

Prime Minister's interaction with leading professionals in USA



The International Press : Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed a gathering of professionals in USA on June 23, 2023 at the John F. Kennedy Centre in Washington D.C. The event was organized by US – India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF). Secretary of State of USA, H.E. Mr. Antony Blinken also graced the

occasion. In his address, Prime Minister highlighted the profound transformation currently underway in India and the strides being made in various sectors. Stressing that "This is the moment", Prime Minister invited the professionals to forge partnerships with India. The event was attended by around 1000 leading professions hailing from diverse fields.



Met with family members of martyrs of J&K Police, and distributed appointment letters on behalf of J&K Government to family members of the martyrs

The International Press : Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, on second day of his two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir today, laid foundation stone of

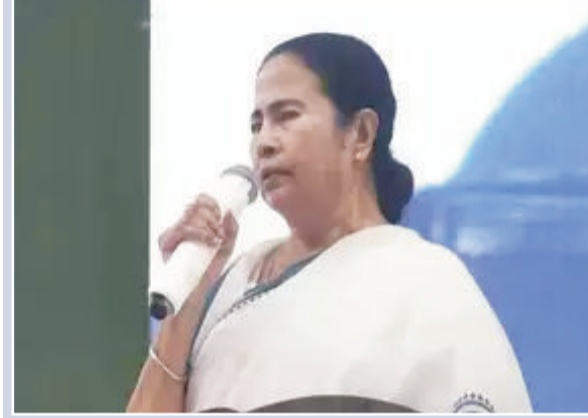
Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida arrived in South Korea on Sunday as Seoul and Tokyo seek to restart their "shuttle diplomacy" and mend ties in the face of growing nuclear threats from Pyongyang.

of the 'Balidan Stambh' was laid at Pratap Park in Srinagar, today. The Stambh will inspire patriotism among the youth by immortalizing the memory of the martyrs. Shri Amit Shah said that "The martyrdom of numerous Jawans of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, who sacrificed their lives while fighting terrorists and securing innocent citizens, is a proof that Kashmir and its people are committed towards peace. Today, met the family members of such martyrs in Srinagar and distributed appointment letters on behalf of the J&K govt to the closest kins of the martyrs."

'Balidan Stambh' in Srinagar. He also met with the family members of the martyrs of Jammu and Kashmir Police and distributed appointment letters to them. In his tweet, the Union Home Minister said, "Jammu and Kashmir is the land of indomitable courage and bravery of nation's bravehearts. To immortalise the valour of such heroes, the foundation stone



WB panchayat polls: Mamata Banerjee to kick-start full-scale campaign on Monday



The International Press : West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee will kick-start her full-scale campaign for the July 8 panchayat elections in the state on Monday. As the state witnessed sporadic violence between two groups of Trinamool Congress (TMC) workers ahead of panchayat polls and following the violence, the state election commission, on Thursday requisitioned 800 companies of central forces to be deployed in the State during the panchayat polls, in accordance with the Calcutta High Court's directions, though the BJP says this is also

insufficient. There has been a war of words between the parties of the state accusing each other. As per the schedule, the first campaigning for the election will begin from North Bengal's Cooch Behar on June 26. More details of the TMC party's campaigning are yet to be finalised. The election will be held in a single phase on July 8, with vote counting scheduled for July 11. Panchayat polls in West Bengal will witness a fierce contest between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the ruling Trinamool Congress as they will be seen as a litmus test ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Army helicopters open fire on Wagner group on Voronezh highway



The International Press : Russian Army helicopters reportedly opened fire on a Wagner mercenary military convoy on the M4 highway outside Voronezh city on Saturday. The city is over halfway along the 1,100-km highway from Rostov to Moscow, Reuters reported. The defence ministry denied attacking the Wagner camps. Prigozhin said he had 25,000 troops under his command and urged the army not to offer resistance. Authorities in Russia's southwestern Lipetsk region urged residents to stay at home on Saturday after the Wagner mercenary group vowed to take up arms to topple the country's military leadership.

"To ensure law and order and the safety of the citizens of the Lipetsk region, the operational headquarters of the region asks residents without urgent need not to leave their homes and refrain from any travel by personal or public transport," the press service of the regional government said in a statement on social media. The announcement came as the governor of the neighbouring region of Voronezh, where the army said it was leading "combat" operations, voiced support for President Vladimir Putin after officials said an oil depot was on fire there. Prigozhin confirmed he and his troops reached Rostov-on-Don after crossing the border from Ukraine. He posted a video of himself at the military headquarters in Rostov and claimed that his forces had taken control of the airfield and other military facilities in the city. Other videos on social media showed military vehicles, including tanks, on the streets. Prigozhin said his forces faced no resistance from young conscripts as they crossed into Russia, saying his troops "aren't fighting against children." Prigozhin also said Wagner's forces shot down a Russian military helicopter that fired on a civilian convoy, but there was no independent confirmation of that. He alleged that General Valery Gerasimov, chief of the General Staff, ordered the attacks following a meeting with Shoigu, where they decided to destroy Wagner. One tank was wedged between stucco buildings with posters advertising the circus. Another had "Siberia" daubed in red paint across the front, a clear statement of intent to sweep across the breadth of Russia. In Moscow, there was an increased security presence on the streets. Red Square was blocked off by metal barriers. President Vladimir Putin vowed to punish Wagner group's Yevgeny Prigozhin, who led his troops out of Ukraine. Putin denounced the uprising as "a stab in the back." It was the biggest threat to his leadership in over two decades in power. As the fast-moving events unfolded in Russia, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said Moscow is suffering "full-scale weakness" and that Kyiv was protecting Europe from "the spread of Russian evil and chaos". In his address, Putin called the actions by Prigozhin, whom he did not mention by name, a "betrayal" and "treason."

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INS TRISHUL VISIT TO PORT OF TOAMASINA



The International Press : INS Trishul made a port call at Toamasina, Madagascar from 19 – 22 Jun 2023 as part of Operational Deployment reflecting India's cordial ties with its maritime neighbours. As part of the theme 'Ocean Ring of Yoga',

9th International Yoga Day was celebrated wherein 352 personnel comprising ship's company, officials from Governor's and Mayor's office, Malagasy Armed Forces, Women Police, members of Indian Embassy (including the Ambassador of India),

doctors, nurses, members of Indian diaspora and local citizens participated in the event. H.E. Mr. Rafidison Richard Theodore, Governor of Antsiranana Region, Madagascar was the Chief Guest for the event.

During the ship's visit, the Commanding Officer paid courtesy calls on Malagasy dignitaries and senior defence officers. Personnel from Indian and Malagasy Armed Forces engaged in wide range of professional

INS TARKASH AT MUSCAT (19-22 JUN 23)

Indian Naval Ship Tarkash made a port call to Muscat, Oman from 19 to 22 Jun 2023. During the visit, the ship undertook myriad activities in support of Gol initiative 'Ocean Ring of Yoga' as part of 9th International Yoga Day 2023, in coordination with Eol,



INS SUNAYNA VISITS MOMBASA, KENYA

INS Sunayna visited Mombasa, Kenya from 20-23 Jun 23 towards strengthening bilateral ties with maritime neighbours on the theme of Ocean Ring of Yoga. On arrival, the ship was received by reps from High Commission of India.



Editorial

Prime Minister's participation in the India-US Hi-Tech Handshake event

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President of USA H.E. Mr. Joseph R. Biden, participated in a India-US Hi-Tech Handshake event at the White House in Washington D.C. today. The event was moderated by US Secretary of Commerce, H.E. Ms. Gina Raimondo, and saw the participation of leading Indian and American CEOs of tech companies and startups. The thematic focus of the forum was on 'AI for All' and 'Manufacturing for Mankind'.

The event was an opportunity for both leaders to review the deepening technology collaboration between India and USA. Discussions focused on the role and potential of the India-US Technology Partnership in driving the adoption of an AI enabled inclusive economy to meet the needs of their citizens and the world. The CEOs explored ways of leveraging existing linkages between the two tech ecosystems, India's talented workforce and advances made by India in Digital Public Infrastructure, to build global collaborations. They called for regular engagement between the respective industries to kickstart strategic collaborations, cooperate on standards and foster innovation.

In his remarks, Prime Minister underlined the immense potential of harnessing India-US tech cooperation for socio-economic growth. He also applauded the contribution of India's talented youth in fostering a culture of innovation. President Biden called on CEOs to help expand India-US tech partnership to new fields

including biotechnology and quantum. Both leaders underscored that India-US partnership would play an instrumental role in building a better future for our people and for the world.

The following business leaders participated in the event:

From USA:

1. Revathi Advaiti, CEO, Flex
2. Sam Altman, CEO, OpenAI
3. Mark Douglas, President and CEO, FMC Corporation
4. Lisa Su, CEO, AMD
5. Will Marshall, CEO, Planet Labs
6. Satya Nadella, CEO, Microsoft
7. Sundar Pichai, CEO, Google
8. Hemant Taneja, CEO and Managing Director, General Catalyst
9. Thomas Tull, Founder, Tulco LLC
10. Sunita Williams, NASA Astronaut

From India:

1. Mr. Anand Mahindra, Chairman, Mahindra Group
2. Mr. Mukesh Ambani, Chairman & MD, Reliance Industries
3. Mr. Nikhil Kamath, Co-Founder, Zerodha & True Beacon
4. Ms. Vrinda Kapoor, Co-Founder, 3rdiTech



INS TARKASH AT MUSCAT (19-22 JUN 23)

The International Press : Indian Naval Ship Tarkash made a port call to Muscat, Oman from 19 to 22 Jun 2023. During the visit, the ship undertook myriad activities in support of Gol initiative 'Ocean Ring of Yoga' as part of 9th International Yoga Day 2023, in coordination with Eol, Muscat, Oman. On 21st June, Commanding Officer along with



ship's crew participated in Oman Yoga Yatra held at Indian School Muscat organised by Eol. The Ambassador of India to Oman felicitated

Commanding Officer, INS Tarkash prior commencement of Yoga, amidst some 2000 participants present at the venue. During the port call,

the ship's crew interacted with the Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces, wherein an organised visit was conducted to Sultan's Armed Forces Museum and Maritime Security Centre, Muscat, Oman. Indian Navy and Royal Navy of Oman share close bonds of friendship and the same was evident during all interactions.

INS SUNAYNA VISITS MOMBASA, KENYA



The International Press : INS Sunayna visited Mombasa, Kenya from 20-23 Jun 23 towards strengthening bilateral ties with maritime neighbours on the theme of Ocean Ring of Yoga. On arrival, the ship was received by reps from High Commission of India. The Commanding Officer called upon Brigadier Y S Abdi, Deputy Commander of Kenya Navy and highlighted the significance of Yoga towards bringing the world together. On the occasion of International Day of Yoga on 21 Jun 23, a joint Yoga session was conducted onboard with the participation of Indian Navy personnel and Kenyan Defence Forces. A Maritime Partnership Exercise was conducted in Firefighting & Damage Control, boarding exercises, asymmetric threat simulations and VBSS during the harbour phase. A HADR capsule was also conducted onboard for the Kenya Navy. A reception in the honour of General Francis Ogolla,

Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) Kenyan Defence Forces was hosted onboard Sunayna by Vice Admiral Sanjay Mahindru, Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff. The event was attended by HE Ms Namgya Khampa, High Commissioner of India, Nairobi. During his address, the CDF conveyed his gratitude towards friendly gesture by the Indian Navy in training the Kenya Navy personnel and expressed his commitment towards continuous cooperation between both the countries. The DCNS gifted 200 life jackets to Maj Gen Jimson Muthai, Commander of the Kenya Navy. In line with the Indian Navy's social outreach activities and community wellbeing, provisions were distributed to an orphanage at Mombasa. On departure from Mombasa, INS Sunayna undertook Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with Kenya Naval Ship Jasiri on 23 Jun 23. The visit to Mombasa reaffirms the strong and longstanding relationship between India & Kenya and will further consolidate bilateral cooperation in the maritime domain.

News Continue

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INS TRISHUL VISIT TO PORT OF TOAMASINA

interactions. The visit was aimed at enhancing cooperation and mutual understanding between both the navies. On the occasion of World Music Day, a band performance was organised at The Mayor Hall, Toamasina, wherein IN Band and Betsimisarakaka Folkloric Group 'SAHY' performed in the presence of dignitaries and local populace and showcased captivating musical performances. The ship was open for visitors at Toamasina, Madagascar on 21 Jun 23 and witnessed approximately 400 visitors. Indian Navy ships are regularly deployed overseas as part of Indian Navy's mission of building 'Bridges of Friendship' and strengthening international cooperation. INS Trishul, the second of the Talwar class frigates, was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 25 Jun 2003. The ship is fitted with state-of-the-art weapon and sensor package and carries a multi-role helicopter.

NHPC signs MoU with GRIDCO Odisha, for developing 2 GW Pumped Storage Projects and 1 GW Solar Energy Projects in Odisha

The International Press : NHPC Limited, the largest hydropower development organization in India, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with GRIDCO Odisha, Government of Odisha, for "Development of Pumped Storage Projects (PSPs) and Renewable Energy in the State of Odisha". The MoU envisages

setting up Self-identified Pumped Storage Projects of at least 2,000 MW and Renewable Energy Projects (Ground-Mounted Solar Projects / Floating Solar Projects) of at least 1,000 MW in the state. The MoU was signed on 23rd June, 2023, by Executive Director (Strategy Business Development and

Consultancy), NHPC, Rajat Gupta and Managing Director, GRIDCO Limited, Trilochan Panda; in the presence of Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Energy, Govt. of Odisha cum Chairperson, GRIDCO, Nikunja B. Dhal; Director (Projects), NHPC Limited, Biswajit Basu; and other senior officers of both organizations.



IREDA opens Paperless Business Centre at East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi

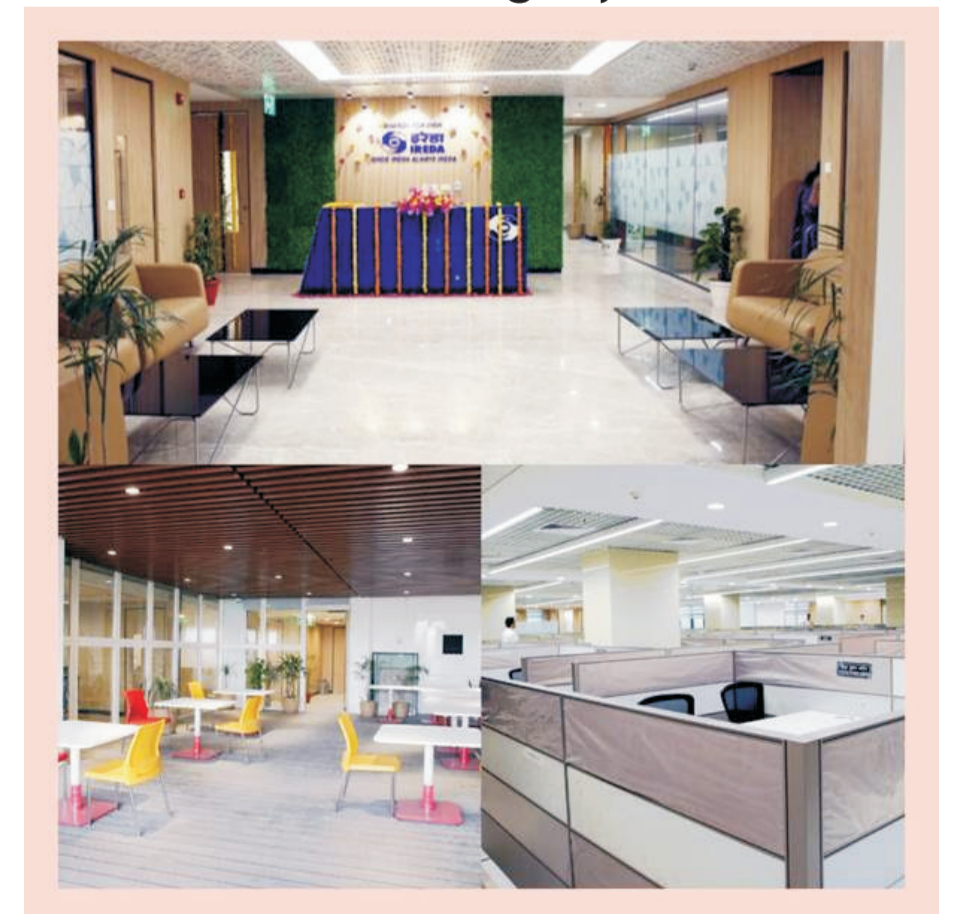


The International Press : Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA), a Mini Ratna (Category - I) Government of India enterprise under the administrative control of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, has set up a state-of-the-art Business Centre at NBCC Office Complex, East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi. The new office incorporates cutting-edge technology and

innovative solutions to eliminate the use of paper and promote efficient digital workflows throughout the organization. A significant milestone in IREDA's commitment to sustainable practices, the office which is designed to operate in a completely paperless manner, has been inaugurated by IREDA Chairman & Managing Director, Pradip Kumar Das today, June 24,

2023, in the presence of Chief Financial Officer R. C. Sharma, other senior officials and employees of the company. By adopting a paperless approach, IREDA aims to reduce its carbon footprint, minimize waste generation, and contribute to preservation of the environment. The new office at Kidwai Nagar has been meticulously designed to create an environment conducive

to productivity, collaboration, and employee well-being. It boasts advanced amenities, such as dedicated spaces for Yoga, Meditation, and Fitness activities, enabling employees to prioritize their physical and mental well-being. Inaugurating the new office, CMD Pradip Kumar Das highlighted the importance of sustainable practices in today's world and commended the employees for their unwavering commitment to IREDA's mission. He expressed his gratitude to everyone involved in making this milestone a reality. "The inauguration of our new paperless office is a testament to IREDA's continuous efforts to lead by example in the domain of Renewable Energy project financing. We are happy to support sustainable practices and leverage technology to enhance our operational efficiency and environmental protection." By streamlining



processes, minimizing paperwork, and leveraging digital platforms, IREDA aims to expedite the financing and implementation of

Renewable Energy initiatives, ultimately contributing to India's clean energy transition. Apart from its registered and corporate office in New Delhi, IREDA has

extended its reach with branch offices strategically located in Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Bhubaneswar, and Guwahati.

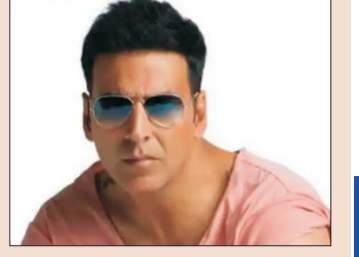
Vaccine does not require cold storage, easy to deploy even in remote areas and can be administered without a needle injection"

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space and MoS Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh launched



OMG 2 actor Akshay Kumar talks about film failures; says box office numbers do bother him

Akshay Kumar is one of the most popular actors and action stars in the country. He is known for making and releasing multiple films in a year as compared to his various counterparts. In the last couple of months, Akshay Kumar



Vaccine does not require cold storage, easy to deploy even in remote areas and can be administered without a needle injection"



The International Press : Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space and MoS Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh launched the GEMCOVAC® -OM, an Omicron-specific mRNA-based Booster vaccine. India's first mRNA vaccine has been developed using the indigenous platform technology by Gennova, with funding support from Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC). A few days ago this vaccine got the nod from the office of the Drug Control General of India (DCGI) for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). "I take great pride in DBT fulfilling its mission yet again – enabling technology-driven entrepreneurship through creating this indigenous mRNA-platform technology. We have always supported technology-driven innovation towards the creation of a 'future-ready' technology platform in line with the Prime Minister's vision of Aatmanirbharta," said Dr Jitendra Singh. GEMCOVAC® -OM is the fifth vaccine developed with support from Mission COVID Suraksha implemented by DBT and BIRAC under Atmanirbhar Bharat 3.0 package of Govt. of India for accelerated development of Indian COVID-19 vaccines. "Within a year of implementation, the Mission Covid Suraksha demonstrated major achievements, such as (i) Development of the World's first DNA Vaccine for COVID-19, and (ii) Supporting the development of the nation's first mRNA Vaccine and intranasal vaccine candidates and a subunit vaccine against COVID-19," said Dr Jitendra Singh. The Minister said this 'future-ready' technology platform can be used to make other vaccines in a relatively short developmental timeline. "Steady investments

made by the Government of India has created a strong entrepreneurship as well as Startup ecosystem which has actually facilitated our response against the mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic. I congratulate DBT and BIRAC for fulfilling its mission yet again by enabling technology-driven entrepreneurship through creating this indigenous mRNA-platform technology," he said. GEMCOVAC® -OM is a thermostable vaccine and does not require ultra-cold chain infrastructure used for other approved mRNA-based vaccines. "This innovation makes it easy for last mile deployment in our country. The existing supply chain infrastructure is sufficient to deploy this vaccine," said Dr Jitendra Singh, adding, "Its unique feature is that this vaccine can be administered without a needle injection." The GEMCOVAC® -OM vaccine is delivered intra-dermally using a needle-free injection device system and in study participants it generated significantly higher immune responses. The clinical outcome demonstrates the need for variant-specific vaccines for desired immune response. Dr Jitendra Singh said, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, DBT and BIRAC have made strenuous efforts to strengthen the Indian vaccine research and development over the last nine years. A number of key initiatives are currently being implemented to promote basic and translational vaccine research, including the (i) Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme, (ii) National Biopharma Mission, (iii) Ind-CEPI Mission, and (iv) Mission COVID Suraksha, which was launched as part of Atmanirbhar Bharat 3.0, with the goal of bringing safe, efficacious, affordable and accessible digenous COVID 19 vaccines to the citizens of the country at the earliest.

UDYAMI BHARAT - MSME DAY' to be celebrated at Vigyan Bhawan on 27th JUNE, 2023



The International Press : i Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma will be the Guest of Honour in this programme. During this programme, Ministry of MSME will launch various initiatives for growth and development of MSMEs such as CHAMPIONS 2.0 Portal and Mobile App for Geo-tagging of Cluster Projects and Technology Centers. During the programme results for 'MSME Idea Hackathon 2.0' will be declared and 'MSME Idea Hackathon 3.0' for Women Entrepreneurs will be launched. Further, this programme will include certificate distribution to Gold and Silver ZED certified MSMEs, and digital transfer of

Rs. 400 crore, Margin Money subsidy to 10,075 PMEGP

beneficiaries. This programme shall also include signing of

MoUs among various organizations of Govt. of India. The objective of the Ministry through its schemes and initiatives is to improve business environment for MSMEs, encourage innovation and

development of new products and services, promote regional development and reduce regional disparities, create market opportunities in both domestic and global market and also to encourage

MSMEs to adopt sustainable practices. The Ministry emphasizes on creating employment opportunities and enhancing productivity and competitiveness of MSMEs across the country.

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CINEMA

Sara Ali Khan Shares A Lovely Pic With 'Badi Amma' Sharmila Tagore

The International Press : In a captivating display of their close-knit bond, renowned actress Sharmila Tagore and her talented granddaughter, Sara Ali Khan, join forces on-screen for the very first time. Sara is often seen praising her 'Badi Amma' on Instagram and we can't wait to see what they have in store for their fans. Scroll below to read the scoop. The duo's latest project revolves around an engaging conversation about the significance of roots and their role in personal growth and well-being. And for those who know, knows Sara is very traditional and never miss an opportunity to make headlines for her Indian'ness. In an Instagram post that has

sent fans into a frenzy, Sara Ali Khan shared a sneak peek of their shoot together. Sara captioned it, "Because your roots matte." The post features a heartwarming image of Sharmila Tagore and Sara Ali Khan, capturing a genuine moment of connection and love. It is evident from the photograph that the bond between the two extends far beyond the realms of blood relation. Sources close to the project reveal that the shoot revolves around the concept of roots and their significance in shaping one's identity and personal journey. Both Sharmila Tagore and Sara Ali Khan share personal anecdotes and reflect

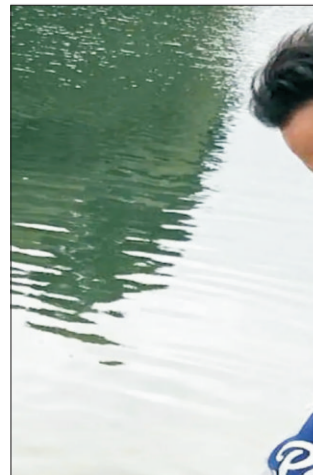
on the importance of staying connected to one's cultural heritage, values, and family traditions. The project is garnering immense attention due to the profound impact of their powerful portrayal. Audiences eagerly anticipate witnessing the chemistry between the iconic veteran actress and the youth sensation, as they deliver a heartfelt message about the essence of roots in today's fast-paced world. With their combined talent and charisma, Sharmila and Sara bring authenticity and depth to the project. Their on-screen collaboration not only exemplifies their remarkable acting skills but also highlights their shared commitment to

showcasing stories that resonate with audiences on a profound level. Fans and followers have flooded the comment section of Sara Ali Khan's Instagram post, expressing their excitement and anticipation for the release of this special project. Social media platforms are abuzz with speculation about the project's storyline and the impact it will have on viewers. While further details about the project remain undisclosed, one thing is certain: Sharmila Tagore and Sara's on-screen collaboration is set to leave a lasting impression on audiences, emphasizing the importance of roots and the interconnectedness of generations.



Kareena Kapoor Khan goes on a walk with her boys Saif Ali Khan, Taimur, and Jeh

The International Press : Kareena Kapoor Khan is enjoying mid-week blues with her family. The actress is quite active on social media and often gives a sneak peek into her vacations and shares photos with the family. She cherishes every moment and keeps her fans updated with her latest pictures from the trips she takes. A few hours back from now she posted adorable pictures with her actor husband Saif Ali Khan, and sons Taimur Ali Khan and Jehangir on the gram. The Laal Singh Chaddha actress shared a couple of candid pictures on her Instagram stories. Bebo took a walk with her husband and the kids. Kareena who is currently shooting in Mumbai shared three photos from one of her trips. In the first picture, she is walking hand in hand with hubby Saif Ali Khan. Whereas in the second picture, her boys Taimur and Jeh joined them. Taimur matches the speed of his parents while Jeh walks



behind. In the third picture, she shared a selfie with the message 'fresh air'. Kareena Kapoor Khan wore a black and white striped shirt with flared baggy jeans. On the other hand, Saif Ali Khan sported a white tee and black pants paired with a black jacket. In the first picture, she tied her hair in a pony but in the second picture, she left it open. She let her hair fall and feel the breeze. She wrote a message in both the pictures which jointly reads 'keep moving baby' adding a red heart emoji. On the work front, Kareena Kapoor will be next seen in Ekta Kapoor and Rhea Kapoor's The Crew. She will share the screen with Tabu and Kriti Sanon in Rajesh Krishnan's directorial. The movie will also see Dijiit

Dosanjh and Kapil Sharma in the lead. Next in the pipeline the actress also has Sujoy Ghosh's Devotion of Suspect X. Kareena has turned producer for her next film directed by Hansal Mehta. She is said to play a detective and a mother who is investigating a murder in a town in Buckinghamshire. The working title of the movie is The Buckingham Murders.

OMG 2 actor Akshay Kumar talks about film failures; says box office numbers do bother him



The International Press : Akshay Kumar is one of the most popular actors and action stars in the country. He is known for making and releasing multiple films in a year as compared to his various counterparts. In the last couple of months, Akshay Kumar has released a lot of films some on OTT and some in theatres. And some of them did not perform as per the expectations. The audience could not connect with some of the films and for the same, Akshay received a lot of backlash. And now, in a recent interview, Akshay has opened up on the criticisms, backlash and also box office numbers. **Akshay Kumar shares how he deals with criticisms** In an interview with a news portal, Akshay Kumar shares that he has had his share of ups and downs as well. He talks about getting

praise when his films are good and getting criticism when the films do not hit the chord. He says that he is human and feels good when something good happens and feels bad when something bad happens. Akshay Kumar says that he is very proud of his ability to move on extremely quickly. He says what keeps him going is the same will which he had since he started working on the very first day. The actor expresses that he loves working and nobody can take that away from him. He adds that despite criticisms, one has to just move on and keep going. He talks about the higher power who is keeping track of everything and adds that one will get results of their hard work and dedication. **Akshay Kumar shares that box office numbers do affect him** Financial Times asked Akshay Kumar if box office numbers do affect him, and the Hera Pheri 3 and OMG 2 actor answered affirmatively. He says actors are made or broken because of the box office numbers. They are what people call hits and flops. Akshay states that that's how the audience tells them if they are right or wrong. "Because if a film does not come to see it, which in turn means that they didn't connect to it," he tells the news portal. And after that, the actor has to change. Akshay believes that's what the whole industry is trying to do.



Sports News

4

Mane strikes twice as Senegal beat Brazil in friendly

Sadio Mane scored two goals as African champions Senegal came from behind to defeat Brazil 4-2 in an international friendly in Lisbon on Tuesday. Five-time World Cup winners Brazil are still



Raza masterclass as Zimbabwe smash Dutch in World Cup qualifier

Sikandar Raza delivered an all-rounder's masterclass to help Zimbabwe to a convincing six-wicket win over the Netherlands in their Cricket World Cup Group A qualifier on Tuesday, reports AFP.



Messi set for July 21 debut, Miami planning '3-5' signings



The International Press : Inter Miami are targeting a July 21 debut for superstar signing Lionel Messi as the club plans to bolster the squad with as many as five new players, owner Jorge Mas said. In an interview with the Miami Herald published Tuesday, Mas said Messi was likely to play his first game for Inter against Mexican side Cruz Azul in the regional Leagues Cup competition. Argentina captain

Messi confirmed on June 7 that he plans to head to Major League Soccer after ending a two-year stint with Paris Saint-Germain. The deal has yet to be finalized, but the Herald, citing a source with knowledge of the negotiations, said Messi was joining on a two-and-a-half-year deal worth up to \$60 million a year. The deal also included an equity stake in Miami "upon the end of his playing days," the Herald report said.

Mas, meanwhile, told the paper that Messi's contract would conform to MLS roster rules. "There are no categories or anything that is being changed to incorporate Lionel Messi onto Inter Miami's roster," he said. Mas said Messi's arrival in MLS would prove to be a "seminal moment" for the history of football in the United States. "I think there will always be a before and after Messi when

we talk about the sport in the United States," Mas said. "I have a very, very strong held belief that we can create in North America and the United States if not the greatest league, one of the top two leagues in the world. I cannot over-emphasize the magnitude of this announcement. "Having the world's greatest player here is something that is significant for our league, and for the football ecosystem in

the United States. Lionel Messi is coming to this country to win cups and make a difference. "I think it's incumbent upon myself and my partners in the league, the other owners, to seize the moment." Miami, meanwhile, are widely reported to be in talks to bring Messi's former Barcelona teammate Sergio Busquets to Florida. Mas would not comment on the state of negotiations with Busquets, and would not name other players -- such as Jordi Alba, Luis Suarez and Angel di Maria -- who have all been linked to Miami. However, Mas said the club expected to make between three to five additional signings. "We've been preparing our roster for Messi's arrival in '23, so we left an enormous amount of flexibility," Mas told the Herald. "We will be making additional signings during the summer window, more than what people anticipate... I can say we will potentially be making between three and five signings."

Mane strikes twice as Senegal beat Brazil in friendly



The International Press : Sadio Mane scored two goals as African champions Senegal came from behind to defeat Brazil 4-2 in an international friendly in Lisbon on Tuesday. Five-time World Cup winners Brazil are still without a coach after the departure of Tite last year, while Neymar remains sidelined by an ankle injury suffered in February. Lucas Paqueta headed the South Americans ahead from Vinicius Junior's cross 10 minutes in, but Senegal equalised through a thumping left-foot volley by Strasbourg forward Habib Diallo. Marquinhos put

Senegal ahead early in the second half when the Paris Saint-Germain defender inadvertently turned the ball into his own net. Mane, who missed the World Cup with injury and endured a tough first season at Bayern Munich, added a third minutes later with a superb curling shot into the top corner. Brazil halved the deficit when Marquinhos this time scored at the right end, looping a mishit effort over Senegal goalkeeper Mory Diaw. But Mane wrapped up Senegal's victory deep into stoppage time as he grabbed his second goal of the game from the penalty spot.

Raza masterclass as Zimbabwe smash Dutch in World Cup qualifier



HARARE - The International Press : Sikandar Raza delivered an all-rounder's masterclass to help Zimbabwe to a convincing six-wicket win over the Netherlands in their Cricket World Cup Group A qualifier on Tuesday, reports AFP. After first bagging four Dutch wickets, Raza then hit an entertaining unbeaten 102 off just 54 balls -- the fastest ever hundred in one-day internationals by a Zimbabwe player. The Netherlands had posted 315 for six wickets thanks to 88 from Vikramjit Singh, 83 from skipper Scott Edwards and 59 from Max O'Dowd. Saqib Zulfiqar chipped in with a run-a-ball 34 not out to boost the total off their allotted 50 overs at the Harare Sports Club. Raza proved to be the pick of the bowlers, picking up four wickets for 55 runs off his 10 overs. Zimbabwe's run chase never seemed in doubt as Sean Williams hit a 58-ball 91 after openers Craig Ervine and Joylord Gumbie had contributed 50 and 40 runs respectively. It was left to Raza to strike the winning runs, however, hoisting Logan van Beek over mid-off and into the stands for his eighth six in a spectacular display of power batting that had earlier seen him strike three consecutive sixes off Shariz Ahmad. "I just wanted to go out there," said the 37-year-old Pakistan-born all-rounder, who sealed victory with 55 balls remaining. "The platform was already set, I just wanted to stay humble and respect every ball but it was there, I went for it. "As long as we win the game, we are happy and we are happy for each other's performance." Group A's other match saw Nepal, who lost their opener to Zimbabwe, beat the United States by six wickets. Karachi-born wicketkeeper Shayan Jahangir hit an unbeaten 100 to help the US team reach 207 all out off 49 overs after recovering from being 18 for four wickets. Sushant Modani chipped in with 42 and Gajanan Singh 26, but the next best score was 12 and seven batsmen failed to make double digits as Karan Khatri Chhetri and Gulsan Jha shared seven wickets between them. Bhim Sharki hit an unbeaten 77 while Kushal Bhurtel and Dipendra Singh Airee pitched in with 39 runs apiece as Nepal sealed the victory with ease, ending on 211/4 with 42 balls remaining. It was a second defeat for the Americans after they went down to the West Indies in their opening game. The action continues Wednesday, with Ireland facing Scotland and Oman taking on the United Arab Emirates in Group B matches at Bulawayo. Only two of the 10 teams taking part in the three-week qualifier will make the World Cup to be played in India in October and November.

French football star Kante joins Saudi champions



The International Press : France's World Cup-winning midfielder N'Golo Kante has joined Saudi Arabian champions Al Ittihad, the club said in a statement on Wednesday, joining up with compatriot Karim Benzema. "Kante is an Ittihad player now!" the club said on Twitter, while chairman Anmar al-Halilee tweeted: "Welcome to our new tiger Kante," a reference to the team's nickname. The 32-year-old becomes the latest in a line of European stars choosing to ply their trade in the desert kingdom, which is making big-money moves across elite sport. A dynamic and industrious midfielder, Kante won the World Cup with France in 2018. His club career also glitters. He won the Champions League and World Cup with Chelsea, as well as back-to-back Premier League titles with Leicester City and Chelsea. Kante's contract with the London club was set to expire this month. He has signed a three-year deal with Al Ittihad, the Jeddah-based team said in a statement, though it gave no details of how much Kante will earn. "Kante's addition to Al-Ittihad is considered one of the most

high-profile and impactful signings in the club's history," the statement added. "It is part of the club's efforts to establish itself as a top choice for world-class players in the Saudi Professional League." He will wear the number seven shirt, which he also donned at Chelsea. Current Ballon d'Or holder Benzema joined Al-Ittihad earlier this month, after 14 seasons with Real Madrid in which he won five Champions Leagues, four La Liga titles and three Copas del Rey. "Very excited" - In a video posted online by the club, the 35-year-old said in a message to his fellow Frenchman: "One time I told you, you're the best player, box to box, in the world. Now I'm happy to play with you again, and of course in the best team in Saudi." Kante said he was "very excited to play for the Tigers". The kingdom's league had already signed up five-time Ballon d'Or winner Cristiano Ronaldo, who joined Al-Nassr in January. His fellow Portuguese international Ruben Neves, currently of Wolves, is reportedly set to join Al Hilal. Argentina legend Lionel Messi, widely considered the greatest player of all time, declined to make a similar

move despite a lengthy Saudi courtship, and will instead join Inter Miami in the United States. With its oil riches, Saudi Arabia -- a conservative monarchy frequently criticised over its human rights record -- has swiftly achieved a prominent role in world sports. In football, the presumed goal is hosting the World Cup, which is intended to lift Saudi Arabia's profile and prestige as it tries to diversify its oil-reliant economy by attracting tourists and investors. In the coming years, Saudi Arabia will organise the men's Asian Cup football, the Olympic-style Asian Games and even the Asian Winter Games in 2029. The Saudi Public Investment Fund (PIF), the state's sovereign wealth vehicle, holds an 80 percent stake in Newcastle United, who finished fourth in the Premier League last season. In golf, the PIF has also ruffled feathers. It bankrolls LIV Golf, whose clash with the PGA Tour nearly caused a rupture in the sport. A surprise merger between the rival tours earlier this month settled a legal battle, only a year after LIV Golf launched with several stars who had jumped from the PGA for big-money offers from the upstart series.

Ronaldo marks 200th Portugal cap with winner, Haaland fires Norway



The International Press : Cristiano Ronaldo marked his 200th international appearance with the winner as Portugal beat Iceland 1-0 in Euro 2024 qualifying on Tuesday, while Erling Haaland netted twice for Norway. Elsewhere, Belgium brushed aside the Thibaut Courtois captaincy row by seeing off Estonia thanks to a Romelu Lukaku double in Tallinn and Moldova came from two goals down to stun Poland. Portugal appeared to be heading towards a drab goalless draw in Reykjavik until Willum Thor Willumsson was sent off late on. Ronaldo struggled for much of the match but repaid coach Roberto Martinez's faith by slotting home from Goncalo Inacio's knock-down in the 89th minute. "It was a nice script (for Ronaldo). There was incredible celebration, the first men's player ever in world football to get 200 international games," Martinez told uefa.com. The former Real Madrid and

Manchester United star's record-extending 123rd international goal was initially ruled out for offside before being awarded by VAR. "For me it's an unbelievable achievement, it's amazing," said the 38-year-old Ronaldo. "And of course to score the winning goal, it's even more special." Portugal remain two points clear of Slovakia at the top of Group J after a fourth straight win. Slovakia, who are Portugal's next opponents in September, won 1-0 away to Liechtenstein to stay unbeaten. Luxembourg gave their unlikely bid to reach a maiden major tournament a boost with a brilliant 2-0 away victory over Bosnia and Herzegovina to move third, just three points behind Slovakia. The top two from each group qualify automatically for next year's finals in Germany. - Captain Lukaku stars - Belgium goalkeeper Courtois had said he was "surprised"

that coach Domenico Tedesco told a press conference he had refused to travel to Estonia after being overlooked for the stand-in captaincy last week. Tedesco had wanted to hand Lukaku the armband for Saturday's 1-1 draw with Austria and give Courtois the honour in Tallinn, with regular captain Kevin De Bruyne absent. But with Courtois instead back home, Lukaku was named skipper again and responded by scoring two goals in a 3-0 success which helped Belgium stay second in Group F. Austria remained three points clear in first place, albeit having played a game more than Belgium, as Christoph Baumgartner scored twice in the last 10 minutes to clinch a 2-0 win over Sweden. The Scandinavians are in danger of failing to reach a Euro tournament for the first time since 1996, sitting four points behind Belgium. Haaland's brace helped

Norway bounce back from their dramatic defeat by Scotland at the weekend with a 3-1 victory against Cyprus. That kept their slim hopes of reaching a first major tournament since 2000 alive, although they only sit third in Group A and just one point ahead of Spain having played two games more than the three-time champions. Group leaders Scotland were not blown off course by a near two-hour interruption caused by heavy rain as they maintained their 100 percent record with a 2-0 win over Georgia. Callum McGregor scored in the sixth minute in farcical conditions before the game was suspended. A number of pitch inspections then took place amid reports that Georgia wanted the game postponed before it eventually restarted at 9:35 pm local time (1935 GMT) and Scott McTominay secured the points. - Poland in trouble - Poland fell to fourth place in Group E after losing a two-goal lead to lose 3-2 to Moldova in Chisinau. Moldova, who had won only one of their last 43 Euro and World Cup qualifying matches, appeared to have been safely dispatched by first-half goals from Arkadiusz Milik and Robert Lewandowski. But Ion Nicolaescu's double left Poland reeling and Vladyslav Baboglo, who plays his club football for Ukrainian team Oleksandriya, headed past Wojciech Szczesny to score a dramatic 85th-minute winner. Moldova, 171st in the FIFA rankings, are now third in the group standings, a point behind second-placed Albania who saw off the Faroe Islands 3-1. Hungary moved top of Group G by cruising past Lithuania 2-0, level on points with Serbia after their 1-1 draw with Bulgaria.