

Let's make India a knowledge powerhouse by 2047

THE clarion call for Atmanirbharta is for India to become a knowledge hub, discard the colonial mindset and move from a 'labour arbitrage' economy to a 'knowledge arbitrage' economy. Our destination is a 'knowledge powerhouse'.

For this, we have the potential, the size and the demographic dividend, and now the growing economic muscle. With the prospect of a sustained 8 per cent GDP growth and the new-wave boost to 6G, chip design and chip manufacturing, new fuel, hydrogen and bio, wind and solar energy, a clutch of unicorns and startups — all have the potential to carve out a wave of environment-friendly and indigenous products. While 6G and chips will be strategic tools that would lead the digital revolution, it is also time to move away from just being a technology follower. It is time to rise to our potential and lead. We have to be a technology provider.

Corporates, both public and private, will need to invest with a mission-mode mindset. The greatest spinoff will be security, national and citizen; both add to make Comprehensive National Power.

Before that, a reality check. There are some critical sectors in the transition journey. As per the Global Knowledge Index report (2023) of the UNDP, our ranking among 133 countries in some critical areas is (the US's corresponding ranking is in brackets): Pre-university education, 96th (ninth); technical and vocational education and training, 119th (second); higher education, 106th (fourth); research & development and innovation, 54th (fifth); information and communication technology or ICT, 83rd (second). Innovation and development are the key. Innovation is a process of one idea building on another, resulting in a novel product, process or service, which is commercialised and put to practical use. Development is one step at a time in the realm of science and technology, striving to instil in future generations an innovative spirit. For this, there is a need to shed the 'rote' model to that of 'inquiry and innovation', which challenges the standard rote answer. Yes, 50+40 makes 90, but when a child says that the total is less than a hundred, he/she has given you an acceptable answer and more. Rote learning is the antithesis of innovation. The Garden City of Bengaluru is our Silicon Valley, nay Colony. We labour, others do a markup, aggregate our work, and we pay for the finished product. It was good for starters; it was good to showcase our skill to the world. It got a boost with Y2K; that era is well past its shelf life. Bengaluru is changing, but ever so slowly. It needs to hasten its pace and be one of a dozen knowledge hubs (Hyderabad, Pune, Chennai and many others) as we journey to 2047. Bengaluru needs to upgrade itself as the 'Chip Net Integration Capital' and lead the way to be the next-wave Silicon Hub. Constraints notwithstanding, we need to build a comprehensive and rewarding innovation system to harness the talent of our GenNext. We have it in abundance at every level. We need to find ways to tap it. Untapped genius is a national loss. GenNext awaits opportunities to be tapped. For when they get them, not just India, entire humanity will benefit. GenNext, wherever it may be, outside India or on MNC campuses within, has untiringly and repeatedly proven that its contribution is world-class. Don't rein it in; loosen the reins and empower it. Get rid of rote learning. How to think is more important than being told what to think. For the Knowledge Powerhouse Mission, five initiatives are essential. First, raise the quality of education. The National Education Policy (NEP) is a start, but its implementation is slow and it does not have the mechanism to learn and adapt. 'One size fits all' is not workable. NEP as a scaffolding is fine. That's it. It will enable pan-India student and labour mobility. Beyond that, states need to innovate to suit their needs and then execute plans. Second, reduce the bureaucratic control over science and technology to facilitate an environment of easy funding that challenges the status quo, encourages creativity and rewards innovation. Third, improve law enforcement to check IPR (intellectual property rights) pilferage and theft.

Our republic's future hinges on democratic education

The cultivation of the faculty of critical thinking is immensely important for democratic education.

AS a teacher/educator, I have always felt that there is something more to democracy than the ritualisation of periodic elections. Of course, these elections are important and we must reflect on the ever-changing nature of power equations, the formation of new political alliances and the questions relating to ideology, politics and governance. But then, amid this intense debate on whether Narendra Modi's popularity has somewhat eroded or whether Rahul Gandhi is emerging as a new icon in Indian politics, I experience the absence of what I would regard as the most important concern: Are our youngsters — the new generation that will shape the destiny of India — getting the kind of education that truly empowers them and makes them capable of sustaining, nurturing and living with the fundamental spirit of democracy? In order to find a meaningful answer to this important question, let me identify three fundamental features of democratic education, and then enquire whether the prevalent practice of education is in tune with this spirit. First, the capacity to engage in a meaningful dialogue is a distinctive feature of democratic education. After all, democracy is not the assertion of a monologue — even the monologue of our 'supreme leader'. Democracy is not the cult of majoritarianism, even if the mathematics of numbers tends to sanctify it. Instead, democracy means the acknowledgement of diverse, plural, subaltern and even conflicting perspectives. In other words, it requires the cultivated skill that sharpens the faculty of mindful observation, promotes the delicate art of listening, and encourages the elasticity of consciousness needed for expanding one's mental horizon, or becoming empathic to others. Although this sort of dialogue does not necessarily guarantee a consensus, it means humility, or the courage to change and amend one's position, if one is convinced by counter arguments. In fact, authoritarian masters all over the world demand 'certainty' or 'homogeneity'; they are afraid of differences, plurality and ambiguities. The subtlety of dialogic education, it has to be realised, is an antithesis of all sorts of authoritarianism. Second, the cultivation of the faculty of critical thinking is immensely important for democratic education. And critical thinking is not merely about solving a mathematics riddle or a physics numerical; it is essentially about the ability to pose new questions, see beyond the 'taken-for-granted' world, celebrate what Brazilian educationist Paulo Freire would have regarded as a 'problem-posing education', and interrogate, say, the normalisation of patriarchy, caste hierarchy, religious bigotry and heightened economic inequality. The question is whether we are really prepared to accept the spirit of critical pedagogy in our classrooms in order to create intellectually alert, active and awakened citizens



— not merely a set of 'toppers' or 'products' with fancy salary packages. Third, it is impossible to sow the seeds of active and participatory democracy without encouraging the kind of education that nurtures the ethic of care. As hyper-competitiveness is becoming the order of the day, we tend to worship aggressive, self-possessive and narcissistic warriors — not compassionate citizens filled with the ethic of love, compassion and egalitarian/democratic living. It is sad that even the educational arena has begun to look like a battlefield — 'exam warriors' running neurotically after mythical 'success'. Can we learn a couple of lessons from the likes of Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr and American feminist pedagogue bell hooks, and initiate a movement to save education from the virus of the recklessly aggressive culture that keeps reproducing patriarchy, casteism and racism?

These three ideals indicate that a truly libertarian/democratic education ought to free itself from the discourses of neoliberal market fundamentalism as well as religious fundamentalism implicit in the ideology of hyper-nationalism. If we equate education solely with the acquisition of a set of technical skills the market demands; or, for that matter, if we think that the primary objective of education is to manufacture a brigade of hyper-masculine 'nationalists' intoxicated with the zeal to eradicate the cleverly constructed 'enemies' of the nation, we will end up negating the very purpose of a life-affirming and emancipatory education.

Well, these days, political pundits are continually debating and reflecting on the implications of the results of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections — the dialectic of the 'NDA vs INDIA' politics. But then, these debates miss what really matters — the realisation that unless the new generation evolves as truly alert and awakened citizens with the vibrancy of democratic education, the future of the republic will be in danger. In fact, if there is democratic education, the new generation will not remain content merely with the ritualistic act of casting their votes and choosing the 'lesser evil' every five years; nor will they transform their representatives into their 'masters'. Instead, they will remain perpetually alert and active; and succeed in making their 'representatives' accountable. Yes, they will refuse to be just passive spectators of the dramaturgical performances of the political bosses; they will not be hypnotised by the propaganda machinery; they will come to the street and ask them many difficult questions — can India really become a vishwaguru, particularly when its rank on the Global Hunger Index is 111 out of 125 countries? Is the set of 'fundamental rights' our Constitution prescribes in tune with our lived experiences, and that too at a time when India's score on the World Press Freedom Index is far from satisfactory? Is there reason to be proud of the prevalent political culture when the latest report released by the Association for Democratic Reforms reveals that 251 of the 543 newly elected Lok Sabha MPs have criminal cases registered against them?

PM's team

Coalition considerations influence choices

AT the helm of a genuine coalition government for the first time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is heading a 72-member Union Council of Ministers, which has been formed after taking several factors into consideration — experience, youth, caste matrix, upcoming Assembly polls and representation of the BJP's partners in the NDA. The PM's team includes 30 Cabinet ministers, four of whom are from Bihar. This is no surprise as the BJP has three important allies in that state — CM Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United), former CM Jitan Ram Manjhi-led Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) and Chirag Paswan's Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas). Two allies in southern states, Chandrababu Naidu's Telugu Desam Party and HD Kumaraswamy's Janata Dal (Secular), have also got one Cabinet berth each.

Among the first-timers are three former chief ministers — Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Madhya Pradesh), Manohar Lal Khattar (Haryana) and



Kumaraswamy (Karnataka); Suresh Gopi, the BJP's first

Lok Sabha MP from Kerala, has also made the grade. Over 40 ministers are from Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This is significant in the light of the poll reversals suffered by the BJP in Uttar Pradesh, where the Samajwadi Party made major gains on the back of its outreach to the 'PDA' — Pichhra (backward), Dalit and Alpsankhyak (minorities). Maharashtra and Haryana, which go to the polls later this year, have a noticeable presence in the Council of Ministers. The induction of former Congress MP Ravneet Singh Bittu as a Minister of State shows that the BJP is keen on staging a revival in Punjab after its disastrous performance in the recent Lok Sabha polls. The party contested all 13 seats but drew a blank, with Bittu losing from Ludhiana. It is apparent that the BJP is looking to groom this relatively young leader with an eye on the 2027 Assembly elections. All in all, the BJP has performed a delicate balancing act.

How Modi 3.0 looks from South Asia

The region will hope the PM will move towards rapprochement with Pakistan and revival of SAARC

IN 2014, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi first took up office as the head of a National Democratic Alliance government in which the BJP had a majority of its own, South Asia saw promise in dealing with a strong leader in Delhi for the first time since 1989. Against the background of growing Chinese influence in the region, Modi's invitation to the SAARC leaders, including then Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, was hailed as a grand gesture of goodwill. South Asia saw in it a sign of new beginnings. Five years later, when Modi invited another group of leaders from the neighbourhood and beyond for the inauguration of his second innings, he had already stamped India and the region with his strongman style of leadership. He was at the peak of his political power, having achieved an even bigger victory on the nationalist wave following India's strike inside Pakistan after the Pulwama attack. And to the dismay of many smaller South Asian nations, Modi had dumped SAARC. On Sunday, as the leaders of five South Asian nations — Pakistan and Afghanistan were not invited — and two Indian Ocean countries, Mauritius and Seychelles, assembled at the Rashtrapati Bhavan forecourt at Modi's invitation to watch him being sworn in for a third term, they came fully aware that much had changed since he first took up office. In their own countries, China's influence has grown deeper roots, and their politics have undergone massive churns. And this time, it was almost as if a politically weak Modi needed their presence to bolster the signals being sent out from June 4 that nothing has changed in Delhi. They would, of course, have sized up the new arrangement for themselves, of what has changed and what remains.

But for the diverse people of a region that has seen — and seen off — its share of strongmen and who have held India's pluralism and its secular democracy in admiration, Modi's democratic downsizing is an inspiring moment. There was concern at the erosion of these values in India over the last 10 years and for the fallout on their own politics. They have greeted India's 2024 verdict with relief. Especially in countries

struggling with the authoritarian creep of their own leaders, it has restored faith in India's democracy. Across South Asia, there is admiration for the Indian voter.

In Bangladesh, where five-time PM Sheikh Hasina won a fourth successive term in January in a controversial election marred by an Opposition boycott and a crackdown on dissent, Mahfuz Anam, the editor of The Daily Star, noted, somewhat wistfully, that in "Bangladesh... voters aspire for the same power".

In Sri Lanka, voters had used the ballot to send the authoritarian Mahinda Rajapaksa packing in 2015, only to bring him and his brother Gotabaya back in 2019. After helplessly watching them preside over the country's economic meltdown, Sri Lankans came out on the streets in 2022, and, in a dramatic show of people's power, unseated the Rajapaksa family. But they believe their efforts to bring about real change have been thwarted by the country's entrenched political elite, who have clawed back into positions of power after small rearrangements among themselves.

The Daily FT said the Sri Lankan people could "take heart from the election results in India, where voters have pushed back against powerful forces using the power of the ballot". It pointed to the communal malaise in its own polity and said, "the Mahinda/Gotabaya Rajapaksa brand of politics which brought Sinhala Buddhist supremacy to the fore and demonised ethnic and religious minorities is a replica of what the Modi government has been practising in India since taking power in 2014". In Pakistan, where the struggle for democracy is ranged not so much against politicians as the powerful army, Modi's seemingly unstoppable rise as a Hindu majoritarian leader was seen as mirroring Pakistan's own descent into the Mullah-military alliance. "Tum bilkul hum jaise nikley," a line from Pakistani poet Fahmida Riaz's eponymous poem, was often used to describe India's embrace of Hindutva in the last 10 years. In a country still smouldering from the two-year-long internecine competition among political elites for the army's patronage and an election in February that

resolved none of its problems, there is now surprise, if not admiration, that India's democracy is in the safe hands of its voters. Writing in Dawn, columnist Mahir Ali noted that "Indian voters have now indicated that they resent [the religious fundamentalism] formula in the Hindu context, particularly when it fails to deliver the



promised levels of employment and levelling up."

Nepal has had its own concerns about Hindutva, on aggressive display along its border in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Columnist Namrata Sharma, writing before the election in Rising Nepal, observed the "unease" in the former Hindu kingdom at how a third-term BJP government in Delhi might impact Nepal's own hard-won secular republic with a Constitution that took several years to frame. She also flagged the presence of RSS leaders from India at protest demonstrations for a return to a Hindu monarchy.

After the Mohamed Muizzu government came to power in the Maldives against a background of resentment against New Delhi and 'India Out' protests, it has been hard for Indians to understand how a small country can stand up to the region's biggest country, that too, a generous one. But even Muizzu's openly Delhi-friendly predecessor, Ibrahim Solih, struggled to explain to voters in this

Islamic republic the bigoted shenanigans of a hate-mongering functionary of India's ruling party or the commandeering of locals by the Indian Embassy in Male for a yoga day event.

At a time when India is trying to push back on China's large footprint in these countries and in countries such as Seychelles and Mauritius in the wider Indian Ocean region, the BJP's willingness to throw under the bus its 'Neighbourhood First' diplomacy for its electoral gains has not helped. The blockading of Nepal just before the Bihar election of 2016, Amit Shah's description of Bangladeshi migrants as 'termites' in 2018, the PM's 'bheekh ka katora' jibes at Pakistan's economic woes and the gratuitous raking up of India's Katchathevu agreement in this poll campaign speak of a reckless disregard in the top BJP leadership for how India is perceived by the people of the neighbourhood. Why has Shehbaz Sharif not congratulated Modi yet, some Indians ask, in response to why Modi left out the Pakistan Prime Minister for his inauguration. After

Modi's taunts, Sharif would be risking the little credibility he has left from his tainted election victory to risk any outreach to the new government. India will need to make the first public move, but can a weak Modi do what a strong Modi could not, after singed hands in 2015? Still, South Asia will hope that Modi 3.0 will move towards a rapprochement with Pakistan and a revival of SAARC. After all, it was an NDA coalition government that made the big peace move in 1998 and 2003, which was taken forward by another coalition, this time the UPA, in 2004. South Asia will also hope that Modi 3.0 finds it less easy to denigrate neighbours, or use his social media clout to boss over them, or swing secret deals with their unpopular leaders for Delhi's favourite businessmen. It will hope for an Indian foreign policy that understands the people of the neighbourhood and their aspirations better.

Will Modi 3.0 boost foreign investments in equities? Phillip Capital explains

New Delhi. Domestic brokerage firms remain optimistic about the Indian economy and anticipate a strong inflow of foreign institutional investments (FIIs) into Indian equities following the inauguration of Narendra Modi's third term as Prime Minister.

Along with his cabinet of 71 ministers, PM Modi's administration is expected to maintain stable and non-populist governance, suggested the brokerage firm.

Phillip Capital highlighted that the distribution of cabinet seats signifies continuity and equitable treatment of allies, which it views positively. The upcoming full budget in July will further clarify the possibilities and scope of each ministry, the brokerage said, adding that it expects a blend of social initiatives and continuity in capital expenditure and previously established policies and reforms. Key ministries such as Defence, Home Affairs, Road Transport, Finance, and External Affairs will retain the same BJP leadership as in the previous term. Other significant ministries, including Agriculture, Farmers Welfare, Rural Development, Health, Family Welfare, and Chemicals & Fertilizers, are also under BJP control. "In the third term of this coalition, with well-experienced faces helming the key ministries, we see likelihood of incrementally positive/strong FII flows along with buoyant domestic flow," Phillip Capital said. "As a result, we retain our medium to long-term positive stance on Indian macro and equities," the brokerage added.

Gold, silver price : Yellow metal records dip, silver trades higher on MCX

New Delhi After retailing on the lower side yesterday, precious metals showed mixed trends in the Indian markets today. Gold is trading on the lower side of the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) while silver prices have recorded a hike on Wednesday, June 12.

Gold futures, maturing on August 5, 2024, stood at Rs 71,594 per 10 grams, after recording a marginal dip of Rs 14 or 0.02 per cent. The previous close was recorded at Rs 71,490. Meanwhile, silver futures, due on July 5, 2024, witnessed a hike of Rs 417 or 0.47 per cent and were retailing at Rs 89,414 per kg on the MCX against the previous close of Rs 88,663. Indian gold prices have traded at a discount to international prices for five straight weeks, reflecting tepid demand in the second largest bullion consumer, while the Perth Mint's gold product sales in May fell 30% on a monthly basis.



The price of gold varies for different regions in the country based on certain parameters such as the excise duty, making charges and the state taxes.

GOLD, SILVER RATE IN INTERNATIONAL MARKETS Spot gold is trading a little over \$2,300 per ounce, up about 12% year-to-date and only about 6% shy of the record high it hit last month.

India's gold imports in 2024 are expected to fall by nearly a fifth, as record high prices have pushed retail consumers to exchange old jewellery for new items instead of buying afresh.

General insurers can offer less than 1 yr tenure policies

NEW DELHI. General insurance companies can now offer insurance policies for a tenure of less than a year, and they cannot reject claims for want of documents, according to a circular issued by the insurance regulator – Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) -- on Tuesday. The circular is part of larger insurance sector reforms – one of the key agendas of the new government's 100-day plan. According to the master circular, customers can be offered insurance policies which are less than one year, annual and more than one year. Most general insurance policies – motor, fire, house, travel, etc – come with the tenure of a year or more. The circular says that no claim



can be rejected for want of documents, and that all required documents should be called at the time of underwriting the proposal. The customer may be asked to submit only those documents that are directly related to the claim settlement.

The new rules enumerated in the circular are customer-centric, and protects the rights of customers. For example, the circular says retail customers can cancel the policy anytime by informing the insurer, but the insurer can cancel the policy only on grounds of established fraud. The insurer will have to refund proportionate premium for the unexpired policy period on cancellation. The circular prescribes strict timelines for settlement of claims including turnaround time for appointment of surveyors and submission of their reports.

Salaried taxpayer Avoid these common errors during ITR filing

ITR FY2023-24 (AY2024-25): By being mindful of these common errors, taxpayers can ensure a smoother and more efficient tax filing process.

New Delhi. With the tax filing deadline of July 31 approaching, salaried taxpayers must be vigilant when filing their Income Tax Returns (ITR). Although filing ITR is generally straightforward, even minor errors can trigger notices from the tax authorities and potentially result in fines. Some common errors include incorrect personal details, using the wrong tax forms, and not cross-verifying with Form 26AS. Many taxpayers also fail to report income from other sources or exempted income, provide incomplete bank details, or forget to e-verify their ITR. Below are some of the common mistakes taxpayers

should avoid at all costs:

Incorrect filing of tax forms

Use the correct ITR form to report all taxable and tax-exempt income sources. For instance, salaried individuals with a gross income below Rs 50 lakh and no capital gains should use ITR 1. Filing the wrong form can lead to errors and penalties, and the return may be deemed defective.

Not checking Form 26AS

It may be noted that Form 26AS provides a comprehensive view of your income, TDS, self-assessed tax paid, and advance tax paid. Cross-verify this information with your employer's Form 16. Inaccuracies can result in less refund or more tax payable. Failure to report income from other sources,

such as interest from savings accounts or dividends, must be reported under Section 56 of the Income Tax Act. Neglecting to report



these earnings can lead to issues with the IT department.

Not mentioning exempted income

Even exempted income must be reported. For example, capital gains from the sale of a house that are reinvested to buy another house are exempt under Section 54 but should still be disclosed in the ITR. Incomplete and inaccurate bank details Accurate bank details, including name,

IFSC code, and account number, are essential for processing refunds. Many refunds are delayed due to incorrect bank information. Pre-validate your bank account to ensure smooth processing.

Failure to e-verify ITR V

Verifying your ITR within 30 days of filing is mandatory. Without verification, the IT department will not process your return, and it will be considered invalid. Failure to respond to notices regarding verification can lead to penalties for non-filing. By being mindful of these common errors, you can ensure a smoother and more efficient tax filing process. Prepare your documents early and double-check all information to avoid last-minute stress and potential issues with the Income Tax Department

Nifty hits record high, Sensex surges over 500 points

New Delhi Benchmark stock market indices opened Wednesday's trading session on a positive note, backed by gains in financial and IT stocks. The NSE Nifty hit a fresh record high of 23,441.95 after gaining 170 points, while the S&P BSE surged over 500 points as investors remained optimistic about India's economic growth under Modi 3.0. The S&P BSE Sensex rose 524.83 points to 76,981.42 at 11:00 am, while the NSE Nifty50 gained 160.15 points to trade at 23,425. Other broader market indices also gained during the session as volatility dipped further.

Among sectoral indices, high-weightage Nifty Bank, Nifty IT and Nifty Financials were up nearly 0.8%, while Nifty Media was the top gainer.

Among top gainers on the Nifty50 were Coal India, BPCL, Tata Motors, Bajaj Finance and LTIM. On the other hand,

the top losers were Britannia, Titan, Asian Paints, HUL and Nestle India.

Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said, "A subdued



to weak opening is on the cards for local markets owing to bearishness in several Asian indices. Domestic investors would be cautious ahead of the CPI inflation and IIP data to be announced post market hours today, and hence stock-specific activity could continue." Also, the May US inflation data and rate-setting decision would be

keenly watched by global investors, as any increase in the number could prompt the Federal Reserve to delay its rate cut decision," he added. Meanwhile, Dr. V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services said, "The 32% decline in India VIX during the last 5 days indicates that the days of heightened volatility are over and the market has entered a consolidation phase. From now on the focus will be on fundamentals and news flows." "There is a recent trend of investors/speculators chasing momentum stocks with low floating stock and excessive valuations. This is a risky trade which investors should avoid," he noted. "The focus of investors should be on fairly valued quality growth stocks. Here, financials come on top. This segment has the potential to give decent returns in the medium to long term. IT stocks also have valuation comfort."

Over 15.4 million developers in India build on GitHub, to surpass US by 2027

BENGALURU. Microsoft-owned developer platform GitHub has onboarded an additional 2.2 million developers in India, bringing the total number of Indian developers to 15.4 million. The developer community in India on GitHub is projected to surpass that of the United States, which currently stands at 21 million, by 2027. The addition of 2.2 million developers this year follows last year's growth, where GitHub added 3.5 million developers, increasing India's developer base to 13.2 million. The momentum is palpable, with the Indian developer base now having grown threefold from 5.8 million in 2021. "About 200,000 computer science graduates are coming out of engineering degrees, and that creates a convergence. India could be the leader, not only in software but also in AI. Children and adults alike will learn to code in their native language, leading to a prolonged groundswell of developers," said GitHub CEO Thomas Dohmke.

During the December quarter of last year, developers in India owned over 36.9 million repositories on GitHub, compared to 27.4 million repositories during the corresponding period last year. Over 3.8 lakh developers from India made over 9.7 million contributions to open-source last year. In comparison, in 2022, over 3.2 lakh developers from India made over 8.1 million contributions to open source.

From reaping the benefits of AI pair programming to accelerating the next era of software development, GitHub is improving developers' productivity. Last year, GitHub surpassed \$1 billion in annual recurring revenue. Recently, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella said GitHub revenue accelerated to over 40% year-over-year, driven by the growth and adoption of the GitHub AI developer tool Copilot. GitHub Copilot has 1.8 million paid subscribers and has been embraced by over 50,000 firms globally, including Autodesk, Dell, and Goldman Sachs. In India, GitHub counts Cognizant, Infosys,

MakeMyTrip, and Paytm among its top customers. Among its recent AI features, Copilot Enterprise, tailors Copilot to a company's codebase and allows developers to converse with it in natural language. Dohmke grew up in Berlin in a suburb called Marzahn on the East side of the wall, before it fell. "The complexity of software systems has increased compared to the early '90s. There wasn't much software back then, but today you can't imagine a world without software," he said. When asked about how GitHub, along with GenAI, could be the ultimate litmus test in understanding developer proficiency, Dohmke said that in many interviews, instead of asking the developer to write code, interviewers ask them to use a copilot to write the same piece of code. "This shows their prompting and reasoning skills. It provides good insights into whether the developer not only understands how to work with models, but also how they're validating the code that was written."



vehicles (EVS) to improve its market share to 16% by FY27. It believes additional launches and continuing powertrain shift to take its market share to 18-20% in another 2-3 years.

Currently, Tata Motors' product portfolio occupies six sub-segments which represent 53% of the total industry volume. Tata said it will increase this to 80% with new nameplates.

In the EV space where Tata Motors has maintained a 70% plus market share, the company has plans to incur a capital expenditure between Rs 16,000 crore and 18,000 crore till FY30. The company, which currently sells four electric car models, aims to launch six more by March 2026.

It would be launching Curvv.ev and Harrier.ev in FY25 and Sierra.ev and Avinya in FY26. Tata Motors also has plans to increase the number of electric car dealerships to 50 cities within the next 24 months. Tata Motors also informed that its Indian operations are now net debt-free and British subsidiary Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) is expected to achieve the same status by FY25. The company aims to increase its profit margins on passenger cars by 2% in the coming years.

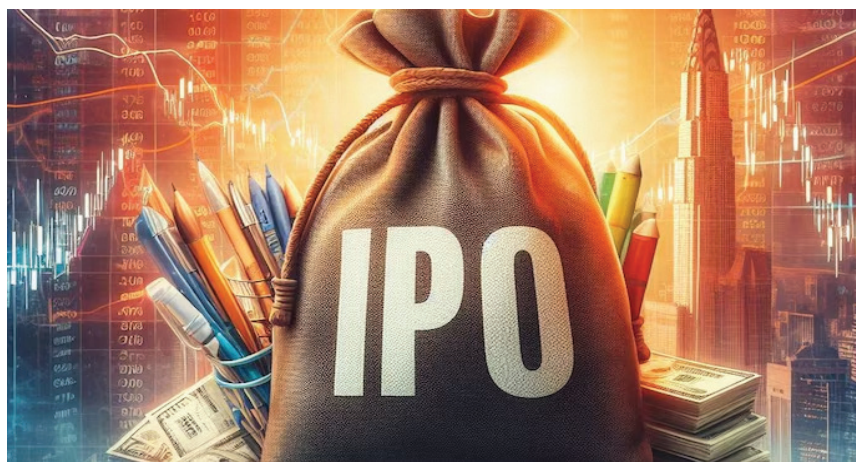
Modi 3.0 paves the way for next IPO wave. Check details

Over the next two months, more than two dozen companies are slated to go public, collectively aiming to raise over Rs 30,000 crore

New Delhi With the BJP-led NDA government securing a third term, India's primary market is gearing up for an IPO surge.

Over the next two months, more than two dozen companies are slated to go public, collectively aiming to raise over Rs 30,000 crore, The Economic Times reported. The anticipation of stable governance and consistent policies under PM Modi's leadership has rekindled investor confidence, according to most market experts and brokerages. The ET report highlighted that bankers have reported strong investor enthusiasm for new shares, even as broader equity indices hit fresh highs and many stocks trade at elevated valuations.

Upcoming IPOs in focus



Upcoming IPOs include Afcons Infrastructure, Emcure Pharmaceuticals, Allied Blenders and Distillers, Asirvad Microfinance, Stanley Lifestyles, Waaree Energies, Premier Energies, Shiva Pharmachem, Bansal Wire Industries, One MobiKwik Systems, and CJ Darcl Logistics, among others.

As per primedatabase.com, a total of 18 companies have already received approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) to collectively raise over Rs 20,000 crore, with another 37 firms having filed draft red herring prospectuses (DRHP) to raise more than Rs 50,000 crore, awaiting

regulatory nod.

Marking the beginning of this wave, online travel platform Ixigo's IPO, the first since the general election, was fully subscribed within hours of opening on Monday, driven by strong demand from retail investors. The Rs 740 crore public offer will close on Wednesday. These upcoming IPOs could see strong demand from all categories of investors as markets are confident about policy continuity under the BJP-led NDA government. Experts feel that companies are cashing in on the Modi 3.0 optimism, predicting that the public issues will see strong subscription. In addition, India's

third-largest Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) producer, Allied Blenders and Distillers, plans to enter the capital market in the second half of this month to raise about Rs 1,500 crore. Meanwhile, generic drugmaker Emcure Pharmaceuticals is eyeing a Rs 2,200-2,300 crore IPO by the end of this month, having received Sebi approval earlier this week. Shapoorji Pallonji Group's flagship infrastructure engineering and construction company, Afcons Infrastructure, is set to launch its maiden public issue next month to raise Rs 7,000 crore, pending Sebi approval. Ola Electric's Rs 7,250 crore IPO is also expected soon, marking the first IPO by an electric vehicle startup in India.

Photovoltaic solar panel maker Waaree Energies is likely to go public in the coming weeks with a fresh issue worth Rs 3,000 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of 3.2 million shares from existing investors. Additionally, Premier Energies, India's second-largest integrated solar cell and solar module maker, plans to roll out its public issue soon, comprising a fresh issue of Rs 1,500 crore and an OFS of up to 28.2 million shares. So far, in 2024, around 30 companies have raised Rs 27,780 crore through IPOs, compared to Rs 49,500 crore raised by 57 companies in the previous calendar year.

On Delhi Water Crisis, Supreme Court Wants To Know Waste Control Measures

The Supreme Court had ordered Himachal Pradesh to release 137 cusecs of water - approx. 28.3 litres of water flow per second - to reach Delhi's Hathnikund barrage.

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has asked the Delhi government to list action taken to control the wastage of water as the national capital faces a water crisis. The Delhi government - which had moved the top

court seeking directions to Haryana to release its share of water - has been told to file an affidavit by Thursday. The BJP has accused the AAP of "lying" and fomenting the crisis by mishandling resources and demanded answers from its two most prominent faces - Atishi and Saurabh Bhardwaj. The AAP, meanwhile, has counter-attacked by alleging the BJP government in Haryana continues to not release the city's share of water despite claiming to do so, and has also fired shots at the Lt Governor. On Tuesday Atishi, once again accused the Haryana government of deliberately and illegally halting the water supply to the national capital. Citing an affidavit submitted by the Haryana government to the court, she said, "The Haryana government has been lying about releasing adequate water. Their affidavit presents data on actual discharge of water... which has exposed their lie." She also slammed Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK



Saxena for blaming Delhi's AAP government for non-maintenance of water canals and theft of water supply. Tuesday's episode of the 'water war' broke after Mr Saxena's social media post, which said he had spoken to Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini and received assurances his government had released

water - in quantities required by law - to Delhi. "... water is being provided to Delhi as per allocated share...", he wrote, saying Haryana had done so "despite the state's own constraints..." That prompted the Delhi BJP unit - with one eye on next year's Assembly election and a chance at a revival in the city after abysmal results in the last two - to attack the AAP. On Monday Mr Saxena met Atishi and Saurabh Bhardwaj and promised to speak to the Haryana government. He also ticked off the AAP for playing "blame games" at this time. For now, the court has ordered Himachal Pradesh to release 137 cusecs of water - approx. 28.3 litres of water flow per second - to reach Delhi's Hathnikund barrage. However, the route requires the Haryana government's cooperation, which the AAP claims is lacking. The Supreme Court last week directed the Haryana government to allow the water through "without hindrance so people of Delhi get drinking water".

Atishi says will take action against tanker mafia amid Delhi water crisis

New Delhi: Amid the water crisis in Delhi, the AAP government has taken cognisance of India Today's sting operation on the tanker mafia, exposing the corrupt water trade. Delhi Water Minister Atishi has said that she will be writing a letter to the Police Commissioner and will ask him to take action against the rampant tanker mafia. As Delhi is reeling under water crisis, India Today's undercover team reached Sangam Vihar, where they met a tanker mafia operator named Ritesh. Under the pretext of building a house, India Today's team placed a demand for water.

In response, Ritesh asked for the address and said how much water was needed. In the beginning, Ritesh



quoted Rs 2100 but then reduced it to Rs 1500 per tanker. A tanker contains 12,000 litres of water. He also mentioned that the delivery would cost extra money, thus making a tanker worth Rs 3000. After Ritesh, India Today's team met another operator named Mohan. The team recorded a tanker leaving on a hidden camera. Mohan said that he could provide a tanker with a capacity of 4500 litres, which is priced at Rs 2200.

He told India Today's team that the groundwater is dropping, and they are having difficulty filling the tankers. When asked how deep they have to drill to get water, Mohan said around 650 feet. In Delhi, tanker mafias are violating several rules as they are extracting water from illegal borewells. India Today's team found such illegal tube wells in the Yamuna Khadar area of Wazirabad, Delhi, where tankers were being filled openly.

Jawan killed, 6 injured in separate terror attacks in J&K, encounter underway

New Delhi: The typically peaceful Jammu and Kashmir provinces of Doda and Kathua were struck by two separate terror attacks on Tuesday, resulting in the death of a CRPF jawan while six security personnel were injured, officials said. In Doda district, terrorists attacked a joint checkpost of the 4 Rashtriya Rifles and police on the Bharderwah-Pathankot road late on Tuesday night, leading to a fierce gunfight. Jaish-e-Mohammed-linked terror group, the Kashmir Tigers, claimed responsibility for the attack. The terrorist attack in Kathua's Saida Sukhal village occurred on Tuesday evening, injuring a civilian. During a subsequent search operation, two terrorists were killed, and efforts were being made to flush out the other holed-up terrorist who is believed to have infiltrated from across the border.

Here are the latest developments in the incidents:

Five troopers of Rashtriya Rifles and a special police officer (SPO) were injured in the exchange of fire after terrorists attacked the Army post in Doda. The injured personnel were hospitalised, and reinforcements were deployed to intensify the operation against the terrorists. In Kathua district, a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) jawan, Kabir Dass, was critically injured when a terrorist opened fire in Saida Sukhal village around 3 am. The soldier was shifted to a hospital where he succumbed to his injuries during treatment.

According to officials, the terrorists opened indiscriminate fire to break the security cordon in Saida Sukhal. A senior police officer said, "Two terrorists, who appeared to have freshly infiltrated (from across the border), surfaced in the village around 8 pm." Senior police officers, led by the Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), are at the scene of the encounter in Kathua, and the area has been cordoned off for a house-to-house search with the assistance of the CRPF.

First Parliament Session After Lok Sabha Polls From June 24 To July 3

New Delhi: The first session of the 18th Lok Sabha will begin on June 24 for oath or affirmation of the newly elected members, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said on Wednesday. The first three days of the session will see the newly elected leaders taking oath or making affirmation of their membership of the Lok Sabha and electing the Speaker of the House. President Droupadi Murmu will address a joint sitting of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on June 27 and is likely to outline the new government's

roadmap for the next five years. "First session of 18th Lok Sabha is being summoned from 24/6/24 to 3/7/24 for oath/affirmation of newly elected



members, election of Speaker, President's address and discussion thereon," Mr Rijiju said in a post on

X. He said the 264th Session of Rajya Sabha will also commence on June 27 and conclude on July 3. Prime Minister Modi is expected to introduce his council of ministers to Parliament after the President's address on June 27. The debate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's address is expected to see an aggressive opposition trying to corner the NDA government on various issues. The prime minister will respond to the debate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's address in both the Houses of Parliament.

Norway Envoy Shares Yoga Pics, Calls It India's "Greatest Gift" To World

New Delhi: Agreeing with Prime Minister Narendra Modi that yoga unites millions of people across the globe, Norwegian Ambassador to India May-Elin Stener has termed it as one of India's greatest gifts to the world. Her remark came in response to PM Modi's online post on the 10th International Day of Yoga, which is set to be marked across the globe on June 21. She also shared her video and pictures of performing yoga. PM Modi noted on X that yoga has transcended cultural and geographical boundaries and united people around the world. "In ten days from now, the world will mark the 10th International Day of Yoga, celebrating a timeless practice that celebrates oneness and harmony. Yoga has transcended cultural and geographical boundaries, uniting millions across the globe in the pursuit

of holistic well-being," his post read. In response to his post, May-Elin Stener in a post on X, "Agree PM @narendramodi, #yoga is one of India's greatest gifts to the world! Here I am, aiming to master the headstand I started #yogalife when posted @NorwayUN & gives chance to go level up! Are you with me? It's #internationalyogaday, so let's do #yoga challenge!" On Tuesday, PM Modi called upon people to reiterate their commitment to making yoga an integral part of their lives. He also shared a set of videos showing various 'Asanas' on X, describing their benefits. In a series of posts on X, he stated, "As Yoga Day approaches, I am sharing a set of videos that will offer guidance on various Asanas and their benefits. I hope this inspires you all to practice Yoga

regularly." As we approach this year's Yoga Day, it is essential to reiterate our commitment to making Yoga an integral part of our lives and also encouraging others to make it a part of theirs. Yoga offers a sanctuary of calm, enabling us to navigate life's challenges with calm and fortitude," PM Modi posted on X. The International Day of Yoga has been celebrated worldwide annually on June 21 since 2015, after PM Modi's proposal to dedicate a day to celebrating the ancient Indian fitness routine was formally accepted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2014. In his 2014 address to the UNGA, PM Modi proposed June 21 as the date for marking International Yoga Day as it is the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere and has a special significance in many parts of the world.

Telangana Snooping Chargesheet: 1,200 Phones Tapped, No BRS Leader Named

No leader of the Bharat Rashttra Samithi, which was in power in Telangana at the time, has been named in the chargesheet.

Hyderabad: Over 1,200 phones were tapped and the accused, some of them top police officers, tried to destroy evidence by damaging storage devices, Hyderabad police has said in its chargesheet in the Telangana phone tapping case that has raised a political storm. No leader of the Bharat Rashttra Samithi, which was in power in Telangana at the time, has been named in the chargesheet. The accused include Deputy Superintendent of Police

D Praneeth Rao, Additional Superintendents Bhujanga Rao and Tirupathanna, former Deputy Commissioner of Police (task force)

Radha Kishan Rao and two fugitives -- former Special Intelligence Branch chief Prabhakar Rao and Sravan Kumar, senior employee in a local media organisation.

The phone tapping case came to light after the Congress government led by A Revanth Reddy took charge last year and sparked a massive row when investigators found that the phones of several high-profile people, including Opposition leaders and celebrities, were tapped during the earlier regime of BRS chief K Chandrashekar Rao. In explosive revelations during questioning, P Radha kishan Rao, a former Deputy Commissioner of Police, told police that

devices of media bigwigs and politicians (including those from BRS) were hacked and monitored. This was allegedly done by a team formed before the November

Congress leader N Uttam Kumar Reddy earlier told NDTV that the alleged snooping happened with the knowledge of the BRS leadership. "It is only a matter of time before they (BRS) leaders come under the ambit of the investigation," Mr Reddy said.

With the filing of the chargesheet, Hyderabad police may now secure a red corner notice for fugitives Prabhakar Rao and Sravan Kumar. According to the chargesheet, police have invoked Section 166 of IPC -- disobedience by a public servant -- besides the earlier sections relating to conspiracy, evidence tampering, violations of Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, cyberterrorism, and charges under Information Technology Act.

The case in this connection was registered on March 10, so the Hyderabad cops have met the requirement to file the chargesheet within 90 days.



election to keep tabs on KCR's political rivals. Mr Rao said real estate businesspersons were also snooped upon. Among those tracked was current Chief Minister Revanth Reddy.



creating a fake email ID on his mobile phone and using his mother's mobile internet via Wi-Fi to send the hoax email. He had deleted the email ID immediately after sending the mail. Two mobile phones, believed to be linked to the transmission of the hoax email, were seized by police. The boy was presented before the juvenile justice board and later released to his parents as per the board's order.

Delhi Police has urged citizens to refrain from making hoax calls or emails for amusement, highlighting the serious consequences and potential imprisonment such actions can lead to. Earlier this month, there was a bomb scare at IGI Airport for a flight bound from Varanasi to Delhi. A woman caller informed Delhi International Airport Limited's security staff that her husband, who was arriving from Varanasi to Delhi on an IndiGo flight, was carrying a bomb in his handbag. Nothing suspicious was eventually found. In another incident on May 28, a note reading "bomb blast at 5.30" was found in an aircraft's lavatory and created chaos at IGI, leading to the evacuation of all 176 passengers through emergency exits.



NEWS BOX

Polish 'spiderman' tries to scale 30-storey building in Argentina, arrested

World A Polish daredevil known as the Silesian Spider Man has been arrested as he was trying to climb a 30-storey building in Argentina's capital Buenos Aires using just his bare hands. Thrill-seeker Macin Banot, wearing Argentina's football jersey, was intercepted by firefighters after scaling 25 floors of the Globant building while a crowd gathered below.

After someone inside the building dialled the emergency line, over 30 firefighters, ambulances, and police rushed to the scene. Back on the ground, the 36-year-old climber was arrested and might be ordered to pay for the rescue effort, an official was cited by news agency AFP in its report. Banot, who has over 302K followers on his Instagram page, has a long history of urban climbing.

Earlier, in a similar incident in 2019, Banot was arrested after he scaled a 557-foot-tall Marriott hotel in Warsaw without any safety. According to the Daily Mail, previously he had scaled the UK's 500-foot Humber Bridge to raise funds for a girl suffering from glioma. He even climbed to Romania's 1,000-foot chimney, Barcelona's 380-foot Melia Sky, and Silesia's factory chimneys.

Hamas proposes 'amendments' to Gaza truce deal, Israel calls it 'rejection'

World Palestinian militant group Hamas has submitted its response to the US-backed proposal for a ceasefire in Gaza, seeking "amendments" to the deal. The response, received by mediators Qatar and Egypt, falls short of an outright acceptance but keeps negotiations alive for a halt to the eight-month war. Israel, however, views the response as tantamount to a rejection, while Hamas officials believe they have reiterated longstanding demands not met by the current plan. Meanwhile, an Israeli drone strike in southern Lebanon killed a senior field commander of Hezbollah, identified as Abu Taleb, and three fighters for the militant group, reported Reuters citing security sources.

Here are the latest developments in the Israel-Hamas war: Hamas officials have expressed wariness over whether Israel would implement the terms of the proposed ceasefire deal, particularly provisions for a permanent end to fighting and full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza in exchange for the release of all hostages held by the militants. The proposal, announced by US President Joe Biden last month, calls for a three-phased plan that would begin with an initial six-week truce and the release of some hostages in exchange for Palestinian prisoners. Israeli forces would withdraw from populated areas, and Palestinian civilians would be allowed to return to their homes. The second phase would bring a permanent end to hostilities, the release of all remaining hostages, and a full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza. The third phase would initiate a major multi-year reconstruction plan for Gaza.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken continued to urge Hamas to accept the proposal, citing the UN Security Council's vote in favour of the plan as evidence of international support. "Everyone's vote is in, except for one vote, and that's Hamas," Blinken said in Tel Aviv. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has given conflicting signals over the ceasefire deal, saying Israel will not stop until Hamas is destroyed, despite the US stating that Israel has accepted the proposal.

Pope again uses 'homophobic' slur, opposes gay men's entry in seminary: Report

Italian media had attributed to the pope the use of the word "frocaggine", a vulgar Italian term roughly translating as "faggotness", on May 20 during a closed-door meeting with Italian bishops.

Rome The pope has again used a highly disparaging word against gay people for which he had already apologised last month, ANSA news agency said on Tuesday. Italian media had attributed to the pope the use of the word "frocaggine", a vulgar Italian term roughly translating as "faggotness", on May 20 during a closed-door meeting with Italian bishops.

According to ANSA, Francis repeated the term on Tuesday as he met Roman priests, saying "there is an air of faggotness in the Vatican," and it was better



that young men with a homosexual tendency not be allowed to enter the seminary. Asked about the latest report, the Vatican's press office made reference to a statement it had issued regarding Tuesday's meeting with the priests, in which the pope reiterated the need to welcome gay people into the Church and the need for caution regarding them becoming seminarians.

After the initial report of his use of the word, Corriere della Sera newspaper quoted unnamed bishops who were in the room as suggesting that the pope, as an Argentine, might not have realised that the Italian term he used was offensive.

Francis, who is 87, had been credited with making substantial overtures towards the LGBT community during his 11-year papacy. Some observers of the Vatican say his recent missteps undermine his authority and raise questions about his convictions and the reform path he has in mind for the Church.

US to send Ukraine another Patriot missile system amid call for air defences

Ukrainian President Zelenskyy late last month asked for additional U.S.-made Patriot systems

The decision comes as defense leaders from US, Europe prep for monthly meeting on Ukraine's security needs
Ukraine's need for air defense will be a topic at the meeting

Washington The United States will send Ukraine another Patriot missile system, two U.S. officials said Tuesday, answering Kyiv's desperate calls for more air defenses as it battles an intense Russian assault on the northeastern Kharkiv region.

The officials said President Joe Biden has approved the move. It would be the second Patriot system that the U.S. has given to Ukraine, although the Pentagon has routinely provided an undisclosed number of missiles for the system. Other

allies, including Germany, also have provided air defense systems as well as munitions for them. The two U.S. officials spoke on condition of anonymity because the decision has not been publicly announced. The decision was first reported by The New York Times. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy late last month pleaded for additional U.S.-made Patriot systems, arguing that they will help his forces fight the close to 3,000 bombs that he said Russia launches into the country every month. Speaking in Madrid, Zelenskyy said Ukraine still urgently needs another seven of the systems to fend off Russian strikes against the power grid and civilian areas, as well as military targets, with devastating glide bombs that wreak wide destruction.



He said Ukraine needs two of the systems to protect Kharkiv, where Russia launched a cross-border offensive on May 10 that still has Ukrainian troops reeling.

"If we had these modern Patriot systems, (Russian) airplanes wouldn't be able to fly close enough to drop the (glide)

bombs on the civilian population and the military," Zelenskyy told a news conference in the Spanish capital.

The decision comes as defense leaders from the U.S., Europe and other nations prepare for their monthly meeting on Ukraine's security needs. U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin will host the meeting in Brussels on Thursday.

The U.S. has routinely pressed for allies to provide air defense systems to Ukraine, but many are reluctant to give up the high-tech systems — particularly systems in eastern Europe that also feel threatened by Russia. The U.S. also is wary of giving too many away, since they are used all over the world to protect U.S. forces and allies. Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder told reporters on Monday that Ukraine's need for air defense will be a topic at the meeting.

Maldives President calls 1st India visit 'a success', bats for stronger ties

World President of the Maldives Mohamed Muizzu has hailed his first official visit to India as a major success, saying that he hoped it leads to stronger bilateral relations between the two nations.

"God willing, the strong ties between the two nations will result in increased prosperity for the Maldives and Maldivians alike," Muizzu, known for his pro-China leanings, told a state-run broadcaster after his visit to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Council of Ministers. Muizzu, who was invited by PM Modi, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to hold high-level meetings with the Prime Minister, President Droupadi Murmu, and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. "This trip has been a success for the Maldives and for the region too," he said. Accompanied by a high-level government delegation,



President Muizzu met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Sunday. They discussed various issues and attended a banquet together, where Muizzu was seated beside PM Modi.

In his meeting with President Murmu, the Maldivian leader expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality and acknowledged India's continuous assistance to the Maldives. External

Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also met with Muizzu, expressing hope for closer cooperation between the two nations in the future. Muizzu's visit follows a recent visit by the Maldives Foreign Minister Moosa Zameer to India as the two nations walk a diplomatic tightrope after relations nosedived last year when the newly sworn-in President demanded the withdrawal of all Indian military personnel operating three aviation platforms from his country. A massive row had erupted over derogatory remarks made by Maldivian ministers about PM Modi on social media, resulting in a Boycott Maldives call in India that put a dent in the coffers of the island nation, where the tourism sector is its "lifeblood". Muizzu's visit is being viewed as a significant step in reviving relations between India and the Maldives.

2 US men jailed for trying to sell Iranian oil to China in violation of sanctions

Washington Two Texas men convicted by a U.S. jury in November of trying to sell Iranian petroleum in violation of sanctions imposed by Washington and of conspiracy to commit money laundering were sentenced on Tuesday to 45 months in prison, the Justice Department said. Zhenyu Wang, 43, a Chinese citizen, and Daniel Ray Lane, 42, of McKinney, Texas, schemed with co-conspirators to evade U.S. economic sanctions against Iran from July 2019 to February 2020 by facilitating the purchase of sanctioned oil from Iran, masking its origins and then selling it to a refinery in China, the department said in a statement. Lane was president of privately held Stack Royalties, a Texas-based company that sells oil and gas mineral rights to investment funds and private equity groups. Lane's attorney, Paul Hetzner, told Reuters late last year that the case was based on undercover government agents who offered Lane "millions of dollars in profits" if he took part in the scheme, after initially rebuffing their approaches. The



attorney had called the case "an outrageous example of government overreach." The pair were charged, along with three others, in 2020 in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. At least two co-conspirators have since pleaded guilty, court records showed.

China is the world's only major importer of Iranian oil despite sanctions that former U.S. President Donald Trump unilaterally reimposed on Tehran's petroleum exports in 2018 after withdrawing the United States from the 2015 Iran nuclear deal between Tehran and six world powers.

Chinese 'dissident' naval officer enters Taiwan by speedboat

Beijing/Taipei A Chinese ex-navy captain, claiming to be a defector, caught Taiwan's navy off-guard by driving his speedboat directly to a pier outside the capital Taipei on Sunday.

The intrusion by a mainland Chinese man amid high-security measures in the midst of recurring tensions with China came in for strong criticism from Taiwan's top politicians. China views Taiwan as a rebel province that must be reunified with the mainland, even by force.

The man, identified as Ruan, 60, was spotted 11 km off the coast of Tamsui in New Taipei. After entering the Tamsui River, which leads to downtown Taipei, the boat hit a ferry at the pier, according to the coastguard, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Tuesday.

Ruan, who claimed to be a former Chinese navy captain, said he left Ningde port in China's coastal city of Fuzhou a day earlier. However, Taiwan's coastguard said no food or drink was found on the boat and the man did not appear to have a tan.

According to the coastguard, the man said he was persecuted by mainland authorities for "making improper statements" and that he wished to flee to Taiwan. He was being charged with violation of various Taiwanese laws including breaching the

Immigration Act. The possibility the Chinese speedboat incursion was a grey zone tactic by Beijing cannot be ruled out, Taiwan's Defence Minister Wellington Koo said on Tuesday. Following this, the defence ministry would strengthen measures to prevent sudden vessel intrusions from China, Taiwan News reported. Taipei mayor Hou You-yi called it a serious security lapse, especially considering the pier is less than 10 minutes from Taipei by boat. "National border security cannot afford any lapses. This

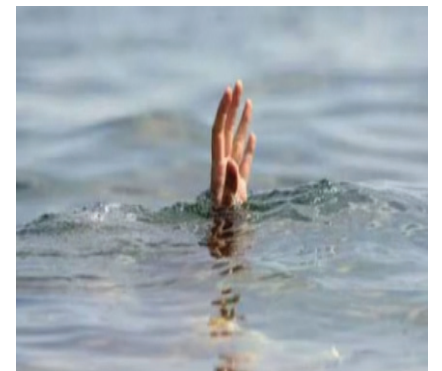


incident indicates that the coastguard and the first-line security reporting mechanisms were not effectively managed," he said. China has intensified military drills involving its army, navy, air force and rocket force around Taiwan after Lai Ching-te, a pro-independence leader of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) won the Presidential election last month.

49 dead, 140 missing after migrant boat sinks off Yemen's coast: UN

The boat was carrying about 260 Somalis and Ethiopians from the northern coast of Somalia on the 320-kilometer (200-mile) journey across the Gulf of Aden when it sank Monday off of Yemen's southern coast.

Cairo, A boat carrying migrants sank off the coast of Yemen, killing at least 49 people and leaving another 140 missing, the UN agency said Tuesday. The boat was carrying about 260 Somalis and Ethiopians from the northern coast of Somalia on the 320-kilometer (200-mile) journey across the Gulf of Aden when it sank Monday off of Yemen's southern coast, the International Organization for Migration said in a statement. Yemen is a major route for migrants from East Africa and the Horn of Africa trying to reach Gulf countries for work. Despite a nearly decade-long civil war in Yemen, the number of arriving migrants has tripled in recent years, from about 27,000 in 2021 to more than 90,000 last year, the IOM said last month. About 380,000 migrants are



currently in Yemen, according to the agency. To reach Yemen, migrants are taken by smugglers on often dangerous, overcrowded boats across the Red Sea or Gulf of Aden. In April, at least 62 people died in two shipwrecks off the coast of Djibouti as they tried to reach Yemen. The IOM said at least 1,860 people have died or disappeared along the route, including 480 who drowned.

Monday's sinking "is another reminder of the urgent need to work together to address urgent migration challenges and ensure the safety and security of migrants along migration routes," said IOM spokesperson Mohammed Ali Abunajala.

NEWS BOX

WI vs NZ: Rovman Powell wants West Indies to take advantage of 'undercooked' New Zealand

WI vs NZ: West Indies said it's the right time for them to face New Zealand since the Kiwis will be low on confidence after losing to Afghanistan by 84 runs.

New Delhi. Rovman Powell reckoned that West Indies have a great chance of beating New Zealand when the teams meet in the T20 World Cup 2024 Group C match at the Brian Lara Stadium in Tarouba, Trinidad. The Kiwis are currently languishing at the bottom of the table with a net run rate of -4.200 after losing to Rashid Khan's Afghanistan by 84 runs in their first group match. After being asked to chase down a competitive target of 160, the Black Caps were bowled out for 75 in 15.2 overs. Barring Glenn Phillips and Matt Henry, none of their batters got into double digits. Powell said that New Zealand are under pressure, and it's the right time for the hosts to take advantage of their vulnerability.



'Focusing on what we have to do'

"Definitely, if there's a good time to play New Zealand, I think it's now. As you said, they're a little bit undercooked. The pressure is really on them, because this game decides whether they go on: yes or no. Having said that, we're not focusing on New Zealand; we're focusing on what we have to do," Powell said in the pre-match press conference. The 30-year-old Powell also hinted that a high-scoring match may not be on the cards because of the weather.

"With the rain around, that can play a part in the scores. If the groundsmen don't have sufficient time to produce good wickets, that's also a problem with the rain around. You don't get enough time to sun. Hopefully tomorrow is a very good day in terms of the weather," Powell added. West Indies started with wins over Papua New Guinea and Uganda, and are one win away from securing their berth in the playoffs. They are placed second in Group C with 4 points and a net run rate of +3.574.

Pakistan not worried about calculations: Haris Rauf on Super 8 chances in T20 World Cup

New Delhi. Haris Rauf said that Pakistan are not worried about calculations regarding their chances of qualifying for the Super 8 in the T20 World Cup 2024. On Tuesday, Pakistan beat Canada by 7 wickets at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York and kept alive their hopes of making their way through to the next round. After losing to the United States and India, Babar Azam's men returned to winning ways.

After opting to field first, Pakistan restricted Canada to 106 for 7 in 20 overs. Thereafter, they chased down the target with 16 balls left in their innings. Pakistan's fate is not in their own hands anymore as India and the USA are strong contenders to advance to the Super 8. However, Rauf said that the Men in Green are only focussed on their own matches rather than external factors. "No, no, nothing like that going on in our mind. We're focusing only on our match and how to play.



If we win our match, then we will accept whatever happens," Rauf said in the post-match press conference.

T20 World Cup: Full Coverage | Complete Schedule

"Yes, you know that winning is so important. You have to set a tone in any tournament, we won the match, our focus is on our games, and hopefully we win the next match. And then whatever happens, if we qualify, then God willing, we will qualify and we will play good cricket in the future," Rauf said.

'Nothing bigger than taking wickets for Pakistan' Rauf had a decent day in the office after he finished with figures of 4-0-26-2. He also became the second Pakistani after Shadab Khan to pick up 100 wickets in the Men's T20Is. Rauf also became the fastest pacer to the 100-wicket landmark in the shortest format. "I don't have any goal. I can do 200-300 wickets, but I don't think there is anything bigger than taking even one wicket for Pakistan," Rauf added.

T20 World Cup, USA vs India: It's mini India vs India, says Balaji on 'emotional clash'

T20 World Cup: Former India fast bowler Laxmipathy Balaji called the upcoming clash between India and USA in the T20 World Cup 2024 a 'mini India vs India' battle.

New Delhi. Former India fast bowler Laxmipathy Balaji expressed his excitement ahead of India's third game of the T20 World Cup 2024 against co-hosts USA. Notably, India will take on high-flying USA on Wednesday, June 12 at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium. The USA are in top form heading into the fixture having beaten Canada in their opening game by chasing down their highest ever target of 195. They further stunned Pakistan in their second game, handing them a crushing defeat in the super over after a tied match. Ahead of their next fixture against India, Balaji spoke about the importance of the match for the USA as they will be



watched by 1.4 billion people in India. Hence, they will be charged to put up a spectacular performance against the Men in Blue. USA vs IND: Preview "For the USA, it's going to be the biggest match because 1.4 billion people will be witnessing this game. So that is a brand they want to show on the

field. They will try their best, put up a good show on that particular game," Balaji said while speaking on Star Sports. Further speaking ahead, Balaji termed the upcoming fixture a 'mini India vs India' clash as the USA team is full of several Indian players. The former fast bowler also mentioned the

fact that it will be an emotional game for the USA team as they take inspiration from several India stars.

"Yes, we are talking about migrants. It is a mini India vs India. So that kind of clash we can expect. I met a couple of USA cricketers, and they all followed a lot of cricketers from India. They take inspiration from all the Indian stars, so it is going to be emotional also for them. Some of them have played under 19 for India and now representing USA, it's emotional," Balaji added.

T20 World Cup: Full Coverage | Complete Schedule

Notably, USA's left-arm seamer Saurabh Netravalkar has become a huge overnight star in India after his super over heroics against Pakistan. The left-arm seamer has become a national sensation for his diverse CV, having played for India in the U-19 World Cup 2010. He later left the country and now works as a software engineer in Oracle. The 32-year-old is also a Ukulele player, which is evident from his Instagram profile. The Mumbai-born cricketer will face his toughest challenge against his nation of birth and will hope to replicate his heroics against the Men in Blue.

Canada will respect India, but anything can happen: Aaron Johnson coy on last game

Canada batter Aaron Johnson said that they would respect India in their final group game but remained coy on their chances of winning the match against the former champions. Canada lost to Pakistan on June 11, Tuesday, but Johnson emerged as the star of the show with his aggressive batting on the slow New York wicket. Canada already secured a win in the group, when they defeated Ireland. Their final game will be against India on 15 June in Florida, as both teams shift their base from New York. During the press conference after the Pakistan game, Johnson said that anyone can win on the given day but said he has immense respect for the players in the Indian team. However, the batter said Canada will also need to be respecting themselves as well. "Again, as I say it's a ball. The ball is very round the moment you walk on the field, anyone can win. Yes, you have to have respect for these guys. They have been doing it for years. There are some of them, like someone like Babar today, he's a legend. I'm pretty sure he will be a legend of the



game, right? And going up, hopefully we get to play against Kohli, Rohit, all of these guys, the list goes on and on. And you have to respect them, but at the end of the day, you have to know that you're a professional cricketer also. And if they did it, you can do it also. So, it's about respecting them, but also respecting yourself," said Johnson.

My best knock in international cricket

Johnson played fearless cricket against Pakistan as he scored 52 off 44 balls and hit 4 boundaries and as many sixes against the star-studded bowling lineup of the men in green. The Canada batter hailed it as the best knock of his international career and expressed his happiness in getting a good score for Canada. "I think it's my best innings so far in international cricket. And growing up, you know that Pakistan, one thing they have is quality fast bowling attack, right? And to be able to get a decent total on the board for my team, I think that's up there with the top, probably top two best innings for me," said Johnson. Johnson's knock helped Canada get to 106 for 7 in their 20 overs. However, Pakistan chased the score down in 17.3 overs and win by 7 wickets.

Team Kohli beats Team Rohit in fun fielding session before USA vs IND

New Delhi. The Indian team had a fun fielding drill session ahead of the clash against hosts USA in the T20 World Cup 2024. The USA and India will face off each other in a Group A match for the very first time at the Nassau County Cricket International Stadium, New York on June 12, Wednesday. The BCCI posted a special video on their official website ahead of the much-anticipated clash. The players were divided into 3 different teams and were engaged in a fun fielding drill practice, which targeted at them acing run-outs on the field. India's fielding coach T Dilip led the fielding practice session at the Big Apple. Rohit Sharma, Mohammad Siraj, Axar Patel, Rishabh Pant and Kuldeep Yadav were in one team for the fielding drill. Ravindra Jadeja, Suryakumar Yadav, Sanju Samson, Jasprit Bumrah and Arshdeep Singh were the other team. Virat Kohli,



Hardik Pandya, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Yuzvendra Chahal and Shivam Dube formed the third team. USA vs IND: Preview

Each team had 5 members, and they got 15 balls each to take down 6 targets. The fielding coach was amping up the energy within the team and motivating the players to hit the bulls-eye. Kohli was spot-on with his

throw and so was Suryakumar. Jaiswal's hit followed by that of Dube sealed the win for Kohli's team.

India gears up for USA challenge

The players not only looked agile during the practice session, but also bonded really well during the fun session. India stand at the top position in the Group A stage as they have won both their encounters so far. After a comfortable 8-wicket win against Ireland on June 5, Wednesday, India scripted a thriller win by 6 runs against their arch-rivals, Pakistan on June 9, Sunday. A win against the USA will ensure India advance into the Super 8 stage of the tournament. However, the resurgent USA team would look to give a good fight, having won their last 2 encounters, including the Super Over thriller victory against Pakistan.

India coach Igor Stimac rues controversial Qatar goal: Shouldn't happen in today's game

New Delhi. India coach Igor Stimac deemed Qatar's controversial equaliser in the FIFA World Cup Qualifier round 2 match as an injustice to his side as they were eliminated on June 11, Tuesday. India had taken the lead in the 37th minute of the game through Lallianzuala Chhangte, but things changed for Stimac's side in the second half. Qatar equalised in the 73rd minute from a Yousef Aymen strike. However, the ball which ultimately led to Aymen's goal had gone beyond the line before being rolled into the net, much to the frustration of India goalkeeper and skipper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu. Qatar would then win the match in the 85th minute as India exited after Kuwait's win against Afghanistan. The referee was slammed by the fans for the call and now Stimac has revealed his feelings about the call. Speaking at the post-match press conference, Stimac said Qatar were lucky to win on the night as they came back thanks to an irregular goal. The Croat said that such incidents shouldn't be happening in the sport at this day and age.

Stimac said he felt sad for his players as their dream was killed due to an error in judgement. "Qatar were lucky tonight,

especially because they came back from 0-1 with an irregular goal. I can confirm that now because I have seen the replay. The whole ball was out of play and the goal was given. It shouldn't be happening in today's football because that goal changed everything in this game. It could've happened to Qatar today and I would say the same. I'm not looking for an excuse. I feel



sad that when you have 23 boys working really hard and living the dream, to achieve something, and that dream is killed because we didn't stop such things from happening," said Stimac.

"It's kind of an injustice to my boys tonight because we were very close to winning this game and qualifying for the third round, but it didn't happen. Congratulations to Qatar. I would say that both countries can be proud of their future because all the players showed enormous quality today. They played open football and it was obvious that both teams enjoyed the game. Many people will say that Qatar played with their reserve team. But our team is also not too old compared to Qatar," added Stimac.

My boys were fantastic Stimac was proud of the performance of India and said he had nothing to complain about them.

"I would say that there is nothing to complain about my boys' display today. They were fantastic. All Indian fans can be proud of their team today. We controlled the game for a major part, with a high press against a good Qatari team.

You could say that the chances India had were better than Qatar's," said Stimac. The India coach, however, said his team needed to be more clinical in front of the goal.

Vastly experienced' Ravindra Jadeja is going to win games for India: Paras Mhambrey

T20 World Cup 2024: Paras Mhambrey said that Ravindra Jadeja has the experience and skills to make a comeback and win matches for the Indian team.

New Delhi Bowling coach Paras Mhambrey has backed Ravindra Jadeja to come good later in the T20 World Cup 2024. Jadeja, who has played international cricket for 15 years, hasn't had the best of outings as an all-rounder in both games thus far in the multi-nation event. He is yet to pick up a wicket in the tournament, having rolled his arms over for 3 overs against Ireland and Pakistan.

Moreover, he bagged a golden duck against Pakistan after Mohammad Amir accounted for his wicket. Mhambrey said that conversations with head coach Rahul Dravid and batting coach Vikram Rathour will help Jadeja find his form. Mhambrey spoke about Jadeja before India's Group A clash against the United States on Wednesday. "I think it's a team game, right? It's going to be 11 guys. You really don't

expect all of them coming into form. It's going to be performed every game that will happen. For me, I personally feel whatever conversations Rahul and Vicky are having around, I've been pretty happy with it. And you expect a one-off game out there. But it's a long tournament," Mhambrey said in the pre-match press conference.

'The team will back you'

Mhambrey said that Jadeja has the experience and skills to stage a strong comeback. The coach also showed his support for Shivam Dube, who faced a lot of flak for not performing to expectations, especially in the match against Pakistan in New York where he dropped a simple catch and struggled with the bat.



"I think one just someone like Jadeja, who's so vastly experienced, he just needs a game out there to just get his root around and feel around. And we know that the skills that he has and the experience, he's going to go ahead and he's going to win your games. So that confidence we have in not only Jadeja, but honestly with

someone like Dube and others as well," he said. "You can have one odd game and people will have conversations saying you are given a game, and you're going to have one bad game. That's fine, but the team will back you. And that's what is important in a tournament like this," Mhambrey added. India are

currently sitting pretty on top of the table with 4 points and a net run rate of +1.455 thanks to wins in both their matches. If they win their next game, they will be the third team after South Africa and Australia to make their way through to the playoffs.



Sonakshi Sinha

Zaheer Iqbal Relationship Timeline: From Salman Khan's Party To PDA In Andamans

Actor Sonakshi Sinha is tying the knot with her boyfriend, actor Zaheer Iqbal, on June 23 in Mumbai, as reported by India Today. The couple has kept their romance fairly low-key, but their frequent outings and adorable social media posts have given us all the feels. The guest list is said to include close friends, family, and reportedly, the entire cast of her last screen outing, Heeramandi. The wedding invitation, styled like a magazine cover, teases, "the rumours are true." Guests are requested to dress to the nines for the big event at Bastian in Mumbai. Looks like it's going to be a star-studded affair! As Bollywood gears up for another big wedding, here's looking at Sonakshi and Zaheer's dating timeline.

First meeting

Word on the street is that Zaheer and Sonakshi first clicked at a bash hosted by none other than Bollywood's bhaijaan, Salman Khan. From buds to lovebirds, their relationship bloomed into something truly magical. Making their grand entrance as a couple at Aayush Sharma and Arpita Khan's Eid bash in 2023 had heads turning.

Early spotting

A picture of Sonakshi riding a bike went viral on social media. She could be seen riding a Royal Enfield bike in it. Only rumoured to be dating him, Sonakshi also joined him for the wedding celebration of filmmaker Dinesh Vijan's sister Pooja Vijan. After this, they made an appearance together at the wedding reception party of filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali's niece, Heeramandi star, Sharmin Segal. Sonakshi celebrated her boyfriend Zaheer's birthday in December 2023 by sharing a sweet video. The clip captured some precious moments between the couple and with this, Sonakshi made the official with Zaheer. Alongside the video, Sonakshi penned a heartfelt note, saying, "The cray to my Z(ee)... this is quite self explanatory. Happy birthday to my very own personal psycho." Recently, during an episode of The Great Indian Kapil Show, which featured the ladies from Heeramandi as guests, Kapil Sharma had asked Sonakshi about her marriage plans, mentioning Alia Bhatt and Kiara Advani recently tied the knot.



How Hit Man Stars Glen Powell And Adria Arjona Planned Their Steamy Sex Scenes



While it may look very creative, sensual and beautifully done on the screen to us, sex scenes in films aren't always easy to shoot. Though one may assume that it might have been shot like any other scene with a set of instructions given to the actors, the reality is slightly different. In fact, the sex scenes require a lot more coordination, creativity and planning for their seamless execution. Actors Glen Powell and Adria Arjona recently shared some interesting behind-the-scenes details of their work, especially regarding their physically intimate scenes, for the film Hit Man. While preparing for these scenes can be a complex process for most actors, Powell and Arjona took a unique approach to it. According to Variety, the duo and their director used Pinterest to help plan the steamy bits of the film. To execute their intimate scenes, Arjona proposed the idea of creating a Pinterest board for Powell and the film's director. On this board, they could share images from their favourite movies and art to get a sense of each other's tastes. "Everyone finds different things sensual," Arjona explained. "It was interesting to see both of our perspectives, hone in and start molding it from that sense. It sparked conversations that you wouldn't normally have, because we were in the process of creating it." Even Glen Powell found this approach beneficial too. "So often, sex scenes feel almost divorced from the movie, like a marketing play or it feels icky. In this movie, those scenes are crucial in the changing and seizing of identity. You have to see a guy who sees the world in such a binary, stale place checking logic at the door and becoming a whole new person. This romantic relationship is really expediting it. It's the catalyst for everything," he told Variety. "It was beautiful and intentional. It didn't feel like we were just doing sex scenes just to do sex scenes; it came from a creative place," added Adria Arjona.

When Joey King's Weight Loss Left Kissing Booth Co-Star Taylor Zakhar Perez 'Worried'



Actress Joey King is renowned for her strict fitness regime, disciplined food habits and regular workouts. The Kissing Booth star takes her preparation for films to the next level. This was evident in her recent miniseries, We Were the Lucky Ones. Joey had to undergo significant weight loss for her role as a "very, very, very thin Jewish woman." While this transformation was just a part of the show, Joey's friend and former co-star Taylor Zakhar Perez expressed concern about her well-being. The Kissing Booth co-stars recently appeared on Variety's Actors on Actors, where they engaged in candid conversation, teasing each other and sharing interesting details. They also discussed their most recent roles, including King's portrayal of a young Jewish woman against the backdrop of World War II in the Hulu miniseries.

When Joey King's Major Weight Loss Left Taylor Zakhar Perez Worried

During their conversation, Joey King recalled the time she was shooting for We Were the Lucky Ones in Romania, and Zakhar Perez came to meet her, making her feel very happy. "You visited me in Romania, where we were filming 'We Were the Lucky Ones' for seven months.

I was so appreciative. I missed you so much, and I was so happy you came," she said.

Joining in, the Red, White & Royal Blue star shared how he got worried after seeing her lose so much weight. "When I showed up, I was like, 'Jo, are you OK? Because you've lost a lot of weight,'" he recounted. Explaining her reasons, King said that her character of Halina Kurc had such a demand—someone who has limited resources and is going through the Holocaust.

I got very, very, very thin for that show because my character is a Jewish woman passing as an Aryan woman. But at the beginning of the war, they're living off rations. And then the access to food is so limited... We're not actually going through the Holocaust; we're portraying a family that is. At the end of the day, we should feel uncomfortable when doing these scenes that require such heavy emotion..." she explained.

Aditi Rao Hydari's

Golden Anarkali Ensemble Is Perfect Wedding Wear

Aditi Rao Hydari never fails to strike a chord with fashion lovers. The actress is frequently seen experimenting with her vibrant and striking ethnic styles. Aditi dresses in everything, including lehengas, sarees, and suit sets, and her Instagram handle is the proof. Therefore, we were not surprised by her recent photos. The diva looked flawless in a golden Anarkali ensemble that oozed Bibbojaan vibes. The outfit features a full-sleeved kurta with stunning gold intricate sequin zari hand embroidery adorning the neck and borders. She paired it with a matching tissue skirt, which gives it a complete royal look. Aditi's breathtaking attire is from the wardrobes of renowned fashion designer Manish Malhotra, showcasing his signature elegance and craftsmanship. The impeccable styling was done by celebrity fashion stylist Sanam Ratansi. In terms of accessories, she kept it minimal so that the whole focus stayed on her royal outfit. She chose a pair of big golden statement jhumka earrings that added an extra touch of elegance and tradition to her stunning appearance. Her makeup was done by makeup artist Elton J. Fernandez. It includes pink eyeshadow, mascara-coated lashes, contoured cheekbones, blushed cheeks, a luminous highlighter, and a shade of bright red lipstick. While she completed her look with a neatly parted middle bun and added gajra to it. Adding a touch of ethnicity, she added a little black bindi on her forehead. On Saturday, Aditi took to Instagram and uploaded the series of stunning pictures and wrote, "Bibbojaan is worth it! My first appearance in Cannes was on #lategram, channelling beauty vibes from



my Amma and my Rekha ma. In gold, Malli poo (flowers), and a bottu (bindi)." Take a look at the photos: Well, a few days back, the actress shared another couple of photos from her photoshoot session. In the photos, Aditi is seen in a vibrant suit from the closet of designer Mayyur Girotra's collection. The ensemble includes a kurta, trousers and a dupatta. The violet silk flared kurta has a deep U-neckline and full sleeves. She teamed the kurta with light orange floral work straight trousers. The dupatta was also a standout feature of this outfit, with intricate zari and thread work in yellow, orange, and pink tones.

