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# The Researchers'

### News box

## Storm Trami makes landfall in Vietnam, four airports temporarily shut

**Hanoi, Vietnam.** Storm Trami is making landfall in central Vietnam on Sunday as the authorities warn the heavy rains it triggers could cause dangerous floods. The Southeast Asian country, with a long coastline, is prone to storms and floods that often cause heavy casualties and property damage. Rainfall in several parts of provinces from Quang Binh to Quang Nam is forecast to reach 60 cm (23.62 inches) on Sunday and Monday, according to the national weather forecast agency.

"The risks of floods are high at urban areas from Ha Tinh to Binh Dinh provinces," the agency said. Heavy rains are also expected to hit the Central Highlands, the country's key coffee growing area, according to the agency. Trami, with wind speeds of up to 88 kph, was 65 kilometres northeast of Danang at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday. The storm has forced four airports in central Vietnam to temporarily close, according to the Civil Aviation Authority of Vietnam. Among them, the international airport in Danang City will be closed from 6:00 a.m. on Sunday until 4:00 a.m. on Monday. State media reports said Trami's strong winds downed trees and advertisement boards in Danang. Last month, typhoon Yagi and the floods it triggered killed more than 300 people and caused property damage of more than \$3.3 billion in northern Vietnam.

## Japan election to test PM Ishiba's coalition amid funding scandal, inflation

**Tokyo.** Japan's voters decide the fate of Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's government on Sunday in an election expected to punish his coalition over a funding scandal and inflation, potentially ending a decade of dominance for his Liberal Democratic Party. The LDP and its longtime partner Komeito will suffer a drubbing from voters, with the coalition possibly losing its parliamentary majority, opinion polls suggest, as Japan struggles with rising costs of living and increasingly tense relations with neighbouring China. Losing the majority in the lower house would force Ishiba, in office just a month, into power-sharing negotiations with smaller parties, bringing uncertainty in some policy areas, although no polls forecast the LDP being ejected from power.

Political wrangling could roil markets and be a headache for the Bank of Japan, if Ishiba chooses a partner that favours maintaining near-zero interest rates when the central bank wants to gradually raise them. "He'll be considerably weakened as a leader, his party will be weakened in the policies that it particularly wants to focus on, because bringing in a coalition partner will cause them to have to make certain compromises with that party, whatever party it may be," said Jeffrey Hall, an expert on Japanese politics at the Kanda University of International Studies.

The LDP could lose as many as 50 of its 247 seats in the lower house and Komeito could slip below 30, giving the coalition fewer than the 233 needed for a majority, a survey by the Asahi newspaper suggested last week.

## Michelle Obama challenges men to support Kamala Harris: Take our lives seriously

**Michigan.** Michelle Obama challenged men to support Kamala Harris' bid to be America's first female president, warning at a rally in Michigan on Saturday that women's lives would be at risk if Donald Trump returned to the White House. The former first lady described the assault on abortion rights as the harbinger of dangerous limitations on healthcare for women. Some men may be tempted to vote for Trump because of their anger at the slow pace of progress, Obama said, but "your rage does not exist in a vacuum." "If we don't get this election right, your wife, your daughter, your mother, we as women will become collateral damage to your rage," Obama said. "So are you as men prepared to look into the eyes of the women and children you love and tell them you supported this assault on our safety?"

The rally in Kalamazoo was Obama's first appearance on the campaign trail since she spoke at the Democratic National Convention over the summer, and her remarks were searing and passionate in their support of Harris. "By every measure, she has demonstrated that she's ready," the former first lady said. "The real question is, as a country, are we ready for this moment?"

Obama added, "Do not buy into the lies that we do not know who Kamala is or what she stands for. This is somebody who understands you, all of you." Although Obama has been a reluctant campaigner over the years, she showed no hesitation on Saturday as her speech stretched from the political to the personal. Obama said she fears for the country and struggles to understand why the presidential race remains close. "I lay awake at night wondering, 'What in the world is going on?'" she said. Her voice vibrating with emotion, Obama talked about the struggle for women to understand and care for their own bodies, whether it's their menstrual cycles or menopause.

# Israel strikes Iranian missile fuel-mixing complex, show satellite images: Report

**Washington.** Commercial satellite imagery showed that Israeli airstrikes hit buildings during an attack on Saturday that Iran used for mixing solid fuel for ballistic missiles, according to separate assessments by two American researchers. The judgements were reached by David Albright, a former UN weapons inspector who heads the Institute for Science and International Security research group, and Decker Eveleth, an associate research analyst at CNA, a Washington think tank. They told Reuters separately that Israel struck Parchin, a massive military complex near Tehran. Israel also hit Khojir, according to Eveleth, a sprawling missile production site near Tehran.

Reuters reported in July that Khojir was undergoing massive expansion. Eveleth said the Israeli strikes may have "significantly hampered Iran's ability to mass produce missiles." The Israeli military said three waves of Israeli jets struck missile factories

and other sites near Tehran and in western Iran early on Saturday in retaliation for Tehran's October 1 barrage of more than 200 missiles against Israel. Iran's military said the Israeli warplanes used "very light warheads" to strike border radar systems in the provinces of Ilam, Khuzestan and around Tehran. Eveleth said that an image from Planet Labs, a commercial satellite firm, showed that an Israeli strike destroyed two buildings in Khojir where solid fuel for ballistic missiles was mixed. The buildings were enclosed by high dirt berms, according to the image reviewed by Reuters. Such structures are associated with missile production and are designed to stop a blast in one building from detonating combustible materials in nearby structures. Planet Labs imagery of Parchin showed that Israel destroyed three ballistic missile solid fuel mixing buildings and a warehouse, he



said. Albright said he reviewed low-resolution commercial satellite imagery of Parchin that appeared to show that an Israeli strike damaged three buildings, including two in which solid fuel for ballistic missiles was mixed. He did not identify the commercial firm from which he obtained the images. He buildings, he said, are located about 350 yards from a facility once involved in what the UN nuclear watchdog,

the International Atomic Energy Agency, and US intelligence say was a comprehensive nuclear weapons development program that Iran shuttered in 2003. Iran denies having such a program.

"Israel says they targeted buildings housing solid-fuel mixers," Eveleth said. "These industrial mixers are hard to make and export-controlled. Iran imported many over the years at great expense, and will likely have a hard time replacing them." With a limited operation, he said, Israel may have struck a significant blow against Iran's ability to mass-produce missiles and made it more difficult for any future Iranian missile attack to pierce Israel's missile defences. Iran has the Middle East's largest missile arsenal and supplied missiles to Russia for use against Ukraine, and to Yemen's Houthis rebels and the Lebanese militia Hezbollah, according to US officials.

## Biden apologises for 'sin' of 150-year Native American boarding school policy

**Laveen Village, Arizona.** President Joe Biden on Friday formally apologised to Native Americans for the "sin" of a government-run boarding school system that for decades forcibly separated children from their parents, calling it a "blot on American history" in his first presidential visit to Indian Country. "It's a sin on our soul," said Biden, his voice full of anger and emotion. "Quite frankly, there's no excuse that this apology took 50 years to make." It was a moment of both contrition and frustration as the president sought to recognise one of the "most horrific chapters" in the national story. Biden spoke of the abuses and deaths of Native children that resulted from the federal government's policies, noting that "while darkness can hide much, it erases nothing" and that great nations "must know the good, the bad, the truth of who we are."

removal of children from their Native American community for boarding schools "will always be a significant mark



of shame, a blot on American history. For too long, this all happened with virtually no public attention, not written about in our history books, not taught in our schools." Democrats hope Biden's visit to the Gila River Indian Community's land on the outskirts of Phoenix's metro area will also provide a boost to Vice President Kamala Harris' turnout effort in a key

battleground state. The moment gave Biden a fuller chance to spotlight his and Harris' support for tribal nations, a group that historically has favoured Democrats, in a state he won by just 10,000 votes in 2020.

The race between Harris and former President Donald Trump is expected to be similarly close, and both campaigns are doing whatever they can to improve turnout among bedrock supporters. "The race is now a turnout grab," said Mike O'Neil, a non-partisan pollster based in Arizona. "The trendlines throughout have been remarkably steady. The question is which candidate is going to be able to turn out their voters in a race that seems to be destined to be decided by narrow margins." Biden has been used sparingly on the campaign trail by Harris and other Democrats since he ended his reelection campaign in July. But analysts say Biden could help Harris in her appeal with Native American voters — a group that has trailed others in turnout rates.

## Pakistan lifts ban on ex-PM Imran Khan's meetings inside Rawalpindi jail

**Lahore.** Pakistan's Punjab government on Saturday lifted a ban on the meetings of former prime minister Imran Khan who has been incarcerated in Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail for more than a year. A senior officer said that the Punjab government lifted the ban on the meetings of prisoners, including the 72-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader, which was imposed on October 4 because of security concerns.



The government had imposed the ban on Khan's meetings after the PTI gave a protest call on October 4 in Islamabad demanding his release and for the "independence of the judiciary". Earlier, he had said he is ready to spend his whole life in jail but will not compromise on his struggle for "Haqiqi Azadi (real freedom)".

The ministers say Khan's freedom is linked to his unconditional apology for the May 9, 2023, riots in which the PTI workers allegedly had attacked state and military installations. Khan, however, demand the constitution of a judicial commission to probe the May 9 incidents. Last month, Khan had claimed that he is being kept in deplorable conditions in the prison. Khan said only three visitors are allowed to meet him in a week, whereas Nawaz Sharif used to meet with 40 people (when he was in jail). Earlier this week, a Pakistani court granted bail to Bushra Bibi, the wife of Khan, in the Toshakhana corruption case involving the alleged illegal sale of state gifts, nearly nine months after she was arrested.

Khan was arrested on August 5 last year after his conviction in the first Toshakhana corruption case filed by the Election Commission of Pakistan. Since then, he has been in jail in different cases.

## US judge blocks efforts to clear homeless camps before Taylor Swift concerts

### The effort to relocate about 75 people living in tents beneath an overpass near the Superdome began in the days leading up to pop star's shows, which could draw 150,000 visitors to the

**Louisiana.** A judge in Louisiana has temporarily blocked further efforts by state officials to clear homeless encampments in New Orleans — stalling a push that came ahead of three Taylor Swift concerts in the city this weekend. The effort to relocate about 75 people living in tents beneath an overpass near the Superdome began in the days leading up to pop star's shows, which could draw 150,000 visitors to the stadium. Judge Lori Jupiter granted a

temporary restraining order on Friday, directing state law enforcement officials to not "destroy or dispose of the property of unhoused people without judicial process" and to notify people in the "state-sanctioned camp" that they are "free to leave."

The order is in effect until November 4. The judge's ruling came in response to a lawsuit filed by homeless people who were subject to the sweep. In legal filings, they argued that state troopers violated their constitutional rights by illegally searching, seizing and destroying their property, disposing of their prized possessions and "forcibly herding" them away. According to the lawsuit, a legal observer overheard state troopers saying "the governor wants you to move because of the Taylor Swift concert." State officials have said the residents were being moved to a new location about two blocks away, where

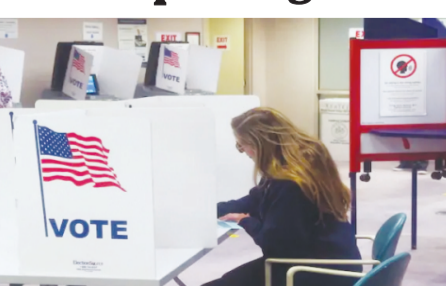


unhoused people living in the tourist-heavy French Quarter neighbourhood would also be moved. A spokesperson for Governor Jeff Landry has said that the effort was meant to address homelessness and safety issues, linking the push to the concerts and February's Super Bowl, which will take place in the city. As we prepare for the city to host Taylor Swift and Super Bowl LIX, we are committed to ensuring New Orleans puts its best foot forward when on the world

stage," Landry's communications director, Kate Kelly, said in a statement issued to local media. Advocates argue the effort disrupted the work of local officials to connect homeless people with social services and help them find more permanent housing solutions. Martha Kegel, executive director of Unity of Greater New Orleans, a nonprofit that seeks permanent housing for unsheltered people, said the sweep was a needless and harmful endeavour and that many of those in the camp have mental illnesses and are distrustful of authorities and those trying to help them. "Some people were frightened and left, and that's not good," she said. "Because then all the work that we did to assess them and document their disabilities and, you know, work with them on their housing plan has now been wasted." Among those who made the move Wednesday was Terrence Cobbins. Taking a break from gathering his belongings, he said he was told to move because of the concerts.

## Ground report: Inside US polling booth as around 30 million cast early votes

**Fairfax.** With just days remaining before the United States presidential election, where Republican Donald Trump faces his Democratic rival Kamala Harris, nearly 30 million people have already cast their votes through early voting. The majority of the polling stations across the state are witnessing a steady flow of voters in what many believe to be a closely contested race.



Early voting allows citizens to vote before Election Day, either in person or by mail, aiming to provide greater convenience and reduce long lines on November 5. India Today visited early voting station in Virginia's Fairfax County, which witnessed a good voter turnout, as both Republicans and Democrats remain hopeful for a favourable outcome. "Most people say this is an important election and they are

definitely going to vote, with a few even saying you'd be crazy not to vote in this election," said a volunteer outside the polling booth. Supporters of both Trump and Harris have set up booths outside polling stations, offering last-minute canvassing and guidance for voters. Here, voters receive a sample ballot and an overview of the voting process before they enter the booth. In Fairfax County, a traditionally Democratic area, many residents remarked that this election feels particularly close. One Republican supporter, who voted for Donald Trump, shared that she believes he has the strength required to be commander-in-chief. "Kamala Harris isn't suited for this role; Trump is the one," she stated. She acknowledged the race is tight but claimed, "Overall, things are improving" for the Republican side.

According to her, the biggest issues in this election are inflation and immigration. "The cost of everything has gone up. Car insurance saw a 700 percent hike, and the prices of food, gasoline—everything has

increased. Another issue is immigration; people are scared. It feels like an invasion, with thousands of people entering without checks. It's frightening people," said the Republican supporter. Lee Jordy, who voted for Harris, also commented on the election, saying, "It's going to be a tight fight. I am really worried about the state of our union and want to preserve our democracy. I think Kamala Harris is compassionate and cares for every American, while Trump is focused on big business." Johnny Xavier, another voter, also finds Kamala Harris a suitable candidate because "she has done a great job".

However, another voter expressed a different opinion, saying people may prefer the Republican candidates as they "know that when the government governs the least, the economy functions better, and there will be

## J&K: Indian Army Uncovers Grenades and Pakistani-Made Mines in Terror Hideout

**Srinagar:** In a significant operation on Saturday, the Indian Army's Romeo Force, in collaboration with the Special Operations Group (SOG) police, dismantled a suspected terror hideout linked to Pakistan in Poonch, Jammu and Kashmir. Reports indicate that security forces recovered two grenades and three Pakistani-made mines during the operation, highlighting persistent security challenges in the region.



Following this operation, search efforts have intensified in Tangmarg and other strategic locations across Jammu and Kashmir. The Indian Army is actively pursuing suspects connected to recent terror incidents in Gulmarg, Baramulla, and Gagangir in Ganderbal district. This surge in military activity comes on the heels of two recent attacks. On October 24, a military vehicle was ambushed, resulting in the deaths of two Army soldiers and two

civilian porters. A previous attack on October 20 claimed the lives of a doctor and six construction workers at a tunnel site on the Srinagar-Leh highway, raising alarms over targeted violence in the area. In response to these escalating threats, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has mandated enhanced security protocols

around critical infrastructure and military installations. This includes a comprehensive security audit and the establishment of continuous patrols and checkpoints in high-risk areas. Additionally, the Counter-Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) conducted extensive raids across six districts, including Srinagar, Ganderbal, Pulwa-

ma, Anantnag, Budgam, and Kulgam, resulting in the arrest of several recruiters associated with the newly formed terror organization "Tehreek Labaik Ya Muslim" (TLM). This group, believed to be an offshoot of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), is reportedly being operated by a Pakistani handler identified as Baba Hamas, according to officials.

## Nine Injured in Stampede at Mumbai's Bandra Terminus

**Mumbai:** A stampede at Bandra Terminus left nine people injured as passengers rushed to board a train bound for Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, during the heavy pre-Diwali rush. According to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), the incident occurred on platform number 1 as travelers gathered for the delayed Gorakhpur Express, originally scheduled to depart at 5:10 AM. The train arrived late, causing a surge of passengers to crowd the platform around 3 AM, which led to the stampede.

Among the injured, two individuals are reported to be in critical condition, while the remaining seven are stable. The train, which has 22 unreserved coaches, drew over 1,000 passengers, with some attempting to board while it was still moving, resulting in injuries. More than 50 police of-

ficers were deployed on Platform 1 to manage the crowd. Eyewitnesses described chaotic scenes, with blood visible on the platform as Railway Police and other passengers assisted the injured onto stretchers. In one video, a railway officer was seen carrying an injured passenger, while another depicted two men lying on the ground, blood-stained and in distress. Efforts to provide aid included several people using a large cloth as a makeshift stretcher to transport an injured individual. One passenger was observed sitting on a bench with a torn shirt, clearly in pain. The BMC later confirmed that the situation is now under control and that the injured have been taken to Bhabha Hospital for treatment. Among those hurt, one suffered a spinal fracture while others had leg fractures; two passengers have since been discharged.

## NILD Celebrates World Occupational Therapy Day



**Kolkata:** The National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities (NILD) observed World Occupational Therapy Day from October 21 to 27, under the theme "Occupational Therapy for All."

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Lalit Narayan, Director of NILD, who emphasized the importance of modern occupational therapy techniques in his opening address. He encouraged both therapists and students to embrace the challenges of rehabilitation and dedicated their efforts to serving individuals with disabilities.

Throughout the week, occupational therapy students participated in street plays designed to raise awareness about the significance of occupational therapy and the vital role therapists play in rehabilitation. Additionally, a series of competitions—including quizzes, debates, photography, and videography—allowed students to showcase their creativity and talents.

The celebration also featured captivating cultural performances by rehabilitated individuals, demonstrating the positive impact of the institute's occupational therapy services. In a closing ceremony, Dr. Lalit Narayan presented certificates and prizes to participants and winners, commending their enthusiasm and contributions to the event.

## Janshakti Dal Leaders Join Samajwadi Party Ahead of Nominations



by Ashok Kumar

**Dhanbad:** Suraj Mahto, chief of Janshakti Dal, and Ajmul Ansari held a press conference at their head office today, announcing their decision to join the Samajwadi Party. Mahto confirmed that both he and Ansari will file their nominations as candidates for the upcoming elections on November 28. Mahto explained that their ideological alignment with the Samajwadi Party motivated this transition, stating, "The ideology of my party and the Samajwadi Party is the same, which is why we have joined."

Suraj Mahto previously established the Janshakti Dal, while Ajmul Ansari, formerly the president of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha in the Bagmara block, faced a six-year expulsion from his party due to anti-party activities. Following his expulsion, Ansari formed the Birs Force and began positioning himself as a self-proclaimed candidate in the Tundi assembly. Both leaders will be contesting from Bagmara and Tundi, respectively. As they prepare to enter the electoral fray, it remains to be seen how much support they will garner from the voters in these constituencies, with some critics suggesting they may act as "vote cutters" rather than serious contenders.

## Gym Trainer Arrested for Killing Woman and Hiding Body

by Sunil Bajpai

**Kanpur:** In a shocking turn of events, police have uncovered the murder of 32-year-old Ekta Gupta, who was allegedly killed and buried by her gym trainer Vimal Soni, who concealed her body in the District Magistrate Officers' compound.

Ekta was reported missing by her husband, Rahul Gupta, after she failed to return from the Green Park Stadium gym on June 24. Initially, Gupta accused Soni of luring his wife away with intoxicants mixed in a protein shake, leading the police to believe it was a case of voluntary departure.

However, after detaining Soni, investigators learned that he struck Ekta during an argument, resulting in her accidental death. In a state of panic, he buried her body in the compound.

The police have exhumed the body for a post-mortem examination and are continuing their investigation into the incident, which has alarmed the local community. Authorities are working to gather more details about the case.

## India To Have Its Own Space Station by 2035

**New Delhi:** India is set to establish its own space station, named the Bharatiya Antriksh Station, by 2035, announced Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh. This declaration was made during the signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Department of Biotechnology.

The MoU aims to integrate biotechnology with space technology, marking a significant step forward in India's scientific innovation landscape. Key initiatives outlined in the agreement include the creation of the Bharatiya Antriksh Station and the introduction of the 'BioE3' policy, which focuses on biotechnology for



economy, environment, and employment. Dr. Singh highlighted that the collaboration will prioritize microgravity research, space biotechnology, biomanufacturing, bioastronautics, and space biology. He emphasized the role of public-

private partnerships in accelerating the growth of India's space sector, noting that the number of space startups has surged to nearly 300, contributing significantly to the space economy. The minister expressed optimism that this partnership

would enhance the national human space program and drive advancements in human health research, novel pharmaceuticals, regenerative medicine, and bio-based technologies aimed at improving waste management and recycling.

## Railways Rolls Out Special Trains to Alleviate Festive Travel Rush

by Suresh Pd Nikhar

**Gaya:** To accommodate the surge in passenger demand during the Diwali and Chhath festivals, the Railways is launching several special trains. Four additional pairs of special trains have been announced to enhance travel convenience. The Kota-Danapur-Kota Special (Train No. 09803/09804) will operate between Kota and Danapur, passing through key stations such as Guna, Sagar, Katni, Prayagraj Chheoki, and Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Junction. This service will run with 19 coaches of Third AC class, departing Kota every Sunday and Thursday from October 27 to November 10,



and returning from Danapur every Monday and Friday from October 28 to November 11. The train will leave Kota at 21:25 and arrive in Danapur at 20:00 the following day. Additionally, the Patna-New Jalpaiguri-Patna Special (Train No. 05739/05740) will operate between New Jalpaiguri

and Patna Junction, with a varied coach composition including First AC, Second AC, Third AC, and Sleeper Class. This train will run every Saturday from November 2 to November 30, with departures from New Jalpaiguri at 05:00, reaching Patna at 17:40. The Katihar-Dauram Madhepura-Katihar Special

(Train No. 07541/07542) will serve the route between Katihar and Dauram Madhepura daily from October 28 to November 30. Train No. 07541 will leave Katihar at 19:00, arriving at Dauram Madhepura at 22:00, while the return service will depart at 22:45. Lastly, the Katihar-Chhapra-Katihar Special (Train No. 05744/05743) will operate between Katihar and Chhapra, running on Thursdays, Sundays, and Mondays from October 27 to November 28. Train No. 05744 will leave Katihar at 16:00, reaching Chhapra at 00:20 the following day. These special services aim to ensure a smooth travel experience for passengers during the festive season.

## Coal India Medical Conference 2024 Concludes with Highlights on Healthcare Innovations

**Ranchi:** The Coal India Medical Conference 2024, hosted by Central Coalfields Limited, wrapped up on Sunday after three days of insightful discussions and presentations at the CCL Headquarters Convention Center. The event drew over 300 medical professionals from various subsidiaries of Coal India, focusing on the theme "Health Priorities - Present and Future." Among the conference highlights was a workshop on diabetes led by Dr. Ankit Srivastava, a leading endocrinologist from Ranchi, on October 26. Notable speakers included Padma Dr. Randeep Guleria, who delivered a virtual lecture on "Sarcoidosis: Challenges in Diagnosis in India," discussing the latest advancements in medical technology. Padma Dr. JS Titiyal, also speaking online from AIIMS, New



Delhi, addressed "Current Priorities of Eye Healthcare and Future Challenges." Other key presentations included Dr. Hrishikesh Kumar from Kolkata, who simplified complex neurological concepts in his talk "Approach to Get Disorder," and Dr. Praveen Kumar Bansal, a Medical Oncologist, who engaged attendees in a Q&A on "Oncological Emergencies." Additionally, Dr. Siddharth Satpathy from AIIMS provided insights

on "Law Applicable for Hospitals," while cardiologist Dr. Hrudish Narayan Chakravarty discussed the "Perils and Pitfalls of Insulin Therapy." Professor Dr. Dilip Kumar Pahari from Medica Super Speciality Hospital highlighted the establishment of "Dialysis Centres in Tertiary Care Hospitals," and Dr. Sourav Dutta covered the "Current Scenarios and Future of Cancer Care in Eastern India." Other contributions in-

cluded a video presentation by Dr. Sanjib Kumar Behera on "Mini Posterior Approach Incision THR" and a discussion on the "Spectrum of Oncology" by Dr. (Brig.) Arvind Kumar Tyagi.

The conference also featured the presentation of 49 research papers across categories such as Free Paper, Case Presentation, Chairman Award, and DNB Session. Awards were distributed to outstanding contributors, with Dr. Sikha Bhardwaj taking the top DNB prize, while Dr. Gaurav Kumar won the Free Paper category. As the conference concluded, Dr. Bharat Singh expressed gratitude to all participants and expert speakers for their invaluable contributions, emphasizing the importance of collaboration in advancing healthcare in the region.

## Bridging Realms: IIT-ISM Seminar Unpacks the Nexus of Science and Spirituality

**Dhanbad:** The Scolomin Club at IIT-ISM hosted an enlightening seminar at the Penman Auditorium, where students, faculty, staff, and their families explored the intricate relationship between science and spirituality.

Inspired by the philosophy of Sree Sree Thakur Anukulachandra, the event featured several expert speakers who engaged participants in thought-provoking discussions. The seminar commenced with a presentation by Professor Sutanu Chakraborti from IIT Madras, who addressed the topic "Science and Spirituality: Complementary and Contradictory?" He examined the interplay between faith and reason, discussing how both realms can coexist and enhance personal growth. His insights aimed to dispel common misconceptions about the dichotomy of science and spirituality. Professor Tarun Kumar Dalai



from IISER Kolkata followed with a talk titled "Coherency in Thought, Word, and Action: A Key to Inner Tranquility." He highlighted the negative repercussions of incoherence among thoughts, words, and actions, including decreased productivity and self-doubt. Prof. Dalai also provided practical strategies for achieving harmony in these areas to foster personal well-being. Surya Prakash Mahapatra, Head of Talent Skilling at Wipro Futuring, delivered a

session titled "Success Precised through Faith: A Conception Not Overwhelmed by Contradiction." He emphasized the importance of surrounding oneself with optimistic influences and maintaining a strong connection to one's beliefs as a pathway to success. In an online session, Dr. Praveen Mohanty, Scientist E at the Department of Science and Technology in New Delhi, encouraged attendees to view misfortune as an opportunity for growth rather than a set-

back. His talk, "How to Overcome Misfortune; a Miss for Tune," inspired participants to reframe their perspectives on challenges. During the inaugural session, Professor Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director of IIT (ISM), emphasized the rarity and importance of such seminars in academic settings, providing participants with a unique platform to explore the synergies between spirituality and science.

# Bengal will be peaceful only when cross-border infiltration stops: Amit Shah



**Petrapole, West Bengal.** Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said that illegal migration from Bangladesh to India disrupts peace in the country, adding that lasting peace in West Bengal can only be achieved when cross-border infiltration is stopped.

Speaking at the inauguration of a new passenger terminal at the Petrapole land port along the India-Bangladesh border in West Bengal, Amit Shah asserted that illegal immigration from Bangladesh will be curbed if the BJP assumes power in West Bengal in 2026. "When there is no legal way of cross border movement, illegal migration takes place. Illegal migration harms Indo-Bangladesh peace. I want to say to the people

of Bengal, make a change (in state government) in 2026 and we will stop the infiltration. There can be peace in Bengal, only if this infiltration stops," the Union Home Minister said.

The terminal building at the Petrapole land port has been built at a cost of approximately Rs 500 crores, spans 60,000 square meters and can handle 25,000 passengers daily. Shah noted that land ports are important for establishing peace in the region. "Land ports play an important role in improving connectivity and relations between the two countries. They also enhance trade relations between the two nations," he added. Shah further slammed the Trinamool Congress government over alleged

**Amit Shah slammed the Trinamool Congress government over alleged corruption, saying "Funds sent by PM Modi for the development of Bengal get usurped due to corruption".**

corruption, saying "Funds sent by PM Modi for the development of Bengal get usurped due to corruption"...during NDA's tenure under Narendra Modi, Rs 56,000 crores have been given in the last 10 years. But I ask you today, does this Rs 56,000 crores reach the beneficiaries of NREGA, or does it end up in the hands of Trinamool Congress workers? Please investigate this," he asserted. The BJP leader also called upon the people of the state to bring in political change in 2026.

# Aaditya Thackeray slams 'reel minister' Ashwini Vaishnaw over Bandra stampede

**New Delhi:** Hours after a stampede at Mumbai's Bandra terminal left at least nine people injured, with two in critical condition, the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena lambasted Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and said that it was shameful that the "country has been forced under such incapable ministers." While slamming the Railways Minister over the stampede incident, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray questioned the minister's ability to manage railway safety.

"Wish the reel minister was a rail minister for once. The incident at Bandra only reflects how incapable the current Railways Minister is. The BJP has made Ashwini Vaishnaw ji a Prabhari for BJP Maharashtra for elections, but every week there are some incidents and accidents that occur with the railways. It is such a shame that our country has been forced under such incapable ministers," he said.

The opposition leaders use the term "reel minister" to criticize the Railways Minister over the derailments and train accidents. Responding to the attacks, the minister defended his work in the Lok Sabha this August, saying, "We're not just people who make reels; we're people who work hard." With the Maharashtra Assembly election less than a month away, the BJP has appointed Vaishnaw, a former bureaucrat, to lead the party's campaign. Taking a jibe at the Railway

Minister, Sharad Pawar-led NCP leader Clyde Crasto said, "The stampede at Bandra Terminus is very disturbing... This shows the failure of the Railways Ministry, Ashwini Vaishnaw. Lack of enough trains during the festive season and also a failure of the local administration have led to this mishap." The stampede incident at the Bandra terminal, according to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), was caused by the festive rush



ahead of Diwali. Western Railway's Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO), Vineet Abhishek, said that the incident took place when two passengers tried to board the Bandra-Gorakpur Antyodaya Express. Around 2:30 am, the train was brought to the platform from the yard. As the train was about to arrive at the platform, two passengers tried to board the train. They both suffered injuries. Following this, the railway authorities immediately got the ambulance and shifted the injured passengers to Bhabha Hospital," he said.

# Ex-Bihar MP Mohammad Shahabuddin's son, wife join RJD in Lalu Prasad's presence

**Hena Sahab had earlier contested the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from Siwan's constituency as an independent candidate.**

**Patna:** Former MP Mohammad Shahabuddin's son and wife, Osama Sahab and Hena, joined the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) in the presence of party chief Lalu Prasad Yadav, Bihar's former deputy chief minister Tejaswi Yadav, in Patna on Sunday.

Hena Sahab had earlier contested the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from Siwan's constituency as an independent candidate. In the polls, she trailed behind the Janata Dal (United) candidate Vijaylakshmi Devi by 92,000 votes. The Rashtriya



Janata Dal's candidate, former Bihar Assembly Speaker Awadh Bihari Choudhary, finished a distant third. Mohammad Shahabuddin, who

represented Siwan as a Member of Parliament from 1996 to 2004, wielded significant influence in the region. He died in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic while serving a life sentence in Delhi's Tihar Jail for a double murder. Shahabuddin faced over 36 criminal charges during his political career, including the high-profile killing of JNUSU president and journalist Rajdeo Ranjan.

The recent political entry of his son, Osama, into the Rashtriya Janata Dal has renewed the longstanding alliance between the families of Lalu Yadav and Shahabuddin.

# Rajnath Singh to celebrate Diwali with soldiers in Arunachal along China border

**Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will visit Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang district to celebrate Diwali with soldiers posted along the India-China border.**

**New Delhi:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will celebrate Diwali with soldiers stationed along the India-China border in Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang district on October 31, sources told India Today TV on Sunday. Set against the stunning backdrop of the eastern Himalayas, Tawang has long symbolized India's commitment to securing its borders. Singh's visit comes at a time when India and China reached a breakthrough in patrolling along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh in recent years. Tawang has become one of the focal points of friction, especially in areas like Yangtse, where the Indian and Chinese armies clashed in December 2022, leading to injuries on both



sides. During this incident, the Indian Army successfully prevented People's Liberation Army (PLA) soldiers from advancing their patrols into the Yangtse, reinforcing India's control over the sensitive region. After the incident, both sides actively engaged in dialogue to de-escalate tensions around Yangtse. According to sources within the defence establishment, there is an emerging proposal to allow PLA patrols in designated areas, aiming for a controlled and mutually agreeable presence on both sides. This diplomatic effort underscores a potential breakthrough in easing tensions in this disputed sector, as India and China seek ways to balance security with stability.

Before Singh's visit, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu and Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein will also welcome the Indian Air Force's Uttarakhand War Memorial car rally that will reach Tawang on October 30. This year, Diwali, a major Hindu festival, will be celebrated from October 29 to November 3.

# "Will Rise From Ashes": Sanjay Raut On Team Thackeray Losing Party Name

**New Delhi:** Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Raut said the party will "rise from the ashes like a phoenix" despite the now Chief Minister Eknath Shinde-led split robbing the Uddhav Thackeray faction of the Shiv Sena name and symbol and many leaders walking away. Speaking at the NDTV Marathi Conclave on Sunday, Mr Raut said the Maha Vikas Aghadi's manifesto for the November 20 Maharashtra Assembly elections will be released after Congress leader Rahul Gandhi visits the state on November 4. He added that the coalition - comprising Shiv Sena (UBT), Congress and Sharad Pawar-led NCP - would look at putting the state's finances in order, battling corruption and the law and order problem and bringing stability to the state. "Maharashtra's industries have moved out and youth have lost their jobs. State leaders are being murdered and prisoners in jail are challenging law and order,"



he said, in an apparent reference to the killing of NCP leader Baba Siddique and the alleged involvement of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi's gang.

Mr Raut accused the Election Commission of partiality towards the Ajit Pawar-led NCP and Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena in the fight for party names and symbols. "The father of the

NCP party was sitting in front of the Election Commission, but they gave it to another person.

We had demanded justice for us. Today, our symbol case is in the the Supreme Court for two-and-a-half years. They have allowed an unconstitutional government to function in the state. Removing the blindfold of the God of Justice does not mean that everything is going according to the Constitution," he said. The Rajya Sabha MP also hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for criticising the Ladli Bahana Yojana in Jharkhand and Rajasthan, a version of which was implemented in Maharashtra as the Ladki Bahin Yojana. "In states where the BJP government is ruling, Modi praises the scheme. These are double standards. Women should start small industries, and should be made to stand on their own feet. People will get used to the scheme and the next government will have to do the same," he said.

# PM Modi Addresses Digital Arrest In Mann Ki Baat, Urges People To Be Vigilant

**During the radio talk, PM Modi played a video to make people understand the gravity of the crime.**

**New Delhi.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday addressed the issue of "digital arrest" in the 115th episode of 'Mann Ki Baat', labelling it as a fraudulent activity. He urged people to remain vigilant and safe. The Prime Minister emphasised that those involved in the crime are enemies of society. "...There is no system like digital arrest in the law, this is just fraud, deceit, lie, a gang of criminals and those who are doing this are enemies of the society..." the PM cautioned. Addressing the growing cases and concerns about techno-crime, PM Modi informed listeners that various investigative agencies were collaborating with state governments to combat these fraudulent schemes.

He said to enhance coordination among these agencies, the National Cyber Coordination Centre has been established. "This initiative aims to strengthen efforts against cybercrime and protect citizens from such scams, reaffirming the government's commitment to ensuring public safety in the digital realm," said



the PM. "Beware of Digital Arrest frauds... No investigative agency will ever contact you by phone or video call for enquiries... The fraudsters of digital arrest phone calls, at times, impersonate police, CBI, and Narcotics; and at times RBI... using such various labels, they converse as fake officers with a lot of confidence. Many listeners of '#MannKiBaat'

have wished that we must discuss that. Let me tell you, how these fraud gangs work. What is this dangerous game? It is very important for you to understand this and it is equally important for others to understand it as well," said the PM.

During the radio talk, PM Modi played a video to make people understand the gravity of the crime.

While making the audience understand the modus operandi, PM Modi said, "The First Move... They collect all of your personal information... 'You went to Goa last month, didn't you? Your daughter studies in Delhi, right?' They collect so much information about you that you will be surprised..." The second move - create an atmosphere of fear... Uniform, government office set-up, legal sections... they will scare you so much on the phone... In the midst of the conversation, you will not be able to even think. And then their third move begins - the time pressure. "You have to decide now or else you will be arrested" - these people create so much psychological pressure on the victim that one

gets scared. People from every class and age group fall victim to Digital Arrest. People have lost lakhs of rupees earned through their hard work, out of sheer fear. Whenever you receive such a call, don't be scared. You should be aware that no investigative agency ever inquires like this through a phone call or a video call," the PM said. PM Modi enumerated the three steps to Digital Security. These three steps are -- 'Stop - Think - Take Action.'

"As soon as you get a call, stop... don't panic, stay calm, don't take any hasty steps, don't give away your personal information to anyone; if possible take a screenshot and record it for sure. After this comes the second step. The first step was 'stop' and the second step was 'think'. No government agency threatens you on the phone like this, neither inquires nor demands money on a video call like this. If you feel scared, then know that something is wrong. The first step, the second step and now I spell out the third step. In the first step, I said - 'Stop'... in the second step I said - 'Think', and the third step tells you - 'Take action!'"

## The US media narrative is ready, whoever wins

This US Presidential election is much like life. We are guessing and fumbling from day to day, juggling alternative scripts. The smart-button 'narratives' experts offer are always 'after the fact'. To do this, they must shake the tree 'before the fact' to collect enough deniability statements, so that they can say in the end, 'I-told-you-so.'

After the election results, journalists will choose between prefabricated stories depending on who wins. If Donald Trump does, it is because he is hot on immigration. If he loses then it is because the majority, the White population, in places like Minnesota or Montana, do not care. The only Mexicans they have seen are in the movies, who are no match to Clint Eastwood. Should Kamala Harris come out on top, then it is obviously because Black people, celebrities at that, from Oprah Winfrey to Michelle Obama, stand with her. There is the danger though, that Black men are uncomfortable with an alpha woman leading the pack. Well, nor do they think that Kamala is Black. Isn't this what Trump has always said?

Again, the majority of the Democrats say abortion should be legal, but only women and a few men would have a dog in that hunt. In case Kamala wins, it would be because at least 50 per cent of Americans are women. And even those beyond child-bearing age have a stake in this issue, as they fought for the 1970s Roe v Wade abortion verdict, which was overturned by Trump.

Certainly, if Kamala wins, it will be because she is collected and calm and articulates her policies clearly. If she loses, it will be because the same taglines leave those in hamburger-and-hot-dogs-stands stone-cold. Kamala may think she has more women on her side, but does she know how many of them melt at the sight of a strong Donald John Wayne Trump?

If Trump loses then it is clearly because he badmouths people frequently, has several felony cases against him and allegedly paid off a sex worker with campaign funds. On the contrary, should he win, then it is because he is a man's man, wore an apron frying chips in a McDonald's kitchen and uses locker-room language freely.

If Trump gets to the White House, it is because inflation was low during his term and so was unemployment. Towards the end of his term both had spiked, but you can't blame him; that was because of Covid. Obama argued that Trump's economy only looked good because he had repaired and made it ship-shape after George Bush had mangled it. The credit, therefore, should go to the Democrats. Trump's readiness to raise tariffs, higher than ever anyone dreamt of to protect American jobs, is a one-stop-shop solution whose log-cabin simplicity would have been loved by American pioneers. Kamala juggles with numbers and Nobel laureates commend her but brainiacs and Marvel comic readers are worlds apart.

However, if Kamala beats Trump, then kudos to her planned economic policy, which doesn't ramble and is interspersed with rock music, unlike Trump's Philadelphia Townhall event. That man there was like a runaway train, jumping tracks and going through signals. His economics is suspect, because as a billionaire he filed for bankruptcy four times. Still, ask the person on the street who doesn't have time to watch CNN debates or 60 Minutes, or any such TV shows, and hear them say that 'Trump knows.' They have no idea of the celebrities billowing Kamala's sails,

but their gut feeling is that Trump will fix the Chinese, stop immigrants, give us Americans jobs and make the world alright again. Surprise! Kamala edges out Trump! Of course, she would. Hiking tariffs lowers efficiency, raises the price of steel used by US manufacturing, and makes America resemble a latter-day Indian licence Raj. All this while Chinese sell goods to our old friends, now enemies, as we no longer buy cars and wines from Germany or France. Winning over Muslims may be tough for Trump, but Jewish influencers know that he will always stand by Israel's license to kill. As Kamala waffles on this score, Trump is a winner because many Muslims resent Democrat double talk on Palestine. Should Kamala win though, it is not as if Muslims like her, but they see her as a lesser evil. If Trump gets in, it is because he is somebody people think they know.

## TRYSTS AND TURNS: Setting the cat among the pigeons

Redevelopment plan introduced in Maharashtra with the intent of patronising builders' lobby

THE Maharashtra Government had always treated its officials of the All-India Services — the IAS and the IPS — with kindness and consideration. When officers were about to retire, the government would allot state-owned pieces of land to a group of officers on a 99-year lease. The officers would then form a cooperative housing society and construct a building with 14 to 20 flats or more on that piece of land, according to its size. In my housing society, for instance, 20 IPS officers came together and each spent a shade above Rs 3 lakh to get a building of 'ground plus 10 floors' constructed, two flats per floor. The carpet area of each 3 BHK flat is 1,070 sq ft, as per the government's rules. The society pays lease rent to the government every year, along with house taxes to the Bombay Municipal Corporation.

All societies are registered with the Registrar of Cooperative Housing Societies. Each society has an elected chairman, a secretary and five to eight committee members, according to the number of members. The managing committee is mandated by the housing society rules to meet every month to sort out common concerns. Since the societies are on government leasehold land, they have to report to the Collector of Mumbai and obtain his/her sanction for any sale of flats or succession rights in case of the death of an owner. A flat owner could rent out his/her flat only to the government, which would allot the tenancy to one of its own officials at a nominal rent, the money being credited to the flat owner's bank account. Soon, MLAs also demanded similar benefits and were allotted land on leasehold by the government. They disregarded laid-down conditions, and cases of selling or renting flats without the permission of the Collector were reported. The government found it difficult to discipline politicians. Instead, it relaxed the rules for all, permitting the sale and renting out to those who were not government employees (but who could afford to pay market rates). That step was the precursor to establishing commerce in flats built on government land on leasehold terms. The present BJP-mentored government has gone a step further. It decided to monetise the entire system by first

floating a rumour that leasehold land would be offered for conversion to freehold to societies at the nominal rate of 5 per cent of the rated value of the land. This leak set the cat among the pigeons.

When Devendra Fadnis, the BJP's pointsman in Maharashtra and also the Deputy Chief Minister, made a public statement on the policy while addressing a gathering of cooperative housing societies, flat owners anxiously started awaiting the government resolution. When at last the government resolution was published, there was the inevitable

the 10 per cent payment if the money was deposited by November 15, 2024. Many societies have turned down even this alternative because some members were unable to muster their required share of money. The problem arises in the case of societies whose majority flat owners want to convert to freehold but a small minority refuses to go along. There is no legal or moral ground to dismember them. In fact, any such step would be ethically reprehensible.

The principle of the majority vote on an issue that was not envisaged when the societies were originally formed is well-nigh impossible to apply. The government land was given to IAS/IPS officers for the specific purpose of living in conditions in which they were accustomed to while in service so that their dignity was maintained and the temptation to resort to corrupt practices while in service was hopefully discouraged. When the housing societies were formed, none of the officers who stood to gain from a benevolent government's largesse had any vision of an exorbitant profit. Even a 99-year lease would take care of the retirees and two or even three generations of their descendants! By dangling this new carrot in front of society members and their children as well as grandchildren, the present government has created a point of friction which did not exist earlier.

Old friendships have come under attack since friends find themselves on rival sides. In every society of AIS officers, there now are three categories of members — those who are fiercely eager to take advantage of the dangling carrot; those who are content with what the previous government had given them; and those who sit on the proverbial fence and will accept the final decision. Where do I stand? Of one thing I am very, very clear. As long as I live, I want to spend my last few months and days in the building in which my friends live. It is a perfectly sustainable building which can accommodate 20 residents for another 20 years, if not more. I will oppose the redevelopment of a good building, a step introduced by the present rulers with the obvious intent of patronising the builders' lobby.



setback to lofty expectations — 5 per cent of the rated value of the land was announced, but that was tied up with relinquishing 25 per cent of the increased FSI (floor space index) to the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, which meant that the existing flat owners — all retired service officers — would have to accommodate new owners chosen by the government. That would spell trouble in the internal administration of the housing societies. Differences in opinion between existing members would increase exponentially, making it difficult for managing committees to take decisions.

Recently, office-bearers of some societies formed by retired IAS/IPS officers met the Collector and came away with the notion that the government was prepared to remove the 'redevelopment clause' for

## Maharashtra battle

Alliances look to get seat-sharing formula right

MAHA Vikas Aghadi (MVA) vs Mahayuti — the big battle is between two alliances in poll-bound Maharashtra, but there are some small battles being fought within both camps. The prolonged deliberations on seat-sharing among the MVA constituents — the Congress, the NCP (Sharad Pawar faction) and the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) — have seen each of them vigorously seeking a bigger piece of the pie. A compromise formula of 85-85-85 for 255 of the 288 constituencies has been worked out, with some of the remaining seats set to be allocated to smaller allies such as the Samajwadi Party, AAP and Left parties. It is evident that the Congress and Uddhav's Shiv Sena have moderated their ambitions and settled for contesting less than 100 seats each. Their climbdown has helped in resolving the stalemate days ahead of the deadline for the filing of nominations. This augurs well for the MVA, which is looking to upstage the ruling Mahayuti alliance comprising the BJP,



the Shiv Sena (Eknath Shinde faction) and Ajit Pawar-led NCP.

The Congress, whose impressive performance in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls in Maharashtra had cemented its position as the MVA's leading player, has lost much of its bargaining power after its shock defeat in Haryana. The lesson drawn by the MVA, which won 31 of the 48 Lok Sabha seats in Maharashtra earlier this year, is that overconfidence can be self-destructive when the opponent is quite good at handling rebellion and factionalism. Setting aside their differences, the allies have to put up a united front against the BJP-led front in the Assembly polls.

Despite being the senior constituent of Mahayuti, the BJP has allowed the Shinde faction to have the CM's chair. The saffron party is banking heavily on its kingmaker strategy, especially because Ajit Pawar's NCP is considered to be the weak link of the alliance. Having played a key role in splitting both the Shiv Sena and the NCP, the challenge for the BJP now is to keep the Mahayuti flock together.

## US not sure of Netanyahu's word on ending Israel-Gaza conflict

US President hopes of a ceasefire after Yahya Sinwar's killing were dashed by a Hezbollah attack on PM Netanyahu's home.

As US Secretary of State Antony Blinken arrived in Israel on October 22 for his 11th visit, numerous problems cropped up in the Democratic Party. Perhaps his visit was needed to showcase something tangible to the US electorate by way of Gaza ceasefire and hostages' release before the November 5 Presidential election. First, a poll on October 22 by 'The Arab News/YouGov' revealed 45 per cent Arab-Americans favour Donald Trump, with only 43 per cent supporting Kamala Harris as President. As many as 39 per cent respondents felt that Trump would end this war, while 33 per cent said that Harris could stop it. By that time the civilian death toll, according to the UN report of October 8, had exceeded 42,000, with another 12,000 people crushed under the debris.

Second, US President Joe Biden's hopes of a ceasefire after Yahya Sinwar's killing on October 17 were dashed after a Hezbollah drone attack hit Benjamin Netanyahu's home in Caesarea on the 19th. In response, Israel bombed five apartment blocks on October 21 in Beirut, near the city's main public hospital, Rafik Hariri, killing 18 people, including four children. The bombing coincided with the unsuccessful visit of US Special envoy Amos Hochstein to Lebanon to bring peace.

The UN on October 21 said that more than 8 lakh persons had been internally displaced in Lebanon. While 4.2 lakh fled to Syria, 17,000 persons escaped to Iraq. Meanwhile, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) said the next day that Israel's bombing of Gaza had created 42 million tonnes of rubble, creating serious health risks.

Third, Blinken was not able to get a promise from Netanyahu that Israel would not continue to occupy Northern Gaza even after the conclusion of the war. Although Netanyahu has been assuring Blinken privately, the Israeli PM would not say that openly, as



the Times of Israel reported on October 22. On October 21, hundreds of Jewish Right-wing 'settlement-supporting Israelis' organised a show of strength near the Gaza border to demand settlements in Gaza. This was by Nahala (heritage), a pro-settlement organisation, while coalition partners like Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich rejected protests from the Hostages and Missing Families Forum that they were sacrificing the lives of hostages for their own political goals.

Fourth, the leak by a Telegram channel called Middle East Spectator of two highly classified US documents meant for the 'Five Eyes' group, on Israel's top secret battle plans against Iran. The channel claimed that the documents were shared by its 'source' in the American intelligence community. The channel also added that it had no connection with the source who, according to it, was 'a whistleblower in the US State Department'. Axios, a news website located in Arlington, Virginia, confirmed that Middle East Spectator was Iran-affiliated, with its X account

profile located in Iran. This has raised grave concerns among the US intelligence community on Iranian penetration into American intelligence.

However, some intelligence experts did not discount the possibility of Israel leaking the documents to deceive Iran. A few others felt that the Biden administration may itself have orchestrated the leak to delay the Israeli attack, as Washington DC is not confident now of Netanyahu postponing the Iran war, at least until after the US Presidential election.

The Harry Truman Library documents reveal that President Truman modified America's Israel-Palestinian policy in 1945 to favour his party in the US elections. Truman went against his predecessor's consensus with Britain on keeping the multi-religious character of Palestine and the Jewish presence there, which in 1917 was only 18,000 Jews (3 per cent) out of its 6 lakh population.

The Balfour Declaration in 1917 that spoke of the 'establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people' had said that 'nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine'.

The Arabs protested when, by 1922, Jewish migration had gone up to 83,790. Winston Churchill, the then Colonial Secretary, responded by assuring them that there was no intention of turning Palestine into a Jewish state. However, by 1939, Jewish numbers had reached 4.45 lakh, which was one-third of Palestine's population. The same stand was taken by US President FD Roosevelt on April 5, 1945, while writing to King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia, assuring him that no action would be taken in Palestine by America 'which might prove hostile to the Arab people'. Truman, according to American journalist James Reston, quoted by the Truman Library, was influenced by local political considerations to ask

British Prime Minister Clement Attlee to permit a huge migration of one lakh Jews to Palestine on August 31, 1945. Two Democrat politicians vying for the Governorship and Senator's position in New York state, had influenced the President to alter his policy on Israel. Ernest Bevin, then British Foreign Secretary, lamented that the 'Palestine issue has become the subject of local elections in the United States.' However, Truman also participated in the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry to find a solution to Palestine. The Committee in its 'Report to the United States Government and His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom' (April 20, 1946) inter alia said: 'Jew will not dominate Arab nor will Arab dominate Jew; that Palestine shall be neither a Jewish state nor an Arab state; that the form of government ultimately to be established, shall, under international guarantees, fully protect and preserve the interests in the Holy Land of Christendom and of the Moslem and Jewish faiths'. On April 2, 1947, Britain moved the UN General Assembly (UNGA) on the future of Palestine. The UNGA appointed a special committee of 11 members, including India, to recommend a solution. On September 1, 1947, the Committee recommended two options: the majority plan to partition Palestine into the Arab and Jewish areas with Jerusalem under international control, while the minority plan, proposed by India and others, was to have a federated state of Palestine, comprising two autonomous states.

While the Arabs preferred the minority plan, Jews chose the majority plan of partition. Truman tilted the scale in their favour to pass UN Resolution No: 181 on November 29, 1947, when he overruled the US State Department, which had preferred the minority plan.





NEWS BOX

### Fakhar Zaman loses Pakistan central contract after defending Babar Azam

New Delhi. Pakistan cricketer Fakhar Zaman has been removed from their central contracts list after openly criticizing their national cricket board for resting Babar Azam midway through the England Test series. Notably, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) released the list of contracted players for 2024-25 season on Sunday, October 27. While several youngsters earned their maiden contract, names of a few veterans were found missing from the list. Among them was Fakhar Zaman, who was earlier a part of Category B in the central contracts for the previous season. His removal comes just a few weeks after he openly criticized the decision to rest Babar Azam on his X handle. The post didn't go down well with the PCB officials and the board issued him a 'show cause' notice for his post. In the aftermath of the incident, Zaman has now lost his central contract for the first time in eight years. The swashbuckling batter last played for his team during the T20 World Cup 2024 where Pakistan were knocked out of the tournament in the first stage itself after embarrassing losses against co-hosts



USA and India. Meanwhile, apart from Fakhar several big names were also missing in the new list of centrally contracted players namely Iftikhar Ahmed, Hassan Ali, Sarfaraz Ahmed and Imam-ul-Haq. Test captain Shan Masood has been promoted to Category D to Category B after Pakistan's historic 2-1 series win over Ben Stokes' England. Young fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi, who missed out on the last two Tests, has been demoted to category B. Mohammad Abbas Afridi, Khurram Shahzad, Muhammad Irfan Khan, Mohammad Ali, and Usman Khan are the new entrants in the contract list and are in Category D.

### Manika Batra's historic WTT Champions run ends in quarterfinals

New Delhi. Manika Batra's historic journey at the WTT Champions in Montpellier, France, concluded on Saturday night after a quarterfinal loss to China's Qian Tianyi. Batra, ranked World No. 30, fell to Qian, the World No. 21, in straight games (8-11, 8-11, 10-12), ending her memorable campaign. Despite the defeat, Batra set a new benchmark for Indian table tennis, becoming the first Indian paddler to reach the quarterfinals of a WTT Champions event—a prestigious series featuring the top 32 male and female players globally, with substantial prize money and valuable ranking points. Her impressive run began with a convincing 3-0 (11-4, 11-8, 12-10) victory over USA's Lily Zhang. Batra then went on to stun eighth-seeded Bernadette Szocs, the World No. 14,



in a thrilling 3-1 match (11-9, 6-11, 13-11, 11-9). This win not only secured Batra's spot in the quarterfinals but also added to her list of victories against Szocs, whom she had previously defeated during India's 3-2 pre-quarterfinal win over Romania at the Paris Olympics. However, Batra struggled to replicate her earlier form against Qian, who had already caused a significant upset by defeating compatriot and World No. 3 Wang Yidi in the pre-quarterfinals. Unlike her composed performance against Szocs, Batra seemed unsettled against the aggressive Qian. Her usually reliable defense faltered, and her blocking shots lacked their usual sharpness, making it difficult to counter Qian's powerful smashes. Qian capitalized on these weaknesses, winning the match in just three games and marking the end of India's presence in the tournament. India's top-ranked paddler, World No. 25 Sreeja Akula, also faced a setback in Montpellier, exiting in the first round. She lost a hard-fought 3-2 match (6-11, 11-7, 11-1, 8-11, 11-8) to Puerto Rico's Adriana Diaz, ranked No. 13, after a competitive showdown.

# Shan Masood promoted in Pakistan central contracts, Shaheen Afridi demoted

Pakistan have announced their central contracts for the men's team for the 2024-25 season. Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan are the ones in Category A while Shaheen Afridi dropped to Category B.



New Delhi. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) named the central contracts for the 2024-25 international seasons, effective from July 1, 2024. Shan Masood has been promoted to Category D to Category B after Pakistan's 2-1 series win over Ben Stokes' England. Young fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi, who missed out on the last two Tests, has been demoted to category B. The PCB also offered the same three-year contracts

that were agreed last year between the PCB and the cricketers. Last year, the Pakistan board gave its players their highest pay raises and also a share of the revenue from PCB's earnings from the International Cricket Council (ICC). The contracts have been issued based on the framework established last year in an agreement between the players

and the PCB, covering a three-year period. Mohammad Abbas Afridi, Khurram Shahzad, Muhammad Irfan Khan, Mohammad Ali, and Usman Khan are the new entrants to the contract list and are in Category D. Saim Ayub, Abrar Ahmed, Noman Ali, Sajid Khan, Salman Ali Agha and Saud Shakeel have been placed in

category C. Fakhar Zaman, Imam-ul-Haq, Hasan Ali, Iftikhar Ahmed, Sarfaraz Ahmed, Ihsanullah and Mohammad Nawaz are among the ones who have been omitted from the national central contracts.

Fakhar missed out on central contracts for the first time in eight years. Recently, he got involved in a controversy with the board after criticizing Babar Azam's omission from the Test squad for the England series. Haris Rauf has also dropped from Category B to C.

#### List of centrally contracted players for Pakistan men's team

Category A (2): Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan

Category B (3): Naseem Shah, Shaheen Shah Afridi and Shan Masood

Category C (9): Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Haris Rauf, Noman Ali, Saim Ayub, Sajid Khan, Salman Ali Agha, Saud Shakeel and Shadab Khan

Category D (11): Aamir Jamal, Haseebullah, Kamran Ghulam, Khurram Shahzad, Mir Hamza, Mohammad Abbas Afridi, Mohammad Ali, Mohammad Hurraira, Muhammad Irfan Khan, Mohammad Wasim Jnr and Usman Khan

## Babar Azam rested for Zimbabwe tour, available for Australia series ODIs, T20Is

New Delhi. Pakistan, on Sunday, named their squads for the ODI and T20I series on the tour of Australia and Zimbabwe. Babar Azam, Shaheen Shah Afridi and Naseem Shah are available for the limited-overs matches in Australia, but have been rested for the tour of Zimbabwe. Babar, Shaheen and Naseem weren't a part of the two Tests that Pakistan won against England.



Fast bowler Mohammad Hasnain returned to the ODI team after last playing against New Zealand back in January 2023. The young speedster was rewarded after he recently picked up 17 wickets in the Champions Cup at the Iqbal Stadium in Faisalabad. Arafat Minhas, Omair Bin Yousuf, Sufiyan Muqeem, Faisal Akram, Ahmed Daniyal and Jahandad Khan are amongst the new faces on the tours. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), in a statement, said that "it recognised standout domestic performers for the two tours as part

of their strategy to build towards the ICC Champions Trophy defence". Pakistan squad for Australia ODIs

Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Arafat Minhas, Babar Azam, Faisal Akram, Haris Rauf, Haseebullah (WK), Kamran Ghulam, Mohammad Hasnain, Mohammad Rizwan (WK), Muhammad Irfan Khan, Naseem Shah, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Shaheen Shah Afridi Pakistan squad for Australia T20Is Arafat Minhas, Babar Azam,

Haris Rauf, Haseebullah, Jahandad Khan, Mohammad Abbas Afridi, Mohammad Rizwan (WK), Muhammad Irfan Khan, Naseem Shah, Omair Bin Yousuf, Sahibzada Farhan, Salman Ali Agha, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Sufiyan Moqim, Usman Khan Pakistan squad for Zimbabwe ODIs Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Ahmed Daniyal, Faisal Akram, Haris Rauf, Haseebullah (WK), Kamran Ghulam, Mohammad Hasnain, Mohammad Rizwan (WK), Muhammad Irfan Khan, Naseem Shah, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Shaheen Shah Afridi Pakistan squad for Australia T20Is Arafat Minhas, Babar Azam,

Khan, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Shahnawaz Dahani and Tayyab Tahir Pakistan squad for Zimbabwe T20Is Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Ahmed Daniyal, Faisal Akram, Haris Rauf, Haseebullah (WK), Kamran Ghulam, Mohammad Hasnain, Mohammad Rizwan (WK), Muhammad Irfan Khan, Naseem Shah, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Shaheen Shah Afridi Pakistan squad for Australia T20Is Arafat Minhas, Babar Azam,

### Cody Rhodes feud, WWE WrestleMania 41 main card: Bronson Reed on 2025 goals

Since making his return to the WWE, Bronson Reed just seemed to be waiting to make a big splash on the main roster. The Australian superstar stood out from the rest because of his physique and deceptive in-ring prowess that had always caught the imagination of the WWE Universe. But then, on the August 5 episode of Monday Night RAW, Reed went on to make a statement and capture the spotlight by taking out Seth Rollins. The Aussie star delivered 6 devastating Tsunamis to the former World Champion and took him out of action. Since then, Reed has all been about making incredible moments and grabbing the spotlight. A feud with Braun Strowman saw Reed truly make himself a fan favourite with some chaotic moments and now is all set to take on Rollins at WWE Crown Jewel Premium Live Event on November 2, Saturday. Ahead of his big match, Reed talked to India Today in an exclusive interaction, where he opened up on



## Harmanpreet Kaur returns for second ODI vs New Zealand, Priya Mishra makes debut

New Delhi. India women's cricket team captain Harmanpreet Kaur returned into the team for the second ODI against New Zealand on Sunday, October 27 at Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad. Notably, Harmanpreet missed the first ODI of the series due to a niggle as Smriti Mandhana filled in her place as the team's skipper. The second ODI will mark the return for Harmanpreet after India's disappointing show in the Women's T20 World Cup 2024 where they were knocked out in the group stage itself. Apart from her, India handed debut cap to wrist spinner Priya Mishra who recently impressed with a five-wicket haul for India A on the tour to Australia.



She registered figures of 5/14 in five overs to help her team defend the score of 243/9 and win the match by 171 runs. The team management decided to bench Dayalan Hemalatha and Renuka Singh to

accommodate Harmanpreet and Priya in the playing XI. New Zealand also made a couple of changes to their playing XI as they brought in Fran Jonas and Lea Tahuhu in place of Melie Kerr and Molly Penfold. Kerr, who recently finished as the highest wicket taker of the Women's T20 World Cup with a record highest 15 wickets and was adjudged Player of the Tournament, suffered a quadriceps tear which has ruled her out for the entire series.

#### India won first ODI by 59 runs

The White Ferns didn't have a memorable start to the series as they lost the first ODI by 59 runs after failing to chase down the target of 228. Kerr was the shining star for the visitors with figures of 4/42 in nine overs with the ball and also scored an unbeaten 25\* (23). Meanwhile, New Zealand will be eager to bounce back in the series in the second ODI as captain Sophie Devine won the toss and elected to bat first. On the other hand, India will be eager to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the series with another clinical victory. India Women (Playing XI): Shafali Verma, Smriti Mandhana, Yastika Bhatia(w), Harmanpreet Kaur(c), Jemimah Rodrigues, Tejal Hasabnis, Deepti Sharma, Radha Yadav, Arundhati Reddy, Saima Thakor, Priya Mishra New Zealand Women (Playing XI): Suzie Bates, Georgia Plimmer, Lauren Down, Sophie Devine(c), Brooke Halliday, Maddy Green, Isabella Gaze(w), Jess Kerr, Lea Tahuhu, Eden Carson, Fran Jonas.

different topics, including his dream opponents and aim for WrestleMania 41.

Bronson Reed: Full interview excerpts India Today: Let's start with your current feud with Seth Rollins. You made a big statement by taking him out, then he came back and cost you the match against Braun Strowman. Now, you're facing him at Crown Jewel. Seth Rollins has achieved a lot in WWE, so what makes this feud special for you, and as an opponent, what does Seth bring to the table?

Bronson: It's special for me because Seth is one of WWE's biggest superstars. He's got to be in the top two or three in WWE, especially over the past decade. Getting to face him and test my strengths against him is a big deal. Hopefully, after Crown Jewel, people will start seeing me in that same light. I want to propel myself into the main event scene, so I have to go after guys like Seth Rollins.

Since your return to WWE, you've taken a more determined approach, saying you're going to grab your opportunities and establish yourself as a top star. How much of that was influenced by Triple H? Did he play a role in shaping this new phase of your career.

## David Warner's retirement U-turn for India series: Australia coach reacts

Australia coach Andrew McDonald dismisses the idea of David Warner returning for the upcoming Border-Gavaskar Trophy against India. Warner has shown interest in playing, but McDonald emphasizes no discussions have occurred.

New Delhi. Australia coach Andrew McDonald has laughed off the suggestions of David Warner wanting to make a return to the Test team for the upcoming Border-Gavaskar Trophy against India

starting in November. Warner has expressed his willingness to play in the upcoming Border-Gavaskar Trophy series against India if selected for the senior Australian men's team. Warner is also prepared to participate in the Sheffield Shield, Australia's top domestic red-ball competition, to be ready as an opening option for the much-anticipated five-Test series. Warner's availability comes as Australian selectors and team management seek a reliable partner for Usman Khawaja at the top of the order. This need follows selection committee head George Bailey's recent confirmation that Steve Smith would revert to his usual No. 4 spot, leaving an opener's position open. However, McDonald would brush off the suggestions. The Australia coach, while talking to ABC TV's Offsiders, said that Warner was retired and they didn't hold any



conversations with the former opener about a comeback. "His comments, a lot of people ran with," McDonald said. "David's retired and he had a magnificent send-off last year. We had no conversations about David coming back." The comments from McDonald come after captain Pat Cummins had also laughed off

suggestions from Warner about a comeback. **Best to move Steve Smith from opener's slot** McDonald commented on Smith's decision to move to No. 4 and felt that the star batter wasn't 'sensitive' about the call after the Tests in New Zealand. The Aussie coach said that the best thing for the team was

to keep Smith away from the opening position. "On the back of New Zealand, we checked in around that opening position," the coach said.

"We believe that this challenge, moving forward against India, the best thing for the team is to move Steve away from that opening position." The Border-Gavaskar Trophy will start from November 22 and end with the final Test in Sydney, which will begin on January 3.

India's tour of Australia 2024-25 Schedule First Test at Perth Stadium in Perth - November 22 to 26 Second Test at Adelaide Oval in Adelaide - December 6 to 10 (Day-Night) Third Test at The Gabba in Brisbane - December 14 to 18 Fourth Test at the MCG in Melbourne - December 26 to December 30 Fifth Test at the SCG in Sydney - January 3 to January 7, 2025.

# Nushrratt Bharuccha

Seeks Bappa's Blessings At Siddhivinayak Temple With Mother



Nushrratt Bharuccha, accompanied by her mother Tasneem Bharucha, visited the popular Siddhivinayak Temple in Mumbai to seek the blessings of Lord Ganesha on October 24. The mother-daughter duo, dressed in traditional outfits, was seen entering the temple premises hand-in-hand, surrounded by security and fans. Several pictures and videos of the Pyaar Ka Punchnama actress have surfaced on social media. In one video, the actress was seen interacting with fans, holding her mother's hand and making their way to the temple. Nushrratt looked beautiful in a red suit, while her mother wore a mustard suit paired with an off-white dupatta. On October 23, Nushrratt was seen setting some major fashion goals at an event in the city. She opted for a navy blue body-hugging dress with a thigh-high slit and sleeveless design that added drama to her overall look for the night. Her ponytail hairdo and minimalist makeup let the outfit do all the talking.

On the work front, Nushrratt was last seen in the thriller film Akelli, which premiered on the OTT platform JioCinema. Helmed by Pranay Meshram, Nushrratt received a lot of praise for her performance in the film. The actress will be next seen in Chhorii 2 alongside Soha Ali Khan. Directed by Vishal Furia and backed by Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar, Vikram Malhotra, Jack Davis, Shikhaa Sharma and Shiv Chanana the film will release on the OTT giant Amazon Prime Video. However, the official release date of the film is yet to be revealed. Earlier in March this year, the makers unveiled the first look poster of Chhorii 2. In the poster, Nushrratt appeared to be scared, while Soha donned a black outfit with a veil. The caption along the video read, "Sakshi races to save her daughter from an evil cult led by Pradhan Ji, battling societal superstitions and horrifying realities. #Chhorii2OnPrime #AreYouReady" Nushrratt rose to fame with her performance in Luv Ranjan's Pyaar Ka Punchnama co-starring Kartik Aaryan, Divyendu Sharma, Ishita Raj Sharma and Sonnalli Seygall. After that, she appeared in several popular films such as Dream Girl, Pyaar Ka Punchnama 2, Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweetie, Chhalaang, Ajeeb Daastaans, Janhit Mein Jaari, Ram Setu, Selfie and others.



## Bhavana Panday On Ananya Panday's Dating Life After Aditya Roy Kapur Breakup: 'I Think She...'



Rumors have circulated that Ananya Panday and Aditya Roy Kapur had a brief romantic relationship before going their separate ways. Now, fresh speculation suggests she may be involved with Walker Blanco. In a viral video, the CTRL actress was seen wearing a pendant with the initials "WB." Addressing these rumors, Ananya's mother, Bhavana Panday, commented that she believes "Ananya should lead a normal life and the day she decides to get married, she will be happy."

Amid ongoing rumors about her daughter's love life, Bhavana was asked about her thoughts during an episode of Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives Season 3. During the season, the Bombay wives, including Bhavana, traveled to Delhi to meet new cast members Kalyani Chawla, Shalini Passi, and Riddhima Sahni. While in Delhi, Bhavana, who had studied at SRCC in her youth, was invited to an event at the college.

She attended the event alongside her co-stars and friends, Maheep Kapoor, Neelam Kothari, and Seema Sajdeh. At the event, a student asked Bhavana how she felt about the constant media reports linking Ananya to various people and how she handles such situations as a mother. Bhavana responded, "When I was younger, I was paired with many people. It just didn't make the headlines. That's the difference. So, I think she should lead her life as normal as I led, or any of you lead. The day she decides to get married and tells me, that's the day, maybe I will get emotional and I will have feelings. Till then, I just want her to have a great time."

For weeks, rumors about a possible relationship between Ananya and Walker have been circulating. According to reports, Walker accompanied Ananya to the wedding celebrations of Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant. However, neither Ananya nor Walker has addressed the rumors publicly. On the professional front, Ananya Panday was last seen in the Netflix thriller CTRL, a gripping narrative centered on the growing influence of AI in everyday life. In the series, she portrays Nella, starring opposite Vihaan Samat, who plays Joe.

## Akshay Kumar Shares Cryptic Post With Singham Again Gang, Did He Just Confirm Salman Khan Cameo?



Ajay Devgn starrer Singham Again is all set to release on Diwali this year. Well, ahead of the release, Arjun Kapoor, Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff, Ajay Devgn and director Rohit Shetty gathered for a get together. They were spotted in the city. And now Akshay Kumar has sparked a frenzy of speculation after sharing a cryptic post, hinting at an exciting addition to the star-studded cast. The post has fans buzzing over the possibility of Salman Khan making a cameo appearance in the film. Taking to his Instagram handle, Akshay shared the photo in which he, Arjun Kapoor, Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff, Ajay Devgn and director Rohit Shetty were seen having fun chat. His caption read, "Hum sab ne mil ke ki bohut si Chulbul baatein. #SinghamAgain." It is worthy mentioning here that reports were there that Salman Khan will be doing a cameo role in the film. He will be reprising his iconic role as Chulbul Pandey from the blockbuster franchise Dabangg.

Pinkvilla quoted a source close to the development saying that Salman Khan, despite all the tribulations in his personal life, has shot for Singham Again. "Rohit met Salman Khan recently, and spoke to him about the grand plans in place to welcome him. Salman heard it out and said, 'It's you and Ajay. You are brothers. That's enough for a reason for me to do the cameo.' The unit is all charged up with this newest addition to Singham Again," the source had said. Singham Again also stars Kareena Kapoor, Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh.

The trailer opens with Kareena Kapoor narrating to her son how Ram fought for Sita and travelled to Sri Lanka to rescue her. When the son shows doubt if his father will ever do such a heroic thing for his mother, Ajay Devgn says, "Google pe Bajirao Singham type kar le, pata chal jayega tera baap kaun hai. The story revolves around the abduction of Kareena Kapoor by Arjun Kapoor. Ajay Devgn is determined that he won't spare anyone until he saves his wife. And in this fight - Sangram "Simmba" Bhalerao (Ranveer Singh), Veer Sooryavanshi (Akshay Kumar), Shakti Shetty (Deepika Padukone) and Tiger Shroff come together. It will be interesting to see how they will help him in saving Kareena Kapoor.

# Ananya Panday

Gives Girl-Next-Door Vibes In This Simple Casual Look

Juggling Diwali parties and work commitments can be exhausting, but Ananya Panday effortlessly manages to stay stylish. Known for her trendsetting looks, the Gen-Z fashionista was recently spotted in a chic yet casual ensemble—a bold red t-shirt paired with classic blue denim. Caught on camera as she entered a hotel elevator, it seemed Ananya was heading for a quick change before a red carpet event. With no makeup and a radiant smile, she greeted the paparazzi warmly. Riding high on the success of her latest film, CTRL, Ananya has been turning heads both on and off the screen with her fashion choices. Take a look at the video here:

Ananya Panday's latest film, CTRL, has garnered widespread acclaim, solidifying her reputation in the film industry.

Directed by Vikramaditya Motwane and co-written by him alongside Avinash Sampath, with dialogues by Sumukhi Suresh, this Hindi-language thriller premiered on Netflix on October 4, 2024. The film stars Ananya and Vihaan Samat, portraying social media influencers Nella and Joe. After Joe's betrayal, Nella leverages an AI app to erase him from her digital life, only to discover that the app's creator is exploiting her data, breaching her privacy and introducing an illegal twist to her virtual world. Apart from her professional milestones like Kho Gaye Hum Kahan, Call Me Bae and more, she has also been grabbing headlines for her personal life. Since her 2019 debut with Student of the Year 2, the young actress' dating life has often made waves. From being linked to co-stars like Ishaan



Khatker of Kaali Peeli fame and Kartik Aaryan from Pati Patni Aur Woh, to her rumoured relationship with Aditya Roy Kapur, she has certainly kept fans talking. Currently, she's reportedly dating model Walker Blanco and the two were seen together at several high-profile events, including the star-studded Ambani wedding. In the midst of all these rumours, her mother Bhavana Pandey was recently asked on Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives Season 3 if her daughter's dating life affected her. Bhavana replied honestly saying, "When I was younger, I was paired with many people. It just didn't make the headlines. That's the difference. So, I think she should lead her life as normal as I led, or any of you led."