

# NEWS BEARER

NEWS FROM NEAR & FAR

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## Tragic discovery of 5-year old child's body

**Guwahati:** A tragic incident unfolded in Margherita when the body of five-year-old Abhimanyu Chakraborty was discovered in the Buridehing River on Monday. Abhimanyu, a resident of ward number 1, Lazum, had gone missing during the Navami Durga Puja celebrations. In response to the heartbreaking discovery, over 500 locals gathered on Tuesday to hold a candle march near the boy's residence. The procession culminated at the Margherita police station, where participants demanded capital punishment

for those responsible for the crime. Pratap Gogoi, the officer in charge at Margherita police station, addressed the crowd, urging them to maintain faith in the police's efforts. He assured that the authorities are committed to apprehending the culprits swiftly. Amit Ganguly, Abhimanyu's maternal uncle, expressed his belief that the incident was a premeditated murder. He called on the Margherita police to identify the perpetrators and ensure they face the harshest punishment under the law.

## Voting on November 13 By-polls announced for five constituencies

**Guwahati:** The Election Commission of India announced today, October 15, the schedule for by-polls in five assembly constituencies in Assam. The by-polls will be conducted in Bongaigaon, Sidli, Behali, Samaguri, and Dholai on November 13, with the counting of votes scheduled for November 23. The Gazette Notification will be issued on October 18, and the last date for filing nomination papers is October 25. The scrutiny of nomination papers is set for October 28, and candidates can withdraw their nominations by October 30. The by-polls have been necessitated by the election of incumbent legislators to the Lok Sabha in the general elections held earlier this year. MLAs who transitioned to the Lok Sabha include BJP's Parimal Suklabaidya, who represented the Dholai Assembly segment and won the Cachar Lok Sabha seat,

and Ranjit Dutta from Behali, who secured the Tezpur parliamentary seat. Veteran AGP leader Phani Bhushan Choudhury, who has held the Bongaigaon constituency since 1985, successfully contested the Barpeta Lok Sabha seat, while UPPL's Joyanta Basumatary won the Kokrajhar seat after previously representing Sidli. Congress's Rakibul Hussain, a five-time MLA from Samaguri, claimed a decisive victory in Dhubri. In the upcoming by-polls on November 13, the BJP will contest in three constituencies—Behali, Dholai, and Samaguri. Meanwhile, its allies, Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and United People's Party Liberal (UPPL), will field candidates in Bongaigaon and Sidli, respectively. Earlier, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had expressed confidence during his visit to Chirang on September 18, ahead of the Sidli by-polls.



## DFCSO posts in APPSCCE notification

## Arunachal aspirants demand inclusion of vacant

**Itanagar:** Some of the aspirants of the Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Combined Competitive Examination (APPSCCE) in resentment, have said that the Department of Food and Civil Supplies, Government of Arunachal Pradesh or the APPSCCE authorities have not included the vacant posts under civil supplies in the recently notified APPSCCE notification. The interested aspirants in the post of District Food & Civil Supplies Officer have said that there are no posts shown or included in the APPSCCE notification despite several vacant posts under the Food and Civil Supplies department lying vacant. It is said that about five posts of DFCSO and others are lying vacant under the Food & Civil Supplies department which were not notified in the recent APPSC combined competitive examination. The aspirants have appealed to the authorities of APPSC to get the total posts vacant under the civil supplies de-



partment in order to fill the vacant posts via APPSCCE like in the last exam wherein the commission had included the vacant posts. As per some sources from within the Department of Civil Supplies, couple of vacant posts of DFCSO in the districts and the directorate office are being managed by the junior officers as in-charge due to non-recruitment of new officers. When contacted to the authorities concerned of the department in order to get their version, Opak Gao, Secretary, Food & Civil Supplies, Government of Arunachal Pradesh said that the department was not having the total list of va-

cant posts by the time when the vacant posts were to be given to the APPSC for notification. "One post which was lying vacant due to the suspension of an officer in the rank of DFCSO in connection with last APPSCCE paper leak scams, was initially listed to recommend to APPSC, but that was withdrawn due to the case still pending in the court which if given clean chit will be bound to reinstated. But more details on other vacant posts can be obtained from the junior officers like joint director", added Gao. When Jt. Director, FCS, Jummar Koyu was contacted, he declined to comment

anything on the matter of vacant posts under the department. He suggested this scribe to get the details from the Director who couldn't be contacted till the filing of this report. As per the sources, two posts of DFCSOs are said to be remaining vacant at the directorate office, two posts at Aalo in West Siang District and one at Roing under Lower Dibang Valley district which if are really vacant, need to be filled up soon through APPSCCE. Recruiting energetic and talented fresh graduate/post graduate youths in all the vacant posts under FCS and other departments including in the newly created districts across the state would not only would have solved the unemployment concerns of the state, but it would have also released the burdens of other officers as well. In this case the APPSC and other concerned authorities also need to timely collect the exact and complete vacant posts in all the departments from all the districts.

## Ceasefire Supervisory Board chief accuses NSCN-K Nikki Sumi of violating

**Kohima:** The Ceasefire Supervisory Board chairman, Amarjeet Singh Bedi accused the Nikki Sumi faction of NSCN-K of abducting two Naga youths, violating the laid down ceasefire rules. Two youths were allegedly abducted from Dimapur over illegal taxation demand on October 10. The chairman held separate closed-door meetings on October 14 with representatives of NSCN-K, Dimapur-based civil society organisations and youth bodies at Police

Complex in Chumoukedi-ma. After holding a meet with the Naga underground group leaders, he said that the Nikki Sumi faction of NSCN-K has been found accountable for the violation of ceasefire ground rules as well as misuse of the ceasefire office. Noting that the group agreed in writing that they were ready to adhere to all the ground rules, Bedi said that he asked the NSCN-K Nikki Sumi group to make all efforts to apprehend those involved in the ab-



duction who may have acted in an individual capacity and hand them over to the police so that necessary action can be taken as per the law. Bedi said

that the Centre and the NSCN-K signed the ceasefire agreement in 2021 and thereafter extended it last month for a period of one year.

## United Naga Council denounces emergence



**Imphal:** In response to the formation of a new organization named the “United Tribal Council Manipur”, the United Naga Council (UNC), the leading body representing Nagas in Manipur, has issued a press statement to clarify its stance. The UNC expressed concerns over the growing number of organizations with names such as “United Tribal,” “All Manipur,” “Tribal Unity,” and “Indigenous Tribal” that claim to represent communities without proper grassroots structure or legitimate mandate. The UNC reiter-

ated a message previously shared on June 16, 2023, through social media and print outlets, emphasizing that statements or narratives from such unrecognized bodies do not reflect the authentic voice or aspirations of the people. The council stressed that these emerging groups lack legitimate representation and warned the public against accepting their claims of authority. The UNC’s statement aims to dispel confusion and reaffirm its position as the genuine apex body for the Naga community in the region.

## Meghalaya’s Khliehrangnah ‘Best Panchayat’

**Shillong/Agartala:** Tripura’s Dhalai has been awarded the ‘Best District’ tag, while Meghalaya’s Khliehrangnah in West Jaintia Hills has been named the ‘Best Panchayat’ at the 5th National Water Awards 2023 in the Northeast, as announced by the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti. The Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD &GR), under the Ministry of Jal Shakti announced the 38 winners, including joint winners, for the 5th National Water Awards, 2023, in 09 categories viz Best State, Best District, Best Village Panchayat, Best Urban Local Body, Best School or College, Best Industry, Best Water User Association, Best Institution, and Best Civil Society. Under the Northeast zone, Dhalai district of Tripura emerged as winner. “Major achievements of District in the field of water conservation include creation of 748 community recharge

structures, micro irrigation systems in additional 15 hectares of land, excavation of 63 ponds, construction of 176 check dams with storage capacity of 9 lakh cubic metres and construction of 137 water tanks for rainwater harvesting”, said a PIB press release. It informed that in addition, 25,684 water bodies available in the district have been geo tagged and mapped. 41.32 lakhs of miscellaneous and bamboo tree saplings have been nurtured and planted across the district’s expanse. “Community engagement with local communities through interactive sessions, awareness campaigns, workshops and training sessions, has been undertaken to explain water usage patterns and to encourage community participation in conservation and management initiatives,” the statement said. Meanwhile, Khliehrangnah, West Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya named as Best Panchayat award in third winner.

## Assam Agricultural University

### Researchers develop new high-yield mustard greens and chilli varieties

**Guwahati:** In a significant achievement for Assam’s agricultural sector, research scientists at Assam Agricultural University (AAU) have developed two high-yielding varieties of mustard greens, named “Kajali” and “Laika,” along with a new chilli variety called “Prabali.” This development promises to transform farming practices during the rabi season, offering farmers a much-needed boost in productivity and economic potential. The University’s Department of Horticulture, after five years of dedicated research, has introduced these new varieties to address the longstanding challenges faced by local farmers. Traditional mustard greens, a staple in Assamese cuisine, have seen limited yields over the years, restricting supply and impacting local diets. The newly developed “Kajali” and “Laika” varieties are poised to change that by offering higher yields and resilience, meeting both cultural and dietary needs. These innovations are set to yield substantial benefits, with the leafy greens expected to produce two crop cycles over an 85-90 day period, amounting to an estimated 400-450 quintals per hectare. The “Laika” variety stands



out for its dark green color, long slender leaves, and authentic Assamese flavor, while “Kajali” offers similar qualities but with a unique blackish hue that inspired its name. Meanwhile, the “Prabali” chilli variety promises to deliver a fiery heat and impressive productivity, yielding around 120-130 quintals per hectare. Both the mustard greens and chilli varieties boast high nutritional content, enhancing the availability of

nutrient-rich vegetables and adding value to the Assamese diet. The introduction of these high-yield varieties is also expected to open new commercial opportunities for farmers, who can now cater to the rising demand for mustard greens and chillies. With increased production potential, these varieties aim to address the current shortfall in supply and allow farmers to capitalize on lucrative market prospects.

## Meghalaya government seeks Rs 600 crore financial aid

**Shillong:** The Meghalaya government has sought financial aid of Rs 600 crore from the Central government aiming to strengthen and improve the overall functioning of the social welfare department. Minister in charge, social welfare department, Paul Lyngdoh on October 14 said that he has reviewed the functioning and funding position of the directorate and the interventions, which is required to be taken by the state. He further said, “Certain matters will also have to be taken to the cabinet, certain matters will also have to be taken to the five ministries dealing with our department here in Meghalaya.” Lyngdoh added that additional interventions would include more funding from the Ministry. He stated, “We have projected a deficit of about Rs 600 crore. There is also a need for us to improve the service conditions of the employees here,” further explaining that



many are working on a contractual basis. “They have to stay over, those who are in the night shift. So things like that. We will try to enhance facilities for them so that they would be able to optimise the services that we can offer,” Lyngdoh added. The minister also reviewed the functioning of the women and child helplines at the office of

the directorate of social welfare, exalting the presence of “highly tech savvy young boys and girls handling cases on a daily basis, cases of complaints for both child helpline and women helpline are done round the clock with three personnel manning for 8 hours shift continuously.” He informed that there is space for distress call-

ers, whether children or women, to receive accommodation. When calls come in the middle of the night, they are picked up by female helpers or women police officers, as we ensure that male officers do not handle such cases due to the sensitivity of the matters involved. Lyngdoh appreciated the success rate in the child helpline cell, stating that about 90 per cent cases have been resolved and the information from various districts are updated round the clock in the dashboard. Meanwhile, the minister emphasised that not everything happening in Meghalaya is negative, stating that there is lot of positivity. “There are many highly motivated young men and women, working tirelessly to serve the society and its an incredible story when we hear that women facing domestic violence, for instance get immediate attention and support, our intervention as department.”

## Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' teases electrifying title

**Agency:** The anticipation for Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 has reached new heights as the makers unveiled a teaser for the film's title track, a high-energy collaboration featuring global music icon Pitbull, known as "Mr. Worldwide," and renowned Punjabi singer Diljit Dosanjh. This musical partnership marks a vibrant fusion of Bollywood's lively spirit with international rhythms, adding a global flair to the much-awaited Diwali release. Kartik Aaryan returns as Rooh Baba, leading the title track with his signature dance moves and captivating style, promising an energetic and visually engaging performance. The teaser, released on Tuesday, has further fueled excitement, leaving fans eagerly awaiting the song's full release. The title track is composed by Tanishk Bagchi, celebrated

for his chart-topping recreations, while the film's original soundtrack features compositions by Pritam, continuing the musical legacy that the Bhool Bhulaiyaa franchise is known for. This collaboration brings together a powerhouse trio—Pitbull, Diljit Dosanjh, and Neeraj Shridhar—who seamlessly blend modern sounds with traditional Indian music elements, creating a captivating auditory experience. Directed by Anees Bazmee and produced by Bhushan Kumar, Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 stays true to its roots by merging horror and comedy, a formula that has resonated with audiences in the previous installments. The star-studded cast, which includes Madhuri Dixit, Vidya Balan, and Triptii Dimri, adds to the film's allure, making it one of the most eagerly awaited releases this Diwali season.



## Deepika Padukone's fans want them to reveal daughter's name

**Agency:** Bollywood's power couple Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh have again joined forces for a new advertisement. The on-screen pairing of this real-life couple has resulted in undeniable chemistry, leaving fans utterly smitten. As a result, fans are eagerly anticipating the couple's next big reveal - the name of their baby girl. Recently, the couple featured in an advertisement for a washing machine. It was also shared by Ranveer on his Instagram handle. "Khyaal Hi Ghar Ko Ghar Banata Hai." He wrote while sharing the video. It is the first professional work been released after Deepika delivered a baby girl in September. After the advertisement was released, the social media post was filled with requests and messages from well-wishers, urging Deepika and Ranveer to share more details about their little bundle of joy. "Hey Ranveer... what's your baby girl's name? We fans are waiting for name announcement," read one comment, with another reading, "Waiting for baby's name reveal". "Beti ka naam Kya Rakha Hai Ranveer ji," wrote one fan in Hindi. "Wanna know name of lil angel plz @ranveersingh," shared another Instagram user. Deepika Padukone and Ranveer welcomed their first child on September 8 this year. The news was confirmed by the couple via a heartfelt Instagram post. The couple expressed their delight with the message, "Welcome Baby Girl 8.9.2024. Deepika and Ranveer." The couple has been relatively private since the birth of their first child. However, Deepika updated her Instagram bio to: "Feed. Burp. Sleep. Repeat". She is yet to make her first public appearance after her delivery.

## Citadel Honey Bunny trailer: Meet Samantha Ruth Prabhu and Varun Dhawan

**Mumbai:** Citadel Honey Bunny trailer: After the British and Italian instalments of the Russo Brothers' Prime Video spy action thriller series, now it's time for the audience to tune into the homegrown Indian edition. Starring Varun Dhawan and Samantha Ruth Prabhu, Citadel: Honey Bunny is directed by Raj & DK, best known for their memorable spy thriller shows like The Family Man and Farzi.

Honey Bunny follows stuntman Bunny and struggling actor Honey as they are drawn into a world of action, espionage, and betrayal. Guns and stunts galore as Hunny and Bunny fight not only alongside each other but also against each other. Some of the action is set against Aaj Ki Raat, the popular track



from Farhan Akhtar's 2006 blockbuster crime drama, Don.

The trailer is also peppered with Raj & DK's signature doses of humour. An Easter egg that can be spotted in the trailer is the name of Honey's daughter Nadia, which is also Priyanka Chopra's name in the UK edition of Citadel, that released last year. Citadel: Honey Bunny will premiere on Prime Video

in India on November 7. The first edition of Citadel, set in the UK, premiered last year on Prime Video. Co-created by Josh Appelbaum, Bryan Oh, and David Weil, directed by Newton Thomas Sigel and Jessica Yu, and produced by Russo Brothers' AGBO, among others, Citadel starred Priyanka Chopra and Richard Madden in lead roles. It also starred Stanley Tucci as the spy agency chief and Lesley

Manville as the antagonist. Priyanka plays Nadia in the show, whose origins will be explored in Citadel: Honey Bunny. Citadel has also been renewed for a second season. Set in Milan in the year 2030, Citadel: Diana follows Diana Cavallieri, a former agent of the independent global spy agency, Citadel. After the agency's destruction by a powerful enemy group called Manticore, Diana is left undercover as a mole. When she sees a chance to escape, she must place her trust in Edo Zani, the son of a high-ranking Manticore leader. The six-episode series will premiere globally on Prime Video on October 10, 2024. While Matilda De Angelis plays Diana, Gina Gardini serves as the executive producer and showrunner.

## Why Shah Rukh Khan Didn't Attend His Friend's Funeral

**Mumbai:** Shah Rukh Khan, who's equally close to Baba Siddique chose to AVOID going for Baba Siddique's funeral processions. The actor who had otherwise gone for a photographer's prayer meet and Farah Khan's mother's funeral, didn't attend Baba Siddique's funeral to safeguard himself from the political debates. A source further adds, "Shah Rukh Khan doesn't want to get associated in the politician's murder case. The case is also related to Salman Khan and King Khan, for that matter, wishes to stay away from this! Knowing how Lawrence Bishnoi's circuit works, Shah Rukh Khan doesn't want any harm on him anymore. Hence, he has chosen 'disappearance' in the entire matter by skipping Baba Siddique's funeral who was a close friend to him." About Baba Siddique Murder Case: Siddique, a three-time MLA from the Bandra West Assembly, was brutally murdered on Saturday night. He was shot multiple times while visiting his son, Zeeshan Siddique's office in Bandra East. The Lawrence Bishnoi gang, which has been issuing death threats to Salman, has taken



responsibility for the killing. A Facebook profile, named Shubbu Lonkar Maharashtra, posted in Hindi, "Salman Khan, we never wanted this war, but you caused harm to our brother. Today, whether it's under the respect of Baba Siddique's protection or an act with Dawood during that time, the purpose was to link Anuj Thapan and Dawood with Bollywood, politics, and property dealings upon his death. We have no enmity with anyone, but whoever helps Salman Khan and Dawood's gang will have to keep their accounts clear. If any harm comes to our brother, we will surely respond, though we never attacked first. Jai Shri Ram, Jai Bharat. Salute to the martyrs. #LawrenceBishnoiGroup #AnmolBishnoi #AnkitBhaduSherwala". So far, three suspects have been arrested in the murder case.

## Alia Bhatt says she feels most 'present' with Raha

**Stuff Reporter:** Alia Bhatt, who has been garnering rave reviews for her performance in Jigra, recently revealed that she has ADHD and shared that she used to zone out during conversations since childhood but wasn't aware that she had ADHD. "I used to get zoned out from a young age. I used to get zoned out in the classroom or during conversations. Recently, I did a psychological test and found out that I am high on the ADHD spectrum. I have ADHD - Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. Whenever I told about this to my friends, they were like, "we always knew". This is not some sort of revelation. But, I didn't know," the Jigra said in a conversation with The Lallantop. Revealing a few moments of her life, where she feels most present, Alia added, "I understood why I am at peace in front of the camera. I'm most present in that moment. Whenever I am in front of the camera, I am present as the character I am playing. And I'm most present in that moment. And now after Raha, when I am with her, I am most present. These are the two moments in my life where I am more peaceful." Talking about Jigra, Firstpost gave 3 stars and wrote, "There is never a moment that you will get bored and most importantly Alia Bhatt's honest performance and her expressions through her eyes makes the movie worth watching. She makes it very clear that she is going to save her brother and is ready to bomb or kill anybody who comes in her way. She at any cost will not let her kid brother rot in jail."



## India's diplomatic standoff with Canada: Six diplomats expelled amid Nijjar allegations

**Guwahati:** India has expelled six Canadian diplomats, including Acting High Commissioner Stewart Ross Wheeler. This action follows Canada's allegations linking Indian diplomats to the June 2023 assassination of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a prominent Khalistan supporter.

The Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) criticized the Canadian government for what it termed baseless accusations, asserting that the recent diplomatic communications from Canada were politically motivated. "We no longer trust the current Canadian government's commitment to ensuring the safety of our dip-

lomats," the MEA declared, highlighting the risk posed by the Trudeau administration's stance on separatism. This diplomatic spat could have significant implications for trade relations between India and Canada.

In Guwahati, local businesses, particularly those in the import-export sector, are bracing for potential disruptions in trade dynamics. Market analysts warn that any deterioration in bilateral ties could affect supply chains and lead to increased costs for businesses reliant on Canadian goods and services, emphasizing the need for vigilance in navigating this evolving landscape.

## SBI General Insurance enhances rural healthcare in Meghalaya with eye care initiative



**Guwahati/Shillong:** SBI General Insurance has launched a comprehensive initiative aimed at improving access to eye care in rural Meghalaya. The program includes the donation of a Patient Transport Bus and the organization of 28 community eye check-up camps, targeting approximately 2,000 patients in remote areas. This initiative addresses significant healthcare accessibility challenges faced by residents, especially women, who often hesitate to seek medical attention due to transportation barriers.

In collaboration with Mission for Vision and the Society for Promotion of Eye Care and Sight (SPECS), the newly introduced Patient Transport Bus will facilitate the journey for patients to SPECS' eye hospital in Shillong.

This vital service aims to ease the burden on rural families by providing them with necessary medical support and reliable transportation options. "Access to healthcare is a fundamental right, not a privilege," said Mr. Rathin Lahiri, Head of Brand Marketing & CSR at SBI General Insurance. He emphasized that this initiative is about empowering individuals to take charge of their health. This initiative is expected to enhance local healthcare services and stimulate economic activity by increasing patient inflow into the city, ultimately benefiting both the healthcare sector and local businesses.

## Vi Business launches indigenous SD-WAN Solution in collaboration with Infinity Labs

**Shillong/Guwahati:** Vi Business, the enterprise division of telecom giant Vi, has partnered with Infinity Labs Ltd to unveil a Make-in-India Software-Defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN) solution. This collaboration is set to enhance Vi's Hybrid SD-WAN portfolio, incorporating advanced AI-based security features that address the increasing cyber threats faced by Indian enterprises. The new SD-WAN solution

offers vital features including Hybrid Network, Integrated Security, Intelligent Routing, Monitoring, and Analytics, all aimed at fortifying businesses in a digital-first landscape. Rochak Kapur, EVP of Vi Business, stated, "This partnership enables us to provide secure connectivity that is crucial for businesses striving for growth in a competitive environment." The introduction of this indigenous solution is expected

to benefit local enterprises significantly. With the rapid digital transformation in the region, businesses are increasingly prioritizing robust security measures. The SD-WAN solution will empower Guwahati's enterprises with enhanced operational efficiencies and data protection. Rakesh Goyal, CEO & MD of Infinity Labs, emphasized, "Together, we will provide AI-based solutions that not only cater to evolving busi-



ness needs but also reinforce local development." This partnership exemplifies Vi's commitment to innovation and supports the Make-in-India initiative, fostering a secure digital ecosystem for enterprises across India.

## MSDE teams up with meta to revolutionize Skill India Mission with AI and VR innovations

**Guwahati:** The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has partnered with Meta to launch two transformative initiatives: an AI Assistant for the Skill India Mission and five Centers of Excellence (CoEs) in Virtual Reality (VR) and Mixed Reality (MR). This partnership aims to enhance the learning experience on the Skill India Digital (SID) Portal through a chatbot powered by Meta's open-source Llama model, enabling seamless access to course information and interactive support. The five CoEs, strategically located at National Skill Training Insti-

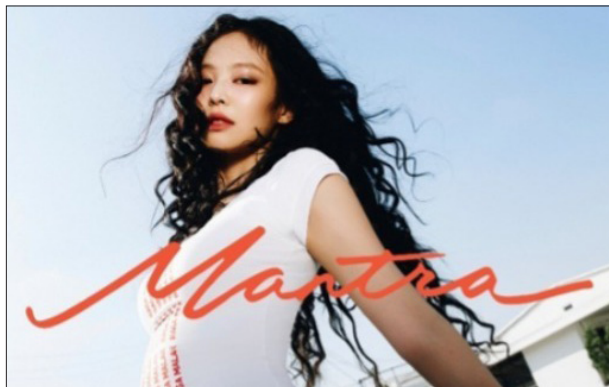


tutes in Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Jodhpur, Chennai, and Kanpur, will provide cutting-edge VR resources to equip learners and instructors with immersive learning experiences. As Shri Jayant Chaudhary,

Minister of State (Independent Charge), stated, "Our mission is to empower India's youth with the skills they need to thrive in today's competitive landscape." In Guwahati, these initiatives are expected to significantly boost local employability. With advanced training methods and technologies being introduced, the region can expect a more skilled workforce, ultimately attracting new businesses and investments. This strategic move aligns with the ongoing efforts to enhance the skill development ecosystem across India, fostering economic growth and innovation.

## JENNIE launches "Mantra": A new anthem for empowerment

**Aizawl:** Global superstar JENNIE has officially released her highly anticipated single and music video, "Mantra," through Columbia Records/ODDATER. The song, which marks the beginning of her new era, promises to resonate with fans worldwide, delivering a powerful message of female empowerment and self-expression. The music video, directed by Tanu Muino—who has worked with renowned artists like Dua Lipa and Harry Styles—features JENNIE confidently proclaiming, "Sometimes girls just gotta have fun." This energetic anthem is set to inspire listeners, particularly women, to embrace their individuality and love themselves for who they are. The launch of "Mantra" is anticipated to make a significant impact in Aizawl. The city's growing interest in international music trends aligns perfectly with JENNIE's global appeal. As local music enthusiasts seek fresh sounds, "Mantra" is expected to become a favorite, further boosting JENNIE's brand presence in emerging markets.



## Škoda Auto India launches Kylaq: A strategic leap



**Guwahati:** Škoda Auto India has announced the upcoming launch of its all-new compact SUV, the Kylaq, set to premiere globally on November 6, 2024. This introduction marks a significant step in Škoda's strategy to expand its footprint in India, particularly in the sub-4m SUV segment, which represents nearly 30% of the country's car market. Designed with high localization, the Kylaq features modern aesthetics, advanced safety technology, and a 1.0 TSI engine, delivering impressive performance and efficiency. Piyush Arora, Managing Director and CEO of Škoda Auto Volkswagen India, stated, "Kylaq embodies our commit-

ment to 'Make in India' while enhancing our portfolio." The vehicle is poised to resonate with Indian customers, combining dynamic design with uncompromising safety standards, including over 25 active and passive safety features. In Guwahati, where urbanization is rapidly increasing, the Kylaq is expected to capture the attention of consumers seeking a blend of style and functionality in their vehicles. With growing disposable incomes and a rising interest in compact SUVs, Guwahati presents a promising opportunity for Škoda Auto to solidify its presence and drive sales growth in this competitive segment.

## Celebrate the festive season with Toyota's Limited Edition Urban Cruiser Taisor

**Bangalore:** Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) has unveiled the Limited Edition Urban Cruiser Taisor, a special offering crafted to enhance the festive spirit.

Designed with a focus on premium aesthetics and functionality, this exclusive edition comes with a complimentary Toyota Genuine Accessories (TGA) package valued at ₹20,160, available until 31st October 2024 across all Toyota dealerships.

This Limited Edition boasts a range of striking features, including front and rear under spoilers in granite grey and red, premium door sill guards, chrome garnishes for headlamps and front grille, body side molding, door visors, all-weather 3D mats, and a welcome door lamp. Each accessory will be in-



stalled by certified Toyota technicians to ensure top-notch quality. Mr. Sabari Manohar, Vice President of Sales-Service-Used Car Business, emphasized the brand's commitment to celebrating customer milestones. The Limited Edition Taisor is likely to attract attention from local consumers who value both style and perfor-

mance in their vehicles. With its impressive fuel efficiency of 21.5 km/l and robust design, the Taisor is well-positioned to resonate with buyers seeking reliability and elegance during the festive season. Customers can easily book the vehicle online or at their nearest dealership to enjoy the added accessories package.

## The Government of Nagaland partners with Tata AIA to provide life insurance to its people

- The 'Chief Minister's Universal Life Insurance Scheme' will cover residents of Nagaland in the age group of 18 – 60 years.
- Tata AIA will provide life insurance coverage of INR 2 lakh to the earning residents of Nagaland.
- The scheme will benefit breadwinners, including those employed in unorganized sectors and/ or part of low-income groups.

**Kohima :** Tata AIA Life Insurance (Tata AIA), one of India's leading life insurers, has been selected by the Government of Nagaland to implement the Chief Minister's Universal Life Insurance Scheme (CMULIS). Under this scheme, the primary earning member of the family will be provided with a life insurance cover of INR 2 lakh. This scheme aims to give families the financial support they need in the unfortunate event of the demise of the breadwinner.

It is specifically aimed at helping the vulnerable sections of society, such as those working in unorganized sectors or are part of low-income groups. As part of the scheme, any one family member in the age group 18–60 years can be designated as the primary earning member or breadwinner. Government employees in the same age group will automatically be considered as the primary breadwinner for their fam-

ily. The State Government will cover the cost of the insurance premium. Commenting on this landmark occasion, Shri Neiphiu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Nagaland said, "I am extremely happy to partner with Tata AIA Life Insurance and launch this scheme for the working population of Nagaland. Through this program, we are making Life Insurance accessible to Naga people."

We hope to enroll all earning population in Nagaland under this scheme, thereby ensuring the financial security of several families." Mr. Venky Iyer, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Tata AIA Life Insurance, said, "We are honored to be part of the Chief Minister's Universal Life Insurance Scheme-Nagaland. This landmark initiative by the Government will ensure that the people of Nagaland especially those in vulnerable segments or employed in unorganized sectors, benefit from the safety net of life insurance. This inclusive scheme will ensure financial security and peace of mind for the families of Nagaland". Mr. Jee-lani Basha, President & Chief Distribution Officer, Tata AIA Life Insurance, said, "Our partnership with the Government of Nagaland will enable us to provide life insurance coverage to nearly 3.5 lakh people in the State. We are committed to working together with the Government in this initiative."

## The US city reclaiming its Native roots



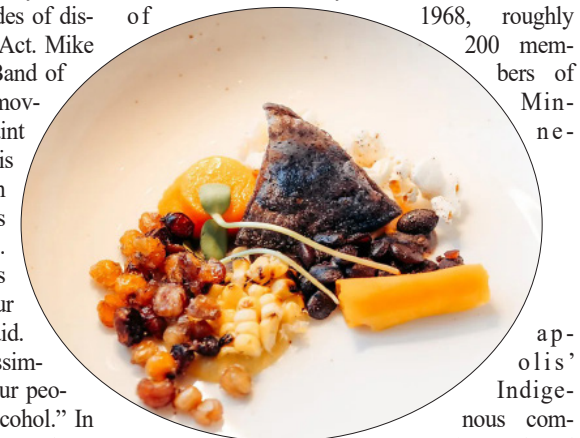
**S**outh of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers (known as Bdote, or "the place where the two rivers meet"), has been the most sacred site for the Indigenous Dakota people who have called this part of Minnesota home for thousands of years. "Bdote is considered to be the centre of the Earth and the birthplace of the Dakota people," said Eden Bart, of the Minnesota Humanities Center. Yet, it also marks the site of one of the most tragic historical events for the area's Native residents. In 1862, facing starvation and displacement by white settlers, a group of Dakota attacked white settlements, setting off a five-week war that led the US

government to exile the Dakota from their ancestral homeland and forcibly relocate them to reservations in the Dakotas and Nebraska. That winter, the Dakota were kept in concentration camps at Bdote guarded by US troops while waiting for the river to thaw so they could be sent away on boats. The sacred site soon became a mass grave, as 38 Dakota men were hung in a mass execution on 26 December and hundreds of people died from disease and malnutrition during the winter. Nearly a century later, following the Indian Relocation Act of 1956 in which Native Americans were incentivised by the US government to relocate from reservations to cities, many Dakota began returning to the area.



Now, more than 50 years after activists in Minneapolis spearheaded the modern fight for Native American rights, the Twin Cities are experiencing something of an Indigenous cultural renaissance and are one of the best places to explore modern Native culture in the US today. This cultural revival was inspired by decades of discrimination following the Relocation Act. Mike Forcia, a member of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, remembers moving with his family to inner-city Saint Paul in 1969. Over the next decade, his family moved back and forth between Saint Paul and the reservation, as his father struggled to hold a stable job. "As I grew up, I realised many families bounced around and it was not just our family that couldn't make it," he said. "We were told we were free and to assimilate. That was so hard for some of our people, and many turned to drugs and alcohol." In addition to the personal trauma and struggle to find footing off the reservation, Indigenous communities faced immense discrimination. "At the

time, Minneapolis' Franklin Avenue, which was the heart of the Indigenous community, was lined with bars," said Forcia. "Police would come and line people up and fill cars with Natives. There were stories of people getting picked up, beaten and thrown by the river." In the summer of 1968, roughly 200 members of Minneapolis' Indigenous community gathered to address the police brutality and racial profiling of Native Americans.



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# Sugar-Free Mithai Is It Really A Healthier Choice



**Mumbai:** Who doesn't love mithai? We all do! From ladoos and barfis to kheer and gulab jamun, no Indian meal or occasion is complete without a serving of these heavenly desserts. They surely bring contentment to the heart, but let's not forget that they contain copious amounts of sugar. For diabetics or those trying to lose weight, sugar-free mithai has emerged as a popular alternative. Nowadays, you'll easily find sugar-free options for your favourite mithais in the market. While it can be tempting to indulge in them, have you ever wondered if they are really healthy? Do they live up to the promise, or are they just a facade? Recently, nutritionist Amita Gadre took to her Instagram handle to reveal the truth.

First, let's understand what "sugar-free" actually means. As the name suggests, sugar-free is made without sugar. Instead, it is prepared using alternative sweeteners that replicate the flavour of sugar and have almost no calories. The most popular artificial sweetener is aspartame, which is commonly used in diet sodas and chewing gums. Apart from this, saccharin and sucralose are also popular sugar-free alternatives. So, is sugar-free mithai good for our health? According to Amita, it's completely alright to consume sugar-free mithai in moderation, but the problem arises when you go overboard. Many end up over-consuming, especially during the festive season. She says,

*Thinking about swapping regular mithai for sugar-free? Hold up! Before you indulge, check out what this nutritionist has to say about whether these treats are really the healthy choice. Sugar-Free Mithai Sugar-free is prepared using alternative sweeteners. Sugar-free mithai has emerged as a popular alternative to regular mithai.*

"Eating sugar-free halwa or sugar-free mithai during this time of the year won't necessarily benefit you. Whether you're having sugar-free mithai, regular mithai, or jaggery-based mithai, the quantity should be small."

Amita further states that just because it's sugar-free doesn't mean you can consume half a kilogram in a week. This is because sugar-free mithai also contains other ingredients that can lead to the consumption of extra calories. Sugar-free products are not the only ones you come across in the market. There are also several food products labelled 'no added sugar.'

# Key Nutrients That Should Never Be Deficient In Your Body



**New Delhi:** World Food Day, celebrated annually on October 16th, highlights the global issue of hunger and the importance of ensuring access to nutritious food for all. A balanced diet rich in essential nutrients is crucial for maintaining good health and well-being. There are several types of nu-

trients our body needs and some of them are very important for optimal health. We have listed some key nutrients that should not be deficient in your body. Protein is essential for building and repairing tissues. It is also important for maintaining strong bones and muscles. Good sources of protein include lean meats, poultry, fish, eggs, legumes, . Carbohydrates provide the body with energy. They are classified as complex and simple carbohydrates. Complex carbohydrates, found in whole grains, fruits, and vegetables, provide sustained energy and

are rich in fibre. FatsHealthy fats are essential for various bodily functions, including hormone production, cell growth, and nutrient absorption. Good sources of healthy fats include avocados, nuts, seeds, and olive oil.4. Vitamins are essential micronutrients that play crucial roles in various bodily functions. Some essential vitamins for overall health include: Vitamin A: Found in carrots, sweet potatoes, spinach, and kale. It is important for vision, immune function, and cell growth. Vitamin C: Found in citrus fruits, berries, and tomatoes.

# Here's Why You Should Be Eating More Beans

**New Delhi:** A new study has found incredible weight loss and health benefits from including more legumes (beans in particular) in your daily diet. The study found that consuming two servings of beans daily is "significantly associated" with a lower BMI, reduced body weight, and a slimmer waistline. The researchers found these positive results after incorporating pinto beans, chickpeas, black beans, and kidney beans into the diets of the study participants. The findings of the study were published in the Nutrition Journal. For the study, participants were divided into five groups based on their total bean consumption. Group 1 consumed the most beans, while Group 5 rarely incorporated legumes into their meals. Pinto beans, chickpeas, black beans, and kidney beans were the preferred choices. Soybeans were excluded.



The middle group had the lowest calorie contribution from beans. Group 1 reported an increased vegetable intake, while Group 4 consumed the most sweets and snacks. The researchers found that participants in Groups 1 and 2 had significantly lower body mass index (BMI), waist circumference, and body weight values. Apart from the weight loss benefits, the researchers also highlighted that regular bean eaters enjoy a higher quality diet packed with essential nutrients compared to those who do not eat beans. According to researchers, people who eat beans regularly also tend to adopt an overall healthier eating pattern, which reduces their chances of developing health problems like heart disease, cancer, and diabetes.

# What Does Your Favourite Cocktail Say About You

**New Delhi:** Have you ever noticed how the drinks we choose at the bar can say a lot about us? Just like that one friend who can't resist the latest trendy cocktail or the classic buddy who always sticks with beer, your go-to drink reflects your vibe. Whether you're a party animal or a chill night-in type, your cocktail order is basically your personality in a glass. So, what does that fruity, colourful cocktail or straight-up shot reveal about you? We did a little digging and uncovered some fascinating insights into what your drink of choice really says about your personality! You're all about freedom, luxury, having fun with girlfriends. A loyal friend you steer clear of alcohol, you might not be that a night out isn't without it. You're a weekend drink-jam, but you know there's more to life than just that. You're the adventurous type who travels whenever you can and loves belting out tunes at karaoke with friends.



## HIL auction Belgium's Wegnez costliest buy on Day 2

**New Delhi:** With all top Indian stars sold out on Day 1 of the Hockey India League (HIL) players' auction, it was the turn of the overseas big names to go under the hammer here on Monday. Expectedly, nine of the top 10 buys on Day 2 of the auction were foreign players with Tokyo Olympics gold medallist Victor Wegnez of Belgium being the costliest buy, going for ₹40 lakh to JSW Sports-owned Soorma Hockey Club. Paris Olympics gold medal winning captain Thierry Brinkman from the Netherlands was the second costliest buy, getting sold for ₹38 lakh to Kalinga Lancers while Argentine forward Tomas Domene went to Delhi SG Pipers for ₹36 lakh. Kalinga Lancers struck gold with Arthur van Doren, winning the Belgian legend for ₹32 lakh with rising midfielder M Rabi-chandra Singh being the most expensive Indian player on Day 2, getting sold to Kalinga Lancers for ₹32 lakh. The next most expensive buys were Arthur

de Sloover of Belgium ( ₹30 lakh to Hyderabad Toofans) and Australian Timothy Daniel ( ₹28 lakh to Hyderabad Toofans). Australia's Aran Zalewski (Kalinga Lancers) and Blake Govers (Tamil Nadu Dragons) and Dutchman Floritz Wortelboer (UP Rudras) were all sold for ₹27 lakh. However, the big surprises were Tokyo Olympics silver medallist goalkeeper Andrew Charter of Australia, English drag-flickers Sam Ward and Nick Bandurak, and German 2023 World Cup-winner Mats Grambusch not getting sold. Some of the Indian players who were bought for more than 10 times their base price were Angad Bir Singh ( ₹26 lakh to Kalinga Lancers) and Rajinder Singh ( ₹23 lakh to Hyderabad Toofans), who had the lowest base price of ₹2 lakh. Visakhapatnam-based Team Gonasika were the first to complete 20 players followed by Tamil Nadu Dragons and Soorma Hockey Club as the final four players per team were

sold in a closed bid. "Today, we were really trying to focus on the overseas players. I think we've done pretty well there. We've got some good experience and got some really good players in that line in the overseas side," said Delhi SG Pipers coach Graham Reid. "I am happy with the overall structure of the team. You have to move things around and depending on who comes up when and where and everything. So that's been the difficult part." Four teams for women's league Contrary to the earlier announcement, the first-ever women's Hockey India League (HIL) will have only four teams instead of six. It has been reliably learnt that Hockey India (HI) failed to find buyers of the last two franchises in time and the ones who came on board wanted to join in from the second season. The four women's teams now are Soorma Hockey Club (owned by JSW Sports), Bengal Tigers (Shrachi Sports), Delhi SG Pipers (SG Sports and Enter-

tainment) and Odisha Warriors. Hyderabad Toofans and Mumbai-based BC Jindal Group have confirmed participation from Season 2. Hence, the women's auction, scheduled for Tuesday, will only have four teams bidding for the 320 odd players – 250 domestic and 70 overseas – up for auction for the 96 slots available. Each team will consist of 24 players, including 16 Indians (with a mandatory inclusion of four juniors) and eight overseas players. Franchises will have a purse of ₹2 crore with athletes categorised under three base price slabs -- ₹10 lakh, ₹5 lakh and ₹2 lakh. Highlighting the event will be India's top women's players, including seasoned goalkeeper Savita, the most-capped Indian women's player Vandana Kattariya, and forward Lalremsiami. Additionally, former India stalwarts such as Yogita Bali, Lilima Minz and Namita Topo have also registered. On the international front, renowned players such as Delfina Merino.

## Yusuf Dikec wants to continue till 2028



**New Delhi:** Yusuf Dikec has visited India multiple times but never experienced such a craze for him at the Karni Singh Shooting Range like this time. On Tuesday, Dikec was being followed by selfie seekers and autograph hunters everywhere. The Turkish shooter is also getting used to his stardom since the Paris Olympics, where his effortless style with the pistol broke the internet. At 51, he looked uber cool at the Paris range aiming for the target with one hand holding the pistol and the other tucked in the pocket. His sharp distinctive features, regular glasses, no protective gear, headphone or eye patch while shoot-

ing, made him stand out among the competitors. "I have been shooting like this since the time I started the sport but nobody noticed. be it at the airport, shooting range or market place," says Dikec. "I am happy to get so much love from people, but sometimes I get angry," says Dikec, breaking into a laugh. "Life has changed after the Paris Olympics but I am doing my normal things, shooting, training. We celebrated at home. My daughter is very happy watching me win the medal in Paris. "For me the happiest thing is that after five Olympics I have a medal. who won silver in the mixed team event with Sevvall Ilayda Tarhan.

## Cricket Australia announce Ashes 2025-26 dates

**New Delhi:** Cricket Australia (CA) has announced the dates for the 2025-26 Ashes series, revealing some significant changes to the traditional schedule. Adelaide, which has been home to the day-night Ashes Test in previous series, will now hold the pre-Christmas Test as a day game under a new agreement between CA and the South Australian government. The upcoming Ashes Test



could potentially be the last at the iconic venue, as no Test match is scheduled there for the 2026-27 season or beyond, with the stadium expected to be unavailable by 2030. as bowlers have noted issues with the ball becoming soft during matches, slowing the pace of play.

## Thomas Tuchel signs contract to become new England manager

**New Delhi:** Former Chelsea head coach Thomas Tuchel has signed a contract to become the new England manager, Sky Sports News reported on Tuesday. The German is set to become the third foreign manager to take charge of the England men's team, after Sweden's Sven-Goran Eriksson and Italian Fabio Capello. Tuchel built his reputation as a forward-thinking tactician in the Bundesliga after taking over from Juergen Klopp at Mainz 05 in 2009.

## Tamil Thalaivas bank on Sachin, retained core for season 11

### Pro Kabaddi League:

**New Delhi:** After a disappointing campaign last time around, Tamil Thalaivas are eager to make a strong comeback as Season 11 of the Pro Kabaddi League kicks off on October 18. Despite reaching the semi-finals in Season 9, the Thalaivas faltered last season, failing to progress beyond the league stage. Now, with a revamped coaching setup and key player retentions, they are determined to secure a place in the PKL 11 Playoffs. For this season, the Thalaivas have adopted a dual-coach system, appointing Udaya Kumar as head coach and former PKL champion Dharmaraj Cheralathan as the strategy coach. This collaborative approach is expected to bring fresh ideas and guidance to the team. Although Tamil

Thalaivas weren't amongst the busiest teams during the Season 11 Player Auction, they made headlines by signing star raider Sachin for a record INR 2.15 crores. With their core squad intact, here's a breakdown of the Thalaivas' strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats heading into the new season. One of Tamil Thalaivas' key strengths is their ability to retain most of their core players from last season. Star raider Narender, who has accumulated 429 raid points in two seasons, will once again be the focal point of their attack. Adding to this is the acquisition of Sachin, who boasts 952 raid points in his PKL career and holds the record for the most do-or-die raid points (233) in league history. Together, Narender and Sachin

form a formidable raiding duo, providing the team with a powerful offensive unit. The Thalaivas' depth in raiding is further strengthened by backup options like Vishal Chahal, who made an impressive debut last season with 34 raid points, and the experienced Chandran Ranjit, who has tallied 534 raid points in his PKL career. In defence, the team has maintained continuity by retaining key players such as Sagar, M. Abishek, Sahil Gulia, Himanshu, Mohit, and Amirhossein Bastami. Sahil Gulia and Sagar were among the top 10 defenders last season, with 69 and 66 tackle points respectively, ensuring the Thalaivas have a solid defensive lineup. Weaknesses Despite their strong roster, the Thalaivas' depth in defence could be a concern if



key defenders like Sahil Gulia or Sagar suffer injuries or experience a dip in form. Sagar's absence for several matches last season significantly affected the team's defensive balance, and a similar situation this season could expose their backup defenders, such as M. Abishek, Himanshu, Mohit, and Bastami, who will need to step up under pressure.

## Arunachal athletes shine at Asian Pencak Silat Championship

**Itanagar:** Arunachal Pradesh's athletes Likha Aku and Damsop Tungi have brought pride to India by winning bronze medals at the 8th Asian Pencak Silat Championship 2024, held in Bukhara, Uzbekistan. Both athletes showcased exceptional skill and determination in the traditional Indonesian martial art, contributing to India's growing presence on the international stage. The achievement highlights the growing talent in martial arts from Arunachal

Pradesh and serves as inspiration for athletes across the region. The Asian Pencak Silat Championship is a prestigious continental competition focused on Pencak Silat, a traditional martial art originating from Indonesia. The sport combines self-defence techniques, artistic movements, and combat skills, blending agility, strength, and discipline. The Asian Championship is held biennially, with participation from countries across Asia.



## Commission chief Mary Kom IOA doesn't pay heed to suggestions: Athletes'

**Stuff Reporter:** Boxing great M C Mary Kom, who is also the chairperson of IOA's athletes' commission, says she has stopped giving suggestions to the National Olympic Committee as it doesn't pay attention to them. Mary Kom were among 10 elite sportspersons who were elected on the IOA athletes' commission back in November 2022. The IOA is currently witnessing intense infighting with a section of the office-bearers questioning the governance of president P T Usha, who has denied all allegations against her. "I am not into the IOA functioning. We shared so many things with IOA but they don't listen to it. I have a voice but they don't listen to what I suggest. I don't know politics and I don't want to blame anyone," Mary Kom told PTI when asked about the ongoing power struggle in the IOA. The boxers returned without a medal from the Paris Olympics and Mary Kom was terribly disappointed at

that outcome. The 41-year-old lamented that nobody in the Boxing Federation of India sought her help ahead of the Olympics. "I can't pinpoint what went wrong because they did not invite me at all. They could have used my experience. I can tell the boxers their weak and strong points," she said on the sidelines of Indian Gaming Convention.

The 2012 Olympic bronze medallist feels medals won't come regularly unless the coaching structure is revamped. "The coaching system is outdated. I have been trained by experienced coaches who are not achievers. I follow all their advice what they say but my knowledge is different to other boxers. They have the degrees and diploma but they don't have achievements. Winning medals matters a lot," added Mary Kom. She has also won as many as five Asian titles alongside a gold in 2014 Asian Games and 2018 Commonwealth Games.

## Mike Hesson warns Australia Kohli's focus on winning games for India

**New Zealand:** Former New Zealand cricketer Mike Hesson talked about the rising concerns over Virat Kohli's form in Test cricket for India. He suggested that Kohli is at that stage of his career where his focus is on winning games for India and not personal milestones. He felt that this version of Kohli could prove to be dangerous for a team like Australia who will be hosting India for a five-match Test series, starting November 22. The fans and experts alike have pointed out Kohli's dipping numbers in the Fab Four race as the star batter has managed just two hundreds in the format since 2019. "I think Virat Kohli is at that stage in his career where he just wants to try and win games for India. And I think that's a dangerous stage for other sides, because if he's doing that rather than focusing on numbers, the big scores will come naturally. The ability to hold a tempo in Australia is so important—being able to counterattack and knowing the right moments to do so.

As mentioned, from 30 to 60 overs is a key phase. If Kohli is batting at that point, he won't let the game drift. It's about finding gaps, hitting gaps, getting ones and twos, and then, if they try and attack him, then he can counterattack," Mike Hesson told Jio Cinema. Kohli's much-awaited comeback in Tests saw him scoring 6 and 17 in the first Test. However, Kohli redeemed himself with a fluent 47 from just 35 balls, followed by an unbeaten 29. The Australia series will be key for Kohli, which has been his happy hunting ground since 2012. Hesson pointed out that Kohli looked in fine touch despite no big score against Bangladesh and said that he would thrive against teams like New Zealand and Australia. "He was in fine touch, and even though he didn't get big scores against Bangladesh, he looked like he was moving well and getting into good positions. After playing in New Zealand, heading to Australia will suit him, as he thrives in those conditions,"



Hesson said. In 25 Test matches, Kohli has scored 2042 against Australia at an average of 47.48 with eight hundreds. Hesson highlighted Kohli's role as a senior player to also guide the youngsters travelling to Australia for the first time. "He has the game and knows the conditions very well. The discussions he'll have with younger players will also be crucial in helping them apply their game to challenge the Australians in the best way possible."

## Yashasvi shouldn't change his approach in Test series vs Australia

**Agency:** Former Indian cricketer Anil Kumble feels that Yashasvi Jaiswal should not change his aggressive approach during the Test series against Australia. He highlighted the confidence Jaiswal would have going into the series, knowing India won the series on their last two tours. Jaiswal enjoyed a prolific year in the whites for India and will be heading to Australia for the Border Gavaskar series with head held high.

This will be his first time touring Australia for a high-profile series, which will begin from November 22 in Perth. Jaiswal grabbed the eyeballs for his aggressive batting approach against England earlier this year and Bangladesh recently. "I don't think he will change his approach. The best part about him in this current Indian team is that, even though he's touring Australia for the first time and will be playing against Australia on their home soil for the first time, he has a big advantage. This Indian team is heading to Australia with two back-to-back se-



ries wins over them, which is a great confidence booster for a youngster," Kumble told Jio Cinema. Jaiswal has played only 11 Tests, having made his debut last year, and has already accumulated 1217 runs with three hundreds and seven fifties to his name. With plenty of records already to his name, Jaiswal couldn't have asked for a better start to his Test career than this. Kumble recalled the times when the youngsters had hesitation in their minds while facing the mighty Australians in their own den. However, he felt that Jaiswal would feel

more comfortable with India having dominated the Australians at their own home. "When other teams tour Australia, they often do so with some hesitation because of past failures. The intimidation factor is real, since previous teams haven't had much success there. But for this Indian side, coming off two series wins against Australia, the situation is much more comfortable." Jaiswal has always shown his hunger for scoring runs, as he recently became the first Indian opener in a decade to score two fifties in each innings of a Test match

vs Bangladesh. He currently stands at the 2nd position after Joe Root with the most runs in the ongoing World Test Championship cycle. Kumble wanted Jaiswal to showcase his versatility and play as per the conditions in Australia. "His technique and hunger for runs will be key, and I don't see why he can't succeed in Australia. He's been prolific throughout this WTC cycle. We saw him play with a different approach against Bangladesh—starting cautiously in the first Test, where conditions favored the fast bowlers, and then switching to his naturally aggressive style in the second game. This versatility will serve him well in Test cricket, especially on challenging tours like Australia," Kumble said. "As for his batting, I believe he has the game to take on the Aussie bowlers. There won't be as much seam movement as you'd encounter in England or South Africa. In New Zealand, you'd also see some movement, but in Australia, it's more about bounce and carry. He just needs to adapt to that."