

Layered & complex world of translation

Earlier this month, I found myself in Colombo, Sri Lanka, a place where languages seem to hang in the air like humidity, pressing down on the city in a palpable, almost tactile, way. I had come as a Punjabi translator for the inaugural SALT (South Asian Literature in Translation, a multi-year project at the University of Chicago) Summer School, an opportunity that promised to be remarkable. As I stepped into my role as a translator of Punjabi into English, surrounded by other translators — each of us tethered to our own languages like lifelines — I couldn't help but feel that the air there was thick with the echoes of Sinhala, Tamil, Bengali, Urdu and Hindi, a cacophony of tongues that felt at once foreign and familiar. Even English seemed out of place here, as though it, too, was trying to assert itself in a landscape that resisted any kind of easy categorisation.

I felt this resistance in me as I moved through my days there, listening, observing, translating, and yet never quite arriving at a full understanding of where I was, or who I was within it. In Punjabi, the language of my home and my translation, I've often felt a sense of alienation. This feeling likely stems from the underlying tension I've always been exposed to — that Punjabi is the other language, not just another language. So, returning to Punjabi after I've established alternate careers in alternate languages isn't merely wishful thinking. In one of my favourite podcasts, *Indy and Dr*, the host, *Indy*, speaks with a representative from *Naujawani*, an online media platform. *Indy* poses a question: "If Punjabi is the seventh largest language in the world and still growing, why is there such a fixation among my generation, or the generation above us, on the idea that Punjabi is dying?" *Naujawani* responds reasonably, "I'd guess there are a number of reasons. Probably, the most prominent is that we are a very negative community because of all we've faced over the last 50 to 75 years, including numerous defeats. All these negative experiences lead us down a road where we start to believe we're constantly under attack, that we're besieged, and so we resort to tropes like the Punjabi language is dying." However, many millennials and Gen Z individuals aren't anywhere close to believing that the Punjabi language is dying. We have our ways of staying connected to it — through music, literature, films, and translation. In a translation workshop, translation felt less like a mechanical process and more like meditation. We found ourselves deeply immersed in our texts, feeling the weight of each word, the flow of each line, and the silences between them. I realised that my role was not just to translate the words, but to convey the essence of them — to allow the audience to feel what the writer felt, even if the words themselves were different. This was not a task I could accomplish alone; it required me to draw upon my own experiences, my own understanding of both languages, and the shared history of our cultures — all this accompanied by the companionship of other translators. While I was a part of the multilingual prose workshop, working on translating some Punjabi short stories into English, there were separate strands of workshops for Bangla, Hindi/Urdu, Tamil and multilingual poetry. In the workshops that solely focused on translating from a single language, the authors whose works were being translated were present in the seminar room. We heard many anecdotes, but the most fascinating reflections came from the Hindi/Urdu translators, who were translating a two-page short story by *Asghar Wajahat*, which we had the opportunity to hear him read at the inaugural event. Our co-translators from the Hindi workshop told us that since their group was working on translating the same story, sometimes their days were so rigorous that by the end of it,

China's quest to replace 'Tibet' with 'Xizang' is destined to fail

China's gradual military conquest of eastern territories

THE term 'South Tibet' frequently pops up in Indian media, uncritically disseminating misinformation from Chinese news outlets. A recent report claimed that China has renamed 30 more places in Arunachal Pradesh, which Beijing asserts are part of 'South Tibet'. In common parlance, Tibetans may refer to the eastern, western, central or northeastern regions of Tibet, but there is no term 'South Tibet' as a geographic proper noun in the Tibetan lexicon — a fact easily verified by consulting any Tibetan dictionary or encyclopaedia. This term is an entirely new Chinese construct. Beijing truly deserves recognition for its exceptional mastery in the politics of names. Their prowess in manipulating names — whether of people, places or concepts — as strategic political tools to assert power, control narratives, shape identities and influence public perception is a masterclass in propaganda. A classic example of China's dominance in shaping the narrative on the Sino-Tibetan conflict is evident from their definition of 'Tibet' itself. The 'Tibet' referred to by China is geographically distinct from the Tibet that exists in the hearts and minds of the Tibetan people. The People's Republic of China, established in 1949, considers only the 'Tibet Autonomous Region' (TAR), created in 1965, as Tibet — an ancient nation with a rich history spanning thousands of years! Traditionally, Tibet consisted of three regions: U-tsang, Kham and Amdo. When Tibetans speak of 'Tibet', they mean all three regions, encompassing approximately 2.5 million square km. In line with the classic colonial divide-and-rule policy, the so-called TAR includes only U-tsang and parts of Kham, with the remaining areas fragmented as autonomous prefectures and counties, and incorporated into the neighbouring Chinese provinces of Qinghai, Sichuan, Yunnan and Gansu. Qinghai, for example, is composed entirely of the traditional Amdo and parts of Kham. The composition of the current democratically elected leadership of the exile Tibetan polity highlights the stark incongruity of China's definition of Tibet. For example, both the current and former Sikyong (President) of the Central Tibetan Administration belong to areas outside the so-called TAR. The current Sikyong, *Penpa Tsering*, belongs to Amdo Chentsa, now part of Qinghai province, while former Sikyong *Lobsang Sangay* belongs to Kham Lithang, which is currently within Sichuan province. In previous Sino-Tibetan talks, a key demand from the Tibetan side was the establishment of a single autonomous Tibetan administration encompassing all Tibetan autonomous areas. This is crucial for the genuine implementation of China's constitutional provisions regarding national regional autonomy. Between 2002 and 2010, nine rounds of formal talks took place between representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Chinese Government.



Beijing, however, rejected our entire proposal, including our request for a single Tibetan administrative unit. They claimed that the proposed autonomous region would be too large and that Tibetans have historically never been governed under a single administration. This claim is a clear distortion of historical facts. I quote an excerpt from a speech by former Kalon Tripa, *Prof Samdhong Rinpoche*: "Tibetans were under one administration until the mid-ninth century. Later, Tibetans were again re-integrated into one administration in 1260 under *Drogon Choegyal Phakpa*. This was offered to him by emperor *Kublai Khan* and this offering explicitly refers to the three Cholkas with a clear demarcation of its borders. Such unified administration remained until the 1730s." China further distorted the definition of 'Tibet' by introducing the notion of 'Greater Tibet'. While Tibetans, like people from any other nation, proudly refer to their homeland as great, Beijing has very deftly rephrased this as 'Greater Tibet'. This is a vicious distortion of Tibetan territorial identity. For Tibetans, there is no concept of 'Greater' and 'Smaller' Tibet; there is simply Tibet, as understood in our collective consciousness. Beijing has now gone a step too far by attempting to supplant the term 'Tibet' with 'Xizang'. It is important to note that Beijing's definition of even 'Xizang' differed both before and after the invasion of Tibet in 1949-50. In ancient times, such as in the Sino-Tibetan treaty of 821-822, the terms 'Great Tibet' and 'Great China' were used. Before 1949, the Republic of China employed the terms 'Inner Tibet' and 'Outer Tibet' to differentiate regions within Tibet, similar to the use of 'Inner Mongolia' and

'Outer Mongolia' for Mongolia. 'Inner Tibet' referred to the areas under Chinese control at that time, while 'Outer Tibet' denoted independent Tibet. These terms also appeared in the *Simla Convention (1913-14)*, which involved Great Britain, China and Tibet. China's gradual military conquest of eastern territories of Tibet was swiftly followed by the renaming of the newly annexed places. For example, *Ziling* was renamed *Xining*, *Dhartsedo* became *Kanding*, *Bathang* (my homeland) was changed to *Ba an*, and *Chamdo* was renamed *Changdu*. China then developed and promoted its own narrative, claiming that only the territories under the effective control of the Government of Tibet at that time constituted *Xizang*. They believe that by renaming places annexed through military conquests and forging new identities and historical narratives, they can gradually root out and erase the deep, centuries-old bond between the people of these areas and historic Tibet. The current reality, however, is quite the opposite. Since the disintegration of the mighty Tibetan Empire in the ninth century and the eventual inception of the Dalai Lama's *Gaden Phodrang* Government in Tibet in 1642, what is ubiquitous across the Tibetan plateau today is a strong, deep sense of common territorial and national identity. Beijing's quest to replace 'Tibet' with 'Xizang' is, therefore, destined to fail. If history is any guide, the imposition of Chinese identity through the distortion of historical and cultural narratives will only further alienate the Tibetan people and strengthen their sense of distinct national identity.

New pension scheme

Staff welfare, fiscal prudence equally important

THE Centre has unveiled broader benefits for its employees in the new guaranteed pension scheme. The Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) is surely a political response to the growing nationwide demand to revert to the pre-2004 Old Pension Scheme (OPS). The Centre claims the UPS, to be implemented from April next year, will benefit 23 lakh employees. Those covered under the current National Pension System will have a chance to shift to the UPS. The move is aimed at resolving the debate on the OPS, a cause championed by many Opposition-ruled states, including Himachal Pradesh and Punjab, on the ground that its benefits are more favourable to employees. With an eye on the upcoming Assembly elections, the BJP-ruled states are expected to adopt the UPS. The tweaking of the pension scheme presents a chance to the stakeholders in all states to have an informed discussion,



keeping an open mind. A summary dismissal without an in-depth study of the provisions or offering insightful

suggestions will be an opportunity lost. The Reserve Bank of India had last year flagged concerns about the strain on government finances and accumulation of liabilities for the states opting for OPS. The Centre's contention is that the UPS is fiscally more prudent as it is a funded, contributory scheme, unlike the OPS. The likely additional strain on the Centre and the states now has official sanction. Striking a balance between employee welfare as well as their aspirations and fiscal prudence must be the guiding principle. Both are equally important. The mixed response by the employees' unions is on the expected lines. Sticking to a hard stance is an unreasonable approach. As for employees in the private sector, their hopes for any enhanced pension and retirement benefits do not seem a priority for the government

Charge of the Indian-American brigade

Kamala Harris' presidential nomination is in sync with Howard Dean's 2008 prophecy

FOR a country with a relatively short history by the standards of humankind, the United States, which does not live even by the brevity of its history, is seeing a difference in its ongoing presidential election cycle. The just-concluded Democratic National Convention (DNC), which broke glass ceilings, was replete with history. It was appropriate that *Hillary Clinton*, former Secretary of State, First Lady, Senator and 2016 presidential candidate, was the prime-time DNC speaker who reminded the American people, more than anyone else by implication, of the *George Santayana* adage — "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." She did not quote the Spanish philosopher at the Chicago convention, though. The biggest setback in her career, a defeat at the hands of newbie politician *Donald Trump* eight years ago, was partly the result of not remembering history. Specifically, the history of US elections. Last week, *Hillary* recalled that women in the US got the right to vote only 104 years ago — on the day before she spoke — in 1920. The first time a Black woman bid for a presidential nomination — unsuccessfully, of course — was not very long ago: in 1972. Twelve years later, *Hillary* took her young daughter *Chelsea* to meet *Geraldine Ferraro*, the first woman nominated for Vice-President of the US. And in 2016, *Hillary* made almost 66 million cracks in the glass ceiling with her candidacy of a major party for the White House. That was the number of popular votes *Hillary* received then. *Kamala Harris*, the incumbent Vice-President, hopes to shatter that cracked glass ceiling in November and become the first woman President of the US. If *Harris* wins, she will also break a glass ceiling for South Asian-Americans. Historically, it has been at Republican National Conventions (RNC) that America's past has been celebrated. In part, this has been because some of the great US presidents have

been Republicans — *Abraham Lincoln*, *Theodore Roosevelt* and *Dwight D Eisenhower*, to mention a few. *Lincoln* was the first 'red-blooded' Republican to be elected President, to cite the party's preferred colour. Others who embodied Republican ideals were elected as Democratic-Republicans or as Whigs, according to political descriptions during varying periods in the political evolution of the US. The US did not have a *Catherine the Great*, a *Bismarck* or a *Chanakya*. So, it fell on Republicans in the final decade of the last century and in the new millennium to create an icon of *Ronald Reagan*. At every RNC I attended through five presidential election seasons from the year 2000, *Reagan* was the great Republican hero. That changed with the arrival of *Donald Trump* on the political scene. The RNC in *Milwaukee* this year was bizarre. First-time voters who attended it could not be blamed if they thought US history began only in 2015 when *Trump* began his improbable and then unpredictable quest for the White House. Indians are, unfortunately, familiar with such a catastrophe in their midst. To turn around a memorable description of democracy by *Republican Lincoln*, the *Milwaukee* gathering, which renominated *Trump* as their party's nominee for the November election, was a convention of one family, by one family and for one family: the *Trumps*. Only one person and one family by extension matters in the Grand Old Party (GOP) now. The Republican Party has become a cult. By contrast, a hundred flowers bloomed at the DNC in *Chicago*. Brilliant orators like former presidents *Bill Clinton* and *Barack Obama*, who represent diversity, bloomed. So did former First Lady *Michelle Obama*, who enjoys a

phenomenal public acceptance despite never holding an elected office. The first Indian to attend a DNC was a Sikh American, *Dalip Singh Saund*, in 1952. Indians like *Saund* were not allowed to embrace US nationality until legislation permitting it was passed in 1946. *Saund* was the first Indian-American to be elected to the US House of Representatives in 1956. Had he not been felled by a stroke in 1962, *Saund* may have risen much higher in American politics. The US did not see

southern states, known as *Dixieland* in popular culture. It had some success when *Jindal* was elected as the first Indian-American Governor in any US state in 2007. *Nikki 'Nimrata' Haley* was next, in *South Carolina*, four years later. The plan to put more Indian-Americans in elected offices in *Dixie* states appears to have fizzled out. *Jindal* and *Haley* both made unsuccessful bids to be GOP nominees for the White House in subsequent election cycles.



another Indian-American in either of the chambers of Congress for another 42 years. Today, there are five of them, all Democrats. The GOP has elected only one Indian-American to the House to date: *Piyush 'Bobby' Jindal*. A few decades ago, Indian-American Republicans, along with sympathetic White and Hispanic GOP leaders, drew up a road map for getting those like *Jindal* into statewide public offices in

With ethnic half-Indian origin *Harris* now a heartbeat away from the White House, Indian-Americans and their former compatriots back home must pay a tribute to her rise to a forgotten former Democratic Party chief, *Howard Dean*. A three-term Governor of *Vermont* and a presidential aspirant two decades ago, *Dean* was the first national-level US politician to predict the rise one day of an ethnic Indian as America's President. Few people remember that in 2008, *Dean*, as Chair of the Democratic National Committee, wrote an article in a publication of the Indian-American Leadership Initiative. This initiative was created to put US citizens of Indian origin in electable public offices, right down from local school boards, county councils and as city mayors to high up on *Capitol Hill*. "Indian-Americans are leading the charge to strengthen our (Democratic) Party, elect our candidates and ensure that we build a government that lives up to the ideals that inspired generations of Indian immigrants to make America their home," *Dean* wrote. "Perhaps they include a future Democratic President of the US." *Harris* was a local party functionary seeking to grow in public life in her home state of *California* then. There is no evidence that *Dean* had *Harris* in mind when he wrote those lines. Today, they appear prophetic.

Big bucks, bigger stress: Inside the lives of Nvidia's millionaire employees

New Delhi. Global chipmaking giant Nvidia has created a new wave of millionaires among its employees, thanks to a staggering 3,776% increase in its stock value since early 2019.

However, this financial success comes at a big price.

The chipmaker's employees are enduring long hours and high stress, contributing to a demanding work environment despite their substantial wealth, reported Bloomberg News. The company's intense culture, characterised by extended workweeks and a chaotic management structure, reflects the pressures faced by those reaping the financial rewards. The report highlights how Nvidia employees now own luxury vehicles like Porsches, Corvettes, and Lamborghinis, but are frequently seen at the office rather than enjoying the fruits of their labour.

Big money, big stress

The company's stock surge, driven by its dominance in artificial intelligence chip sales, has led to considerable financial gains for its staff. Nvidia's market cap has increased faster than any other company in history, creating numerous multimillionaires.

Yet, the high-stakes environment comes with a demanding work culture. Employees report long hours, high stress, and a chaotic organizational structure.

CEO Jensen Huang's approach to management highlights rigorous work expectations and a high-pressure atmosphere. Huang is known for his belief in pushing employees hard, stating that he prefers to "torture them into greatness" rather than resort to layoffs.

'Golden handcuffs'

Current and former employees, quoted in the Bloomberg report, describe a gruelling work environment.

One former technical support worker shared that he was expected to work seven days a week, often late into the night. Another former marketing employee noted attending multiple high-stress meetings daily, despite the lucrative stock options that made it difficult to leave the company. Despite the high-stress environment, the employee had endured it for two years due to the "golden handcuffs"—the promise of substantial financial rewards that made it difficult to leave.

Nvidia's stock grants vest over four years, which has helped retain employees despite the intense work culture. The turnover rate dropped significantly after Nvidia's valuation surpassed \$1 trillion, from 5.3% in 2023 to 2.7%. This starkly contrasts with the semiconductor industry's average turnover rate of 17.7%.

Explained: Why Patym shares surged 3% despite Sebi notice

NEW DELHI. Shares of Patym's parent company, One 97 Communications, rose by 3.5% to Rs 548.70 on Tuesday despite having received a show-cause notice from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi). The rise in shares was mainly due to Patym's clarification on the matter in response to the notice, which seemed to reassure investors. Sebi's notice was related to an alleged violation of rules concerning the employee stock option plans (ESOPs) granted to Vijay Shekhar Sharma, Patym's founder and Chief Executive. In the financial year 2021-22, Patym granted 21 million ESOPs to Sharma, which were tied to the achievement of specific milestones. Patym had already disclosed the matter in its financial results for the quarter and year ending on March 31, 2024, as well as the quarter ending on June 30, 2024. In a filing to the exchanges, Patym mentioned that they are in regular communication with Sebi and are making the necessary representations to address the situation. "With reference to recent media reports, we would like to inform you that this is not a new development, as the Company had already made relevant disclosures on this matter in its financial results for the quarter and year ended March 31, 2024, as well as the quarter ended June 30, 2024. The Company is in regular communication with the Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and making necessary representations regarding this matter. Accordingly, there is no impact on the financial results for previous quarters ended June 30, 2024, and March 31, 2024, respectively," said Patym in an exchange filing.

Patym's shares have seen a decline over the past year, dropping by 40%. So far, in 2024, the shares have fallen by 16.3%. However, today's rise suggests that investors might be looking beyond the recent regulatory issues and focusing on the company's ongoing efforts to address them.

JN Port secures Rs 45,000 cr funding from REC for various upcoming projects

MUMBAI. The Maharastra public sector non-bank lender REC has signed an agreement with the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) to finance up to Rs 45,000 crore for the country's largest container port's various upcoming projects, which include the development of the nearby Vadhavan Port. The port handles a little over 50% of the containerised cargo volume in the country. The loan agreement was signed by the port's chairman Unmesh Sharad Wagh and REC executive director Rahul Dwivedi, in the presence of the Union ports and shipping minister Sarbananda Sonowal. For REC, this large funding helps expand its non-power portfolio, the company said in a statement Monday. Currently its Rs 5.3 trillion (5.3 lakh crore) loan book comprises power generation, transmission, distribution renewables projects and new technologies such as electric vehicles, battery storage, pumped storage, green hydrogen and green ammonia projects. Since recent years it also strayed funding roads, expressways, metro rails and airports etc apart from social infrastructure projects like schools hospitals among others. For the quarter ending June, REC reported an 18 percent jump in revenue to Rs 13,092.44 crore from which it booked a net profit of Rs 3,460 crore, which was 16.6% more than it had booked in the same period of the past fiscal.

Sensex, Nifty end flat as energy, consumer stocks weigh in on gains

New Delhi. Benchmark stock market indices ended the day nearly unchanged on Tuesday, as gains in financial stocks balanced out declines in the energy and consumer sectors. This came as the global rally, driven by expectations of a possible rate cut in the US in September, took a breather. "Weak US market cues and subdued Asian indices prompted local investors to book profit towards the flag-end, indicating that intraday volatility will continue amid growing geopolitical tensions and sluggish global growth," said Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd. The S&P BSE Sensex added 13.65 points to end at 81,711.76, while the NSE Nifty50 gained just 7.15 points to close at 25,017.75.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said that the domestic market witnessed profit-booking near record highs. "While the positive expectations regarding a potential rate cut by the Fed in September remain, the recent geopolitical tensions and rising

crude oil prices have made investors cautious amid high valuations. IT and financial stocks continued to perform well, whereas FMCG and metal stocks saw declines. Further, the recent shift in FII stance towards the domestic market and the anticipation that the RBI will align with the Fed's actions are expected to foster a positive outlook in the near term," said Nair. Zee's shares surged as much as 15% before settling 11.49% higher on the BSE at Rs 150.90 as it reached a settlement agreement with Culver Max Entertainment Private Limited (formerly Sony India) and Bangla Entertainment Private Limited, resolving all disputes between the parties. Today's Nifty 50 trading saw a mix of notable gains and losses among top stocks. Leading the gainers was Larsen & Toubro (LT), which rose by 1.48%. Cipla followed closely with a 1.45% increase.



Infosys also performed well, climbing 1.14%. HCLTech and Sun Pharma rounded out the top gainers, rising 0.96% and 0.71% respectively.

BPCL led the declines, dropping 1.68%. JSW Steel followed with a 1.00% decrease. Eicher Motors saw its stock fall by 0.61%, while Grasim Industries dipped 0.60%. Kotak Mahindra Bank completed the list of top losers with a 0.58% decline. "The sentiment has

entered an indecisive phase as the Nifty closed with a Doji pattern on the daily chart. The significant presence of both call and put option writers at the 25,000 strike price strengthens the technical setup. As a result, the Nifty is likely to remain range-bound or might experience a slight dip in the near term. On the lower end, 24,800 could act as immediate support, while a rise above 25,100 might push the Nifty towards 25,300," said Rupak De, Senior Technical Analyst, LKP Securities. The Nifty Smallcap100 index led the gains, rising impressively by 1.05%, while the Nifty Midcap100 index also performed well, increasing by 0.49%, suggesting continued interest in medium-sized firms. Meanwhile, the India VIX, often referred to as the fear gauge of the market, experienced a notable decline of 1.17%.

Still waiting for your income tax refund Here's what you need to do

New Delhi Filing your income tax return (ITR) on time doesn't always mean you'll receive your refund quickly. The tax refund process involves several steps, and if something goes wrong at any point, the entire process can get delayed.

You may be eligible for a tax refund when the tax you've already paid (through TDS, self-assessment tax, etc.) is more than your actual tax liability. The income tax department calculates this liability after considering all deductions and exemptions during the assessment. In our country, Income Tax Return (ITR) refunds may be delayed for a number of reasons. Vishal Gehrana, Advocate on Record, Supreme Court of India (associated with Karanjawala & Co) said that one common reason is the verification issue. If a taxpayer has not completed the verification process of their ITR either through an Electronic Verification Code (EVC) or by submitting a signed ITR-V to the



Central Processing Center (CPC), the processing of the refund may get delayed. "The discrepancies in the ITR details - such as mismatch in the income figures, inaccurate bank account information, or errors in PAN details - may also cause delays in the processing of ITR and refund," he added.

In cases where ITR involves complex income sources or multiple deductions, it may require manual processing, which can take much longer time to process and refund the ITR. Furthermore, delays can also arise from backlogs at the CPC, especially during peak filing times, or from a

taxpayer not complying with notices or requests from the tax department. Therefore, a taxpayer should attempt to file his return much before the deadline as helps to prevent the backlogs.

What to do if ITR refund is delayed?

If your refund is delayed, the first thing you should do is check the status on the income tax e-filing portal. This will give you details on the current stage of processing and any issues that need your attention. "If the delay is significant and unexplained, you can raise a grievance through the 'e-Nivaran' section on the e-filing portal or contact the CPC helpline for an update. It's important to respond quickly to any notices or requests from the tax department, as delays in your response can further extend the processing time," said Gehrana. Steps to raise tax refund reissue request

If your refund process is stuck for a long time, you might need to file a refund re-issue request. Here's how you can do it:

Hindustan Unilever to appeal Rs 962 crore tax demand linked to GSK deal

NEW DELHI. Ahindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) has been served with a tax demand notice of Rs 962.75 crore by the Income Tax Department. The notice includes Rs 329.33 crore in interest and was issued by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax in Mumbai. The company announced the receipt of this order on August 23 in a regulatory filing on Monday. The tax demand stems from the alleged non-deduction of Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) as required under the Income Tax Act, 1961. This issue arose during HUL's Rs 3,045 crore payment to acquire intellectual property rights (IPR) of the India Health Food Drink (HFD) business from GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Group entities. HUL, in its filing, expressed



confidence in its position and stated that it plans to appeal the tax demand.

The company assured stakeholders that there would be no major financial impact at this stage. It believes it has a strong case based on existing judicial precedents, which suggest that the situs (location) of an intangible asset, such as IPR, is tied to the situs of the owner. This precedent could mean that income from the sale of such intangible assets may not be taxable in India. HUL

further clarified that it intends to take all necessary steps to contest the demand. The company also mentioned its right to indemnification, allowing it to recover the tax demand raised by the Income Tax Department, and that it would take appropriate action in this regard. On the stock market, HUL shares were trading flat at Rs 2,819 during early trading hours on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) today. The company's market capitalisation stood at Rs 6.61 lakh crore, reflecting its significant presence in the FMCG sector. HUL received the tax order on Friday, August 23, and made the required disclosure to the exchanges on the next working day, which was Monday. The company has assured that it will comply with all legal processes as it moves forward with the appeal against the tax demand.

100 trillion won (\$75 billion) annually by the end of the decade. A key component of this plan is increasing revenue from enterprise clients, aiming for 45% of sales to come from business customers, up from the current 35%. The company's Indian unit has been performing well, with revenue rising 14% to a record 2.87 trillion won in the first half of this year and net income climbing 27% to 198.2 billion won.

Booming Indian stock market

The performance highlights LG's desire to leverage the booming Indian stock market, which is currently experiencing a surge in IPO activity. India's capital markets are bustling, with 189 companies expected to raise \$5.6 billion through IPOs this year alone. The market's dynamism is drawing interest from other major players, such as Hyundai Motor Co., which is preparing its own significant IPO in India.

Cho noted that LG is closely observing the Indian IPO landscape and evaluating similar industry cases. Although LG has not yet determined a valuation for its Indian unit, the company is considering how an IPO could fit into its broader strategy.



Apple may create 6 lakh jobs in India by end of financial year: Report

The iPhone maker's growing operations in India have contributed significantly to job creation over the years.

NEW DELHI. Apple could create up to 6 lakh jobs in India by the end of the fiscal year 2025, reported The Economic Times. The iPhone maker's increasing operations in the country have contributed significantly to higher job creation, according to sources quoted in the report.

According to estimates shared by the company, Apple's direct workforce in India will reach 200,000 by March 2025, with women constituting about 70% of these positions. The company's three major contract manufacturers, Foxconn,

Wistron (now Tata Electronics), and Pegatron, have already generated 80,872 direct jobs, as per officials quoted in the ET report. Additionally, suppliers such as Tata Group, Salcomp, Motherson, Foxlink, Sunwoda, ATL, and Jabil have collectively created around 84,000 direct jobs. Since the launch of the smartphone Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme in 2020, Apple and its partners have created approximately 165,000 direct jobs, said another official quoted in the report. The PLI scheme, initially targeting 200,000 jobs over five years, has seen this target reached in just four years, reflecting Apple's significant role in job creation in India. The government estimates that each direct job in the electronics sector generates three indirect jobs, suggesting that Apple's expansion could result in 500,000 to 600,000 total jobs by the fiscal year-end. The company has effectively replicated its successful China model in India, establishing a robust supply chain and manufacturing presence.



The Tata Group's new facility in Hosur, Tamil Nadu, is expected to hire around 50,000 employees over time. This plant, which will begin iPhone production this October, will increase its capacity in phases. Moreover, Tamil Nadu has become a key hub for Apple's operations, with nearly 90,000 of the 200,000 direct jobs expected to come

from iPhone and component factories in the state.

Apple began manufacturing iPhones in India in 2021, marking its first production outside China. The company's production in India has risen steadily, with iPhone manufacturing reaching Rs 1.20 lakh crore in FY24, including Rs 85,000 crore in exports.

This production growth has positioned India as a critical component of Apple's global supply chain, contributing about 14% to the company's overall production. To support its growing workforce, Apple's vendors and suppliers are investing in housing complexes, particularly in Tamil Nadu.

A recent facility in Sriperumbudur, built at a cost of Rs 706.5 crore, will house around 18,720 workers, mostly women. Additional housing projects are planned through public-private partnerships to further support Apple's expanding workforce in the region.

Pensions tackled, can government pre-empt the MSP farm fire?

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi referred to India Today's Mood of the Nation survey to double down on his demand for a pan-India caste-census. The survey also showed popular support for a legal guarantee for minimum support price (MSP), an issue the government is grappling with. Like in the case of the New Pension Scheme, will the government be able to pre-empt the MSP issue?

New Delhi: The Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, referred to India Today's Mood of the Nation survey to double down on his demand for a nationwide caste-census. The survey that showed overwhelming support for the caste-census also showed popular support for another issue that the Narendra Modi-led NDA government has been grappling with -- legal guarantee for minimum support price (MSP) of crops. The Mood of the Nation Survey (MOTN) for August, showed 86.6% of the respondents supporting a legal guarantee for MSP, an issue on which the farmers have been agitating even after the three farm laws were withdrawn by the Narendra Modi government in November 2021. The three farm laws saw prolonged agitation, with the farmers sitting on the borders of Delhi for months. They moved back after the laws were withdrawn but are still at the Shambhu border, pressing for their demand for a law seeking a guarantee to MSP for several

crops. This is one issue that has the potential of becoming a forest fire for the government. The question is will the government pre-empt it as it has moved on to address the anger over the New Pension Scheme (NPS)?

HOW THE BJP GOVERNMENT DOUSED NPS FIRE WITH UPS

The Congress has been trying to tap into the anger of government employees over the NPS issue. During several state elections, it promised to revert to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) if voted to power. Not just the Congress governments in Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh, the AAP government in Punjab too reinstated the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). The problem with the OPS is that it puts a huge burden of pension dues on the government. In the last few decades, the pension liability of the Centre spiked manifold, making it unsustainable. It was in January 2004, when the BJP government led by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, that the switch from



the OPS to the NPS was made. However, protests and demands for reforms persisted as employees felt that the New Pension Scheme (NPS) didn't guarantee a minimum income. The BJP, in order to navigate the issue, took a proactive approach. The government set up a committee under then finance secretary TV Somanathan to look into the concerns of the employees and made the decision to bring in a Unified Pension Scheme (UPS). The committee's recommendations have now been reflected in the UPS. The UPS assures a minimum assured income.

HOW THE MSP ISSUE IS AN ALBATROSS ROUND GOVT'S NECK

The issue of giving a statutory status to the minimum support price (MSP) has been a long-standing concern for farmers across India. The demand for a legal guarantee for MSPs gained momentum during the 2020-2021 farmer's protests, with various opposing political parties and farmer organisations pushing for a change. In fact, the statutory safeguard for MSPs was one of the key demands of the protesting farmers who sat at different border points of Delhi for around 16 months, protesting against three farm laws, which have been taken back now. It was the protests around the farm laws that saw the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), one of the BJP's oldest allies, part ways with it in 2020. In 2023, ahead of the Lok Sabha election, another ally, the Haryana-based Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) raised the issue of a legal guarantee for MSP on crops. The

Dushyant Chautala-led party parted ways with the NDA after asking the central government to consider giving a "written assurance of the continuation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for crops". Support for farmers is a hot-button socio-political issue in Punjab and Haryana, two agriculture-based states. The BJP, which won all 10 of the Lok Sabha seats in Haryana in 2019, had to be content with just five seats in the 2024 election. Even after the protests ended, the MSP issue remained a significant challenge for the government, with farmers' protests and demonstrations becoming increasingly common. Earlier this year, the 'Delhi Chalo' protest saw various farmer's bodies from Punjab, Haryana, and western Uttar Pradesh marching towards Delhi with their demands, including the legal guarantee for MSP. Although the Centre in February said the committee to make MSP 'effective' had held 37 meetings with various stakeholders, a concrete outcome on the same is yet to come.

Jammu And Kashmir Polls: Congress Announces 1st List Of 9 Candidates

New Delhi: The Congress on Monday issued its first list of nine candidates for the three-phase assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, fielding party general secretary Ghulam Ahmad Mir from Dooru and former state unit chief Vikar Rasool Wani from Banihal. The announcement came after the Congress clinched a seat-sharing deal with ally National Conference (NC), he NC and the Congress agreed to contest 51 and 32 seats respectively for the assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir.

One seat each has been allotted to the CPI(M) and the Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP), the allies announced at a joint press conference at NC president Farooq Abdullah's residence in Srinagar after day-long negotiations. They also said there will be a "friendly contest" on five seats of the Union territory. Hours after the announcement, the Congress put out a list of nine candidates for the polls, fielding Mir from Dooru and Wani from Banihal. The party also fielded Surinder Singh Channi from the Tral seat, Amanullah Mantoo from Devsar, Peerzada Mohammad Syed from Anantnag, Shaikh Zafarullah from Indrawal, Nadeem Sharief from Bhabarwah, Sheikh Riyaz from Doda and Pradeep Kumar Bhagat from Doda West.

'Just Because Woman Is Educated...': Top Court's Rap As K Kavitha Gets Bail

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted conditional bail to Bharat Rashtia Samithi leader K Kavitha following her arrest - by the Enforcement Directorate in March and the Central Bureau of Investigation a month later - in the Delhi liquor policy scam, in which Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his ex deputy, Manish Sisodia, are also named.

Ms Kavitha is the second big opposition leader to get bail in this case; Mr Sisodia, who was arrested in February last year, was released earlier this month after the Supreme Court noting a delay in trial in his case too, said he could not be jailed for an "unlimited time" as it is a violation of his fundamental rights. Also arrested by both agencies, Mr Kejriwal remains in jail, having got bail in the ED case but not, yet, in that filed by the CBI. The Supreme Court this month refused relief. Today a two-judge bench of Justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan pointed Ms Kavitha - like Mr Sisodia - had already spent over five months in jail and that "the trial is not expected soon", even if the investigation has been closed. "We find the investigation is complete. As such, custody of appellant is not necessary... she is in jail for five months and, as observed with Sisodia, likelihood of trial be in near future is impossible..." it said.

The court also noted "the law provides special treatment for women while considering bail applications", referring to provisions in Section 45 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act that "permits certain category of accused, including women, to be released on bail without (satisfying) twin requirements."

On this note the Supreme Court strongly objected to the Delhi High Court rejecting Ms Kavitha's plea - on grounds she is an educated woman. The High Court had said in July that Ms Kavitha could not be given bail - despite arguments that it is "normal practice" for women to be released on bail - as her education and status (of a former Member of Parliament) meant she was not a 'vulnerable' woman. Arguing the High Court had "totally misapplied" the relevant section of the law, the Supreme Court said, "... the courts, while deciding such matters, should exercise discretion judicially. The court cannot say that merely because a woman is highly educated, or an MLA, (she) should be denied benefit of bail." (Then) every arrested woman will get bail..." the prosecution argued in vain.

"Illegally Imprisoned..."

Shortly after the bail order was passed the BRS posted on X, "She was illegally imprisoned for 166 days... without showing of any evidence. Justice finally won in a politically motivated case." Ms Kavitha's brother, BRS Working President KT Rama Rao, was in court when bail was granted.

"Bail Is 'Normal Practice' For Women"

Earlier senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi argued it is "normal practice" for women to get bail. The plea also identified her as mother to two kids, one of whom is a minor in shock and undergoing medical care.

Jodhpur-bound Vande Bharat hits cement slab placed on tracks, none hurt

New Delhi: The Ahmedabad-Jodhpur Vande Bharat Express hit a cement slab that was placed on the railway track in Rajasthan's Pali district on August 23. According to railway officials, the cattle guard of the engine hit the cement slab, when the train was running between the Jawai-Biroliya section of Pali district. No one was injured in the incident, North West Railway CPRO Shashi Kiran said in a statement, adding that the train was delayed by eight minutes due to the incident. A case was also registered against unidentified people on the complaint of the Senior Section Engineer (SSE) of Falna

region, Kiran said. "The incident occurred between Jawai and Biroliya under the Sumerpur police station on

Friday night. A case against an unidentified person has been registered," a police official said.



He further added that pieces of the cement slab, used for constructing footpaths, were found on the track. The Ahmedabad-Jodhpur Vande Bharat Express, which runs six days a week except for Tuesdays, departs from Sabarmati Station at 4.45 pm and reaches Jodhpur at 10.50 pm. In October last year, a major incident was averted by the locomotive pilots of the Udaipur-Jaipur Vande Bharat Express when they applied emergency brakes after spotting stones and rods on the tracks. The stones and rods were placed on the tracks by two children while they were playing, a Rajasthan Police officer said on Tuesday.

Centre's New Guidelines Promise Public Grievance Redressal Within 21 Days

New Delhi: The Centre has issued comprehensive guidelines for a time-bound handling of public grievances filed by citizens on an integrated user-friendly CPGRAMS www.pgportal.gov.in portal which will operate as a single window open platform.

The timelines for effective grievance redressal have been reduced to 21 days from 30 days. In cases where grievance redressal is likely to take longer, citizens shall be given an interim reply, states the order issued by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG). Feedback on disposed grievances shall be sent to the citizen by SMS and email. For every disposed grievance, feedback shall be collected through the feedback call centre, and if the citizen is not satisfied, he can file an



appeal to the next senior authority, the order further states. The guidelines are aimed to empower citizens in line with the Prime Minister's directions for making grievance redressal time-bound, accessible and meaningful, an official statement said.

The guidelines state that Nodal Officers for Public Grievances will be appointed in all Ministries/

Departments who will address grievances promptly, fairly and efficiently. Ministries/ Departments with high grievance loads will have dedicated Nodal Officers. "This means that in no case shall a grievance be closed by stating 'Does not pertain to this Ministry/Department/ Office' or its equivalent language. Efforts shall be made to transfer the same to the right authority if the subject of the grievance does not pertain to the receiving Ministry," according to the (DARPG) order. The role of the Nodal Officer is effective categorisation, monitoring pendency, examining the feedback for process and policy improvements, undertaking root cause analysis, collation of monthly data sets and supervisory oversight of the Grievance.

US Diplomats' Kashmir Visit "Within Boundaries Of Diplomatic Reach": Sources

A three-member delegation of US diplomats visited Srinagar on Monday ahead of the Assembly elections in the Union Territory after a gap of 10 years.

New Delhi: A three-member delegation of US diplomats visited Srinagar on Monday ahead of the Assembly elections in the Union Territory after a gap of 10 years. "The visit is well within the boundaries of diplomatic outreach mechanism of the US State Department," a senior government

official told. According to the official, the visits are not unusual as similar visits with diplomats were common in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. "They get a chance to make on-ground assessments," he said.

The delegation included Minister-Counselor for Political Affairs Graham Mayer, First Secretary Gary Applegarth, and Political Counselor Abhiram. They met political leaders from Kashmir including former chief minister Omar Abdullah as well as former mayor of Srinagar Junaid Azim Mattu. "The presence of CIA station head Graham Mayer in Srinagar is an indication that US is observing elections minutely, especially in backdrop of US interests in Pakistan and recent reports of Chinese inroads in Ladakh," a source told. An official said that US and India have

increased coordination to ensure security in Ladakh. According to him, Mr Mayer had also visited Srinagar in 2023 and met Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. Interestingly, the visit comes at a time when



terror attacks in the Valley have increased. "India has been insisting that terror is being exported from Pakistan and weapons are being smuggled from Afghanistan. The recovered weapons bear clear US markings. So there is ample

proof to establish connection," an official said. National Conference Chief Spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq said that the delegation's discussions addressed a wide range of issues concerning Jammu and Kashmir and the broader region. Former chief minister Omar Abdullah also raised the recent travel advisory issued by US for the region. In July, US had asked its nationals not to travel to Manipur, Jammu and Kashmir, the India-Pakistan border, and parts of central and eastern parts of the country where Maoists are active. "Some areas have increased risk. Do not travel to the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir (except the eastern Ladakh region and its capital Leh) due to terrorism and civil unrest," the advisory said. US is among several countries that have issued travel advisories, asking their citizens not to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

Supreme Court Stays Centre's Notification On Drugs, Cosmetic Rules

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday stayed a notification issued by the Ministry of Ayush, which omitted rule 170 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 that prohibits misleading advertisements of Ayurvedic, Siddha, and Unani drugs. A bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Sandeep Mehta said the notification issued by the ministry was in the teeth of its May 7, 2024 order. Clamping down on misleading advertisements, the apex court on May 7, 2024 had directed that before an advertisement is permitted to be issued, a self-declaration be obtained from the advertisers on the line of the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994.

Instead of withdrawing the letter dated August 29, 2023, for reasons best known to the ministry, the notification dated July 1 to omit Rule 170 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, has been issued which runs contrary to directions issued by this court. "Till further orders, effect of the notification dated omitting shall stand stayed," the bench said. Additional Solicitor General K M Nataraj, appearing for the Centre, submitted that he will file an affidavit clarifying the position. The Centre had earlier defended its August 2023, letter to states and Union territories asking authorities not to initiate action against any entity for violating Rule 170 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. "It is respectfully submitted that as the process of final gazette notification will take further time, in order to avoid confusion among the various State/UT SLAs (state licensing authorities) and to prevent avoidable litigations, Ministry of Ayush vide letter dated August 29, 2023 directed all state/UTs licensing authorities not to take any action under Rule 170 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 as the final notification is under process," the Centre had said in its affidavit. The top court had in May questioned the Centre over an August 29, 2023 letter by the Ministry of Ayush asking the licensing authorities not to initiate or take any action under rule 170 of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. The bench had told Nataraj that the ministry shall "forthwith" withdraw the August 29 last year letter. The apex court is hearing a plea filed in 2022 by the Indian Medical Association alleging a smear campaign by Patanjali and yoga guru Ramdev against the Covid vaccination drive and modern systems of medicine.

NEWS BOX

Nepal thanks BCCI for NCA training camp, featuring Rahul Dravid, Shami

New Delhi. Cricket Nepal has extended its heartfelt gratitude to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for facilitating a crucial training camp at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru. The camp was part of Nepal's preparations for the upcoming ICC CWC League 2 series, set to take place in September.

The Cricket Association of Nepal (CAN) expressed its appreciation through social media, highlighting the significant support from BCCI Secretary Jay Shah and the Indian Cricket Board. The CAN acknowledged the role of Indian officials, including Indian External Affairs minister, Dr. S Jaishankar in making the camp possible. The NCA camp provided Nepal's national team with an invaluable opportunity to hone their skills and strategies ahead of their critical matches. The training program also featured interactions with notable Indian cricket figures, including former India head coach Rahul Dravid and pacer Mohammed Shami. Their presence and guidance were acknowledged in the thank you post shared



by CAN, underscoring the collaborative spirit between the two cricketing nations. This camp marks Nepal's second visit to India in 2024, following their previous engagements in Gujarat against Baroda as part of their T20 World Cup preparations. The focus of the Bengaluru camp was to bolster Nepal's readiness for the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup League 2, following a challenging tri-series at home earlier this year. With this enhanced preparation, Nepal is set to face Oman and Canada in their upcoming series, aiming to improve on their recent performances. The support from the BCCI and the experience gained from the NCA camp are expected to play a crucial role in Nepal's quest for success on the international stage.

US Open, Day 2 Schedule of Play: Alcaraz, Sinner, Swiatek in action

New Delhi After a tremendous opening day in the US Open, where a rusty-looking Novak Djokovic banked on his fitness to get through to the next round, the focus shifts on World No. 1 Jannik Sinner, who comes into the competition on the back of a doping controversy. Sinner, who tested positive twice for the banned substance clostebol, escaped a ban from The International Tennis Integrity Agency. There has been much chatter in the tennis world about different standards for different players after the Sinner episode and the Italian will have to shake everything off when he faces Carlos Alcaraz in his half of the men's singles draw, but his toughest challenge in New York will be shutting out the noise surrounding his doping case. Apart from Sinner, there are multiple big names who will take the court



on Tuesday, August 27. World No. 1 in women's singles - Iga Swiatek will take on Kamilla Rakhimova in the first match of the day at the Arthur Ashe.

Carlos Alcaraz, Daniil Medvedev and Stefanos Tsitsipas are some of the names that will participate on Tuesday. Alcaraz is coming off two frustrating tournaments - the Paris Olympics and the Cincinnati Open where he was beaten by Novak Djokovic and Frances Tiafoe respectively. Alcaraz's mettle will be checked on Tuesday when he takes on Australia Li Tu. Alcaraz will surely look for vengeance once he steps into the court in the United States of America. He has never faced Li Tu in his career but would hope to use this match to get in rhythm.

Harmanpreet, Smriti Mandhana lead India's strong 15-member squad for T20 World Cup

Women's T20 World Cup: India have announced a strong squad for the women's T20 World Cup, set to be held in the UAE. Harmanpreet Kaur is set to lead, while Smriti Mandhana will be her deputy as usual.



The United Arab Emirates (UAE) from the 3rd to the 20th of October in Dubai and Sharjah. India are in Group A along with Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

advertisement

Senior pros Harmanpreet Kaur and Smriti Mandhana have been named in the leadership group of the team. The team also includes the likes of Shafali Verma, Richa

Ghosh, Yastika Bhatiya and Renuka Singh. Spinner Asha Sobhana, who made her name in the Women's Premier League, finds a spot in the 15-member squad. The release further mentions that two key players for India - Yastika Bhatiya and Shreyanka Patil are currently injured and their availability for the tournament will depend on their fitness status. India's squad for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 Harmanpreet Kaur (C),

Smriti Mandhana (VC), Shafali Verma, Deepti Sharma, Jemimah Rodrigues, Richa Ghosh (wk), Yastika Bhatia (wk)*, Pooja Vastrakar, Arundhati Reddy, Renuka Singh Thakur, Dayalan Hemalatha, Asha Sobhana, Radha Yadav, Shreyanka Patil*, Sajana Sajeevan.

*Subject to fitness clearance

Travelling Reserves: Uma Chetry (wk), Tanuja Kanwer, Saima Thakor Non-Travelling Reserves: Raghvi Bist, Priya Mishra The 23 matches in the tournament will take place at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium in Dubai and Sharjah Cricket Stadium in Sharjah. Dubai will host the first semi-final on October 17 followed by the second semis on October 18. There is a reserve day for both semi-finals and the final. The grand final will take place on October 20 in Dubai. Harmanpreet Kaur's India will face Fatima Sana's Pakistan in the marquee clash on October 6 in Dubai. India will also face New Zealand and Sri Lanka in Dubai on October 4 and 9 respectively. India's last and final league match against Australia on October 13 will take place in Sharjah. If India advances to the semis, they will feature in the first semi-final in Dubai.

Imran Khan slams Pakistan Cricket Board chief: 'Bangladesh defeat embarrassing'

New Delhi, Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan lashed out at the national cricket body, headed by Mohsin Naqvi, while expressing his disappointment with the performances of the senior national men's team. Imran did not mince words as he said the defeat to Bangladesh in a Test match in Rawalpindi was "embarrassing" and accused the Naqvi-led Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) for "destroying" the sport in the country.

Imran Khan, who spoke to reporters from Adiala Jail - the Central Jail in Rawalpindi, highlighted the string of disappointing performances from Pakistan's senior national men's team in the recent past and pinned the blame on the current crop of administrators. "Cricket is the only sport the entire nation watches with great interest on TV, but even that has been destroyed by powerful quarters who brought in an unqualified, favoured official to maintain their control," Imran Khan said, as quoted by his X account. "For the first time, we



(Pakistan) didn't make it to the top four in the World Cup or the top eight in T20. And yesterday, we faced an embarrassing defeat against Bangladesh, setting a new low. Just two-and-a-half years ago, this team had defeated India by 10 wickets. What has happened in these two-and-a-half years that we lost to Bangladesh by 10 wickets? The blame for all of this collapse falls on one institution," he added. Surgery till death: How Pakistan cricket fraternity reacted to Rawalpindi defeat Imran Khan, who led Pakistan to their first and only ODI World Cup triumph in 1992, also accused Naqvi of corruption. The PCB chairman, who took control of the board in February 2024, also serves as the Federal Interior Minister of Pakistan. MOHSIN NAQVI FACES THE HEAT Naqvi has been facing immense scrutiny from former Pakistan cricketers after Bangladesh stunned Pakistan in the first of a two-Test series in Rawalpindi on Sunday, August 25. The touring side clinched its first-ever Test match win over Pakistan and did it in style by hammering the hosts by 10 wickets.

UTT 2024: Manika Batra trumps Ayhika Mukherjee as Bengaluru beat Puneri Paltan

Manika Batra led PBG Bengaluru Smashers to a 10-5 victory against Puneri Paltan Table Tennis in UTT 2024, overcoming Ayhika Mukherjee and securing crucial wins alongside teammates to clinch the match at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium.



New Delhi Star paddler Manika Batra survived the giant-slaying Ayhika Mukherjee to lead her team, PBG Bengaluru Smashers to 10-5 victory against Puneri Paltan Table Tennis in Ultimate Table Tennis 2024 at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium today. Manika lost the first game of her headline clash with Ayhika, falling into similar traps that had caught the league's highest-ranked player, Bernadette Szocs, last time around. However, the Asian and Commonwealth Games medallists retaliated in back-to-back games, winning the match 2-1. The franchise-based league is promoted by Niraj Bajaj and Vita Dani under the

auspices of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI). Puneri Paltan Table Tennis made UTT history even before the opening serve dropped. The team from Pune became the first ever to name all six of their players in the starting line-up, spread across five matches. The tie started with 17-year-old Ankur Bhattacharjee of Puneri Paltan Table Tennis taking on PBG Bengaluru Smashers' Jeet Chandra. Both Ankur and Jeet had recorded outstanding sweeping wins in their previous clashes in UTT 2024 - Ankur over Lilian Bardet and Jeet over Sharath Kamal -

but it was the teenager who emerged victorious this time, winning alternate games to claim the match 2-1. Manika returned to the table for the mixed doubles round, partnering captain Alvaro Robles. Puneri Paltan Table Tennis, meanwhile, sent on Natalia Bajor and Anirban Ghosh, who stretched the PBG Bengaluru Smashers right until the end, only to fall to a 2-1 defeat. Robles followed his prolific doubles display with a similar 2-1 win in the second men's singles of the tie over two-time Olympian Joao Monteiro. With PBG Bengaluru Smashers needing just one point to win the tie, USA paddler Lily Zhang beat Puneri Paltan Table Tennis' sixth different player on the night, Yashini Sivashankar, to get her team over the line. For their efforts, Manika and Zhang were named the Indian and Foreign Player of the Tie, respectively. Ankur, meanwhile, claimed the DafaNews Shot of the Tie honour. Tuesday's only tie will see the U Mumba TT take on Ahmedabad SG Pipers at 19:30, with both teams looking for their second win in UTT 2024.

Duleep Trophy 2024: No Jadeja, Siraj and Umran to miss 1st round due to illness

New Delhi All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja will miss the first round of the Duleep Trophy 2024 along with Mohammed Siraj and Umran Malik, the Indian cricket board (BCCI) said on Tuesday, August 27. While Jadeja has been released from Team B, led by Abhimanyu Easwaran, Siraj and Umran have been ruled out due to illness.

Delhi fast bowler Navdeep Saini will replace Siraj in Team B while Madhya Pradesh's Gaurav Yadav will replace Umran Malik in Team C, led by Ruturaj Gaikwad. The BCCI did not reveal why Jadeja was released from the Team B squad for the first round of the tournament. The first round of Duleep Trophy, a premier four-day domestic cricket tournament, will get underway from September 5. Shubman Gill-led Team A will face Team B at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru while Team C will take on Shreyas Iyer-led Team D in Rural Development Trust Stadium A in Ananthapur. The Duleep Trophy will witness Test specialists return to the domestic fold after the BCCI urged them to



feature in domestic cricket while not on international duty. Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Jasprit Bumrah and R Ashwin were allowed to miss the first-round matches, which will serve as a warm-up for the Test series against Bangladesh. India will play

two Tests against Bangladesh from September 19 to October 1 to kickstart their home season.

REVISED SQUADS FOR DULEEP TROPHY FIRST ROUND

India A: Shubman Gill (C), Mayank Agarwal, Riyan Parag, Dhruv Jurel (WK), KL Rahul, Tilak Varma, Shivam Dube, Tanush Kotian, Kuldeep Yadav, Akash Deep, Prasidh Krishna, Khaleel Ahmed, Avesh Khan, Vidwath Kaverappa, Kumar Kushagra, Shaswat Rawat. India B: Abhimanyu Easwaran (C), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Sarfaraz Khan, Rishabh Pant (WK), Musheer Khan, Nitish Kumar Reddy*, Washington Sundar, Navdeep Saini, Yash Dayal, Mukesh Kumar, Rahul Chahar, R Sai Kishore, Mohit Awasthi, N Jagadeesan (WK). India C: Ruturaj Gaikwad (C), Sai Sudharsan, Rajat Patidar, Abishek Porel (WK), Suryakumar Yadav, B Indrajith, Hrithik Shokeen, Manav Suthar, Gaurav Yadav, Vyshak Vijaykumar, Anshul Khamboj, Himanshu Chauhan, Mayank Markande, Aryan Juyal (WK), Sandeep Warrier.

UTT 2024: Dabang Delhi aim for first win over Harmeet Desai's Goa Challengers

Dabang Delhi TTC and Athlead Goa Challengers face off in a high-stakes IndianOil UTT 2024 clash, with star paddlers Sathiyana Gnanasekaran and Harmeet Desai leading their teams in a crucial battle for playoff contention.



Chennai. Both Dabang Delhi TTC and Athlead Goa Challengers will have a point to prove when they meet for the first time in IndianOil Ultimate Table Tennis 2024 at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium on

Wednesday. Led by Sathiyana Gnanasekaran, the team from Delhi has lost both its ties so far. However, the low margins of their defeats mean Dabang Delhi TTC are one heavy win away from jumping from their

current spot in seventh to one reserved for the playoffs. Harmeet Desai's Athlead Goa Challengers, on the other hand, are heading into their tie against Dabang Delhi TTC on the back of a heavy defeat against

Ahmedabad SG Pipers; they will be looking to make amends quickly and prove their mettle as the reigning champions. Sathiyana's potential bout with Harmeet will headline the clash between Dabang Delhi TTC and Athlead Goa Challengers. The pair are two of India's finest paddlers and have an Olympic appearance each to their name. Further down the pecking order, Dabang Delhi TTC's Diya Chitale will be under the spotlight following her impressive win against Poymantee Baisya of Chennai Lions. She will likely square up against Athlead Goa Challengers' young prodigy looking to make her mark this season: Yashaswini Ghorpade. From the teams' foreign contingent, all eyes will be on Athlead Goa Challengers' Yangzi Liu and her sensational unbeaten streak that has not left her company since the start of the previous season. Liu has won both her singles matches in IndianOil UTT 2024 and will look to prolong that run in a potential clash against Dabang Delhi TTC's Orawan Parang.



Priyanka Chopra's

Brother Siddharth And Neelam Upadhyaya's Engagement Photos Scream Love

Popular chef and producer Siddharth Chopra, who is also Priyanka Chopra's brother, recently tied the knot with his fiancée and actress Neelam Upadhyaya. On Monday, the couple gave their followers a glimpse into their "hastakshar ceremony" with a joint post featuring stunning photos from the joyous occasion. The photo album, filled with affectionate shots of the newlyweds and scenes from the ceremony, shows the couple's special moments. In the photos, Neelam looked stunning in a pink lehenga adorned with intricate golden designs, while Siddharth complemented her perfectly in a golden sherwani paired with a coordinating half coat. In the first picture, Siddharth gently kisses Neelam, who beams with joy. The second image captures the couple posing gracefully for the cameras. They proudly show off their engagement rings in the following shot, leading to a series of romantic photos, including one where they embrace each other. The final two pictures highlight moments from their hastakshar or registry ceremony.

Following the post, Siddharth's younger brother, Sahaj Chopra, extended a warm welcome to Neelam with a heartfelt message saying, "Congratulations both - welcome to the family Neelam Upadhyaya." Fans and celebrities quickly joined in to congratulate the couple in the comments section. Priyanka Chopra also travelled to Mumbai to attend the special event. A fan page also shared an exclusive video from the ceremony, showing Siddharth and Neelam exchanging rings and touching Priyanka's feet for blessings. The video also features some family moments with Madhu Chopra, Mannara and others.



Earlier this year, in April, Siddharth and Neelam had their roka ceremony, which they announced with beautiful pictures. The album included some cosy shots of the couple, individual pictures and a special cake inscribed with "just rokaified." They captioned the post "Sooo we did a thing." Previously, Siddharth was engaged to Ishita Kumar. Their roka ceremony took place in New Delhi in February 2019 and was attended by Priyanka Chopra and her husband, Nick Jonas. However, the engagement was reportedly called off in June. Soon after, Siddharth and Neelam made their first public appearance together at the Ambani's Ganesh Puja in 2019.

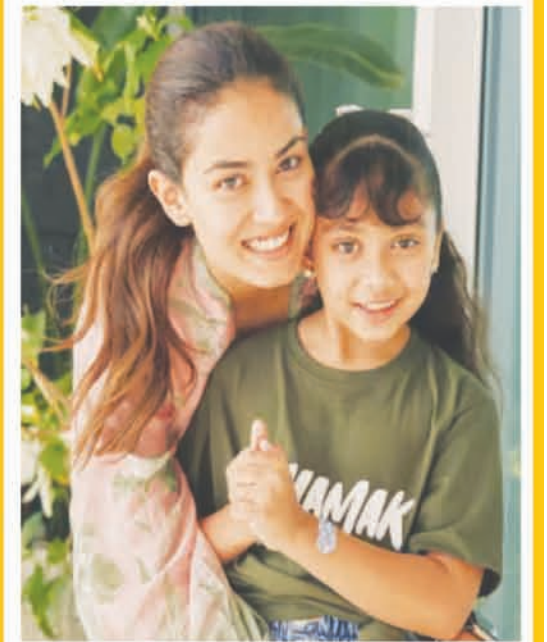
Parvathy Says Vikram and Late Actor Irrfan Are 'Similar,' Recalls Qarib Qarib Single Shoot: 'He Helped Me...'



Thangalaan actress Parvathy Thiruvothu, during a press event in Mumbai, fondly remembered late actor Irrfan Khan, with whom she shared screen space in Qarib Qarib Single. Looking back on her time working with Irrfan and filmmaker Tanuja Chandra on the 2017 film, Parvathy expressed her deep connection with Mumbai, a city she said she had shifted to before Covid-19 hit. Drawing analogy between Vikram and Irrfan, Parvathy said it's their generosity that she finds heartwarming. Parvathy said, "I guess it's the generosity, for sure, that I see in both of them. Irrfan sir used to help me out with things because Hindi is not my native language. So he used to help me get into that space and made sure that everyone knew you are as good as the other person on set. And I saw that generosity in him [Vikram]. And when I worked with him... it expands further away from even actors. It's everybody on set."

Parvathy also shared an interesting anecdote from the sets of Thangalaan. She said, "I miss getting all the toffees! Like, there is a particular native toffee that we get there and it's called Kamarkat. It's like this jaggery, palm sugar, kind of a thing. And he'd just be walking around and he'd shake hands. Suddenly you have a toffee in your hand! He just brightens the mood for everybody. Not just me, the kids obviously and others as well. But, the way he asks everybody, 'Have you eaten?' It's not for show. Genuinely, there's a concern how everyone is doing."

Mira Rajput's Birthday Post For Her 'Darling Girl' Misha Is Love



Shahid Kapoor's wife, entrepreneur and influencer, Mira Rajput is a hands-on mother to her kids Misha and Zain. Today, Mira is super excited. Reason? It's Misha's birthday. She turns 8. Mira, on her daughter's special day, made sure to proudly express her love for her little bundle of joy. In a post on Instagram, she attached a set of endearing pictures with Misha. The photos captured Misha all smiling in an all-white cord set with a pink jacket tied around her waist. The final image featured the birthday girl with Mira as they posed happily for the camera. Sharing the album, Mira Rajput wrote, "I will spend my whole life loving you. Happy 8th Birthday our darling girl. Sunshine, sparkles and the best of everything for the light of our lives. Smile forever my baby girl, Misha."

Hours before the birthday, Mira Rajput and Misha were spotted by paparazzi. The duo was seen stepping out after their salon visit. The clip that surfaced on social media captured Misha running ahead of her mother, quickly boarding the car as Mira followed her. Mira, for her salon visit, wore a plain black T-shirt with blue bell-bottom jeans. On the other hand, her daughter looked cute in a simple white dress. Misha is a constant on Mira Rajput's Instagram. Not long ago, the mother-daughter attended Taylor Swift's Eras Tour concert in Munich. The mommy-daughter took a selfie at the concert and even rooted for the pop star as she performed on some of her chartbusters. "Core memory with my sunshine swiftie. We couldn't believe it! Mother-daughter trip of dreams," Mira wrote. Shahid Kapoor and Mira Rajput got married in 2015. The couple welcomed Misha in 2016. In 2018, they were blessed with a son, Zain.

In terms of career, Mira Rajput recently launched her skincare line, Akind. As for Shahid Kapoor, he is preparing for Deva opposite Pooja Hedge. Directed by Rosshan Andrews, the film is set to release on October 1. Additionally, he also has Vasu Bhagnani's mythological epic, Ashwatthama: The Saga Continues.

Neena Gupta

Is The Cutest Nani-To-Be And This Video From Masaba Gupta's Baby Shower Is Proof

Masaba Gupta's baby shower took place on Sunday. The biscuit-themed ceremony was hosted by Sonam Kapoor. Rhea Kapoor, Soni Razdan, Shaheen Bhatt, Akansha Ranjan Kapoor, chef Pooja Dhingra, Neena Gupta and Masaba's husband Satyadeep Misra were also part of it. While many pictures and videos from the event are making rounds on the Internet, one clip in particular is sure to leave you in awe. It has Neena humorously schooling the younger generation about their sartorial choices. The video was originally posted by one of Masaba Gupta's friends Nimish. Later, Neena Gupta also shared it on Instagram Stories. Standing amid the guests seated on comfy couches, the veteran star is seen giving a speech. The nani-to-be, while advising the younger ones to dress up as per the occasion, had everyone laughing as she cutely scolded her son-in-law Satyadeep Misra for wearing jeans instead of white pants to the party. "I told him not to wear jeans. White pant pehen leta (He could have worn white pants)," Neena said.



Sonam Kapoor and Rhea Kapoor. While Rhea is hugging the expectant mother in the image, Sonam is leaning on her sister for an endearing click. Masaba chose to make heads turn in a brown full-length gown, complemented by a few dainty pieces of jewellery for her baby shower ceremony.

Masaba Gupta announced her pregnancy in April this year. In a joint Instagram post with husband Satyadeep Misra, she wrote, "In other news - Two little feet are on their way to us! Please send love, blessings and banana chips (plain salted ONLY) #babyonboard #mom&dad (sic)."

