

Bitter home truths with 'Jaggi'

Punjabi movie 'Jaggi', released on MUBI, has been getting rave reviews for its brave and honest exploration of issues of sexuality and bullying in a rural setting. Sheetal talks to director Anmol Sidhu. Excerpts: Now that 'Jaggi' is finally available on OTT, what has been the response? I have been flooded with calls and messages. People have shared how they have been through the same trauma. For many, 'Jaggi' represents a personal reality that has for long been ignored or simply buried. The most interesting messages are that such films should be made in Punjab rather than the clichéd ones that hit the theatres every Friday. How difficult was the whole process of scripting, acting and direction? We were all students of theatre and were part of Alankar Theatre Group. Rannish Chaudhary was a junior and I had directed him in one of my plays. When I narrated the story, he thought it's a subject that deserves a film. The only challenge was the lack of equipment. So, most of the scenes were shot in a single take. There were technical hurdles which we as a team managed to overcome. To keep it real, I preferred long shots and as every actor had a background in theatre, it went off smoothly.

It's a film that's brutally honest and sensitive.

To be honest, when we decided to make a film on a disturbing reality that's prevalent in rural Punjab and is still not called out, it meant we were ready to deal with any eventuality. I think we were all very well trained by Chakresh Kumar Sir to approach any scene fearlessly. For the intense role



of Jaggi, Rannish was handed the script seven months prior to the shoot to imbibe the trauma and struggles. He stayed away from the other actors and the only inputs came from me, so that the ridicule Jaggi faced could transfer well on to the screen.

How has the creative process of making 'Jaggi' and its success changed you and the team?

It has changed everything for us. It was when I thought of making this film that I bought a camera. Rannish and Harmandeep Singh, who play the main characters, were always there with me. Harman used to work as an Amazon delivery boy. When I asked him if he could assist me, he agreed without thinking twice, despite having only a few scenes. He picked tripsods and assisted me throughout the making of 'Jaggi'. Rannish too pitched in. We made the whole film travelling on a motorcycle to different places. We did everything ourselves, from editing to sound design and would sit for days in a small apartment while also dubbing. My mother was also a great host. We made the film with zero external funding and finally found producers for our next project as they saw our talent and work through international festivals. It motivated us a lot.

Did you fall back upon cinematic references?

I consider Anurag Kashyap as my guru. He once said that one can make a movie through a phone and it really inspired me. It was a great honour to see him present our film. There's a film, '4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days', that inspires me. It is directed by Cristian Mungiu. I like every film of his. It influences my filmmaking.

'Jaggi' supposedly is based on true events.

It's based on facts but there are also fictional inputs. It's a mix of five-six incidents. For instance, one came from my brother's hostel, of seniors sexually assaulting minors. There's also a novel, 'Rohi Biabaan', by Barmjit Singh Kussa. The book did help in research work.

Fire in the hills

Fire & fury marked the speeches of electoral hopefuls. What is of note is that no one mentioned environment and its protection

Turn in any direction and one will see smoke, if not the fire itself. All across the lower and mid-hills of the western Himalayas, forest fires are raging. Fires in the hills, and elsewhere, are not new. When the Kalka-Shimla railway line started functioning in the early 20th century, sparks would fly out of the coal-burning locomotives. These were held responsible for flames along the slopes. Villagers who lived along the track complained that their crops were affected and grasslands, on which their cattle depended, were destroyed. A system of compensation was worked out and, suddenly, there was a spurt in the number of fires. Spark arrestor chimneys, like those used on locomotives that steamed across the American prairies, were installed and other innovations added. The fires caused by the locomotives stopped but the claims for compensation did not.

In 2003, I joined a group of friends that was walking down the Kalka-Shimla railway track to commemorate a centenary of its construction. Along a short stretch, I was going to walk with them for a day. They would take four days and cover the entire length. My reason for choosing a single day was quite simple. I wanted to walk along, arguably, the prettiest stretch which lies between the stations of Kaithlighat and Kandaghat. This is the section where the permanent way does not run close to the highway, but veers away to the opposite side of the hill. Open grasslands, patches of woodland and a few small villages mark this stretch. On the walk, marring this image of 'chocolate-box' beauty, there were swathes of charred trees and blackened ground. These were remnants of previous fires. At the same time, I was not prepared for the rubbish which debased this beauty and lay parked in every possible nook and cranny. Fifteen years later, in May 2018, I became a part of a massive clean-up along the Kalka-Shimla railway track. An initiative had been taken by Himachal's Legal Services Authority and hundreds of volunteers removed a significant amount of the rubbish that had accumulated along the line.

A few months later, I was travelling on the train where the area had been cleaned. A father passed an empty bottle to the mother, who passed it to their young child and out of the window it went. One of the passengers, very politely, remarked on this. The gentleman, with whom the empty bottle originated, was ready for a fight; the lady cried, "What else is one supposed to do?" In all likelihood, the child would have learnt that it was acceptable to toss one's rubbish anywhere. In conversation, there are very few things that will put me on the back foot regarding my country. One of these is litter, and our seeming indifference to where we throw our rubbish. That day, everyone in the compartment fell silent. Today, places that once held pristine beauty seem to have embraced filth with open arms. All across the hills, there was a time



we would rejoice when we saw a bit of colour emerge with the spring thaw. 'The first flowers are coming up,' we would tell ourselves. Now, that bit of colour, often enough, is a piece of plastic or an empty sachet that had been covered by the snow and has decided to reveal itself.

In the hills, an older generation will tell you that if you can avoid doing so, do not buy land in a chir pine (pinus roxburghii) forest. While the tree has certain medicinal qualities, the cover of pine needles and their chemical content does not allow any substantive undergrowth. The springs can run dry. These are also the woods that are most prone to fires — some of which are accidental and some seem to have been deliberately lit. There is a premise that land cleared with fire will yield a better crop of grass in the monsoon. Tenuous as it may seem, there is a connection between fallen pine needles,

litter and fire. Some of the rubbish is flammable and what is not, works its way into channels and adversely affects the springs and streams. Bottles, like the one thrown from

the train, can be the biggest culprits of them all. They act as magnifying glasses and can set the woods alight.

Christ Church in Kasauli has a plaque marking the death of two British soldiers, Selby Lane and Richard Reed, who died fighting a forest fire in 1935 which, '...threatened to destroy Kasauli'. Like them, there must be numerous others who have had no plaques to mark their passing. Humans apart, thousands of birds, insects and animals also lose their lives. Those who survive have lost their habitats and their chances of possible recovery. The odds are stacked against them as they are the lowest rung on nature's food chain, which has been broken.

There is another blaze raging across the hills. Fire and fury marked the speeches of electoral hopefuls. What is of note is that no one mentioned the environment and its protection. This, after the last devastating monsoon, which is not even a year old. In 2020, there were 16 landslides; in 2023, there were 165. As many as 2,500 homes were destroyed and around 400 persons died.

Bomb threats

No room for complacency despite false alarm

BOMB threats have become alarmingly frequent across the country in recent weeks, even though all have turned out to be hoaxes. Tissue paper with 'bomb@5.30' written on it was found in the lavatory of an IndiGo plane at the Delhi airport on Tuesday morning. The authorities promptly evacuated the crew and passengers and launched a search operation. No suspicious item was found, even as an investigation is in progress. The incident took place a day after the Mumbai traffic police received a message on their WhatsApp helpline number, claiming that bombs had been planted at the Mumbai airport and Hotel Taj Mahal. A thorough search drew a blank at both places.

In recent months, scores of schools in Delhi-NCR, Kanpur, Lucknow, Jaipur, Kolkata and other cities have been rocked by bomb threat emails. Probe agencies have their work cut out — they have to find out which individuals/gangs are involved in these



nefarious activities, where they are based and whether a common thread runs through these threats, which must not be dismissed as mere mischief. The Delhi Police have

traced the IP address of emails sent to 150-odd schools to Budapest, Hungary. A Cyprus-based mailing service company has been identified as the source of threatening emails sent to hospitals, the IGI Airport and Tihar Jail in Delhi earlier this month. The ongoing probe into various cases indicates that gangs of cybercriminals residing in foreign countries are causing widespread disruptions in India with ease. They are apparently working in league with miscreants based in India. There is no room for complacency, especially amid the Lok Sabha elections. Every city needs to be adequately equipped with bomb detection and disposal squads. A comprehensive action plan should be formulated and implemented so that panic and chaos induced by the threats are minimised. All stakeholders must be well prepared for the worst-case scenario — after all, not every such email/call/message may prove to be a hoax.

May the birds continue to soar and sing

The woods would be very silent if no bird sang there' — Henry Van Dyke

Throughout history, humanity has been captivated by the allure of birds. Their sleek, aerodynamic bodies, their mastery of flight over vast distances and heights, and their intricate nest-building skills have served as an inspiration for countless inventions and innovations.

Spotted Flycatcher

Bird observation takes on myriad forms, each individual imbuing it with their own unique passion and perspective. Whether it's the serene pursuit of birdwatching, the thrill of birding, the excitement of twitching, or the artistry of bird photography facilitated by the advent of affordable digital cameras with powerful lenses, a common thread remains: an unwavering fascination with birds, their behaviour, resilience, intelligence, and the tenacity of their existence amidst human interference.

A love for the outdoors and an interest in the world of birds was awakened in me through the nature walks conducted by our teachers, while I was at a boarding school in Shimla. From the tender age of seven, it is a journey that has, over the years, given me invaluable insights into the lives of our feathered companions.

Birdwatching isn't merely a pastime, it's an immersive experience, a portal through which one can gain profound understanding and appreciation for the intricate lives of these tiny creatures.

Crimson Sunbird

Birds are present everywhere; they grace every corner of our planet. All it takes is a moment of stillness, a quiet observation, to invite them into our midst. It's akin to meditation, a tranquil communion with nature. Some of my most cherished birdwatching moments have unfolded right in my own garden.

Amidst the turmoil of the pandemic in 2020, with time hanging heavy on my hands, I embarked on a project to create a small waterbody in my backyard. It was as much for my own solace as it was for the birds. Despite the chaos engulfing the world, the soft murmur and babble



of the water as it trickled down the water channel and fell into the pond was infinitely soothing to the nerves. It attracted a large species of birds, captivating the interest of my entire family.

Ashy Prinia

Observing the hierarchy at the birdbath became a daily ritual, a testament to the intricacies of avian social dynamics. The first to come were the stately doves, followed by the Mynas, Bulbuls and lastly, the spirited

warblers. The antics of the Indian White Eye were a treat to watch as they danced and splashed and fluttered their feathers with great abandon.

The rewards of my backyard oasis were abundant, welcoming a diverse array of avian visitors over the ensuing years. I documented over a hundred species, including a Spotted Flycatcher, a rare gem previously unseen in our region, and several others deemed uncommon.

Among these visitors, the Jungle Babblers stood out, their gregarious nature belying a profound sense of community. Despite their raucous behaviour, they epitomised solidarity, rallying around a fallen nest with unwavering support until the fledglings could fly up into the tree. As parents, birds are unparalleled, embodying a selfless devotion to their offspring. It is a common sight to see the ground nesting Red-wattled Lapwing calling loudly as it 'dive bombs' dogs that might stray close to the nest. The tiniest of birds will work untiringly from building the nest to bringing up the brood, protecting and keeping them from harm, imparting life skills and finally letting them fly off to lead independent lives.

The nest-building ability of many species is amazing. It is common knowledge that the engineering skills shown by Baya Weavers in building their nests are used as study models in architecture. Ashy Prinia and Tailorbird are adept seamstresses. They sew together the edges of the leaves with fine plant fibres. Yet, amidst the awe-inspiring beauty of the avian world, there looms a shadow of concern. Birds are tenacious in their will to survive against all odds. However, habitat loss, driven by human encroachment, pollution and environmental degradation, poses a grave threat worldwide. Wetlands drained, forests felled, grasslands razed, rivers mined for sand — each ecosystem lost is a blow to avian biodiversity. Birdwatching is more than just a hobby; it's a reminder of how we are interconnected with all living beings and are custodians of our planet. Let us, therefore, heed the call to protect and preserve the precious ecosystems that sustain them. During the hot Indian summer, it is important to make sure there is enough water for the birds. Place water bowls at various places while ensuring they are cleaned regularly and filled with fresh water.

Power Grid shares jump 10% as markets hit record high. Here's why

NEW DELHI: Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd shares surged over 10% on Monday, reaching a record high of Rs 346.90 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).

This strong rally propelled the company's market capitalisation past Rs 3 lakh crore, joining the ranks of state-run giants like SBI and NTPC.

The shares of the company gained after exit polls predicted a decisive victory for the BJP-led NDA government in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. It may be noted that the government holds a 51.34% stake in Power Grid, valued at over Rs 1.6 lakh crore at the peak of Monday's session. While Power Grid's financial performance saw a decline in the final quarter of FY24, the euphoria generated on Dalal Street after the exit poll predictions have increased the stock's appetite.

Brokerage firm CLSA remains optimistic, maintaining an "outperform" rating and setting a price target of ₹345, citing FY 2024 as a year of market share gains for the company. Among 21 analysts covering Power Grid, 13 recommend a "buy," one suggests a "hold," and seven advise "sell." The company's stock, currently trading at Rs 341.10, has climbed 43% in 2024 and over 93% in the past year.

Nifty, Sensex open at record highs after exit polls predict NDA landslide

NEW DELHI: Benchmark stock market indices, Sensex and Nifty50, opened at record high levels on Monday after exit polls predicted a historic third term for Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The S&P BSE Sensex jumped over 2,000 points to a record high of 76,738.89, while the NSE Nifty50 rose to 23,338.70. Both the indices hit all-time highs. At 10:10 am, the Sensex was up 2081.29 points at 76,042.60, and the Nifty was up 646.90 points at 23,177.60. All the stocks were in the green on the Sensex, with major gainers being Power Grid, Adani Ports, Shriram Finance, L&T, NTPC, SBI, Axis Bank, M&M, ICICI Bank, and Ultratech Cement. These stocks were up in the range of 3% to 7%.

The Bank Nifty index jumped above the 50,000-mark for the first time. Moreover, the Nifty Smallcap 100 and the Nifty Midcap 100 index also surged nearly 3% each. Nifty Energy, Nifty PSU Bank, and Nifty Realty were the top gainers, each rising between 4-5%.

Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, suggested that Dalal Street is poised for a strong start to June, "driven by optimistic exit poll results predicting a significant win for the BJP-led NDA".

"Key catalysts include India's GDP exceeding estimates at 8.2% for FY24, a surge in Dow Jones by 574 points, increased odds of a September rate cut, early monsoon advancement, and a 10% rise in GST collections to Rs 1.73 lakh crore in May," he added. He is bullish on stocks such as Adani Ports, Sulzong, Jupiter Wagon, GMR INFRA, and HDFC AMC. The massive jump in the stock market comes after it snapped a five-day losing run on May 31, with the benchmark Sensex closing higher by 75 points. Experts expect the market volatility seen in May to subside after the election results are announced on June 4. This comes on the back of a 8.2% economic growth rate in 2023-24 (FY24), as per National Statistical Office (NSO) data.

The much-anticipated exit poll results for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections predicted a hat-trick for the BJP, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi likely to return to power for a historic third term.

Sally Buzbee steps down as executive editor of The Washington Post

NEW YORK: The Washington Post said Sunday that its executive editor, Sally Buzbee, has stepped down after three years at the top of one of journalism's most storied brands. She will be replaced by Matt Murray, former editor in chief of The Wall Street Journal, through this fall's presidential election. Following that, Robert Winnett, deputy editor of the Telegraph Media Group, will take over as editor as the newsroom restructures its operations. No reason was given for Buzbee's departure. She wasn't quoted in the news release announcing that she was leaving, and did not immediately return a message seeking comment.

The Post also announced that it was launching a new division in its newsroom dedicated to reaching audiences who want to pay for and consume news in a different way.

Buzbee, former top editor at The Associated Press, was selected as the Post's top editor in May 2021. She replaced a renowned predecessor, Martin Baron, after the Post exploded in popularity during the Trump administration.

Buzbee was the first woman to serve as executive editor of The Washington Post. And like Jill Abramson, the first woman to be top editor at The New York Times, her tenure was short: Abramson had her job from 2011 to 2014. It has been a miserable few years financially for the news industry, including for the Post. It has bled subscribers to the point where new publisher, Will Lewis, told employees last month that the newspaper lost \$77 million last year. "To speak candidly, we are in a hole, and have been for some time," Lewis said, according to the Post.

Lewis was named late last year to replace Fred Ryan as Post publisher. He has worked at both The Wall Street Journal and The Telegraph in England, the places he turned to find the new executives. He's talked about creating a multi-tier subscription plan for The Post, similar to that in place at Politico. In an email to employees late Sunday, Lewis said the new department will focus on more video storytelling, will embrace artificial intelligence and flexible payment methods. It will begin this fall, he said. In an earlier meeting, "we highlighted the need to move away from the traditional one-size-fits-all approach in the news media industry and focus on creating news for a broader range of readers and customers." It augurs a change to the traditional structure of the Post. In his memo, Lewis mentioned "three newsrooms." Winnett will not take on the title of executive editor, but he will be responsible for the "core coverage areas" of politics, investigations, business, technology, sports and features. He has run The Telegraph's news operations since 2013, the Post said.

Major trading platforms face glitch after market hits all-time high

The stock market hit an all-time high on Monday after the exit polls announced on June 1 indicated that the BJP-led NDA is likely to secure a third consecutive term in office.

NEW DELHI: Major trading platforms like Groww and Zerodha faced some glitches after the markets opened at an all-time high on Monday with exit polls out for the Lok Sabha elections. These exit polls that were announced on June 1 have indicated that the BJP-led NDA is likely to secure a third consecutive term in office. Following this news, investors turned to popular trading platforms such as Zerodha, Groww, and Upstox after the



CDSL website experienced downtime. The CDSL website's outage appears to be due to the high volume of trades taking place today.

CDSL, or Central Depository Services Limited, along with National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL), are the main securities depositories in India. They provide crucial trading and investing

services and are regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). However, trading platform Groww clarified that the issue is now resolved and users can place sell orders from their holdings. "The issue is now resolved. You can now place sell orders from your holdings," said Groww in a post on X. enchmark stock market indices,

Sensex and Nifty50, opened at record high levels on Monday after exit polls predicted a historic third term for Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The S&P BSE Sensex jumped over 2,000 points to a record high of 76,738.89, while the NSE Nifty50 rose to 23,338.70. Both the indices hit all-time highs. At 10:10 am, the Sensex was up 2081.29 points at 76,042.60, and the Nifty was up 646.90 points at 23,177.60. All the stocks were in the green on the Sensex, with major gainers being Power Grid, Adani Ports, Shriram Finance, L&T, NTPC, SBI, Axis Bank, M&M, ICICI Bank, and Ultratech Cement. These stocks were up in the range of 3% to 7%. The Bank Nifty index jumped above the 50,000-mark for the first time. Moreover, the Nifty Smallcap 100 and the Nifty Midcap 100 index also surged nearly 3% each. Nifty Energy, Nifty PSU Bank, and Nifty Realty were the top gainers, each rising between 4-5%. The massive jump in the stock market comes after it snapped a five-day losing run on May 31, with the benchmark Sensex closing higher by 75 points.

Adani Group stocks rally up to 16% after exit polls predict win for BJP

NEW DELHI: Adani group stocks witnessed a surge in their prices on the back of exit poll announcements on June 1, that predicted a win for the BJP-led NDA alliance and a potential third term for Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This surge in Adani group stocks comes amid a broader market rally, with Sensex hitting an all-time high, rising over 2,600 points, with the rally in the market being termed as 'Modi rally' or 'Modi wave'. The optimism surrounding the BJP-led NDA's potential victory has led to an increase in the value of Adani group shares. Several Adani group stocks hit their upper circuit limits, climbing by as much as 10%. Some stocks within the group surged even higher, reaching up to 16%. This surge has brought the market capitalisation (m-cap) of the Adani group back to pre-Hindenburg Research levels. Adani Enterprises saw a notable increase of 9.72% to reach Rs 3,743, while Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) rose by 11% to Rs 1,595.30. Adani Power experienced a surge of 15.82% to Rs 875.35. Adani Energy Solutions Ltd, Adani Green Energy Ltd, and Adani Total Gas Ltd also saw significant gains, climbing by



9.38%, 9.65%, and 15.28% respectively.

Adani Wilmar Ltd recorded a rise of 6.94% to Rs 380.55, while ACC and Ambuja Cements, although not directly part of the Adani group, also experienced gains ranging between 5-7%. The Adani Group has become the third Indian business conglomerate to surpass the \$10 billion mark in operating profit, following in the footsteps of Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Group and the TATA Group. Commenting on the market sentiment, Kotak Institutional Equities said that the exit polls indicate a comfortable majority for the BJP-led NDA alliance.

They anticipate further energisation of the equity market based on these predictions, expecting the government to continue with its economic agenda,

focusing on areas such as energy transition, infrastructure development, and manufacturing. "We note that the government has already executed the bulk of the required reforms for incentivising private investments. In 2019, the BJP's 100-day economic agenda focused on boosting investments," it said. According to Jefferies, the Adani group is poised for expansion, with plans for a \$90 billion capital expenditure over the next decade. Adani Enterprises is scaling its manufacturing capacity towards Green Hydrogen production by FY27, with projects such as the Navi Mumbai Airport likely to commission by 4QFY25. Adani Ports aims for an 18% Ebitda CAGR in FY24-29E, with plans to ramp up cargo volume significantly by 2030. Adani Green has raised its power capacity target to 50 GW by 2030, including 5GW Pumped hydro. Adani Total Gas plans to expand into new business segments such as LNG station networks and EV charging facilities.

Jefferies also highlighted the focus of Adani Wilmar on distribution expansion and premium brand enhancement.

Ola Electric to lay off 500 employees ahead of IPO: Report

Ola founder Bhavish Aggarwal has been pushing to reduce costs across all departments ahead of the IPO.

New Delhi: Ola Electric is planning to lay off around 400-500 people across the organisation in the coming weeks to control operating costs before its initial public offering (IPO), reported the Economic Times. The exact number of employees to be laid off is still being finalised. The company's leadership is currently deciding the scale of the layoffs expected across the organisation. The report, quoting sources, mentioned that some of the affected employees might be replaced with new hires at a lower cost. However, the overall headcount will decrease, the report added. Some teams have already finalised the number of cuts, according to a person familiar with the matter, mentioned in the report. Ola founder Bhavish Aggarwal has been pushing to reduce costs



across all departments, a source said.

In December, when Ola Electric filed its draft IPO papers, the company stated it had 3,733 employees as of October 2023, with an employee attrition rate of 47.48% in FY23.

In April, Ola Cabs had laid off around 200 employees. Additionally, Ola Cabs' CEO Hemant Bakshi and CFO Kartik Gupta also left the company. The firm aims for profitability in both its cab and electric vehicle units, as they are at different stages of going public.

For the first quarter of FY24, Ola Electric reported a net loss of Rs 267 crore on operating revenue of Rs 1,243 crore. In FY23, Ola Electric posted a net loss of Rs 1,472 crore on operating revenue of Rs 2,631 crore.

Mother Dairy hikes milk prices by Rs 2 per litre day after Amul

NEW DELHI: Mother Dairy has announced a hike in milk prices by Rs 2 per litre on Monday, days after Amul increased prices of milk by the same margin.

The dairy company has increased the prices after an increase in input costs over the past 15 months. New prices will be effective from Monday across the nation. Mother Dairy said that it is increasing its liquid milk prices by Rs 2 per litre across all operating markets from June 3, 2024 onwards. The company attributed the price increase to the need to compensate producers for higher production costs, which have been escalating for over a year.

In Delhi-NCR, the new prices for Mother Dairy's milk are: full cream milk at Rs 68 per litre, toned milk at Rs 56 per litre, and double-toned milk at Rs 50 per litre. Prices for buffalo and



cow milk are set at Rs 72 and Rs 58 per litre, respectively. Toned milk (bulk vended milk) will now be sold at Rs 54 per litre. Mother Dairy, which sells 35 lakh litres of fresh milk daily in Delhi-NCR, last revised its liquid milk prices in February 2023. The company said that despite higher procurement costs in recent months, consumer prices had been maintained. Additionally,

unprecedented heat stress across the country is expected to impact milk production further. The company highlighted that it allocates around 75-80% of sales revenue from milk towards procurement, ensuring the sustainability of dairy farming and the availability of quality milk. Mother Dairy highlighted that the increase in farm prices is only being partially passed on to consumers, with an effective revision of 3-4%, balancing the interests of both milk producers and the consumers.

This comes a day after Amul increased its prices by Rs 2 per litre across the nation. The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which sells its dairy products under Amul, announced it on Sunday.

India's manufacturing sector growth eases in May; upturn in exports strongest in over 13 years: PMI survey

NEW DELHI: India's manufacturing sector saw a slower growth rate for the second straight month in May but stayed firmly in expansion mode with global sales increasing to the greatest extent in over 13 years, a monthly survey said on Monday.

The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) fell from 58.8 in April to 57.5 in May, signalling a slower but substantial improvement in the health of the sector. The index had climbed to a 16-year high of 59.1 in March. In PMI parlance, a print above 50 means expansion while a score below 50 denotes contraction. According to HSBC Global Economist Maitreyi Das, "The manufacturing sector remained in expansionary territory in May, albeit the pace slowed, led by a softer rise in new orders and output." The slowdown was attributed to reduced working hours amid intensive heatwaves and rising production costs. "Panelists cited heatwaves as a reason for lower work hours in May, which may have affected production volumes," Das said. The headline figure was nearly four points higher than its



long-run average. May data showed a further upturn in Indian factory production, which stretched the current sequence of expansion to nearly three years. Despite easing to a three-month low, the rate of increase remained sharp. Growth was supported by new business gains, demand strength and successful marketing efforts, the report said. New orders rose at a substantial pace that was nonetheless the slowest in three

months. The rise was associated with marketing efforts, demand strength and favourable economic conditions, as per the report. Growth was reportedly stymied by competitors and election-related disruptions, it said, adding that in contrast to the trend for total sales, new export orders rose at a faster pace in May. The upturn in international sales was the strongest in over 13 years as manufacturers witnessed gains from

customers across several countries in Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East. The ongoing strong sales performances, combined with upbeat growth forecasts, fuelled job creation in May, the report said.

Manufacturing employment rose to one of the greatest extents since data collection started in March 2005, the report said, adding that jobs growth, parallel to rising material and freight costs, underpinned a quicker increase in input costs at goods producers.

"On the price front, higher raw material and freight costs led to a rise in input prices. Manufacturers were only able to pass on a part of this increase to consumers, resulting in a squeeze in manufacturing margins," Das said.

"The positive news is that May recorded the highest level of positive sentiment among manufacturing firms in just under a decade, resulting in increased job creation," Das added. The HSBC India Manufacturing PMI compiled by S&P Global, is based on responses to questionnaires sent to purchasing managers in a panel of around 400 manufacturers.

Did BJP's thumping win in Arunachal happen at cost of Congress's waning confidence?

New Delhi: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) maintained its hold on power in Arunachal Pradesh for a third consecutive term by securing 46 out of the 60 Assembly seats. According to the Election Commission of India (ECI), the National People's Party (NPP) secured five seats, the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) won three seats, the People's Party of Arunachal (PPA) bagged two, the Congress on one, and independents claimed three seats. In the 2019 Assembly election, the BJP secured 41 seats, the Janata Dal (United) won seven, the NPP got five, the Congress bagged four, the People's Party of Arunachal (PPA) claimed one, and two independent candidates also succeeded.

AVICTORY ON 'DEVELOPMENT'

The BJP has campaigned on a platform of development and good governance, highlighting infrastructure projects and the Central government's efforts to counter China's territorial claims over Arunachal Pradesh.

Development projects to improve connectivity, like the Donyi Polo Airport in Itanagar, and the Naharlagun Railway Station, contributed to the saffron party's popularity in the state. The India Today-Axis My India Exit Poll delivered a correct prediction of the Arunachal Pradesh election result, as it had predicted that the saffron party would grab 44-51 seats. Meanwhile, the Congress managed only 1 seat in the state, which was at par with the India Today-Axis My India Exit Poll's prediction that the party would get 1-4 seats.

10 UNCONTESTED VICTORIES

In March, the BJP secured victory in 10 seats uncontested within the 60-member Arunachal Pradesh Assembly. However, it fell short of the Congress's previous record of 11 unopposed wins in 2014. No Opposition parties fielded candidates in five constituencies, while rivals of the BJP withdrew their nominations in five additional seats.

Among the uncontested winners were Chief Minister Pema Khandu from Mukto and Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein from Chowkham. The remaining victorious candidates include Ratu Techi from Sagalee, Jikke Tako from Tali, Nyato Dukam from Taliha, Mutchu Mithi from Roing, Hage Appa from Ziro-Hapoli, Techi Kaso from Itanagar, Dongru Siongju from Bomdila, and Dasanglu Pul from Hayuliang.

CONGRESS CONTESTED ONLY 19 SEATS

Apart from the BJP's big win, another key outcome of the election is the almost complete decimation of the Congress. The grand old party, which ruled the state until Chief Minister Pema Khandu left with 43 MLAs in 2016, now has only one legislator left, winning just the Bameng seat in western Arunachal. Its share of votes dropped significantly from 16.85 per cent in 2019 to 5.56 per cent this time. The party's struggle to survive in the state was evident as



it had difficulty finding candidates to field, ultimately ending up with only 19 candidates in the race.

BJP'S RISE AT COST OF CONGRESS

According to political watchers, the Congress leaders were not confident, resulting in most of the leaders switching to the saffron party in Arunachal Pradesh. Four Congress Zonal Parishad Members (ZPMs) from the Pasighat West and Mebo constituencies joined the BJP. These leaders, including

Aruni Jamoh and Bimol Lego, cited the effective leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Pema Khandu as the key reasons for their switch. They expressed satisfaction with the developmental support provided by the BJP, even when they were in Congress, which influenced their decision to join the saffron party. Additionally, prominent Congress legislators such as Ninong Ering and Wanglin Lowangdong also joined the BJP. They were motivated by the principles of good governance and the transformative leadership of PM Modi, which they believe brought positive changes to their constituencies and the state. Further, four MLAs from Congress, along with leaders from the National People's Party (NPP), joined the BJP ahead of the assembly elections. These defections illustrate a broader trend of Congress leaders in Arunachal Pradesh gravitating towards the BJP.

13 die after tractor overturns in Madhya Pradesh's Rajgarh

New Delhi: Thirteen people, including four children, died after a tractor overturned in Rajgarh in Madhya Pradesh on Sunday. A total of 15 people were injured in the incident, which took place during a wedding procession at around 8 pm on Sunday in Piplodi in Rajgarh. An official from the district administration was quoted by news agency PTI as saying that the procession was en route to Kulampur from Motipura in Rajgarh.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said in a post on X that Rajgarh Collector Harsh Dikshit,



Superintendent of Police and minister Narayan Singh Panwar were present at the spot. "We are in touch with the Rajasthan government and Rajasthan police has also reached the spot. The treatment of the injured is going on in the District Hospital, Rajgarh and some seriously injured patients have been referred to Bhopal," he added. President Draupadi Murmu extended condolences to the families of the victims and said in a post on X, "The news of the death of many people in a road accident in Rajgarh district of Madhya Pradesh is very sad. I express my deepest condolences to the families who lost their loved ones and pray for the speedy recovery of the injured."

Terminal 3 of Delhi airport reduces power consumption per passenger by 57%

New Delhi: Terminal 3 of the Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi has reduced electricity consumption per passenger by 57 per cent, in a major step towards becoming a net-zero emission airport by 2030. GMR group's Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) said in a statement that the electricity consumption, which was 5.18 kWh per person in 2010, had been reduced to 2.21 kWh in 2023. "DIAL's energy-saving measures include the integration of green building practices, the use of energy-efficient infrastructure, and ongoing efforts to further optimise consumption," it said in a statement.

"The use of the state-of-the-art and dedicated automation in complex airport systems like heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, baggage handling system, information technology, airside ground light, use of LED lights and very high throughput system to maximise the assets performance and optimise the energy consumption via real time monitoring and controlling," the statement said. DIAL CEO Videh Kumar Jaipuria said, "DIAL's dedication to sustainability began with the inception of Terminal 3 and remains a core principle in its operations. The continuous implementation of green initiatives ensures the efficient use of resources and a positive impact on the environment." "Our focus will be on implementing innovative solutions and leveraging best practices to achieve year-on-year reductions in specific energy consumption, all the while maintaining the highest standards of service quality and passenger comfort," he added. The company said that IGI Airport sources its entire electricity from renewable resources, including solar and hydropower.

"DIAL has installed a 7.45MW solar power plant on the airside, which is also the first such plant in an Indian airport on the airside," it added.

Agnipath scheme reform towards maintaining youthful profile in defence: Defence chief

New Delhi: Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan said on Sunday that the implementation of the 'Agnipath' scheme was one of the major reforms towards maintaining a youthful profile in the defence sector.

During an event at INS Chilka, a premier training facility of the Indian Navy in Odisha, he said that the implementation of the 'Agnipath Scheme' has been one of the major reforms towards maintaining a youthful profile in the three services.

The General advised the Agniveers to focus on training to become technologically proficient sea warriors, the defence ministry said in a statement.

The CDS also took a tour of the training infrastructure to gain insight into Agniveer training in the Navy. The Agnipath recruitment scheme was brought by the government in June 2022 for short-term service



recruitment of the youth into the defence. Under the scheme, Agniveers are recruited for a period of four years, with the option to extend their service for an additional four years. After completing their service, 25 per cent of Agniveers will be selected to join

the regular military as permanent soldiers. The remaining 75 per cent will be discharged from the military and will receive a severance package that includes a lump sum payment, a skill certificate, and support for finding employment.

After Amul, Mother Dairy Increases Milk Prices By 2 Per Litre

New Delhi: Mother Dairy on Monday announced a ₹ 2 per litre hike in milk prices in the Delhi-NCR market due to a rise in input cost over the last 15 months. The increase in prices of all variants of milk is effective from Monday (June 3) in Delhi-NCR as well as other markets where it has a presence.

On Sunday, Amul announced an increase in rates. Increases in milk prices by these two leading milk suppliers come just after the completion of the voting process of the Lok Sabha elections.

In a statement, Mother Dairy said it is "increasing its liquid milk prices by ₹ 2 per litre across all operating markets from June 03, 2024 onwards." The increase in consumer price is mainly to compensate the producers for increased production costs, which have

been on the rise for over one year, it said. In Delhi-NCR, Mother Dairy full cream milk will be available now at ₹ 68 per litre, while toned and double-toned milk at ₹ 56 and ₹ 50 per litre, respectively. Buffalo and cow milk prices have been increased to ₹ 72 and ₹ 58 per litre respectively. Token milk (bulk vended milk) will be sold at ₹ 54 per litre. Mother Dairy, which currently sells 35 lakh litre per day of fresh milk in Delhi-NCR, said it had last revised its liquid milk prices in February 2023.

"Despite paying higher prices towards milk procurement in the last few months, the consumer prices were kept intact. Moreover, the heat stress across the country has been unprecedented and it is likely to further impact milk production," Mother Dairy said. The company highlighted that it passes an

average of around 75-80 per cent of the sales realisation from milk towards its procurement. This helps in ensuring the sustenance of dairy farming and the availability of quality milk. "The surge in farm prices is only being partially passed on to the consumers, with an effective revision of 3-4 per cent, thereby securing the interests of both the milk producers and the consumers," Mother Dairy said. On late Sunday, the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which markets dairy products under the Amul brand, increased milk prices by about ₹ 2 per litre from Monday across the country. The increase of ₹ 2 per litre translates to 3-4 per cent increase in MRP which is much lower than average food inflation. GCMMF said in a late night statement.

New Delhi: A Delhi court on Monday extended the judicial custody of BRS leader K Kavitha till July 3 in a money laundering case linked to the alleged Delhi liquor scam. Three others accused in the same case - Prince, Arvind and Damodar - were granted bail by the Rouse Avenue Court on a personal bond of Rs 1 lakh. Special Judge Kaveri Baweja extended custody after Kavitha was produced before the court on Monday. The court had issued a production warrant against her after taking cognisance of a charge sheet against the BRS leader in the case on May 29. Previously, a Delhi court had rejected her bail plea in the case, saying Kavitha was instrumental in influencing witnesses and there was every likelihood of her continuing to do so if relief was granted.

The applicant can be, by no standards, said to be a vulnerable woman who could be made a scapegoat for committing the alleged offences.



Rather, she is undoubtedly a well-educated and well-placed woman in society," the court further said. Kavitha is in judicial custody in the two cases lodged by the ED and the CBI in the liquor policy case. Kavitha, daughter of former Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, was arrested by the ED from her Banjara Hills residence in Hyderabad on March 15. She was also subsequently arrested by the CBI from Tihar Jail.

The ED claimed that Kavitha and AAP leaders conspired to benefit from the liquor business. The agency has flagged loopholes in the liquor policy and alleged kickbacks totalling Rs 100 crore from a group known as the 'South Group', of which Kavitha was allegedly a part, were exchanged.

99 Deaths In Odisha, Water Shortage In Delhi: India's Heatwave Crisis

The extreme heatwave has had a broader environmental impact.

Water shortages in Delhi have exacerbated the crisis, with people scrambling for water in various parts of the city.

New Delhi: Ninety-nine suspected heatstroke deaths in Odisha, 33 poll personnel dead in Uttar Pradesh during the seventh and final phase of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and severe water shortage in some parts of the national capital Delhi - India is currently enduring a devastating heatwave.

The deaths in Odisha have been predominantly reported from the districts

of Bolangir, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Keonjhar, Sonepur, Sundergarh, and Balasore. The state government has urged urgent implementation of heatwave advisories and precautionary measures. In UP, among the 33 dead poll personnel, were home guards, sanitation workers, and other poll staff.

Additionally, a voter died at a polling booth in the Sikandarpur area of Ballia Lok Sabha constituency. Delhi is not spared from the soaring temperatures. Last week, Delhi's Mungeshpur area recorded a maximum temperature of 52.3 degrees Celsius, the highest ever in the city, though this was later corrected to 49.3 degrees Celsius by the weather office due to a faulty sensor. The Delhi High Court, alarmed by the severe temperature spike, warned that the city could turn into a "barren desert" if deforestation continues unchecked. The court has directed the Delhi government to provide the necessary infrastructure to support the committee overseeing forest protection, now renamed the 'Special

Empowered Committee.' This could be the worst summer in the last 120 years, at least for north India. Never have temperatures gone so high - more than 45-47 degrees Celsius - for such a vast region, which is also densely



populated. This is a record in itself," Vimal Mishra, Vikram Sarabhai Chair Professor, Civil Engineering and Earth Sciences, IIT Gandhinagar, told PTI. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a series of meetings yesterday, reviewed the

heatwave conditions and stressed the importance of regular fire and electrical safety audits in hospitals and other public places. Forecasts indicate that the heatwave will persist in parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh. PM Modi also reviewed the impact of Cyclone Remal, particularly in the northeast, and assured continuous support from the Centre to the affected states. India's heatwave has impacted various regions, including Odisha, UP, Punjab, Rajasthan, Chandigarh, and Delhi. In some areas, the combination of high temperatures and humidity has made it unbearable for residents to step outside. The critical 'wet-bulb temperature', which measures the combined effect of heat and humidity on the human body, has reached dangerous levels, posing severe health risks. Research indicates that a wet-bulb temperature of 31 degrees Celsius at humidity levels above 50 per cent can be lethal, as the human body can no longer cool itself through sweating.

NEWS BOX

German police officer stabbed by Afghan refugee dies of injuries

Frankfurt,UPDATED. A 29-year-old German police officer has died of injuries suffered during a mmmmm, officials said on Sunday (June 2).The officer was stabbed several times in the head and neck by a 25-year-old immigrant from Afghanistan and underwent emergency surgery after the attack on May 31, officials said. The officer was placed in an artificial coma but succumbed to his injuries on June 2.Chancellor Olaf Scholz posted on X, formerly Twitter, that he was "deeply grieved" and that the officer's "commitment to the safety of us all deserves the highest recognition".Two dozen of the officer's colleagues paid tribute to their fallen comrade, removing their hats during a gathering on June 2 at the site of the attack.The suspect was shot and wounded by another officer. He remained hospitalised and a judge has ordered him held on suspicion of attempted murder. Police and prosecutors have not provided a motive for the attack, saying the suspect was not in a condition to be questioned.The attack took place during an event held by Pax Europa, which describes itself as an organisation that informs the public about the dangers posed by the "increasing spread and influence of political Islam". Michael Sturzenberger, a 59-year-old anti-Islamist activist who is one of the group's leading figures and has spoken at its events, was among those wounded. The other victims were four men ages 25, 36, 42 and 54. The 54-year-old man suffered injuries that were initially life-threatening, but he was now out of danger.

Israeli airstrikes near city of Aleppo kills several people, Syrian state media say

BEIRUT. Israeli airstrikes around the Syrian city of Aleppo killed several people early on Monday, Syrian state media reported. The state-run SANA news agency gave no specific toll. It said the strikes were around the southeastern edge of Aleppo."The aggression led to a number of martyrs and some arterial losses," SANA said.Israel did not immediately acknowledge the strikes and rarely does when it comes to Syria.

Syria and Israel have been at war since Israel's founding in 1948. Syria's President Bashar Assad has been backed by Iran in his country's yearslong war, and Israeli strikes previously have targeted Iranian positions and equipment.The strikes also come while Israel is fighting Hamas in the Gaza Strip. Israel separately has been striking targets in Lebanon as well as Hezbollah continues its cross-border fire into the country.

The Seoul city government sent a text alert to residents on Saturday, warning of an "unidentified object presumed to be North Korean propaganda leaflets". Pyongyang defended its release of the balloons earlier this week, saying the "sincere gifts" were retaliation for the balloons sent into North Korea with propaganda against leader Kim Jong Un.

Zelenskyy in Philippines to promote peace summit he says China and Russia are trying to undermine

MANILA: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was in the Philippines on Monday in a rare Asian trip to urge regional leaders to attend a Swiss-organized global peace summit on the war in Ukraine that he accuses Russia, with China's help, of trying to undermine.Zelenskyy arrived unannounced and under heavy security in Manila late Sunday after speaking over the weekend at the Shangri-La defense forum in Singapore.

He had planned but failed to meet with Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on the sidelines of that annual defense gathering and decided to fly here to personally invite Marcos to attend the summit in Switzerland, two Filipino officials told The Associated Press. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because of a lack of authority to discuss details of Zelenskyy's secretive trip to Manila.

Both leaders spoke critically of China at the defense forum in Singapore, which was attended by top defense and government officials from around the world, including from Washington and Beijing. The talks were held amid the raging wars in Gaza and Ukraine as well as growing tensions and rivalry for influence between the United States and China in the Indo-Pacific region.At a news conference at the Singapore forum Sunday, Zelenskyy accused China of helping Russia to disrupt the Swiss-organized peace summit by pressuring other countries and their leaders not to attend the talks.

"Russia, using Chinese influence in the region, using Chinese diplomats also, does everything to disrupt the peace summit," he said without elaborating. "Regrettably, this is unfortunate that such a big independent powerful country as China is an instrument in the hands of (Russian leader Vladimir) Putin."The Chinese Foreign Ministry did not respond immediately to a request for comment on Zelenskyy's claim.China has taken what it says is a neutral position on the war, putting it at odds with Ukraine, the U.S. and most of Europe and its trade with Russia has grown, easing the economic impact of Western sanctions. American, Ukrainian and other intelligence agencies say there is evidence that Chinese parts are winding up in Russian weaponry, even if China is not directly arming its neighbor.Switzerland had been hoping China would attend the peace conference in mid-June, but Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning signaled Friday that that was unlikely.At the security forum, Zelenskyy urged top defense officials to participate in the talks in Switzerland, expressing disappointment over the failure of some countries to commit to attending. Ukraine, he said, has proposals to make at the summit as a basis for peace, addressing nuclear security, food security, the release of prisoners of war and the return of Ukrainian children abducted by Russia.elenskyy said Ukraine is "ready to hear various proposals and thoughts that lead us ... to an end of the war and a sustainable and just peace."

North Korea to stop sending trash balloons, South vows 'unbearable' retaliation

Seoul. North Korea said on Sunday it would stop sending balloons carrying trash over the border to South Korea but vowed to resume the practice if anti-North Korean leaflets are flown over again from the South.South Korea has had enough experience of how unpleasant it is and how much effort it takes to collect trash after North Korea sent 15 tons of it using 3,500 balloons, the North's vice-minister of defence Kim Kang Il said in a statement carried by state media outlet KCNA.South Korea said it would take "unendurable" measures against North Korea for sending the trash balloons over the border, which could include blaring propaganda from loudspeakers directed at the North.The announcement from President Yoon Suk Yeol's office followed a meeting of his National Security Council on a response to what Seoul said were more than 700 balloons carrying trash that Pyongyang sent over the heavily fortified border to annoy its neighbour.The council condemned the balloons, and simultaneous GPS jamming, as an "irrational act of provocation".Seoul did

not rule out resuming the loudspeaker blasts, which it stopped in 2018 after a summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, a senior official at Yoon's office told reporters.

The democratic South and the communist North remain technically at war since the 1950-1953 Korean War ended in an armistice rather than a peace treaty. Seoul is a firm US ally whose sophisticated military regularly holds drills with the US, while Pyongyang is developing missile and nuclear technology that Seoul and Washington say violates UN resolutions.North Korea has said its balloons were in retaliation for a propaganda campaign by North Korean defectors and activists in South Korea, who regularly send inflatables containing anti-Pyongyang leaflets, food, medicine, money and USB sticks loaded with K-pop music videos and dramas across the border.The North Korean balloons carrying garbage such as cigarette butts, cloth, paper waste and plastic were found



North Korea on Wednesday sent hundreds of balloons carrying trash and what was labelled as manure across the border as what it called "gifts of sincerity". Seoul responded angrily, calling the move base and dangerous.orth Korea has not commented on the weekend balloons.

South Korean Defence Minister Shin Won-sik told US Defense Secretary Austin Lloyd at a conference in

across the capital Seoul from 8 pm on Saturday to 1 pm on Sunday (1100 GMT on Saturday to 0400 GMT on Sunday), South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

They said the military was monitoring the starting point and conducting aerial reconnaissance to track down and collect the balloons, which have large bags of trash suspended beneath them.

South Korean officers with rifles were picking up and bagging what appeared to be trash from the balloons in cordoned-off areas, local media footage showed.

Singapore on Sunday that the balloons violated the armistice agreement, according to South Korea's military.The two reaffirmed a coordinated response to any North Korean threats and provocations based on the South Korea-US alliance's combined defence posture, it said.

Emergency alerts were issued in North Gyeongsang and Gangwon provinces and some parts of Seoul on Sunday, urging people not to touch the balloons and to alert police.

Pakistan Army gets minority woman brigadier in historic first

Islamabad Dr Helen Mary Roberts, serving in the Pakistan Army Medical Corps, has made history by becoming the first woman from the Christian and minority community to achieve the rank of brigadier in the Muslim-majority country.Roberts was among Pakistan Army officers promoted as brigadiers and full colonels by the Selection Board, The News reported on Sunday.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif congratulated Helen on her promotion as Brigadier, saying the whole nation was proud of her and thousands of hardworking women like her from minority communities who are serving the country with distinction."I myself and the nation congratulate Brig Helen Mary Roberts on getting the honour of the first female from minority to be promoted as Brigadier in the Pakistan Army", he said.Brigadier Dr Helen is a senior pathologist and has been serving in the Pakistan Army for the last 26 years.

During a Christmas celebration at Christ



Church in Rawalpindi last year, Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir had commended the role played by the minority community in the country's development.

According to data released by the

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics in 2021, there are 96.47 per cent Muslims in the country, followed by 2.14 per cent Hindus, 1.27 per cent Christians, 0.09 per cent Ahmadi Muslims and 0.02 per cent others.

Mexico set to get first female president as deadly violence mars historic polls

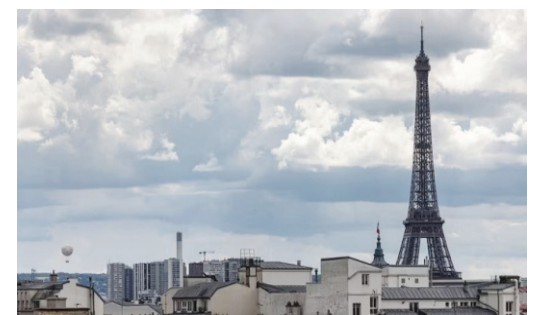
World A majority of the polls closed in Mexico's election on Sunday as the country is expected to elect its first female president, Claudia Sheinbaum. Marred by violence, the election that was the largest in the country's history was also the bloodiest. Several political candidates and applicants have been killed by criminal organisations trying to influence those in power. At least 38 candidates were killed, triggering concerns about the threat of conflicting drug cartels to democracy, news agency Reuters reported.Claudia Sheinbaum from the ruling leftist Morena party, is expected to defeat Xochitl Gálvez from the conservative PAN party, who is representing a coalition of opposition parties. The third candidate

is Jorge Alvarez Maynez, the youngest in the poll race, who is representing the center-left Citizens' Movement.

Here are top five developments in Mexico elections:The National Electoral Institute said that it had to cancel plans for 170 polling booths, mostly in Michoacan and Chiapas and mostly due to security concerns. In Puebla, four armed assailants attempted to burst into a school where voting booths were installed to steal ballots. In western Mexico, a local candidate was shot dead on June 1, hours before the country voted. Violent crimes have been a tops issue in this year's presidential contest.Almost 100 million Mexicans were eligible to cast their vote in Sunday's election. Barring the presidential contest, other

positions up for grabs include Mexico City's mayor, eight governorships and both chambers of Congress. Around 1.4 million Mexicans are eligible to vote abroad as well, CNN reported. About 20,000 elected positions are on ballots, the most in Mexico's history, Reuters reported.

In some regions of Mexico, voters decided to nullify their votes by writing in the names of some of the country's over 1,10,000 missing people as president as part of the 'Vote for the Disappeared' campaign. The Associated Press reported. Such families have criticised outgoing President Andrés Manuel López Obrador's government, who they say has sought to minimise the problem of people missing.



did not rule out sending troops to Ukraine, which sent shock waves through much of Europe and unsettled allies including Germany.The Kremlin slammed the remarks, calling them "dangerous".French authorities have suspected foreign -- notably Russian -- interference in domestic affairs in several other recent incidents, including last month when red hand graffiti was painted onto France's Holocaust Memorial.

The three suspects in that case are believed to have fled abroad.rance suspects that Russia was behind another high-profile incident, the daubing of dozens of Stars of David on buildings in Paris and its suburbs shortly after the October 7 attack by Hamas militants on Israel.

European powers seek to censure Iran at UN nuclear meeting

VIENNA. Britain, France and Germany will seek to censure Iran over its lack of cooperation with the UN nuclear watchdog at its board meeting from Monday despite US opposition, diplomats told AFP.

According to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Tehran is the only non-nuclear weapon state to enrich uranium to 60%, while it keeps accumulating large uranium stockpiles.

That is approaching the enrichment levels of 90% needed for atomic weapons. It is also well above the authorised 3.67% used for nuclear power stations.Iran has always denied wanting to acquire a nuclear weapon, but the rapid expansion of its nuclear programme has no "credible civilian justification", said one diplomat who asked not to be named.Diplomats told AFP that submitting a motion against Iran at the Vienna meeting was driven by an "urgency to react to the gravity of the situation".The planned resolution comes after the IAEA board passed the last one of its kind in November 2022.

Even though Iran continued to significantly ramp up its nuclear programme since then, the IAEA's board has refrained from a

censure.At the last board meeting in March, European powers decided to shelve their plans to confront Iran due to a lack of support from Washington.

The United States denies it is hampering European efforts to hold Tehran accountable but fears a censure could aggravate Middle East tensions ahead of presidential elections in November, diplomats say.'Essential and urgent' Cooperation between Iran and the IAEA has severely deteriorated in recent years, with the UN nuclear watchdog struggling for assurances that Iran's nuclear programme is peaceful.

Diplomats say maintaining the current policy of inaction amid Iran's escalation is no longer tenable and the US position could change ahead of the vote scheduled for later this week.

In May, IAEA head Rafael Grossi visited Iran in a bid to improve cooperation, calling for "concrete results...soon".

In the meantime, the death of Iran's president Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash last month has put negotiations on hold.Diplomats, however, suggest Iran is using the accident as an excuse to stall.The draft resolution obtained by



AFP covers all the points of contention.

The confidential draft says it is "essential and urgent" that Tehran provides "technically credible explanations" for the presence of uranium particles found at two undeclared locations in Iran.Furthermore, Iran has to "reverse its withdrawal of the designations of several experienced Agency inspectors", and "without delay" reconnect the cameras used to monitor nuclear activities.

The draft also notes the "concerns" surrounding "recent public statements made in Iran... regarding its technical capabilities to produce nuclear weapons and possible changes to Iran's nuclear doctrine".

'Wider impasse'Iran has gradually broken away from its commitments under the

2015 nuclear deal it struck with the United States, China, Russia, France, Germany and the United Kingdom.The landmark deal provided Iran sanctions relief in exchange for curbs on its atomic programme.But it fell apart after the unilateral withdrawal of the United States under then-president Donald Trump in 2018Efforts to revive the deal have so far failed."The US has reportedly been hesitant to endorse a resolution because Tehran has previously tended to double down on the very activities that are prompting censure," Naysan Rafati, an Iran analyst at the Crisis Group, told AFP.But Washington "will also be reluctant to publicly break with its European allies", he added."A showdown at the board reflects a wider impasse over Iran's nuclear activity, with little diplomatic activity but increasing concern over a programme that continues to expand in scale under limited international oversight," Rafati said.

Mikhail Ulyanov, Russia's ambassador to the international organisations in Vienna, wrote on X on Sunday that the IAEA board meeting was likely to become a turbulent one.

NEWS BOX

T20 World Cup: Namibia's Ruben Trampelmann sets new record with sensational start vs Oman

New Delhi. Ruben Trampelmann scripted a new T20I record in Namibia's first match of the T20 World Cup 2024 campaign against Oman on Monday, June 3. The 26-year-old left-arm pacer became the first man to pick up two wickets in the first two deliveries of a T20I match when he rocked the Oman batting unit in their Group B match at the Kensington Oval in Bridgetown, Barbados.

T20 World Cup 2024: Full Coverage | Complete Schedule

Ruben Trampelmann came out all guns firing after captain Gerhard Erasmus won the toss and opted to bowl on a pitch that had plenty of assistance for bowlers. Namibia vs Oman: Updates Namibia could not have asked for a better start as Ruben Trampelmann got the big wickets of opener Kashyap Prajapati and captain Aqib Ilyas in the first two deliveries of the game. It was a left-arm swing bowling masterclass from Trampelmann as he got the ball to swing into the right-handers. Prajapati was undone by a fuller-length delivery that swung late. Ilyas received an unplayable in-swinging yorker.

Trampelmann, however, was not able to get a hat-trick, but he struck in his second over, removing wicketkeeper Naseem Khushi for 6. Namibia were reeling at 10 for 3 in the third over of the match after the sensational opening burst from Trampelmann. Trampelmann added another one to his tally on Monday as he got tail-ender Kaleemullah in the 19th over of the innings. Trampelmann finished with figures of four for 21, his career-best in T20I cricket and the left-arm pacer found the perfect stage to do so. Trampelmann's figures of 4 for 21 were also the best for Namibia in a T20 World Cup match as Oman were bundled out for 109 in 19.4 overs.

OMAN STRUGGLE IN BARBADOS

Oman never got going in their innings in Barbados as they kept losing wickets at regular intervals. Zeeshan Maqsood, their experienced all-rounder, was the only one in the top-order to score at a strike rate of over 100. However, Maqsood was dismissed for 22 from 20 balls as Oman slipped to 37 for 4 right after the powerplay. Khalid Kail and Ayaan Khan stitched a 31-run partnership, but Oman were unable to handle the variety and quality of the Namibian bowling attack.

Veteran David Wiese chipped in with three wickets while captain Gerhard Erasmus, with his off-spin took two wickets and conceded just 20 runs in four overs.

French Open: Jannik Sinner survives scare to set-up quarters with Grigor Dimitrov

Paris Wimbledon champion Jannik Sinner battled against the crowd at the Philippe-Chatrier and an inspired local favourite Corentin Moutet in a thrilling Round of 16 match on Sunday. Sinner was nearly bageled in the first set, but he fought back and sealed a 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1 victory to progress to the men's singles quarter-final. Sinner will take on Grigor Dimitrov, who continued his resurgent run on clay, beating 8th seed Hubert Hurkacz in a fourth-round match.

Jannik Sinner has equalled his best-ever performance in Roland Garros and the Italian will be looking to carry forward his good run after having begun the year with the Australian Open crown. Sinner conceded that he found Corentin Moutet tough to handle, especially because of the left-handed artistry that the Frenchman displayed in the opening set. The crowd was rallying behind the local star when he threatened to blank the Australian Open champion in the first set. "It was very tough for me. I think he played very, very well in the first set. I had some chances, but he played much better than me,"



so I had to adjust a little bit. He had an amazing run here at Roland Garros. The atmosphere as always was amazing," Sinner said. "He plays differently to most of my opponents, so it was tough for me. He is also a lefty. You don't play so many times against left-handers, so I'm happy to be in the next round," he added. Moutet was bidding to become the first Frenchman to reach the French Open quarter-final since Richard Gasquet in 2016 showcased his touch game in the opening set, making Sinner run around the court with his slices and drop shots. Moutet was riding on the wave of support from the Paris crowd, but he was soon brought down to earth by Sinner. Sinner looked confident after he broke for a 4-2 lead in the second set and never looked back from there. The Italian found his range and steamrolled Moutet in the last three sets. Sinner, who had been struggling with a hip injury in the lead up to the French Open, is bidding to become the World No. 1. He is keeping up the pressure on Novak Djokovic, who will lose his numero uno spot if he doesn't reach the final of the Roland Garros this year. Sinner will take the spot if he reaches the final.

Hardik Pandya is a strong personality, has moved on from IPL 2024 setback: Ian Bishop

👉 T20 World Cup 2024: Hardik Pandya put behind the disappointing IPL campaign and shone for India in their 60-run win over Bangladesh in a warm-up match on Saturday in New York. Ian Bishop said the all-rounder has set his sights on doing well for India in the tournament.

New Delhi. Former West Indies fast bowler Ian Bishop said Hardik Pandya seems to have moved on from what he endured in the IPL 2024 season and has his eyes set on the T20 World Cup campaign. Bishop's comments came after Hardik played an all-round role in India's 60-run win over Bangladesh in their only warm-up match on Saturday in New York.

20 World Cup: Full Schedule | Points Table | Complete Coverage

Ian Bishop, speaking after Namibia's Super Over win over Oman in Barbados, reflected on Hardik Pandya's solid outing at the Nassau County Cricket Ground, saying he believes that the Indian cricket team stars would have rallied around Hardik after he joined the team in the United States. "I think he is a pretty strong personality. I would like to think that the other members of the team would have rallied around him. What he endured during the IPL, some of it was not of his own making. I just wish fans could have approached it maybe a little differently, but they have the right to voice their views however they see fit.

"I am sure he has moved on now to what is the biggest stage in T20 international cricket and that whole picture is ahead of us. But he is a strong guy," Ian Bishop said.

HARDIK'S ALL-ROUND SHOW

Hardik walked into bat when India were 130 for 3 in the 15th over and needing a



late push. Hardik provided exactly that for Rohit Sharma's team. On the drop-in pitch at the Nassau County Cricket Ground that favoured the bowlers more, Hardik started on a cautious not, but hit a boundary against Shakib Al Hasan in the 16th over. He switched gears in the very next over bowled by Tanvir Islam, hitting the spinner for three sixes in a row. The highlight of Hardik's cameo was the six over covers that he hit against leg-spinner Rishad Hossain off the backfoot in the 19th over.

Hardik looked switched on in his very first outing for India after the disastrous IPL 2024 campaign. Hardik moved to Mumbai Indians from Gujarat Titans in a landmark trade deal. However, a section of MI fans did not welcome his appointment as captain, replacing Rohit Sharma. Hardik was booed

across venues in the country and it had an impact on the way he played and led the team. MI finished at the bottom of the points table even as Hardik faced flak for not inspiring the team enough.

However, if early signs are anything to go by, Hardik is all set to play an important role in India's T20 World Cup campaign.

India, led by Rohit Sharma, will begin their T20 World Cup campaign against Ireland in New York on Wednesday, June 5 before taking on Pakistan on Sunday, June 9.

Namibia's Super Over hero David Wiese 'aged couple of years' after match vs Oman

New Delhi. Namibia's David Wiese reflected on the nerve-wracking feeling after emerging as the team's hero in their Super Over victory against Oman in the Group B clash of the T20 World Cup 2024 at Kensington Oval, Barbados in West Indies on June 3, Monday. Namibia managed a thrilling win after the game headed into the Super Over, the first in a men's T20 World Cup since 2012. Wiese was awarded as the Player of the Match for his all-round performance with the bat and ball. While speaking to the broadcasters after the match, Wiese called the clash emotionally draining and opened up about his approach in the super-over.



"Aged a couple of years tonight. Don't have a lot of years left in me (laughs). Emotionally draining evening. (Batting and bowling in Super over) It helped that I had a feel of the game and knew if I get a few hits out in the Super Over, then with the ball, felt like taking the ball and executing," Wiese said. Namibia vs Oman:

Highlights | Scorecard After Namibia managed to level scores with Oman, Wiese came out to bat in the super-over and slammed Bilal Khan for a six and a four in the first 2 balls. Gerhard Erasmus and Wiese powered Namibia to a winning score of 21 runs, the highest super-over score in T20 World Cup. After failing to chase down 110, the team came out with flying colours in the Super Over. Wiese was handed over the responsibility to

defend the super over total and he gave away just 10 runs and managed to pick a wicket as well. Namibia vs Oman: As it happened

Wiese also reflected on how the pitch played during Namibia's chase of 110 runs against Oman. "Pitch was difficult, didn't play the way we thought. But we adapted well. It was two-paced, it was a difficult wicket to get yourself in. Definitely, one you need to spend a bit of time before capitalising. (Target) Difficult to gauge a good target because if you're chasing 180 then you're playing differently. But when you let them bowl the way they did, you bring them back into the game. Lots of learnings from this game," Wiese added. Namibia managed a great escape as they fluffed but also redeemed themselves. However, Oman also pulled off a dramatic comeback after being bundled out for 109 runs.

French Open Day 9 Schedule: Djokovic and Sabalenka headline action, Bopanna vs Balaji

New Delhi. Day 9 of the Roland Garros will witness high quality action with several big names in action on the clay. Some of the sport's biggest sporting stars will be in the fourth-round action as they look to book a spot in the quarter-finals on the clay courts in Paris. Last year's Roland Garros champion Novak Djokovic will return to the court after his five-set thriller against Italy's Lorenzo Musetti. Meanwhile, Alexander Zverev will also battle it out to make it to the last eight. In the women's singles, Elena Rybakina and Aryna Sabalenka will be first and second respectively on the Court Philippe-Chartier. Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden will face N Sriram Balaji and Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela Martinez in a round of 16 clash in the Men's doubles. Balaji is likely to be Rohan Bopanna's choice for the Paris Olympics doubles team. Second seeds Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden overcame Brazilians Orlando Luz and Marcelo Zormann 7-5, 4-6, 6-4 in a testing three-set opening round at the French Open on Sunday. Meanwhile, India's N Sriram Balaji booked his maiden pre-



quarter finals berth as he and his Mexican partner Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela Martinez beat their French opponent 6-4, 3-6, 6-2. Sabalenka looked in serene form so far as she breezed past her good friend Paula Badosa 7-5, 6-1 in the previous round. However, the 2nd seeded player is expected to face a stiff challenge from Emma

Navarro. Just like Sabalenka, Navarro is also yet to lose a set and came through two tie-breaks against her American compatriot Madison Keys in the third round. Djokovic will face Argentina's Francisco Cerundolo in what promises to be a dramatic day in the French Capital. Interestingly, Djokovic and Cerundolo have never met before on clay.

T20 World Cup 2024: Namibia outclass Oman after Super Over thriller in Barbados

Barbados. Namibia began their T20 World Cup 2024 campaign in style, beating Oman in a battle of associate nations at the Kensington Oval in Bridgetown, Barbados on Monday. It was not a walk in the park for Namibia despite them restricting Oman to 109 in 20 overs. The game ended in a tie and resulted in the first Super Over in a men's T20 World Cup match since 2012.

Namibia vs Oman: Highlights | Scorecard

After struggling to chase down 5 runs in the last over in a chase that never got going, Namibia came out all guns firing in the Super Over. Oman did wonderfully well with the ball to keep Namibia quiet after posting just 109. Mehran Khan gave it his all in the last over, defending 5 runs and picking up 2 wickets. Oman fell just short of defending the lowest total in the history of the men's T20 World Cup. Oman paid the price for not sealing the deal as David Wiese power Namibia to a win in the Super Over. David Wiese, their most

experienced batter, flaunted his power-hitting game, smashing a six and four against Bilal Khan before captain Gerhard Erasmus hit two boundaries. Namibia posted 21 runs, the highest-ever total in a Super Over in a men's T20 World Cup game. David Wiese shone with the ball after he was tasked with the responsibility of bowling the Super Over for Namibia. He picked up a wicket and conceded just 10 runs as Namibia won the Super Over by 11 runs and began their World Cup campaign with a win. It was a crucial win for Namibia as they will face stiffer tests when in Group B, which also has the likes of former champions England and Australia along with Scotland. The 7-wicket win in Barbados was also Namibia's fifth win in a T20 World Cup contest. After bowling out Oman for 109 in 19.4 overs, Namibia's chase got off to the worst possible start as they lost opener Michael van Lingen for 0 in the first over. Left-arm pacer Bilal Khan, one of the most experienced in the associate circuit, got

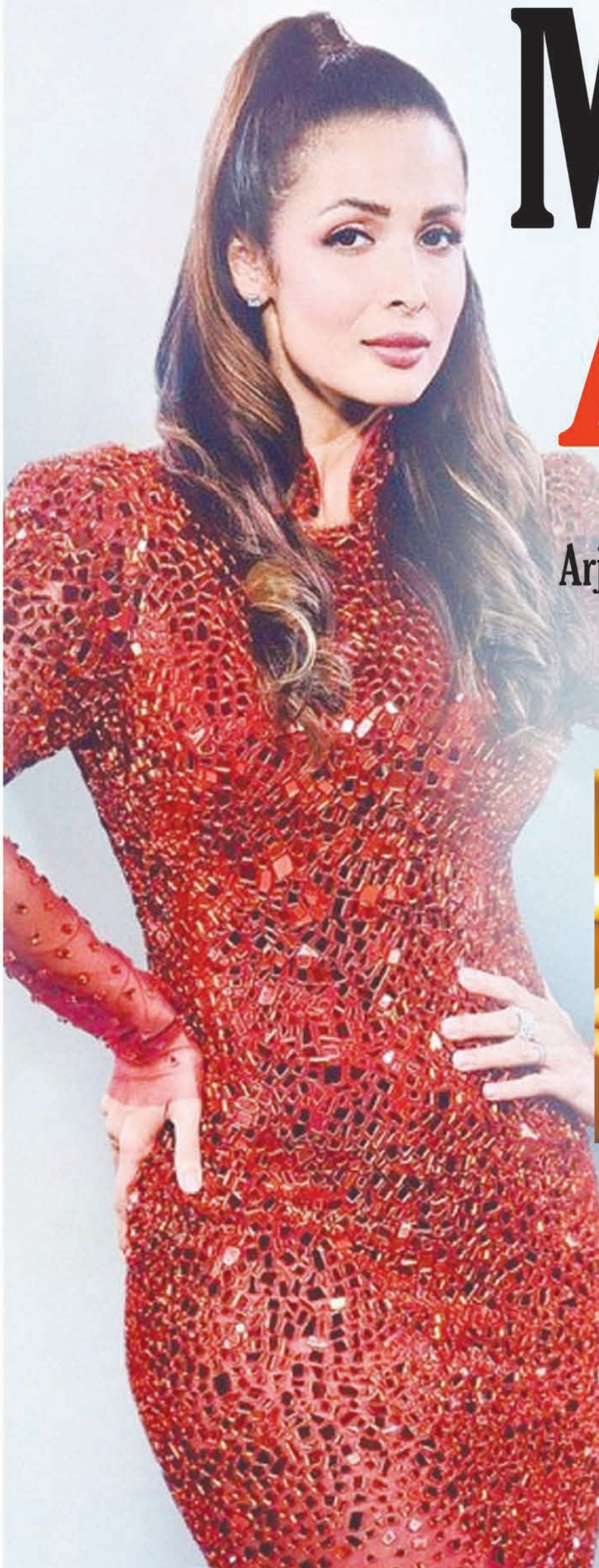


one to shape away and kiss the inside edge of the bat and get him bowled. Namibia, however, did not lose wickets in a bunch like Oman in the powerplay. Nikolaas Davin and Jan Frylinck added 42 runs for the second wicket, without taking a lot of risks. Davin hit 22 off 31, knowing fully well that the asking rate was under control. Jan Frylinck held the innings together, showcasing a lot of maturity in Namibia's chase. Hitting only six boundaries, the No. 3 batter kept moving the

scoreboard with ones and twos after the departure of Davin in the 9th over. Frylinck stitched a 31-run stand with captain Gerhard Erasmus, who made 13 from 16 balls. On a pitch that was on the slower side, Oman kept themselves in the game despite their shoddy fielding -- three dropped catches. Oman got the wicket of JJ Smit for 8 in the 18th over and brought the equation down to 14 off 12 balls.

There was a bit of pressure on Namibia, but experienced David Wiese hit a six in Bilal Khan's last over to ease the nerves in the Namibian camp. However, there was another setback in the final over as Namibia lost Frylinck in the first delivery for 45 with Namibia still needed five runs.

TRUMPELMANN SHINES FOR NAMIBIA Earlier in the day, Ruben Trampelmann set a new record as he backed up captain Gerhard Erasmus's decision to win the toss and opted to bowl.



Malaika Arora

Drops Cryptic Post Amid Breakup With Arjun Kapoor: 'When They Say You Can't...'

Malaika Arora recently shared a cryptic note on her Instagram stories amid her breakup rumours with actor-beau Arjun Kapoor. On Sunday morning, the actress shared a post about second chances and moving on. The post read, "When they say you can't do it, do it twice and take pics." Yesterday, actor Arjun Kapoor also took to his Instagram Stories to share a cryptic note that read, "We have two choices in life. We can be prisoners of our past or explorers of future possibilities." Earlier today, a report by Pinkvilla claimed that the couple amicably



parted ways. "Malaika and Arjun had a very special relationship, and both of them will continue to hold a special place in each other's hearts. They have chosen to part ways and will maintain a dignified silence in this matter. They won't allow anyone to drag and dissect their relationship," a source cited by the entertainment portal claimed. "They had a long, loving, fruitful relationship that has unfortunately run its course now. That doesn't mean there is any bad blood between them. They respect each other hugely and have been a pillar of strength for each other. Over the years, they have given their relationship a lot of respect. They will continue to give each other the same respect despite them deciding to part ways. Both of them were in a serious relationship for years, and they expect people to be gracious enough to give them space at this emotional time," the insider added. However, it should also be noted that neither Malaika nor Arjun have issued any official statements regarding their alleged breakup as of now. Meanwhile, this is not the first time that Malaika Arora and Arjun Kapoor, who made their relationship official in 2019, are in the news due to their alleged breakup. Last year too, rumours of their breakup made headlines. It was said that after his breakup with Malaika, Arjun was dating Kusha Kapila. However, the Masaba Masaba 2 actress later shared a message on her Instagram broadcast channel and rubbished all such rumours. "Roz apne baare mein itni bakwas padh kar mujhe apna khud se ek format introduction karwana padega. Every time I read sh*it about myself I just hope and pray ki meri mummy na padh le yeh aab. unki social life has taken a big hit," she had said.

Ira Khan Drops Pic Of Brother Junaid Khan Cutting Birthday Cake, Pens Sweet Note: 'You're Growing Up'



Amir Khan's son Junaid Khan is celebrating his birthday today. The budding actor, who is all set to impress the audience with his acting skills in Maharaja, has received a sweet birthday wish from his sister Ira. She has taken to her Instagram stories and shared photos from the celebration. Junaid is seen cutting the cake and also posing with her. Ira also penned a special note for him. Ira shared the first photo of Junaid's birthday cake cutting and in the second they are posing. She wrote, "You're growing up! You didn't crib about taking this picture! Love you so much, Junnu! Happy Birthday (red hearts)" She has recently also give a huge shoutout to her brother after the poster of his debut film Maharaja was revealed. She took to her Instagram stories and shared the poster. "Junuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuu", read the caption. Maharaj, directed by Siddharth P. Malhotra and co-starring Jaideep Ahlawat, Sharvari Wagh, and Shalini Pandey in pivotal roles, is said to be inspired by the 1862 Maharaja Libel Case. It revolves around a religious leader who sued a newspaper for alleging inappropriate relationships with his female followers. Junaid portrays a journalist in the movie. The official Netflix handle shared the first film's poster and wrote, "The fight for the truth between a powerful man and a fearless journalist. Based on true events, Maharaj is releasing on June 14 June, only on Netflix!"

In an interview with News18 Showsha, Shalini had opened up on her experience of working with Junaid. She had said, "Junaid is a very easy breezy human being. He's a good co-actor to work with. I had a lot of fun working with him. We're in the same age group, so we had a blast during the shoot. Maharaj is one of his first projects, and so is mine. That's why we had a very similar energy on set." The synopsis of the story reads, "The year is 1862, a time when there were only three universities in India, Rabindranath Tagore is a year old and the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857 continues to fan the flames of independence. Against all odds, one man takes a courageous stand in a landmark legal battle, a true story that's now come to light in Maharaj — more than 160 years later."

Rajkumar Rao And Wamiqa Gabbi Arrive In Varanasi For Shoot Of Bhul Chuk Maaf: Report



Rajkumar Rao is currently basking under the success of his recently released film Mr & Mrs Mahi with Janhvi Kapoor. And now there is a report that he has already gone on to his next film, a romantic drama. The shooting of the film titled Bhul Chuk Maaf will commence in Varanasi and Rajkumar Rao has already arrived at the location. Wamiqa Gabbi will be seen as the lead actress and has joined the team in Varanasi. Bollywood Hungama has quoted a source saying, "Rao and Gabbi have already arrived in Varanasi to film the project under the direction of Karan Sharma. The shoot is set to commence soon." Nothing much detail has been shared till now. Earlier, it was reported that Kartik Aaryan and Shradha Kapoor will be sharing screen space. But later Bhul Bholeaiya 3 actor himself denied the reports saying that "Must be an error. Not true."

Mr & Mrs Mahi film managed to earn these collections due to Cinema Lovers Day where tickets were priced at a flat rate of Rs 99 for the standard versions. 'Mr & Mrs Mahi' has reportedly drawn around 7.5-8 lakh cinegoers to theatres despite being a small-budget film. Well, the actor has many films lined up in his including. He has recently wrapped the shoot of Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video, directed by Raaj Shaandilyaa. He will be sharing screen space with Triptii Dimri. The retro drama will be releasing on 11 October 2024. Taking to his Instagram handle, Rajkumar Rao wrote, "Buckle up for a retro nostalgia trip! Excited to take you on a joy ride in #VickyVidyaKaWohWalaVideo coming on *11th October 2024*" This movie will take us back to the Mystical Age of 90's. It is an illustration of a retro recall and does promise to be an out-and-out family entertainer. Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video is produced by Bhushan Kumar T-series.

Disha Patani

Slips Into A Green Wrap Dress With A Plunging Neckline, Hot Photos Go Viral

Disha Patani surely knows how to make heads turn. On Sunday, the actress effortlessly flaunted her toned physique in a green wrap dress, as she struck her poses. Dishing out major summer fashion goals, the actress completed her look with a dark red lip colour and left her wavy locks loose. She shared a bundle of ravishing photos on her Instagram handle. The actor who is all set to feature in Nag Ashwin's magnum opus Kalki 2898 AD, recently took to her Instagram handle, where she shared images from her recent photoshoot. Sporting a stunning orange corset dress, embellished with floral patterns and a plunging neckline, Disha posed elegantly for the camera, dishing out major fashion goals. Disha has frequently expressed her fondness for unwinding by the beach and poolside. Her vacation snaps generate considerable engagement, with fans praising her fitness. On her social media,



she regularly shares videos of her engaging in weight-training, kickboxing, and HIIT workouts. Despite a hectic schedule, she ensures not to miss her workouts, even on film sets. Disha was recently seen playing a villainous role in the Sidharth Malhotra-Raashii Khanna action thriller 'Yodha.' Her upcoming projects include starring in Nag Ashwin's 'Kalki 2898 AD' alongside Prabhas, Deepika Padukone, Amitabh Bachchan, and Kamal Haasan in major roles. Also, Disha steps into Tamil cinema with Siva's 'Kanguva,' featuring Suriya and Bobby Deol, where she'll be seen in a sci-fi period action-thriller based on

time travel, marking her first Tamil film.

In a chat with Siddharth Kannan, Disha Patani was asked if Tiger needed an excuse to be shirtless. She said, "No, does not need an excuse, voh aisehi nikal dete hain T-shirt. Voh aisehi nikal dete hain kisi ke pooche bina hi. Unko accha lagta hai." "He's very kinky, he likes it when girls are looking at his abs. Tabhi voh bina reason ke apni shirt nikalte rehte hain," Disha added. Tiger replied, "No, that's not true. I'm just... the public demands it again and again so I just oblige." Disha added, "When he'll look at a girl, voh pehle se hi ready rehte hain nikal ke."

