the release date. The caption read, "Bringing together the three powerhouses of talent - Vicky Kaushal, Ammy Virk and Triptii Dimri led by the deft vision of director Anand Tiwari. Look out for the blast coming your way as this film makes its way to the theatres this August 25." Here's a throwback picture of the star-cast from the shoot days. In the picture, they are seen sitting on a couch and appear all smiles. The Anand Tiwari-directed film is billed as a romantic comedy. The script is hailed as being extremely humorous and unique, but it also conveys a significant message to the viewer. Meanwhile, Vicky Kaushal was last seen in Govinda Naam Mera alongside Kiara Advani and Bhumi Pednekar. He also made a brief cameo appearance in Almost Pyaar With DJ Mohabbat by Anurag Kashyap. On the other hand, Triptii Dimri was recently seen in Qala, alongside Babil Khan and Swastika Mukherjee.

WHEN NORA FATEHI SAID AUDITIONING IN INDIA WAS 'TRAUMATIC': 'I WAS BULLIED, TOLD TO GO BACK TO MY COUNTRY'



Actor, dancer and singer Nora Fatehi has come a long way since she made her debut in showbiz with the 2014 Hindi film Roar: Tigers of the Sunderbans. She has featured in dance tracks for popular films like Temper, Baahubali: The Beginning, Kick 2, Stree and Satyameva Jayate among more. Besides this, she has also dabbled in television, and has appeared in Bigg Boss Season 9 and Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa as a participant. However, Nora's road to success was not a smooth one. In a 2019 interview with Pinkvilla, Nora candidly spoke about her struggles and her rough audition period in Mumbai. Stating that people were unforgiving and bullied her, the actor said, "Auditions were really traumatic because I was just learning Hindi, and I would make a fool out of myself. People were unforgiving, they would laugh in my face. I would sit in the rickshaw and I would be howling, and the driver would be like 'are you okay?' I remember one casting director, she just ripped me apart. She told me 'why are you even here?' And I was like 'Because I wanna make it, you know. I have a dream. I want to be a performer, I want to entertain people.'"

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AUSTRALIA'S KEY PLAYER HIGHLY DOUBTFUL FOR SERIES OPENER, STEVE SMITH PROVIDES MAJOR UPDATE

Australian Cricket team eyes a historic win against India in the upcoming Border-Gavaskar Trophy. The Aussie team, who are world dominants are yet to win a Test series in India since 2004-05. The current pack of players are as strong as ever, however, Pat Cummins' side is facing injury issues. In the latest update on the visiting team, batter Steve Smith has provided a major update on a key player. Speaking in a pre-match press conference ahead of India vs Australia 1st Test in Nagpur, Smith said that Cameron Green's availability is under the clouds. "I don't think Green is (going to play). I don't think he's even faced fast bowlers so far. So I dare say he won't be playing but who knows? I'm not completely sure. We'll wait and see. But it's unlikely, I think, Smith said to the media in Nagpur. Cameron Green got hurt on his finger during a Test match against South Africa at home. He was rested from the final Test in Sydney before travelling to India. Notably, Australia's head Andrew McDonald recently stated

that Green is making 'significant steps' in recovery and hinted that he might feature as a pure batter in the first Test. However, Green has also jarred his finger during training in Bengaluru and the team looks to be cautioned on him. He did not bat during the team's first training session at Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium and did some fitness work and light bowling. Meanwhile, Smith also opened on the surface of the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium in Nagpur, saying that the pitch looks dry at the moment. "It's pretty dry (at the moment). Particularly one side that I think will take a bit of spin, particularly the left-arm spinner spinning it back into our left-handers. There's an area there that's quite dry. Other than that, I can't really get a good gauge on it," the batter said. "I don't think there will be a heap of bounce on the surface. I think for the seamers it will be quite skiddy and maybe a bit of up-and-down movement as the game proceeds. The cracks felt quite loose. We'll wait and see when we get out there," he added.

PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN DIRECTOR SPILLS BEANS ON ARGENTINA SKIPPER'S FUTURE

Lionel Messi isn't a name anymore, the Argentina skipper is an all-time great who will go down as someone who has transformed football and has dominated the sport for more than a decade now. The Paris Saint-Germain stalwart achieved his career high with a World Cup win in Qatar last year and there is almost nothing left for him to conquer as far as football goes. Leo Messi attracts headlines and the spotlight, for all the right reasons on most occasions. After Messi's heroic feat of winning the World Cup in December last year, the spotlight is on him regarding his club future. It is being said that the Argentina skipper is reconsidering the decision of renewing his contract with PSG, a club that features other superstars like Neymar Jr., and Kylian Mbappé. Both Messi and Mbappé are teammates at PSG, but both of them clashed with each other for the ultimate glory, the World Cup on December 18, 2022. Reportedly Messi's contract expires in June this year and there is a lot of conjecture around it. As of now, PSG's director has come out and has tried to put all the rumours around Messi's transfer to rest. In the summer of 2021, Messi moved to Parc des Princes as a free agent. Messi reportedly had a fallout with Barcelona and it left a lot of bad taste in his mouth. Messi's departure from Barcelona F.C. came as a shock to his fans, but it was very evident that La Liga giants Barca could not afford Messi's services. In his ongoing sting with PSG, Messi has scored 26 goals and registered 28 assists in 57 appearances.



AUSTRALIA PLAYERS TRAIN IN NAGPUR TWO DAYS AHEAD OF THE FIRST TEST.

RAVI SHASTRI MINCES NO WORDS; ISSUES STERN WARNING TO AUSTRALIA REGARDING VETERAN BATTER



Virat Kohli's record against Australia is something that needs no introduction. There is something magical about this rivalry that goes just beyond your normal cricket, and come the 1st Test at Nagpur, Kohli will be the guy for both India and Australia, but for completely different reasons. Former head coach Ravi Shastri, in conversation with Star Sports, spoke about how Virat Kohli can eventually turn out to be the horn in flesh for Aussies. "Virat Kohli's record against Australia would spur him on. He would be charged up and want to start well. You should look at his first two innings. If he gets off to a start, he would be a thorn in flesh for Aussies. They would for sure won't want that to happen. Kohli has an average of just under 50 against Australia. Amazing record, that should really get him going," said Ravi Shastri. It is worth noting Virat Kohli, after struggling for a period of around 3 years, has finally looked like his best self. He notched up three quick centuries, and this Test series can prove to be just the right kind of motivation for Virat to turn it on in the longest format of the game.

BGT 2023: 'AUSTRALIA HAVE NO CHANCE, THEY WILL NOT WIN A TEST'



There's a certain hallow of optimism surrounding the touring Australian cricket team as they gear up for the tough challenge of facing India in a Test series. Few former cricketers have tipped them to do surprise Rohit Sharma and co this time around. Well, a couple of reasons. The first being that Australia are in a red-hot Test form having crushed West Indies and South Africa at home so will carry that momentum. Secondly, India are being claimed to be a little vulnerable thanks to their own struggles against spinners and the fact that a couple of their star performers are making a return from long-term injury layoffs. Jasprit Bumrah, who is one of the two, isn't part of the first two Tests while Ravindra Jadeja did give an impressive account of himself by turning out in the Ranji Trophy. Australia have brought enough spinners with them which includes their most prolific Test offspinner Nathan Lyon who will have the likes of Ashton Agar, Mitchell Swepson and Todd Murphy to partner with should the pitches be overly spin-friendly. Talks of rank turners are growing up meaning it's likely spinners are going to have a dominant say in the outcome of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy 2023. Sri Lanka legend Mahela Jayawardene has predicted a 2-1 scoreline in favour of Australia and former captain Greg Chappell feels the 'vulnerable' India could suffer their first Test series defeat to the tourists in nearly 19 years. However, former India cricketer Doda Ganesh has summarily rejected the prospect of Australia beating India this time around. And he even predicts that Pat Cummins-led Aussies may end up winless with one draw the maximum they can pull off. "I understand optimism, but to say Australia will win the series in India is a bit outlandish. The Oz have no chance against the quality of India's spin trio. They'll not win a test. India winning 3-0 or 4-0 is the only thing that needs to be decided," Ganesh tweeted on Monday.



ABU DHABI OPEN: SANIA MIRZA SUFFERS DISAPPOINTING DEFEAT IN PENULTIMATE TOURNAMENT; CRASHES OUT 3-6, 4-6

Indian tennis player Sania Mirza and her American doubles partner Bethanie Mattek-Sands crashed out in the first round of the women's doubles competition in the ongoing Abu Dhabi Open 2023 WTA 500 event on Monday. The duo suffered a loss to Belgium's Kirsten Flipkens and Laura Siegemund by a margin of 3-6, 4-6. Mirza is now one step closer to retirement from the sport. The six-time Grand Slam winner announced earlier that she would retire from professional tennis after Dubai Tennis Championships starting from February 27 onwards. Mirza-Sands were dealt an early blow in the hard courts of Zayed Sports City International Tennis Centre as they lost serve in the second game of the opening set. But they managed to struck back to back and broke their opponent's serve in the very next game. The European team was in the lead after breaking Sania and Sands in the sixth game and won the opening set. The second set was a bitter fight for supremacy and both teams went toe to toe, trading three break points each. Two teams were level at 4-4 but Sania and Sands

dropped their serve in a highly important ninth game and in the 10th game, the Belgians held their nerves to clinch after just over an hour. Earlier, Sania Mirza and Rohan Bopanna came second to Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos of Brazil in the Australian Open mixed doubles final on Friday at Melbourne Park as the Brazilian pair clinched their maiden Grand Slam. Sania Mirza was competing in her final Grand Slam with Rohan Bopanna where the duo were defeated 7(7)-6(2), 6-2 by Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos. Sania Mirza won two Grand Slam tournaments at the Australian Open. She won the Australian Open women's doubles title with Martina Hingis in 2016 and the Australian Open mixed doubles title with Mahesh Bhupathi in 2009. The 2017 French Open mixed doubles championship, Rohan Bopanna won with Gabriela Dabrowski of Canada remains his solitary Grand Slam triumph. The Indian team has defeated the defending Wimbledon winners Desirae Krawczyk and Neal Skupski in three sets in the Australian Open 2023 semifinals.

'IT'S GOOD FOR CRICKET IF ASIA CUP VENUE IS SHIFTED OUT OF PAKISTAN': ABDUL RAZZAQ

Former Pakistan allrounder Abdul Razzaq struck a pragmatic tone while discussing the change of venue for Asia Cup, urging that it's "good for cricket" if it gets shifted to another venue, out of Pakistan. "It's good for cricket. And for cricket promotion. India-Pakistan games only happen in ICC tournaments. If Asia Cup has been shifted to Dubai, then it's best option. It's good for cricket and cricketers," Razzaq told Geo News. When the host said should India be stopped from hosting big tournaments if they continue to pick-and-choose, Razzaq disagreed. "It doesn't happen like this. This has been on for years. If the two boards sit across table and chat, it would be great. Both boards should solve this issue." A former PCB chairman Khaled Mahmood was disappointed with India's stance but was realistic. He urged the PCB to start speaking to other members of the ICC. "The world doesn't run on ideology and principles; else ICC should show their power and tell India 'who are you not to go and play Asia Cup in Pakistan?' But India has great influence on ICC. If We host Asia Cup without India and without their players, corporate sponsorship will all stop. The big money will stop. And it won't be a glamorous tournament without them. It would be a weak tournament. We will also lose money." If things aren't going to change, then we have to be pragmatic about this. The PCB will have to accept the change of venue and our players get the chance to play. Mahmood said it should be stressed to Indian board that they are doing wrong. "We should lobby the issue with other members – England, Australia. At least, it should be known that things are getting out of control, India are doing wrong – and you guys are sitting quietly. There is no use sitting and talking just with India. That's been done. It's time to go to other members." When the host said that Australian cricketer Usman Khawaja's visa to India was also delayed presumably because he was born in Pakistan, Mahmood took a potshot at Australia. "Did Australian board threaten India, ask them harsh questions when Usman Khawaja's visa was delayed? They should have been harsher, and taken action. All of them were just quiet."



IND VS AUS BORDER-GAVASKAR TROPHY: CHETESHWAR PUJARA, VIRAT KOHLI ON BRINK OF THIS SPECIAL CLUB



With just a couple of days to go for the start of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Nagpur, the stage is set for players from both camps to make an impression as they get ready for the big series. India's star duo of Cheteshwar Pujara and Virat Kohli will be looking for the same as they near a special club while Team India hunts for a place in the World Test Championship (WTC) final.

Most Runs in Border-Gavaskar Trophy
Sachin Tendulkar – 3262 runs in 65 innings (34 matches)
Ricky Ponting – 2555 runs in 51 innings (29 matches)
VVS Laxman – 2434 runs in 54 innings (29 matches)
Rahul Dravid – 2143 runs in 60 innings (32 matches)
Michael Clarke – 2049 runs in 40 innings (22 matches)
Cheteshwar Pujara – 1893 runs in 37 innings (20 matches)
Virat Kohli – 1682 runs in 36 innings (20 matches)




AARON FINCH ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM INTERNATIONAL CRICKET



Aaron Finch announced his retirement from international cricket, stating that his body couldn't cope with the struggles of playing at the highest level and that he didn't see himself playing in T20 World Cup 2024. "I always wanted to get through the Big Bash and re-assess after that, and I found my body was sore after a BBL game and took a couple of days to recover. McDonald said give yourself time to make a decision that's not an emotional call, but one that's right for you and your family. I feel as though that's what I've done. I thought long and hard about it, but with a big break between games it gives everyone involved time to plan and prepare for the next T20 World Cup in 2024 because I can't see myself getting there at all. It would be doing the position and the team a disservice to play on for purely selfish reasons," Finch told cricket.com.au. Finch retired from ODIs last year after struggling in the format for quite a while. Finch is expected to play in BBL for at least another year with the Melbourne Renegades, where he was named in the Team of the Year as a middle-order batter. He is also weighing the option of participating in foreign T20 leagues. "I loved the new role in the middle-order with the Renegades, and being around the youngsters keeps you young for a little while," Finch said.

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17-21 FEB -Delhi

3rd TEST

1-5 MAR Dharamshala

4th TEST

9-13 MAR -Ahmedabad

1st ODI




17 MAR -Mumbai



2nd ODI

19 MAR -Vizag

3rd ODI

22 MAR -Chennai





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