

- Assam State Branch of the Red Cross Society is preparing for its next AGM to enhance its humanitarian efforts, assess achievements, and improve its operational structure.
- A violent clash between NSCN and security forces in Dima Hasao district led to the neutralization of three militants and the recovery of weapons, prompting local demand for immediate action.
- NCHAC celebrated its 74th Foundation Day with a launch of a Customary Law Court, Council Secretariat Building, water tank, notable publications, and honoring top schools and students.

NEWS BEARER

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Assam State Branch of Indian Red Cross Society Gets Ready for AGM

Guwahati, May 01: IRCS, Assam State Branch is preparing for next AGM in major move to bolster humanitarian efforts throughout Assam. Honourable Assam Governor, Shri Laxman Acharya also holds the position of President of the Assam State Branch of the IRCS, was given a courtesy call by General Secretary Deb Prasad Sharma & President of State Branch A.K. Absar Hazarika before to AGM. Red Cross Society's delegation discussed its various humanitarian projects, including disaster relief, health-care outreach, blood donation drives, youth volunteerism, & capacity building in remote & vulnerable communities. General Secretary Sharma & President Hazarika underlined



organization's critical role in fostering community-based resilience & emergency response. They gave the governor update on the effective responses to recent natural disasters & ongoing assistance provided to disadvantaged communities through skill-building programs, health camps & sanitation awareness campaigns. Leaders emphasised value of cooperation, thanked the state administration for its ongoing support & called for more coordination to opti-

mise effectiveness of Red Cross initiatives. The upcoming Annual General Meeting will be an essential forum for assessing the year's accomplishments, establishing long-term objectives, and improving the Society's operational structure throughout Assam. Along with partner organisations and volunteers who serve as the backbone of the state's Red Cross activity, stakeholders from various districts are anticipated to take part.

The visit ended well, with the Hon'ble Governor expressing gratitude for the Assam State Branch's ongoing humanitarian efforts and promising Raj Bhavan's sustained support for the Red Cross Society's future initiatives.

NSCN Militants & Security Forces Engage in Serious Gunfight in Dima Hasao

Haflong, Apr 30: A deadly clash occurred between NSCN cadres and security forces in Dima Hasao district, resulting in the neutralization of three militants & the recovery of weapons. Sources informed that name of the NSCN cadres killed in encounter at Dima Hasao are Haijeulungbe Daime (31) Nchuireiloa, Mahur, Dima Hasao Assam Gailuaneing Pame (37) Teguaram, Taminglong, Manipur & Sanga Samba (30) Arunachal Pradesh. Deputy Superintendent of Police Nilotpal Deka, who was heading the raid with a sub-divisional police officer from Maibang, was one of the four police officers who tragically suffered minor injuries. Since then, the wounded cops have been moved to Haflong's civil hospital for medical care. In response to intelligence reports on militant activity, Mayank Kr Jha Superintendent of Police, Dima Hasao, has strengthened the security sweep in the area, which includes the crackdown. Security personnel are still searching the wooded area as part of the on-



going operation. Notably, the event occurs only days after armed criminals broke into a construction company's corporate office and allegedly demanded ransom, sparking concerns about a potential revival of insurgency activity. The local population is shocked by the current conflict, particularly after a protracted era of calm, progress, and a thriving tourism sector in the area.

The district government and law enforcement are being urged by the locals to take prompt, decisive action in order to bring stability and safety back.

Hudumpur host 22nd Bohagi Utsav



Guwahati, Apr 26: On May 13, the Hudumpur Anchalik Cultural Group will host its 22nd Bohagi Utsav on the grounds of the Hudumpur-Kukuria LP School under the Palasbari LAC.

Along with a number of other activities, the Bihu flag will be raised at 8 a.m. on the day, followed by a sports competition at 9 a.m. and an open costume competition at 2 p.m.

In the evening, the cultural stage will be inaugurated by youth leader Pranab Kalita. Publication Secretary of the committee, Abhijit Kalita, informed that this year's Bohagi Utsav will feature performances by popular singers Manash Pratim, Sumi Kalita, Moorchana Das, and Delight Sun Dawka.

The 74th Foundation day of the North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council Celebrated with Grandeur

Haflong, Apr 29: NCHAC celebrated its 74th Foundation Day with great enthusiasm and a series of significant events, including inaugural ceremonies, cultural presentations, book launches, and recognition of community service and academic excellence. These celebrations included the new Customary Law Court, the extended Council Secretariat Building equipped with a modern Server Room for the Revenue Department, the newly established Election Department, and the Sonaram Thaosan Media

Centre at Sengya Haphai, Dibrari. In addition, a borewell and a 300,000-litre capacity water tank with an iron filtration system were inaugurated to serve the NCHAC premises and staff quarters—strengthening the council's efforts toward sustainable infrastructure and resource management. The occasion also featured the launch of notable publications such as the NCHAC Souvenir, the Customary Law Book, Dara Disani Laishi by Sanjib Parbosa, and Echoes of Identity: The Cultural Memory and Transformation



of the Dimasas by Vandana Thousen. In recognition of excellence in education, NCHAC honored the top five government schools and top-performing matriculation students. Selected Gaonburas were also fe-

licitated with cheques for their dedicated service to the community. To promote youth involvement in sports and community development, sporting goods were distributed across three constituencies—Semkhor, Daotuahaja, and Dolong. The event was graced by Shri Debolal Gorlosa, Hon'ble CEM of NCHAC, and Shri Mohet Hojai, Hon'ble Chairman of NCHAC, along with executive members, council members, government officers & respected senior citizens of the region.

Insulting message about Pahalgam event Student from Assam University was arrested for aloof statement

Guwahati, Apr 26: AK Bahauddin Chowdhury student at Assam University studying computer science, was taken into custody by Cachar Police from his home in Katigorah on Thursday evening. Bahauddin was arrested for allegedly distributing false information, inciting hate amongst communities, and defaming people in a Facebook post. Bahauddin asserted on social media on April 23 that Muslims were slain in India for failing to say "Jai



Shri Ram." Referring to the recent Pahalgam carnage where Islamic terrorists asked the tourists their religion and then killed 25 Hindus, Chowdhury in his post said, "Where did those sons of swine get the idea that the terrorists were asking names

before killing people... The moment something happens they vomit their communal terror-loving mindset all over the internet. These are the real terrorists." Assam University saw a lot of protests over the post, and the student body there called for Chowdhury to face legal action. Chowdhury later apologized on his page after the ABVP filed a complaint against him at the AUS Police Outpost. But he was taken by the police from his home in Katigorah.

Study Abroad Exhibition 2025 held in Guwahati

Guwahati, Apr 26: Guwahati will welcome students, parents & academic aspirants to GS Road, Christian Basti for Study Abroad Exhibition 2025 on April 27 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This eagerly anticipated event offers unique chance for students who want to broaden their horizons intellectually. The event, featuring representatives from top 20 universities globally, will feature top 100 universities such as Trinity College Dublin, University of Adelaide, and University of Melbourne. Learning vital information about foreign educational opportunities, pro-



spective students will get the chance to talk with university officials in person. Global Reach's Study Abroad Exhibition '25 will provide students with information on financial aid, scholarships & one-on-one counseling so they may make educated decisions about their academic futures. Parents and students could take advantage of free exhibition admittance.

Fire from the Pakistani Army along the LoC India reacting effectively

Srinagar, Apr 29: For 5th day in row, the Pakistan Army used unprovoked small arms fire across Line of Control on the evening of 28-29 April, focussing on the Akhnoor sector & the areas across from the Kupwara and Baramulla districts. The Indian Army claimed to have reacted to the provocation in a methodical and efficient way. "During the night of April 28-29, the Pakistan Army resorted to unprovoked small arms firing across the Line of Control in areas opposite Kupwara and Baramulla districts, as well as the Akhnoor sector. The Indian Army responded in a measured and effective manner to the provocation," the Indian Army said in a statement. Security forces have increased anti-terror operations in the Kashmir Valley in the wake of the Pahalgam terror incident on April 22, which left 26 people dead, and tensions along the LoC are still high.



Abdullah Omar While expressing profound sorrow, restoring statehood is still a crucial objective

New Delhi, Apr 29: Omar Abdullah, CM of Jammu & Kashmir, said he would not call for Union Territory to become a state over the bodies of innocent citizens, ruling out politicising the 26 person Pahalgam terror attack. Leader of the National Conference expressed his profound sorrow & stated that although restoring statehood is still a crucial objective, he would postpone making the demand until later and refrain from using human lives as a negotiating chip. "We are not in charge of law and order in Jammu and Kashmir," Abdullah said, adding, "But I



will not use today's situation to demand statehood from the Centre. I won't demand statehood over dead bodies. We will demand it on another occasion." "My brand of politics is not so cheap that I would demand statehood

at the cost of 26 lives," he said, asserting that politics must have its limits, especially when human lives are involved. The Centre and the Opposition have long been at odds over the demand for statehood. Main pledges

made in National Conference's manifesto for the elections in Jammu and Kashmir are the reinstatement of statehood, the restoration of Article 370 & the execution of the autonomy resolution.

Under direction of PM Modi, Centre repealed Article 370 of the Constitution in August 2019, depriving Jammu & Kashmir of its unique status. Omar Abdullah made it clear that political ambitions shouldn't come at the expense of grieving for those killed by terrorists, even as National Conference has persisted in calling for restoration of statehood.

Despite the horrific attack in Pahalgam tourists still travelling to Baderwah

Pune, Apr 29: Baderwah continues to attract tourists in Jammu and Kashmir in spite of a recent terrorist assault in Pahalgam that killed 25 Indians and one Nepalese citizen at the Baisaran meadow on April 22. Travellers condemned the carnage and said they were determined to continue exploring the area. Multiple tourists spoke about their resolve to continue visiting Kashmir, refusing to be deterred. "The attack that happened a few days ago in Pahalgam, the act done by Pakistan, is very shameful, and our government will give them a befitting reply. Their aim behind attacking tourists was to reduce tourism here. But this will not happen. Kash-



mir was ours, is ours and will remain ours. This motherland is ours; we have come here and will continue to come. We feel safe here. There is nothing to fear, and the Indian Army is here. The people here are very good, there is no problem here," a tourist said. Another visitor emphasized that

avoiding travel to the region would only show fear. "Some people told us not to visit, but we refused to do this because it was just a show that we are scared... We will continue visiting these places and want to show that we are strong. We hope the country gives a befitting reply," the tourist said.

Telangana ACB wants to take Kaleshwarama into prison

Chennai, Apr 29: According to people familiar with the situation, the Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau requested on Monday that Bhukya Hari Ram, the head engineer for the Kaleshwaram lift irrigation project, be placed under police custody in relation to a case involving disproportionate assets. This comes days after Hari Ram was taken into custody following the submission of a report by a National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) expert committee that revealed significant flaws in the Kaleshwaram project's construction on the Godavari River. According

to officials, Hari Ram was detained on April 26 on charges that he had accumulated properties valued at approximately ₹200 crore. He was then placed under judicial custody. The petition seeking the custody of Hari Ram for questioning was filed in the ACB court, an official said. "The ACB court is expected to take up the matter on Tuesday. ACB authorities are also planning to open three bank lockers belonging to him," the official said on the condition of anonymity. "Details of more assets and cash reserves are likely to be unearthed once we open the bank lockers."

13 suspected as undocumented Bangladeshis

New Delhi, Apr 29: 13 more people were taken into custody by police on Monday as part of their effort to find Bangladeshis who were unlawfully residing in the city. According to the police, they will now confirm their identity and credentials. "We have identified a total of 14 Bangladeshis who were staying illegally in different areas of the city. All of them were detained under The Foreigners Act, 1946," said police commissioner Narasimha Kumar. According to the police, illegal migrants typically blend in with the local population in busy areas, making it challenging to recognise them.

Centre gives the NIA the Pahalgam terror attack investigation

New Delhi, Apr 29: The National Investigation Agency received the Pahalgam terror incident investigation from the Ministry of Home Affairs. "The teams, overseen by an IG, a DIG and an SP from the anti-terror agency, are examining the eyewitnesses who had seen the horrifying attack unfold before their eyes at the peaceful and picturesque Baisaran valley. The eyewitnesses are being questioned in minute detail to piece together the sequence of events that led to one of the worst terror attacks in Kashmir," the NIA said in a statement. "The entry and exit points are being closely scrutinised by the investigating NIA teams for clues to the modus operandi of the terrorists. The teams, aided by forensic and other experts, are checking the entire area thoroughly for evidence to expose the terror conspiracy that led to the horrendous attack that has shocked the nation." In Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir,



terrorists struck the Baisaran meadow on April 22, killing at least 26 persons, the majority of them were tourists. Statements from survivors of the terror assault were recorded by a three-person NIA team. Intelligence agencies have identified 14 terrorists- eight belonging to Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and three each from Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and Hizbul Mujahideen (HM)— currently "active" in the Kashmir Valley. According to the agencies, there are between fifty and sixty active terrorists in the area. However, the precise information, including residences, of 14 terrorists has been obtained.

PM Modi gets briefed on J&K situation by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh

New Delhi, Apr 29: According to persons acquainted with the issue, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was updated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday regarding the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir following the terror incident in Pahalgam. The meeting took place while India considered its options for punishing the perpetrators of the April 22 terror assault that claimed the lives of 26 civilians. India has pledged harsh punishment to those responsible for the strike that caused great indignation both domestically and internationally, citing "cross-border linkages" to the horrifying event. The prime minister said the "perpetrators and conspir-

ators" of the Pahalgam attack will be "served with the harshest response". "The whole world

that they will get justice, and justice will be done," Modi said in his 'Mann ki Baat' address. "The



stands with 140 crore Indians in our fight against terrorism. I once again assure the affected families

perpetrators and conspirators of this attack will be served with the harshest response," he said.

Shruti Haasan says she was referred to as “unlucky” in the start of her career

Bengaluru, Apr 26: Shruti Haasan is an actor who has acted in Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi films. In a recent interview with Filmfare, the actor discussed how she was unlucky in the early stages of her career because her first two movies as a celebrity did poorly at the box office. Shruti discussed how she was viewed in the industry when she first began her acting career during the conversation. She stated that “there is a whole Telugu myth that I am unlucky because my first two films didn’t work.”



But they didn’t know that the hero in the first two films was the same one. “We’re not interested in her,” they said. Shruti costarred alongside

Siddharth in the love drama Oh My Friend and the fantasy adventure movie Anaganaga O Dheerudu. Both films performed poorly at the box of-

fice when they were released in 2011. It was Pawan Kalyan who believed in her during her formative years in the field. The actor went on, “Pawan Kalyan sir said, ‘No, we get her.’” And my whole career trajectory was changed. Tamil and Bombay started looking at that point. You get what I mean? It’s the people and their faith in you, to put it simply. When people believe you can pull it off, it translates, even in a creative way. They collaborate and communicate as well. It makes a difference.

According to Nawazuddin Siddiqui actors fall into many groups



Mumbai, Apr 28: Actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui has expressed his thoughts on whether he believes that the entertainment industry’s failure to trust actors “who don’t fit its stereotype of how a hero should look” is the cause of this. Nawazuddin asked if anyone had ever collaborated on a ₹20–30 crore film with the late Irrfan Khan, Manoj Bajpayee, Naseeruddin Shah, and Om Puri. Nawazuddin said “no one ever made a big film with” these actors. “We are seeing what’s happening to the films that are coming nowadays with new actors. The problem is, whether it was Irrfan [Khan] bhai or Manoj [Bajpayee], Naseeruddin [Shah] saab or Om Puri saab, has anyone ever made a film with them worth 20-30 crore? Today, you shower

praise at them and call them great actors, but no one ever made a big film with them. It happens only here,” he said. Speaking about the entertainment sector outside of India, he claimed that performers are chosen on their abilities rather than their appearance. “They don’t distinguish between actors on a global scale. They simply chose a talented actor. Actor, hero, star, and superstar are some of these categories. We have such talented actors that you will see them in lesser roles in films or television shows. They don’t play supporting roles. They are excellent actors. Nobody considered collaborating with them on a movie. And perhaps nobody will. One day, we’ll be gone, yet this will continue,” he continued.

Salman Khan cancels UK tour wake of Pahalgam tragedy

Mumbai, Apr 28: Salman Khan announced on his Instagram account earlier that he had decided to postpone his eagerly anticipated UK tour due to the tense aftermath of the Pahalgam assault. The Bollywood Big Ones performance, Salman’s tour, was scheduled to take place in the UK on May 4 and May 5. Along with Salman, of course, other celebrities who were scheduled to join the trip were Kriti Sanon, Varun Dhawan, Sara Ali Khan, Madhuri Dixit, Tiger Shroff, Disha Patani, Sunil Grover, and Maniesh Paul. The poster of the tour was shared by Salman to his handle with a ‘POSTPONED’ sign slapped across the centre. The adjoining caption read, “In light of the recent tragic events in Kashmir, and with profound sadness, we have taken the difficult decision to postpone The Bollywood Big One shows, originally scheduled for May 4th and 5th in Manchester and London. While we understand how much our fans were looking forward to these performances, we feel it is only right to pause during this time of grief. We sincerely apologise for any disappointment or inconvenience this may cause and deeply appreciate your understanding and support. New dates for the shows will be announced shortly”.

Seema Pahwa says industry is in bad state, she may soon leave Bollywood

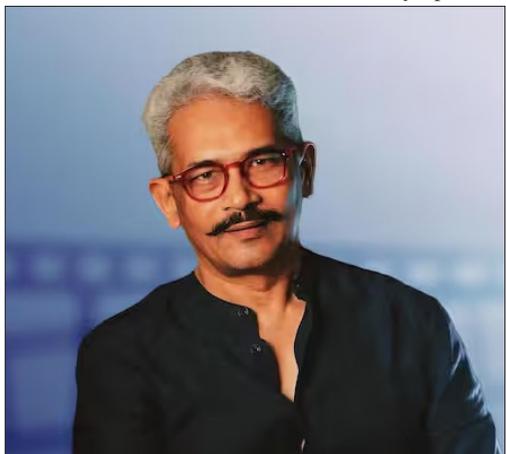
New Delhi, Apr 28: Bollywood actor Seema Pahwa expressed disappointment at not receiving lead roles despite her acting prowess and expressed her desire to leave the industry. Seema stated, “So, a question arises in my mind maybe I am good, but not good enough for someone to make a film with me in the lead. There is a sense of grievance, but then I think perhaps I have some limitations is why I wasn’t cast as the lead. Toh main industry se bhut zayada uss peak pe pahunch gayi hun jahan mujhe lag raha hai bhut jldi namaste kardeni hogi



industry ko. The state of the industry is very bad right now. Creative people have been murdered, and businessmen have taken over. They want to run the industry with their business mindset. But I don’t think we, who have worked for so many years in the industry, can work like this.”

Days after the incident, Atul Kulkarni travels to Pahalgam to deliver a message to terrorists

Pune, Apr 28: Terrorist attacks on tourists in Pahalgam, South Kashmir, on April 22 left the nation stunned and restless. After being asked their religion, about 26 victims—who were either on vacation or their honeymoon—were shot and killed. Numerous actors from Pakistan and India condemned this horrible act and sent their sympathies



to the deceased’s family on their official social media accounts. Actor Atul Kulkarni, meanwhile,



demonstrated that deeds speak louder than words when he traveled to Pahalgam a few days after the tragedy to deliver a message to the terrorists. He couldn’t have delivered that message while seated in Mumbai. In a video which has taken the internet by storm, “The incident that took place on 22nd April has made the entire country sad...I read that 90% of bookings have been cancelled here. The message that the terrorists are giving is not to come to Kashmir. This is not going to happen. This is our Kashmir, our country, and we will come here. This is the answer we should give to the ideology of terrorists. I could not give this message staying in Mumbai, so I came here. If I can come, then the rest of the country can also come here...We should

come here and not get scared...” Lauding the action taken by Atul, a netizen wrote, “In a way he is right about it and security will be on high alert right now but it’s natural for public to be scared of the place for some time until the government shows some action. Empty words and candle vigil is not going to calm scared nerves.” Agreeing, another internet user tweeted: “I agree, we as citizens of Bharat shouldn’t boycott our own land. We



can track terrorists, our agencies today published names of OGW. Kashmir is our land, do not encourage people to boycott.”

Toyota Kirloskar's road safety programs empower over 10 lakh Indians, focusses on the future of safe mobility

Bangalore, Apr 30: Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) is leading the charge to make Indian roads safer through its impactful road safety initiatives that have reached over 10 lakh people. Central to this effort is the Toyota Safety Education Program (TSEP), which has been educating school children from classes 5 to 9 about road



safety for over 15 years. TSEP has already impacted 9.3 lakh

students in cities like Bangalore, Delhi, and Mumbai, fostering awareness through engaging methods such as skits, poster-making, and road safety clubs. Another key initiative, the Toyota Hackathon, invites students from 7th to 12th grade to create innovative solutions to road safety issues. More than 350 ideas have been

generated, addressing challenges like school zone safety and traffic management. With a long-term goal of reducing road fatalities, Toyota's programs not only promote safer roads but also empower the next generation to take responsibility for a safer future, making a lasting difference in cities like Shillong and beyond.

Next Month See a Facelift for VW Polo Rival

New Delhi, Apr 30: 4 months have passed since the start of 2025, and Tata Motors is failed to introduce a new product. The brand's aspirations for India are tremendous. As is well known, the brand's upcoming major launches will be the Harrier EV and Sierra EV and gasoline/diesel. However, Tata Motors will introduce a redesign of its well-liked hatchback before introducing large SUVs! We are discussing the unveiling of the Tata Altroz facelift. Tata Altroz is one of the most popular hatchbacks in India. The car is known to offer multiple engine options & has one of the best ride & handling balance. Altroz makeover has previously been seen several times. A few important aspects of the facelift have been made visible by the test models.

Bahamas launches bold footwear collection with fun prints and vibrant colors

Guwahati, Apr 30: Bahamas, the trendy footwear brand by Relaxo Footwears Limited, has unveiled its latest collection, designed to bring a playful twist to your everyday look or vacation style. Targeted at India's Gen-Z and millennial consumers, the new range combines comfort with vibrant, expressive designs, perfect for those who want their footwear to reflect individuality. Featuring high-energy shades and bold prints, the collection brings fresh, funky designs that promise to catch the eye and energize any outfit. Whether you're lounging at home or out on a casual day out, Bahamas has something that caters to a carefree, fun-loving lifestyle. This launch follows the brand's highly successful digital campaign, 'Stress Ko Do Rest', led by Bollywood star Salman

Khan, which promotes a laid-back, joyful mindset encapsulated in the brand's mantra: "Keep Chillin', Keep Flippin'."



pin'." From the latest collection to the campaign's vibrant messaging, Bahamas is positioning itself as the go-to brand for those looking to infuse a little extra flair into their footwear. In Guwahati, a growing number

of young consumers are embracing these vibrant designs, with the local market showing a rising demand for footwear that

blends both comfort and fashion-forward styles. The new Bahamas collection is expected to resonate well with this trend, adding a playful yet stylish element to the city's footwear scene.

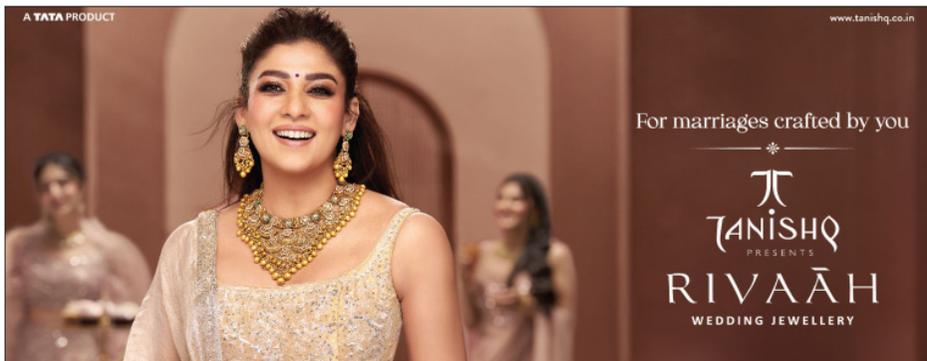
CMF by Nothing unveils next-gen smartphone and earbuds in India



Guwahati, Apr 30: CMF, a sub-brand of the London-based tech giant Nothing, has unveiled its latest lineup of products, including the CMF Phone 2 Pro, alongside three new variants of its earbuds—Buds 2, Buds 2 Plus, and Buds 2a. The announcement marks a significant milestone as CMF continues to revolutionize the smartphone and audio space. The CMF Phone 2 Pro features a best-in-segment three-camera system, with a 50 MP main sensor, telephoto lens, and ultra-wide camera, ensuring enhanced photography experiences. Powered by the MediaTek Dimensity 7300 Pro 5G processor, this sleek device promises faster processing and longer battery life, lasting up to two days on a single charge. The phone will be available in four colors—White, Black, Orange, and Light Green—at INR 17,999

for the 8+128 GB variant, with special introductory offers starting at INR 16,999. Alongside the smartphone, CMF also launched its Buds 2 series, offering affordable options for audio enthusiasts, starting at INR 2,199. These earbuds cater to different needs, from everyday use to high-quality immersive sound experiences. In Guwahati, the demand for smartphones and audio products is soaring, driven by an increasing tech-savvy population. CMF's new offerings are expected to resonate with consumers seeking cutting-edge devices at competitive prices, especially with the upcoming sales on platforms like Flipkart and retail outlets across the city. The CMF Phone 2 Pro and Buds 2 series are anticipated to perform well in the region, contributing to the growing popularity of Nothing's products in India.

Rivaah by Tanishq unveils exquisite wedding collection ahead of Akshaya Tritiya



Guwahati, Apr 30: As Akshaya Tritiya ushers in the season of auspicious beginnings, Tanishq's wedding sub-brand, Rivaah, has launched its latest bridal jewellery collection, celebrating India's rich cultural traditions with a modern twist. The collection is designed for the contemporary bride who values both heritage and individuality, offering finely crafted pieces for every wedding occasion—from Haldi and Mehendi to Sangeet and the main ceremony. Understanding India's cultural diversity, Rivaah has curated region-specific collections, featuring traditional elements such as ornate naths from Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, and Thushi necklaces and Tode bangles from Maharashtra. Each piece in the collection tells a

story, blending timeless craftsmanship with the bride's personal style and values, making every ornament heirloom-worthy. In Guwahati, where wedding season shopping is already gaining momentum, Rivaah's launch is expected to attract discerning buyers seeking both emotional significance and long-term investment. With offers like up to 20% off on making charges and ₹101 off per gram on gold, along with Gold Rate Protection, the collection is drawing strong interest in the city's premium jewellery market. Tanishq's Chief Marketing Officer, Pelki Tshering, said the brand has already served over 2.7 lakh wedding buyers this year, reinforcing Rivaah's position as a trusted name in bridal elegance.

NSDC and Rapido partner to enhance gig economy opportunities for workers

Guwahati, Apr 30: To empower India's gig economy, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Rapido, one of the country's leading bike taxi aggregators, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance skill development for gig workers. This strategic partnership seeks to bridge the gap between skilling and job opportunities by providing training and integrating individuals into the rapidly growing gig sector. NSDC will bring its vast expertise in skilling, while Rapido will offer access to its extensive fleet and infrastructure. Together, they will provide both part-time and full-time earning opportunities for candidates, with a focus on technical, behavioural, and safety skills. "This collaboration will en-



sure that every individual has the skills and support to participate in India's evolving mobility sector," said Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO of NSDC. In Guwahati, this initiative holds significant potential. As the city experiences growth in the gig economy, the partnership will empower local residents with the necessary skills to join the workforce as Rapido captains. This ini-

tiative will not only enhance employability but also create sustainable earning opportunities in the region, contributing to local economic development. Rapido's platform, known for offering flexible work hours, will also support the onboarding of women drivers through its "Pink Mobility" initiative, ensuring inclusivity within the mobility ecosystem.

Benelli | Keeway | Moto Vault open an exclusive showroom in Lakhimpur

Lakhimpur, Apr 30: Benelli | Keeway | Moto Vault India has inaugurated a new dealership in Lakhimpur at Ward no 14, NH 15, North Lakhimpur, District-Lakhimpur (Assam), Pin-787001. This brand-new state-of-the-art facility is designed to offer sales, service, and spare support for Benelli | Keeway | Moto Vault riders in and around Lakhimpur - Assam. Launched under the banner of A.R Motors, the 3S facility is managed by Mr. Arif Ali Hazarika & Mr. Rizwan Ali Hazarika, Dealer Principal, Benelli | Keeway | Moto Vault - Lakhimpur - Assam. With this new outlet, Benelli | Keeway | Moto Vault India has established a strong network

of 60+ touchpoints across India. Speaking at the inauguration, Mr. Vikas Jhabakh, Managing Director, Benelli | Keeway | Moto Vault India said, "We are delighted to partner with A.R Motors, and we are confident that through them, we would be able to offer the class-leading customer service that the brand is known for." Commenting on the inauguration Mr. Arif Ali Hazarika & Mr. Rizwan Ali Hazarika, Dealer Principal, Benelli | Keeway | Moto Vault - Lakhimpur - Assam, said, "At Benelli | Keeway | Moto Vault - Lakhimpur - Assam, our team is trained by the company as per global standards to offer the best ownership experience."

Shri Jayant Chowdhury pays tribute to victims of the recent terror attack in Pahalgam at "Kaushal Manthan 2025"

Guwahati, Apr 30: In a solemn moment of unity and remembrance, Shri Jayant Chowdhury, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Minister of State for Education, Government of India, has led officials, staff, and stakeholders in observing a two-minute silence in memory of the victims of the recent terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir. The gathering, assembled for "Kaushal Manthan 2025" at Kaushal Bhawan, stood in heartfelt solidarity with the bereaved families and the people of Jammu & Kashmir. Following the tribute, "Kaushal Manthan 2025"



commenced under the theme "Collective Vision for a Skilled Bharat", bringing together key stakeholders from across ministries, industry bodies, academia, and Sector Skill Councils to discuss a cohesive and future-ready skilling and entrepreneurship strategy for India. Set-

ting the context, Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, MSDE, highlighted the demographic dividend as India's strategic advantage. "India is home to one of the largest youth populations globally.

Tapping this potential means aligning skilling with

market demand, embedding global standards in training, and ensuring that every certificate opens the door to opportunity," he said.

By integrating AI tools within MSDE's skilling framework, the Ministry is advancing both "skilling for AI" and "skilling with AI," reinforcing its vision of inclusive, tech-powered learning across India. "Kaushal Manthan 2025" convened key stakeholders from MSDE, MoRD, DPIIT, NITI Aayog, NCVET, NSDC, SIDBI, NABARD, FICCI, CII, NHFDC, Sector Skill Councils, and academia—reflecting a powerful convergence of expertise and purpose.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor marks Earth Day with strong commitment to sustainability

Gangtok, Apr 30: On the occasion of Earth Day, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) reaffirmed its dedication to environmental sustainability, pledging continued efforts toward carbon neutrality. This commitment, highlighted by Executive Vice President & Director – Manufacturing, Mr. B. Padmanabha, aligns with the global Toyota Environmental Challenge 2050, which includes initiatives aimed at reducing CO2 emissions across various stages of production and promoting clean mobility solutions. Under its multi-faceted approach, TKM continues to



push forward in electrified vehicle technologies (xEVs) and alternative fuel powertrains. The company is also committed to its green manufacturing operations, utilizing 100% renewable grid electricity and recycling over 96% of its waste. Notably, TKM's operations

have adopted innovative water conservation practices, with 89.3% of water requirements sourced from rainwater harvesting and recycled water. In a bid to expand its green footprint, TKM's Green Wave Project has planted over 328,000 trees, restoring ecosystems and enriching biodiversity. Its Ecozone, an immersive 25-acre learning space, has empowered over 40,000 students to become environmental stewards. As part of its vision for carbon-neutral manufacturing by 2035, TKM is advancing energy efficiency and promoting eco-friendly practices across its value chain.

Bajaj Allianz introduces ClimateSafe for instant, hassle-free climate risk cover

Guwahati, Apr 30: Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has unveiled ClimateSafe, India's first-of-its-kind parametric insurance product offering instant protection against climate risks. Designed for retail customers, gig workers, office goers, and shop owners, ClimateSafe covers income loss and extra expenses triggered by extreme weather events like excessive rainfall, heatwaves, and cold waves. The 100% digital product enables instant policy issuance, allows multiple purchases throughout the year, and offers automatic claim settlements within seven days without the need for customer intimation. Customers can self-select their location, weather risk, and insurance period, starting from as short as one day. Dynamic pricing based on real-time climate data ensures affordability and flexibility. Dr. Tapan Singhel, MD & CEO of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, said, "Climate change

BAJAJ | Allianz

is no longer a distant threat. ClimateSafe is our proactive solution to safeguard livelihoods from climate-related disruptions." In Guwahati, a city increasingly affected by erratic weather patterns, ClimateSafe is expected to be a timely solution. With the city's growing retail and gig economy sectors vulnerable to flooding and extreme heat, the insurance offers an affordable, hassle-free safety net. Experts predict strong uptake in Guwahati's market where climate resilience has become a key concern.

President Murmu leads Indian delegation to Vatican to attend Pope Francis' state funeral

Guwahati, Apr 30: The President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu the Vatican to attend the State Funeral of His Holiness Pope Francis and offer condolences on behalf of the Government and people of India. The President was accompanied by Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs, Shri Kiren Rijiju, Minister of State Minister for Minority Affairs, Shri George Kurian and Deputy Speaker of Goa Legislative Assembly, Shri Joshua De Souza. The President landed in Rome on the 25th and attended the state funeral that was held on



the 26th. In a social media post, the Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson, Shri Randhir Jaiswal said, "President Droupadi Murmu paid homage to His Holiness

Pope Francis at the Saint Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. President Murmu was accompanied by Minister Shri Kiren Rijiju and MoS Shri George Kurian to pay re-

spects." His Highness Pope Francis passed away on 21 April 2025. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had expressed condolences at the demise of Pope Francis and noted that his affection for the people of India will always be cherished. Minister of State for External Affairs and Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh had visited the Apostolic Nunciature or the Embassy of the Holy See in New Delhi on 22 April 2025 to sign the condolence book. India has declared three days of State Mourning on the passing of Pope Francis.

Sensex and Nifty end the day 0.3% lower

Mumbai, Apr 30: The Sensex and Nifty suffered a sharp sell-off close to the end of the day, although they started the day flat and stayed that way. The Nifty 50 ended the day 90 points, or 0.37%, lower at 24,246 while the Sensex ended the day 272 points, or 0.34%, lower at 80,016. Due to the Pahalgam terror assault, investors were wary of today's trade tensions over the border. As traders await important economic data, the atmosphere was similarly muted across Asia's markets. In the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack, tensions between India and Pakistan have escalated. Pakistan has raised alarms, citing "credible intelligence" that

India may be planning military action within the next 24 to 36 hours. This comes after Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi granted the military "complete operational freedom" to decide on the timing and nature of the response. Wall Street maintained its upward trend as it concluded Tuesday on a high note. Another successful session ended with the major US indices closing higher. The Dow Jones led the charge, climbing 0.75%, while the S&P 500 and Nasdaq followed suit with gains of 0.58% and 0.55%, respectively. This marks the sixth consecutive day of gains for all three indices, the longest winning streak since July.

India, Egypt deepen strategic ties through skill development collaboration

Guwahati, Apr 30: In a significant boost to India-Egypt relations, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) hosted a high-level Egyptian delegation led by H.E. Prof. Dr. Ayman Bahaa El Din, Deputy Minister of Technical Education, in New Delhi. The meeting at Kaushal Bhawan focused on enhancing cooperation in vocational training and skill development, reinforcing the 2023 upgrade of bilateral ties to a Strategic Partnership. MSDE Secretary Atul Kumar Tiwari emphasized India's commitment to becoming the "Skill Capital of the World" under the Skill India Mission, having trained over 400,000 individuals in advanced domains like AI, robotics, and big data, while supporting 1.3 million entrepreneurs. India showcased its global-standard TVET ecosystem and the establishment of world-class Skill India International Centres as templates for collaboration. The Egyptian side high-



lighted ongoing TVET reforms, including EU-backed initiatives and Sector Skill Councils, which align with India's scalable, cost-effective skilling models. Success stories such as the NIELIT-ITI MoU, El-Sewedy-Amity partnership, and the Cairo-based Vocational Training Centre were praised. In Guwahati, such collaborations can open new opportunities for youth in Assam, especially in IT and green skills sectors, fostering regional growth through international exposure and digital skilling. Both nations aim to launch joint certifications, exchange programmes, and Centres of Excellence, aligning with a broader South-South cooperation vision.

Toyota launches 68th T-TEP at Roing ITI to boost youth skills in Arunachal

Itanagar, Apr 30: In a major push towards skilling youth in the North-East, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM), in collaboration with Camdir Toyota and the Arunachal Pradesh government, inaugurated the 68th Toyota Technical Education Program (T-TEP) and STAR Scholarship initiative at Government ITI, Roing on Thursday. The program was launched by Minister for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Nyato Dukam, who urged students to maximise the opportunity. "This program brings global standards of training and industry exposure to students from remote corners of Arunachal," he said. T-TEP Roing aims to equip final-year ITI students, particularly in MMV and Diesel Mechanic trades, with hands-on automotive skills

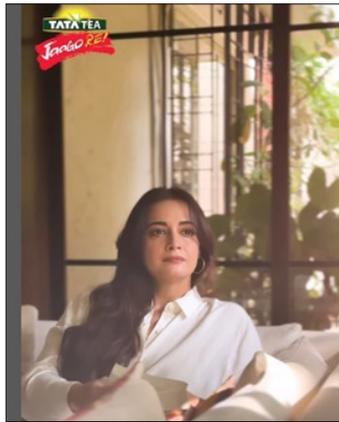


through classroom and on-the-job training. STAR scholarships of up to ₹51,000 will support economically disadvantaged students. Camdir Toyota's active role in infrastructure and funding support reflects a strong community commitment. Commissioner Saugat Biswas noted plans to expand T-TEP across ITIs and tie-ups with companies like Tata and

L&T. Itanagar welcomed the initiative as a potential game-changer. "There is increasing demand for skilled automotive workers, and this program can help bridge the gap," said an Itanagar auto dealer. "It will definitely improve local employability." The first Roing batch includes 20 students and three STAR scholars.

Dia Mirza joins Tata Tea Jaago Re to promote climate-saving actions, one recipe at a time

Guwahati, Apr 30: A nationwide survey commissioned by Goodknight, India's leading household insecticide brand, has revealed alarming insights into the impact of mosquito disturbances on family health. The survey, conducted by YouGov, found that 87% of Indians believe sleep disturbances caused by mosquitoes are directly affecting the health and well-being of their families, particularly among children. This issue is widespread, with 87% of respondents in North, East, and West India, and 86% in South India echoing similar concerns. The report highlights a disturbing trend: adults lose up to 2 hours of sleep every night due to mosquitoes, while children lose nearly 4 hours, leading to weakened immunity and increased susceptibility to illnesses like malaria and dengue. Nearly 60% of



adults across age groups cited mosquito presence as a leading cause of restless nights, while parents reported that mosquitoes are the primary reason for their children's disrupted sleep, surpassing even academic stress or illness. In Guwahati, the situation is no different, with resi-

dents expressing frustration over the increasing mosquito menace. The market in Guwahati sees a surge in demand for mosquito repellents as families look for effective solutions to safeguard their loved ones from the risks posed by these pests. Ashwin Moorthy, Chief Marketing Officer at GCPL, emphasized the need for increased awareness and innovation in mosquito control to tackle the growing health threat. He stated, "In India, over 40 million citizens are affected by mosquito-borne diseases annually, impacting productivity and economic growth." Goodknight continues to lead in innovation with its new Goodknight Flash Liquid Vaporiser, featuring the indigenously developed Renofluthrin molecule, proven to be twice as effective as other mosquito repellents currently available in India.

DGT, MSDE announces admissions for CITS courses at NSTIs and IToTs for the academic year 2025-26

Guwahati, Apr 30: The Directorate General of Training (DGT), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, has announced the admission schedule for the Craft Instructor Training Scheme (CITS) enrolment for the academic session 2025-26. Aspirants who possess an NTC (National Trade Certificate), NAC (National Apprenticeship Certificate), Diploma, or Degree qualification, or are appearing for the final year qualifying examinations (NTC/NAC/Diploma/Degree) can apply online at the official website— www.nimionlineadmission.in — between 8th May 2025 and 28th May 2025. Admissions will be based on the All-India Common Entrance Test (AICET), which will be conducted in a Computer-Based Test (CBT) mode across multiple

centers nationwide. The examination is scheduled for 15th June 2025.

The selected candidates will be offered training across 41 trades — comprising 28 engineering trades and 13 non-engineering trades — at National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs) and Institutes for Training of Trainers (IToTs) across India. Under CITS, 45,025 trainers have been trained in the last five years, between 2019 and 2024. The Craft Instructor Training Scheme (CITS) is designed to train instructor trainees comprehensively, covering both technical skills and training methodologies.

The National Council for Vocational Education & Training (NCVET), as an imperative, deems it suitable that all trainers in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) are CITS-certified.

The new Nissan Magnite powers the highest single-year sales of 99,000+ units since FY17-18

Guwahati, Apr 30: Nissan Motor India Pvt. Ltd. (NMIPL) continued consistent and sustainable growth in India, has delivered its best single-year performance for FY 2024-25 in the last seven years despite multiple headwinds faced by the domestic auto industry. The year was marked by the continued success of the new Nissan Magnite, which remains a key pillar of Nissan's domestic business plan and a vital part of the company's global export operations. In FY 2024-25 Nissan Motor India recorded a total domestic volume of 28,000+ units, led by the new Nissan Magnite introduced in October 2024. On the export front, the company expanded its operations from 20 markets to 65+ international markets as a part of its "One Car One World" philosophy and registered an unprec-

edented and historic export sales of 71,000+ units, further reinforcing India's role as a growing manufacturing and export hub for Nissan globally. This brings the consolidated sales of the company to 99,000+ units for FY 2024-25. Commenting on the performance, Frank Torres, Divisional Vice President of AMIEO Region Business Transformation & President of Nissan India Operations, said, "The popular New Nissan Magnite powered the brand to register its highest single-year sales of 99,000+ units since FY17-18." On the restructuring of the India business operations as a part of the global turnaround actions, he said, "Despite global turbulence, it's important to highlight that India remains a unique case in our Mid-Term Plan, with strong sales growth in both domestic and export markets.



Our annual sales results reinforce our commitment—we are here to stay, not exit. Let me reassure you: our future plans and product pipeline remain intact. This recent announcement aligns with Nissan's ongoing turnaround efforts, which focus on securing our future by reducing operational costs, enhancing competitiveness, and ensuring the timely delivery of future products. At the same time, these actions help us protect cash flow, allowing

continued investment in new models." He further added, "Nissan has restructured its India operations, targeting growth, agility and profitability by offloading stake in Chennai JV plant to the Alliance partner as part of its global turnaround actions. Our product pipeline announced under the mid-term business plan remains intact." Saurabh Vatsa, Managing Director, Nissan Motor India, said, "The continued expansion of our dealership network reflects our commitment to improving accessibility and customer service." Nissan Motor India also announced that it will increase the price of New Nissan Magnite by upto 3% from April 2025 onwards. The new Magnite's success was amplified by its recent debut in Saudi Arabia as the first left-hand-drive (LHD) market.

Britannia Marie Gold announces the launch of Season 2 of Her Start-Up Show

Agartala, Apr 30: Britannia Marie Gold has announced the launch of Season 2 of Her Start-Up Show. Launched in partnership with GroupM Motion Entertainment and Mindshare, it is the first-ever national reality series dedicated to women entrepreneurs from across the country, a platform to showcase their ideas. The show, which premiered on JioHotstar on 19th April, features 40 finalists competing for the ₹10 lakh Golden Grant. Conceptualized by GroupM Motion Content, Britannia Marie Gold Her Start-Up Show is more than just a series—it's a catalyst for change, empowering women to turn their ideas into impact through funding, mentorship, and national visibility. Representing



cities like Indore, Aurangabad, Coimbatore, Jammu & Kashmir, and more, the 40 contestants pitch ideas across food, fashion, sustainability, tech, and agri-solutions. The show is presented in six languages—Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, and Kannada—with subtitles and audio options available on JioHotstar. Siddharth Gupta, General Manager - Marketing, Britannia, said, "We're proud to partner with GroupM and Mindshare, whose belief in the power of storytelling has helped bring

these entrepreneurial journeys to life." Ashwin Padmanabhan, COO, GroupM South Asia, "The overwhelming response to Season 1 showed how deeply this platform resonated with women in one region." "Together with GroupM Motion Entertainment and Britannia, we are proud to drive a narrative where media becomes a powerful force for empowerment and enduring change." Amin Lakhani, CEO, Mindshare South Asia. Actress and host Shriya Saran said, "I'm proud to be part of a show that celebrates ambition, courage, and the spirit of women entrepreneurs." Season 2 of Britannia Marie Gold Her Start-up show is streaming exclusively on JioHotstar.

Q4 earnings for Bandhan Bank profit increases by 483%

Mumbai, Apr 30: On Wednesday, Bandhan Bank announced a 483% YoY increase in net profit for the quarter ending March 2025. In Q4, profit after tax was Rs 318 crore, up from Rs 55 crore in the same period last year. But in Q4 FY25, operating profit was Rs 1,571 crore, while in Q4 FY24, it was Rs 1,838 crore. From Rs 3,560 crore in Q4 FY24 to Rs 3,456 crore in Q4, the private sector lender's net revenue decreased by 3%. Net interest income (NII) decreased by 4% year over year to Rs 2,756 crore in Q4 FY25 from Rs 2,859 crore in Q4 FY24. A dividend of Rs 1.50 (Rupee One and Fifty Paise Only) per equity share was suggested by the board. "The Board recommended Dividend of Rs. 1.50 (Rupee One and Fifty Paise Only),



per equity share having face value of Rs. 10 each (i.e., 15%), from the profits of the Bank for the Financial Year ended March 31, 2025, for the approval of Shareholders of the Bank at the ensuing Annual General Meeting ('AGM'). The Dividend on equity shares will be paid/dispatched after the same is approved by the Shareholders at the ensuing AGM," said the bank.

Reduced home loan rates and advice filing ITR

New Delhi, Apr 30: Although May is not as good as its predecessor, it will nonetheless make you pay attention. You will have to pay extra for ATM transactions that exceed your free limit, but house loan borrowers should anticipate some respite since interest rates are probably going to continue to decline. Tax season is quickly approaching, therefore it's important to organize your paperwork for a seamless ITR filing procedure. With effect from now, the RBI has authorized an increase in ATM interchange fees. A cost that one bank pays another for providing ATM services to consumers is known as an ATM interchange fee.

Consume these 5 superfoods for youthful, radiant skin, according to expert ad

Guwahati, Apr 30: Who wants to look old? The answer is simple: no one. But the rapidly changing environment is affecting not just your physical health but also the health of your skin in ways you can't imagine. Persisting issues like air pollutants, humidity, high exposure to sun and harmful UV rays can lead to issues like fine lines, wrinkles, or even sagging. And sometimes, the magic happens when you tweak your diet, maybe by making it wholesome with foods rich in promoting skin elasticity and preventing premature ageing. Dr Geetika Mittal, a skin expert and cosmetologist, believes that diet plays a crucial role in our outer appearance, and it

can't be truer! To treat skin issues, particularly wrinkles and fine lines, she recommends including nutritious foods like almonds, yoghurt, and other wholesome options in your daily meals. Here are five foods that the expert suggests: 1) Almonds - A must-add to the daily diet to promote skin health, almonds are full of nutrients like healthy fats and vitamin E. Offering anti-ageing benefits, Vitamin E is also found abundantly in almonds, playing a crucial role in maintaining skin tone and texture. 2) Salmon - Fatty fish, salmon, can greatly impact your overall skin health. Rich in omega-3 fatty acids, it helps keep the skin hydrated and soft. 3) Sweet Potato - These are

DSP Mutual Fund launches Silver ETF Fund of fund for convenient investment in silver

Guwahati, Apr 30: DSP Mutual Fund has launched the DSP Silver ETF Fund of Fund, a new open-ended scheme that allows investors to gain exposure to silver through a mutual fund structure. This Fund of Fund will primarily invest in DSP Silver ETF units, offering returns that mirror the performance of physical silver in domestic markets. The launch comes as silver continues to play a critical role in industries like electronics, automotive, and jewelry. With rising demand driven by the global shift towards renewable energy, silver's role in the production of solar panels, electric vehicles (EVs), and 5G networks is expected to grow. As the supply of silver remains limited, a consistent supply deficit is expected to persist, which could potentially drive prices

higher. For Indian investors, currency depreciation may further enhance returns, as silver is priced in USD but traded in INR. "The DSP Silver ETF Fund of Fund simplifies investing in silver without the need for a demat account. It offers systematic investment options via SIPs and the flexibility to redeem units at any time," said Diipesh Shah, Fund Manager. In Guwahati, where investment in commodities like gold and silver has traditionally been strong, this new ETF provides an accessible alternative for local investors seeking diversification and long-term growth in precious metals. With silver's relatively undervalued position compared to gold, many investors in Guwahati are expected to explore this new avenue for portfolio expansion.

India prepares for the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control COP11

New Delhi, Apr 30: As India has prepared for the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) COP11, concerns over foreign influence in health policymaking are gaining prominence. Growing apprehension surrounds the FCTC process, which many believe is increasingly shaped not by science but by a few powerful international NGOs, often backed by private philanthropic funding. While India has consistently asserted its right to localize global frameworks across sectors, the issue becomes particularly stark in the case of tobacco regulation. India faces one of the most severe tobacco burdens globally, with over 300 million users and more than 1.35 million

annual deaths attributable to tobacco-related illness. Commenting on the issue, Jeffrey Smith, Resident Senior Fellow at Integrated Harm Reduction, stated, "The only known fact is that the existing tobacco policies fall far short of meeting the goal of cessation.

Without novel policies that provide options for those who use tobacco products to switch, it is unlikely that India will reduce the health consequences of tobacco use at the population level." Sweden, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the UAE, among others, are exploring more flexible regulatory models — focused on mitigating harm through innovation, consumer awareness, and better enforcement.

Against US dollar, rupee drops 19 paise

New Delhi, Apr 30: New geopolitical concerns and rising demand for the US dollar combined to put pressure on the local currency, causing the rupee to weaken 19 paise to 85.15 against the US dollar in early trading on Wednesday. Forex traders claimed that the rupee's decline was caused by a risk-off attitude in the market brought on by the geopolitical tensions between India and Pakistan. Crude oil prices and foreign capital inflows, however, mitigated the domestic unit's decline. The native currency fell 19 paise from its previous close to open at 85.15 against the US dollar at the interbank foreign exchange. "Looking ahead, the rupee is expected to find immediate support in the 84.90-85.00 range, with a slight upward bias, moving towards the 85.80-86.00 levels in the near term," CR Forex Advisors MD Amit Pabari said. Meanwhile, amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan, the US has called on both countries "not to escalate" the conflict. Secretary of State Marco Rubio will speak to foreign ministers of both countries." At 99.34, the dollar index, which measures the strength of the US dollar relative to a basket of six other currencies, was up 0.11%. Brent crude, the world's benchmark for oil, dropped 1.11% to USD 63.54 per barrel. The 30-share BSE Sensex increased 165.90 points or 0.21%, to 80,454.28, while Nifty increased 51.30 points or 0.21%, to 24,387.25, in the domestic equities market.



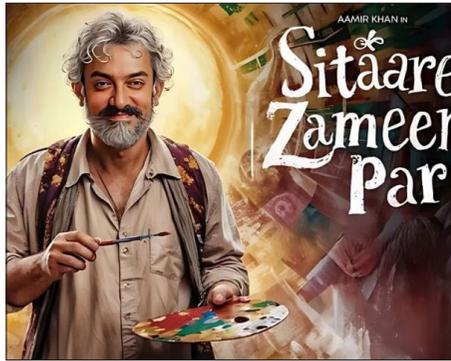
packed with antioxidants such as vitamins E and C, which protect the skin from free radicals and act as a barrier against premature ageing. 4) Citrus Fruit - Fruits such as oranges and

berries are rich in vitamin C, a vital nutrient for skin health. 5) Yoghurt - It is a valuable addition to the diet, providing lactic acid and antioxidants, including vitamins B2, B6, and B12.

The Sitaare Zameen Par trailer starring Aamir Khan will illuminate PVR INOX screens

Mumbai: Aamir Khan is making a massive comeback with *Sitaare Zameen Par*, his first film since *Laal Singh Chaddha* in 2022. Returning to the big screen in a film billed as the spiritual sequel to his 2007 classic, *Taare Zameen Par*, Aamir Khan is back in the headlines once again with news that the theatrical trailer is about to be revealed. As per the report, PVR INOX Pictures has signed on to distribute *Sitaare Zameen Par*, while the trailer will also be screened in PVR INOX cinemas across India starting May 1. The Aamir Khan – PVR INOX Association Comes Full Circle. Aamir Khan's ties to PVR INOX go deeper than distribution. The film was also produced in 2007, co-produced with PVR Pictures, along with his own Aamir Khan Productions.

Now, almost 20 years later, it looks like *Sitaare Zameen Par* is following suit. A source close to the story stated that on Aamir Khan's 60th birthday, PVR INOX organised a special festival screening of his memorable films in cinemas across the country and also featured Aamir Khan on the stage in a conversation with Javed Akhtar at PVR Juhu. So, there is



clearly goodwill between both. The *Sitaare Zameen Par* trailer's unveiling via PVR INOX has come full circle. With a duration of 3 minutes 29 seconds, the trailer is U/A certified by CBFC ahead of its cinema release on May 1 but is likely to premiere digitally a day earlier on April 30. The rollout strategy is an interesting one, planned to build hype for the theatrical release of *Sitaare Zameen Par*, which is scheduled for June 20, 2025. What We Know So Far About *Sitaare Zameen Par* A spiritual sequel to *Taare Zameen Par*, the film will

hopefully continue with themes of childhood, hope, and emotional healing—while telling a story of its own with a fresh cast. Very little is known about the story, but Khan's creativity has lifted the bar of anticipation. Now with PVR INOX Pictures, with a planned high-impact trailer campaign and with a name of legacy, *Sitaare Zameen Par* could very well be one of 2025's most talked-about projects. The highly awaited trailer of Aamir Khan's next film *Sitaare Zameen Par* will be showcased across PVR INOX cinemas nationwide from May 1, ahead of its theatrical release on June 20. The trailer for Aamir Khan's upcoming film "*Sitaare Zameen Par*" will be shown in PVR INOX cinemas nationwide starting May 1, 2025, before the film's official theatrical release on June 20. The trailer will debut alongside the release of "*Raid 2* In a post shared on X, film journalist Himesh Mankad shared that *Sitaare Zameen Par*'s trailer has been given a UA certification with a runtime of 3 minutes and 29 seconds. It will release next week with Ajay Devgn's *Raid 2*, which hits theatres on May 1, 2025.

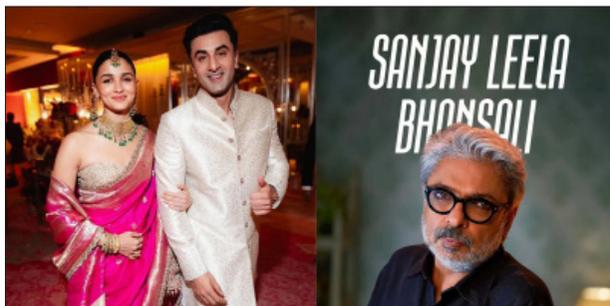
Saif Ali Khan 'hated' himself on first day of Jewel Thief shoot



New Delhi: Actor Saif Ali Khan, who currently stars in Netflix's '*Jewel Thief*', revealed that he felt completely lost on the first day of the shoot. He also admitted to feeling frustrated with himself and unclear about his performance. The heist-thriller, which also features Jaideep Ahlawat in a lead role, premiered on Netflix on April 25. In a candid conversation with IMDb, Saif opened up about his experience, saying, "I remember my first day — it was very late at night. We started at 1 am and wrapped around 5 am as the sun came up." Reflecting on his state of mind, he added, "It was the first time I met Jaideep. As usual, I hated myself because it was the first day. Honestly, sometimes I don't know what I'm doing. Jaideep Ahlawat's dog.

Alia Bhatt & Ranbir Kapoor Burn The Midnight Oil For Sanjay Leela Bhansali's 'Love & War'

Mumbai: Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor, the real-life power couple of Bollywood, are not cutting any corners for their eagerly anticipated collaboration on Sanjay Leela Bhansali's upcoming magnum opus *Love & War*. As per reports, Alia and Ranbir have shot deeply emotional scenes from the evening to the early morning, starting around 6 PM each day and ending as the sun comes up, deep in those soulful moments created by Bhansali, who is always known for an aesthetic combination of grandiosity and storytelling. Behind The Scenes: *Love & War* Night Drama Unfolding—Sources tell us that the couple had to go above and beyond on their night schedules, as they have been throwing them-



selves into sequels of lengthy monologues with intensity and detail. Bhansali was very keen that the night and the stillness and quality of exploration from the perspective of nighttime be made clear and obvious; he really asked them to live in that time of day as they filmed. The film itself is set to be a deeply emotional love story that takes place amid war and is already being touted

as one of the most ambitious films of Bhansali's illustrious career. What Can You Expect from *Love & War* Starring Ranbir Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, and Vicky Kaushal in lead roles, *Love & War* is going to be an epic feature film filled with love, drama, and spectacle. The film is scheduled for an August 2026 release, despite the challenging night shooting conditions.

Emraan Hashmi's Patriotic Movie Witnesses Massive

New Delhi: Ground Zero Box Office Collection Day 4: Emraan Hashmi and Sai Tamhankar starrer action thriller movie released in theatres on April 25, this year. The film was maintaining a slow yet steady pace until Monday. On Day 4th (Monday), *Ground Zero* earned in lakhs, which affected the overall performance of the movie. Now, the collection of the upcoming days will decide the fate of the film. Seeing the pace, it might get difficult for the movie to have a long theatrical run. Check out the detailed report here. As per Sacnilk, the movie earned Rs 0.70 crore on Day 4. The net collection of *Ground Zero* stands at Rs 5.90 crore. The film had an overall 7.48 per cent Hindi occupancy on Monday. It had 4.75 per cent occupancy in the morning shows, 8.88 per cent in the afternoon shows, 6.87 per cent in the evening shows and 9.42 per cent in the night shows. The story focuses on the life of a BSF officer, Narendra Nath Dhar Dubey, who led an operation which was against terrorist Rana



Tahir Nadeem, also known as Ghazi Baba. The movie features Emraan Hashmi, Sai Tamhankar, Zoya Hussain, Aeklavya Tomer, Lalit Prabhakar and Mukesh Tiwari in pivotal roles. It has been written by Sanchit Gupta and Priyadarshree Srivastava. The movie has been directed by Tejas Prabha Vijay Deoskar.

Salman Khan's Big Shot UK Tour postponed after Pahalgam attack

Mumbai: The Bollywood Big Shot UK Tour, featuring Salman Khan, Madhuri Dixit, Varun Dhawan, Tiger Shroff, Disha Patani, Kriti Sanon, Sara Ali Khan, Sunil Grover, and Maniash Paul, has been postponed due to escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, organisers confirmed. In an official statement, fh.groups cited the "recent developments between India and Pakistan" as the reason behind the decision. "After careful consideration, we have made the difficult decision to reschedule the tour," the statement read. The shows were originally slated for May 4 in Manchester, and May 5 in London. With the growing concerns raised by British Asian media and community representatives, organisers stated rescheduling was the "most respectful and responsible course of action."

Ajay Devgn, Riteish Deshmukh, Arshad Warsi & Jaaved Jaferi Reunite For Dhamaal 4

Mumbai: Fans of Bollywood's favourite comedy franchise can now rejoice. Ajay Devgn, Arshad Warsi, Riteish Deshmukh, and Jaaved Jaferi will reunite for *Dhamaal 4*, and filming for the climax is planned for May 2025. *Dhamaal 4*: Original Madness Reloaded. Reports suggest that the four favourites will film their last portions for *Dhamaal 4* next month. Sources confirmed the makers have locked an extensive shooting plan to finish the climax and give audiences an epic, laugh-filled finale that retains the franchise's legendary



madness. Indra Kumar, who directed the previous *Dhamaal* movies, is also directing this one, as he is known for his exquisite comic timing. Kumar is going out of his way to make sure he delivers another laugh riot that the *Dhamaal* franchise is known for. Audiences should expect even more ridiculousness, rapid-fire exchanges of gags, and unbeatable chemistry between the four. His return for *Dhamaal 4* has created huge anticipation from fans and trade analysts alike.

After CSK's defeat, Dhoni finally loses his temper

New Delhi: Chennai Super Kings (CSK) suffered a five-wicket loss to Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. Captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni admitted that the score of 154 was far from "justifiable" on a Chepauk pitch, and that SRH's IPL 2025 play-off chances were near-fatal. The Sunrisers chased down the modest target in just 18.4 overs. Dhoni cited the difficulty of several players failing to deliver simultaneously and the lack of cohesion in the team's overall effort as the most frustrating aspect. He also commented on Dewald Brevis' performance, stating that he batted well in the middle order. Dhoni also reflected on the broader issues plaguing the team, stating that if a majority of players are not doing well, changes need to be made. SRH moved up to eighth place on the points table, with three wins and six losses for a total of six points.

Sunil Gavaskar Slams Ranji Trophy vs. IPL Unbalance



Agency: Former India captain Sunil Gavaskar has praised the Indian Premier League (IPL) for its ability to help multiple talents grow big in India. The tournament, which began in 2008, has produced stars such as Jasprit Bumrah, Hardik Pandya, Mohammed Siraj, Yashasvi Jaiswal, KL Rahul, Yuzvendra Chahal, and Kuldeep Yadav. IPL also provides opportunities for Indian domestic players to play against international stars, including those from overseas.

Gavaskar highlighted the difference between IPL and domestic cricket in India. He noted that one performance can catapult an unknown player into higher honours,

unlike the National Championship, the Ranji Trophy, where top-notch deeds do not even get headlines. Gavaskar also suggested that a good season of IPL could be so fruitful for a player that even an entire Ranji Trophy career could not do. However, Gavaskar also pointed out the imbalance between IPL and domestic cricket in India. He noted that one season of IPL often gives players more than a whole career in the Ranji Trophy. This imbalance can be reduced by other associations, like Mumbai, matching the BCCI's payments to Ranji players. In conclusion, the IPL has helped numerous Indian cricketers grow and excel, but it also has its drawbacks.

Indian team at Asian Championship includes Sable and Gulveer

Asian Championship

New Delhi: A 59-member Indian team will compete in the Asian Athletics Championship in Gumi, South Korea from May 27-31. The squad includes top athletes like Avinash Sable in men's 3000m steeplechase, Gulveer Singh, decathlete Tejaswin Shankar, and women's 3000m steeplechaser Parul Chaudhary. Gulveer broke his own 10,000m national record in a US meet and set a national record in 5000m, making the cut for the world championships in Tokyo in September. Sawan Barwal, who won Federation Cup gold with a meet record (28:57.13), will join him in the 10000m.

Abhishek Pal, who won bronze in 5000m last time, will feature in the same race. Asian Games champion Sable will have his first competitive outing of the year at the Diamond League in Xiamen, China, where he will face a quality field that includes Olympic and world



champion Soufiane El Bakkali of Morocco and Commonwealth Games champion Abraham Kibiwot. India finished third behind Japan (37) and China (22) in the 2023 Asian meet in Bangkok with 27 medals.

Continental champions Parul Chaudhary (steeplechase), Jyothi Yarraji (hurdles), and Abdulla Aboobacker (triple jump) are all part of the India team. Tajiinder Pal Singh Toor was

left out as he was not able to breach the Asian qualification standard of 19.10m. Samardeep Singh Gill took the top prize with a throw of 19.34m and booked a berth for the Asian meet. In javelin, Sachin Yadav and Yashvir Singh will be favorites to finish on the podium. Long jumper Shaili Singh has made a good start to the season with a big jump of 6.68m in the Federation Cup in Kochi.

Harshal Patel: From working in a US perfume shop to using his cunning to disguise batters

New Delhi: Harshal Patel, a talented cricketer, has a love for Bob Dylan's songs and his bowling. His rhythmic strides into the crease, unhurried gather and release, and note-perfect delivery have disguised the best in world cricket. Patel has been the lone bright spot in Sunrisers' dismal season, picking up 13 wickets in eight matches so far. He has mastered the art of disguising batters with their variations, with Lasith Malunga, Jasprit Bumrah, Dwayne Bravo, and Trinidadian bowler Harshal Patel also bagging a handful of wickets with his slower ones and cutters. Harshal has been entrusted with death-bowling duties by all the franchises, and has been taken to the cleaners.

Ravindra Jadeja, for example, smoking him for 37 runs in an over, including five sixes, ended the league with 32 wickets, joint most with Dwayne Bravo for most wickets in any season. Since 2021, Harshal Patel has picked up 102 wickets in 66 matches, the most by any bowler in the IPL. His Haryana teammate Yuzvendra Chahal is second-best with 93 scalps. Patel was pivotal for RCB from 2021 to 2023, picking up 65 wickets in 43 games. He was later released by Punjab Kings for



₹11.75 crore and delivered with 24 wickets in IPL 2024. Harshal Patel, a former India U-19 cricketer, was drafted by selectors in 2021 to bring a fresh approach to India's T20I cricket. He, along with Suryakumar Yadav, Rahul Chahar, and Varun Chakravarty, played 25 matches for India in T20Is from November 2021 to January 2023. Patel's bowling is suitable for low and slow pitches, and he was initially drafted as a net bowler. However, he became a regular and played 25 matches in T20Is from November 2021 to January 2023, picking up 29 wickets. Despite his masterclass performances, Patel has never received unwavering support. His journey has been filled with

rejection, dejection, doubts, and setbacks, but he has emerged stronger each time. Harshal Patel, a former cricketer, has faced numerous challenges since moving to the United States at the age of 17. His father worked six and a half days a week, and he struggled with English due to studying in Gujarati. With the upcoming T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka, Patel's bowling skills could be tested. However, he serves as a lesson to those who give up on sports too easily. Patel's resilience and determination have helped him bounce back from setbacks, as he did in Chennai on Friday night. His resilience and determination have made him a valuable asset to the sport.

How Liverpool may win the League with four games

Agency: Liverpool is close to becoming the Premier League 2024-25 champions, with a chance to win the title on Sunday. The Reds can make the title theirs by taking on Tottenham Hotspur at Anfield. If the match happens on April 27, Liverpool will win the Premier League for the second time in their history. Arne Slot's team currently has a 12-point lead at the top, and a favourable result on Sunday will put the Premier League title out of

Hotspur to win the title. A draw against Tottenham Hotspur will take Liverpool to 80 points with four matches left this season. Arsenal, on 67 points, can achieve a maximum of 79 points if they win all their remaining fixtures.

If Liverpool loses against Spurs, they will have to wait until next weekend to be confirmed as champions. Liverpool is favourites to win against Spurs, as they have won 11 out of 11 fixtures and scored four goals in their last three matches against them.



the grasp of second-placed Arsenal. Liverpool just need a draw against Tottenham

tures and scored four goals in their last three matches against them.

Barcelona vs Real Madrid Everything you should know about the Copa del Rey final

New Delhi: Spanish football's greatest rivalry writes a new chapter tonight as Barcelona will take on Real Madrid in a mouth-watering Copa del Rey final at Seville's La Cartuja stadium on April 26. This El Clasico is not just about silverware - it could also set the tone for the thrilling LaLiga title race where both sides are locked in. Barcelona, the Copa del Rey's most decorated club with 31 titles, are making their first final appearance since 2021, when they brushed aside Athletic Bilbao. Real Madrid, with 20 Copa crowns, are featuring in their second final in three seasons, having defeated Osasuna in 2023. Given their current form, Barcelona head into the final brimming with confidence, having crushed Madrid 4-0 at the Bernabeu in LaLiga and dispatched them 5-2 in the Supercopa earlier this year. But in a one-off El Clasico, form often goes out the window. With pride, history, and a major trophy on the line, tonight's showdown in Seville promises to be unforgettable. Hansi Flick, having enjoyed early success at Barcelona, holds the psychological advantage heading into the final. Under his leadership, Barca have already beaten Real Madrid twice this season, including a resounding 5-2 victory in the Spanish Super Cup final in January.

Raducanu out of Madrid Open after loss to Kostyuk

Mumbai: The British number two looked set to mount a comeback in the second set but 24th-seed Kostyuk pulled away to win 6-4 2-6 6-2. Raducanu was making her return from a month-long absence from competitive matches. Her defeat rounded off a disappointing day for the British women in the Spanish capital as Katie Boulter fell to sixth seed Jasmine Paolini while Sonay Kartal lost to Ukraine's Elina Svitolina. Ranked six in the world, Italian Paolini dropped just three games as she beat Boulter 6-1 6-2 within 61 minutes. The 2024 French Open runner-up converted six of her seven break points, setting up a last-32 tie against Greece's Maria Sakkari. Boulter, who earned



the first WTA clay-court win of her career against Katerina Siniakova in the first round, won just 11 points out of 46 on serve and made 21 unforced errors. World number 60 Kartal, who earned her first clay-court victory in the opening round in the Spanish capital, suffered a 6-3 6-1 defeat by 17th seed Svitolina. The trio of losses mean there are no Britons remaining at the WTA 1000 event.

CSK need to build for future, with only 5 games left in IPL 2025 Anil Kumble



Chennai: Super Kings are all but out of the playoffs race, and it is about time that they started figuring out their personnel for the next season, said former India captain Anil Kumble. Speaking after CSK's loss at home against SunRisers Hyderabad, Kumble said that CSK only have 5 matches left in the tournament and they needed to start planning for their future. Nothing has gone right for CSK in the ongoing edition of the tournament. After winning their first game of the season against Mumbai Indians, CSK have lost 7 out of their next 8 games and are firmly placed at the bottom of the points table. All experienced players at CSK have failed to inspire the side to a win this season, and that has resulted in the poor run for the side in IPL 2025. The likes of Shivam Dube, Ravindra Jadeja, and R. Ashwin have not been able to perform at their potential. Speaking on JioStar after the match, Kumble said that Rachin Ravindra was a fine young talent and the inclusions of Dewald Brevis and Ayush Mhatre have been a positive for the franchise this season. Sensational catch from Kamindu Mendis. "Rachin Ravindra is a fantastic young talent, but in this format, he seems rushed—perhaps number three would've suited him.

Breaking Anju maam's Federation Cup record is moment of pride for me Shaili Singh

Mumbai: 21-year-old long jumper Shaili Singh said that breaking the 23-year-old Federation Cup record held by her mentor and India's long jump icon Anju Bobby George was a moment of pride for her. Shaili jumped 6.64 meters, surpassing Anju's 2002 mark of 6.59 meters at the National Federation Cup Athletics Championships held at the Maharaja's College Ground in Ernakulam. "Breaking Anju Ma'am's long-standing Federation Cup record is a moment of pride for me. Her achievements have always been my inspiration, and to follow in her footsteps means everything. This record stood for 23 years because of how



exceptional she was, and I'm honoured to now be part of this legacy. This is just the beginning of my journey, and I hope to continue making my country proud with many more milestones to come," said an emotional Shaili after her gold-winning jump. "I always knew that she would break my record. This is a perfect anniversary gift for me. Now I'm waiting for Shaili to break my national record," said Anju with a wide smile, clearly beaming with pride.

Jannik Sinner not expecting easy return after serving doping ban

New Delhi: Jannik Sinner said that he doesn't expect easy matches on his return from a three-month doping ban. The Italian star hasn't been on Tour since winning the Australian Open earlier this year and is set to make his comeback in the upcoming Rome Masters. Back in February, the 23-year-old Sinner accepted a ban from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) after testing positive for the banned substance Clostebol last year. He started practising on April 13 and his suspension will end on May 4. "We're training very hard. Hopefully we'll get some momentum going again ahead of the clay season. It certainly won't be easy for me," Sinner told broadcaster ORF Sudtirol. "The first games will be really difficult. But hopefully I'll be able to get back into the rhythm, and then we'll see how it goes," Sinner said. Sinner was earlier in danger of losing his top ATP ranking. However, he retained his spot as World No.1 after Alexander Zverev



crashed out of the Monte Carlo Masters following his defeat to Matteo Berrettini. "Got to know myself better" Sinner recently trained with World No.6 Jack Draper at the Tennis Club de Beaulieu in France. The World No.1 said that spending time along with his family has kept him in good shape before his return. The ATP 1000 Masters in Rome is scheduled to get underway on April 7, three days after Sinner's ban ends.

Shreyas Iyer will be fired up for Kolkata return Sunil Gavaskar

Mumbai: Sunil Gavaskar feels that Shreyas Iyer will be fired up for his return to Kolkata on Saturday, April 26 during the KKR vs PBKS clash. Shreyas was the captain of the KKR side that won the title last season but the franchise decided against retaining him ahead of the mega auction. While KKR did bid for him during the auction, Shreyas ended up being bought by PBKS for Rs. 26.75 crores. He even masterminded a record win for Punjab against Kolkata earlier in the season as they defended 111 runs in Mullanpur. Speaking to the broadcasters, Gavaskar said that KKR leaving Shreyas out would have been justifiable if he was not in form. The Indian legend feels that the PBKS skipper would have been hurt by the snub despite being a title-winning captain. Ga-

vaskar feels that no one wants to be left out of a title-winning team and Shreyas will have a half a dozen points to prove when going up against KKR. "He will be fired up. And if he had been, you know, I've been out of form, if they had not done well, then one could understand. But the captain of a winning team not being retained will hurt. No question about it, that will hurt. Now he's got, he went for much, much more to PBKS, which is fine. That would have given him a little bit of consolation, but nobody wants to be left out, and that is the thing. So clearly, I think he will have a point to prove. Or maybe half a dozen points to prove," said Gavaskar. Michael Clarke feels that KKR won't be affected by the loss to PBKS in Mullanpur earlier this season and expects the match on

Saturday to be a good one. Clarke feels that Kolkata is a team like Mumbai, who can get on a roll if they can get a few wins under their belt. "No, I don't think they will. I think that game will be left in the memory for KKR and they won't want to talk about it ever again, but I think it's gonna be a beauty. Let's see what sort of pitch we get. I think both teams really need to win." "KKR is underperforming with their team. They've got enough senior players, they've got enough experience. They're just a little bit like SRH." "Those two this season haven't been great, and they still have a chance they can turn things around. I think KKR's one of those teams like Mumbai. If they get a roll on, they're so destructive," said Clarke. Stay updated on IPL 2025 with India Today! Get



match schedules, team squads, live score, and the latest IPL points table for CSK, MI, RCB, KKR, SRH, LSG, DC, GT, PBKS, and RR. Plus, keep track of the top contenders for the IPL Orange Cap and Purple Cap. Don't miss a moment.