

Update on Power Situation in the Country: Summer Power Demand expected to be adequately met during both day and night



The International Press : To meet the summer electricity demand during the months of April, May and June 2024, the Government of India had already put in place the following measures, as part of its advance planning. Section 11 Directions for Imported-Coal-Based Power Plants, to make full capacity available for generation Planned Maintenance of Power Plants shifted to Monsoon Season Minimizing partial and forced outages of thermal generating units Revival of thermal plants under long outage Advisory to generation companies (central and state generation companies and Independent Power Producers) to keep their generating plants under healthy condition to have full capacity available Optimization of hydro power generation Generating stations have been directed to offer surplus power for sale in Energy Exchange With these measures, we have been able to successfully meet the peak evening power demand of 224 GW during April 2024. In addition to this, the government has taken following further measures to meet the power demand during May and June, which is projected to peak at 235 GW during day-

time and 225 GW during evening hours for May, and to peak at 240 GW during day-time and 235 GW during evening hours for June 2024. Similar to that done for Imported-Coal-based power plants, Section 11 directions have been issued to gas-based power plants too. This has made available additional 6 GW for the months of May and June, in addition to the 10 GW which was already available earlier. Optimization of hydro power generation has made available an additional 4 GW for meeting the demand during the months of May and June. Further, the shifting of planned maintenance and minimization of partial and forced outages of thermal power plants have made available another 5 GW for the summer season. Further compared to April, power generated from wind is expected to increase by 4 GW to 5 GW during May and June. Thus, with the above measures in place and given the current generation trend and the anticipated above-normal monsoon in the following months as predicted by the IMD, it is expected that the power demand would be adequately met both during the day and during night hours in the summer months of May and June 2024.



US satisfied so far with India Sikh plot probe, but stresses 'red line'

The International Press : The US is satisfied so far with India's moves to ensure accountability in alleged assassination plots against Sikh activists, but many steps are still needed, the US ambassador to India said on Thursday, calling it a "red line for America" for which there must be consequences. Eric Garcetti was asked at a US think tank event what effect the recent discovery of assassination plots against Sikh nationalists in Canada and the United States could have on Washington's relations with New Delhi. "When I was referring to a relationship that might have bumps along the road, this would be potentially the first big fight in a relationship," he told the Council on Foreign Relations. "So far, knock on wood, I would say

■ The US is satisfied so far with India's moves to ensure accountability in alleged assassination plots against Sikh activists, but many steps are still needed, the US ambassador to India said on Thursday, calling it a "red line for America"

the administration is satisfied with the accountability that we've demanded on this, because this is a red line for America, for our citizens, and a core part of what we need to do," he added. Garcetti said a criminal case and indictment had been brought "and if there is any connection to state actors in that, there has to be accountability." "We expect that not only from our side, but we expect India to have that accountability." Garcetti noted that India had set up a commission of inquiry "and ... we expect while we do the criminal case that is about American justice, that there need to be consequences and shared information. "And so far ... I have been satisfied with what they have done. I think the administration is, but we have many steps still to go." In November, US authorities said an Indian government official had directed the plot in the attempted murder of Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, a Sikh

separatist and dual citizen of the United States and Canada. The White House said last month it viewed the reported role of the Indian intelligence service in the assassination plots as a very serious matter. It made the comment after the Washington Post reported that an officer in India's intelligence service was directly involved in the foiled plan in the U.S. and also involved in the separate shooting death of a Sikh activist last June in Canada. Canadian police on Friday arrested and charged three Indian men with the murder of Sikh separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar last year and said they were probing whether the men had ties to the Indian government. India has expressed concern about the linkage to officials and dissociated itself from the plot, saying it would formally investigate the US concerns, and take necessary follow-up action on the findings of a panel set up on November 18. The issue is a highly delicate one for both India and the US administration as they try to build closer ties in the face of shared concerns about China's growing power.

Israelis ready to fight with their fingernails, Netanyahu says in veiled Biden rebuff



The International Press : Israelis are ready to fight with their "fingernails", Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Thursday in a thinly veiled rebuff to US President Joe Biden's warning that arms supplies could be withheld over a planned operation in Gaza. Israel's long-threatened move against Rafah, where it says thousands of Hamas fighters and potentially dozens of the hostages they seized in an October 7 attack are ensconced among more than a million war-displaced Palestinians, began this week with the evacuation of some civilians followed by limited incursions. The Biden administration has said it cannot support a major Rafah invasion in the absence of what it would deem a credible plan to safeguard non-combatants. Israel has said victory in the seven-month-old conflict is impossible without taking Rafah. The Netanyahu government had kept silent over reports that Washington was holding back a shipment of aerial bombs - until, on Wednesday, Biden went public with the measure, saying it was part of a US warning to the Israelis not to "go into Rafah". "If we must stand alone, we shall stand alone," Netanyahu said without referring specifically to the US announcement. "If we must, we shall fight with our fingernails," he said in a video statement. "But we have much more than our fingernails, and with that strength of spirit, with God's help, together we shall be victorious." But Netanyahu said in an interview on US television he hopes he and Biden can overcome their disagreements over the Gaza war. "We often had our disagreements. We've been able to overcome them," Netanyahu said on the "Dr Phil Primetime" show. "I hope we can overcome them now, but we will do what we have to do to protect our country," he said. The conservative prime minister's comments in the video statement were echoed by the other two voting members of his war cabinet - Defence Minister Yoav Gallant and centrist former Defence Minister Benny Gantz - although none said explicitly that a deeper sweep of Rafah would be ordered. "I turn to Israel's enemies as well as to our best of friends and say - the State of Israel cannot be subdued," Gallant said in a speech. "We will stand strong, we will achieve our goals - we will hit Hamas, we will hit [Lebanon's]

Hezbollah, and we will achieve security." Gantz voiced appreciation for what the Israeli military has described as unprecedented US support and supplies in the war. "Israel has a duty, in terms of national security and morality, to keep fighting in order to return our hostages and end the Hamas threat against southern Israel," he said on X. "And the United States has a moral and strategic duty to extend to Israel the tools that are necessary for this mission." In parallel to the public dispute, the United States has been trying to shepherd along Egyptian- and Qatari-mediated talks between Israel and Hamas that would free some hostages. Those have stumbled on Hamas' demand for an end to the Gaza war. Israel is willing to enter a ceasefire only. Negotiators on Thursday left the latest meetings in Cairo without a deal, and Israel said it would proceed with its planned Rafah operation. The chief Israeli military spokesperson, Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, said in a briefing that the armed forces had sufficient munitions for Rafah "and other operations that are planned".

PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES 22ND CONVOCATION OF NATIONAL BOARD OF EXAMINATIONS IN MEDICAL SCIENCES

The International Press : The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced and addressed the 22nd convocation of the National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) in New Delhi today (May 10, 2024). Underlining the importance of golden hour in medical emergencies, the President said that the life of patients could be saved if they get treatment during this period. She said that specialist doctors should be sensitive towards emergency patients and they should never ask an emergency patient to go somewhere else for treatment. Giving reference of the saying - "justice delayed is justice denied", President Murmu stressed that in the healthcare sector, the time is even more important because treatment delayed may be life denied. She said that sometimes we hear the sad news that if timely treatment had been given, the life of the person could be saved. Even if life is saved, in many situations, treatment delayed is health denied. Such examples are often seen in paralysis patients. Due to lack of timely treatment, patients lose the ability to move their limbs and become dependent on others. The President appreciated the past and present members of NBEMS for their contribution to medical education over the past nearly four decades. She noted that the efforts of NBEMS have significantly increased the availability of specialist doctors in the country. The President urged doctors to pay attention towards prompt healthcare, sensitive healthcare and in-expensive healthcare. She said that they can make an invaluable contribution to the country and society by giving their time free of cost to poor patients. She told the medical students that if they have chosen medical as a profession, then they definitely have the desire to serve humanity. She called upon them to protect, enhance and spread the spirit of service. The President said that in view of the vast population of our country, there is a need to continuously increase the availability of doctors. She stated that it should be the endeavor of all to give priority to quality along with quantity. The President said that Indian doctors have made their mark globally. Due to affordable Medicare, India has become a major center of medical tourism. She described doctors as the most important part of the country's healthcare system and expressed confidence that they will take the health services of the country to greater heights. Noting that the number of female doctors is more than the male doctors who got degrees and medals at this convocation, the President said that the achievement of girl students in higher medical education is a great achievement of our society and country. She stated that in the context of most of the families, it can be said that girls are made to feel the limitations and restrictions. Even in society and public places girls have to be extra conscious about their safety and society's acceptance. In such an environment our daughters are presenting a new picture of the new India by proving their excellence.

Government organizes workshop on Quality Control in Green Hydrogen; deliberations held on Quality Standards, Testing Infrastructure and Ease of Doing Business



The International Press : The government held a day-long workshop on "Quality Control in Green Hydrogen: Standards & Testing Infrastructure" at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi on May 8, 2024. The workshop convened by the Union Ministry of New & Renewable Energy deliberated on actions needed to create a homogeneous ecosystem for Green Hydrogen production processes through clear quality standards. It also discussed the steps to be taken to create a network of green hydrogen testing facilities, and for

promoting Ease of Doing Business to accelerate the clean energy transition. On the occasion, a dedicated portal for the National Green Hydrogen Mission was launched, which would serve as a one-stop location for information on the Mission and steps taken for the development of the green hydrogen ecosystem in India. The portal was launched jointly by Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood and

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KEEL LAYING OF 8th ASW SWC (ex-GRSE) ON 10 MAY 24 AT M/S GRSE KOLKATA

Keel laying ceremony of the 8th ASW SWC (ex-GRSE) was held at M/s GRSE, Kolkata on 10 May 24. The ceremony was presided by VAdm B Sivakumar, Controller Warship Production & Acquisition in presence of Cmde PR Hari,



Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control & Discipline) Act notified through Gazette Notification

The Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Act has been notified through a Gazette Notification to be enforced with effect from May 10, 2024. In order to bolster effective command, control and efficient



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Editorial

Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship signs MoU with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. to conduct two Pilot Projects under the Drone Didi Yojana

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd to conduct two Pilot Projects under the Drone Didi Yojana. Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari; Group CEO & MD, Mahindra Group Dr. Anish Shah and senior officials of the MSDE were present at the event. Launched earlier this year, the scheme aims to train 15,000 women to operate drones for agricultural purposes such as fertilising the crop, monitoring crop growth and planting seeds, thereby creating new livelihood opportunities for women through imparting skills in new technology areas. While speaking at the event, Shri Tiwari explained how the agricultural expertise of Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. will be leveraged through comprehensive training. He also informed that two centres of NSTI, situated at Hyderabad and Noida, have been chosen for the Pilot Projects, to empower rural women in agriculture. This collaboration advances the mission of upskilling women for nation-building, particularly through the successful implementation of the Drone Didi program in empowering women in emerging trades, Shri Tiwari added. He also said this collaboration will advance the vision of the Ministry to equip women with the skills needed to contribute to nation-building. Shri Tiwari also mentioned that building on the past successful collaborations with leading technology industry partners, this initiative represents the beginning of many collaborative projects with M&M. He said, through rigorous training methodologies and hands-on learning experiences, the students will be equipped with the practical skills and competencies required to excel in their chosen fields and make meaningful contributions to the nation's socio-economic growth. Dr Anish Shah said that aligned with the company's Rise philosophy, it is committed to

empowering women with the skills necessary to join the workforce and achieve financial independence. The Pilot Projects under the Drone Didi Yojana represents a first-of-its-kind convergence of women, farming and technology, he said. Under this partnership, MSDE and M&M will conduct two Pilot Projects at the National Skill Training Institute (NSTI), situated in Hyderabad and Noida, to skill 500 women in exclusive batches of 20 women each. The 15-day curriculum, approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), will be delivered through Remote Pilot Training Organisation (RPTO) instructors at these Centres. Within this partnership, NSTIs will provide infrastructure for training the programme, hostel facility for participants, and reach out to local Women Self Help Groups and NGOs to mobilise participation. Mahindra Group will provide initial set-up support through simulation machinery/drones, simulator controller, simulator software, desktop computer with i5 processor and trainers, and meet the operating costs for the duration of the Pilot Projects, including the cost of DGCA License Holder Instructors at the centres. The learning and outcomes from the Pilot Projects will assist MSDE in scaling up the Drone Didi Yojana at identified NSTIs/ITIs across the country. As a further support to the intent of the Drone Didi Yojana, M&M will soon roll out Drone training for women at the company's skilling centres at Zaheerabad, Telangana, and Nagpur, Maharashtra.



KEEL LAYING OF 8th ASW SWC (ex-GRSE) ON 10 MAY 24 AT M/S GRSE KOLKATA

The International Press : Keel laying ceremony of the 8th ASW SWC (ex-GRSE) was held at M/s GRSE, Kolkata on 10 May 24. The ceremony was presided by VAdm B Sivakumar, Controller Warship Production & Acquisition in presence of Cmde PR Hari, IN (Retd), Chairman & Managing Director, GRSE and other Senior Officials from Indian Navy and M/s GRSE. The contract for indigenous design and construction of 08

x ASW SWC ships was concluded on 29 Apr 19 between MOD and M/s GRSE, Kolkata. As on date six ships of the project have already been launched with delivery of first ship (Arnala) planned in Aug 24. Arnala Class of ship will replace the in-service Abhay class ASW Corvettes of Indian Navy and are designed to undertake anti-submarine operations in coastal waters, Low Intensity Maritime

Operations (LIMO) and Mine Laying Operations. Keel laying of Yard 3034, last ship of the Project is yet another significant milestone in Indian

Navy's pursuit towards indigenous shipbuilding and is in consonance with 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Make in India' initiatives of the nation.



Task Force for Development of Tourism in North East holds 5th Meeting at Vigyan Bhawan



The International Press : The 5th meeting of the Task Force for the Development of Tourism in North East states was convened at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi today. In the meeting, the discussion centred on strategies for capacity building, training policies, marketing and promotion efforts for the development of tourism in NE States. Attendees included eight North Eastern

State of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura, along with representatives from various ministries, i.e. Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and other private partners.

Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control & Discipline) Act notified through Gazette Notification



The International Press : The Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Act has been notified through a Gazette Notification to be

enforced with effect from May 10, 2024. In order to bolster effective command, control and efficient functioning of Inter-Services Organisations (ISOs), the bill was

passed by both the Houses of Parliament during the Monsoon Session of 2023. The Bill received the assent of the President on August 15, 2023. The Act empowers

Commanders-in-Chief and Officers-in-Command of ISOs to exercise control over Service personnel, serving under them, for effective maintenance of discipline and administration, without disturbing the unique service conditions of each individual Service. With the notification, the Act will empower the Heads of ISOs and pave the way for expeditious disposal of cases, avoid multiple proceedings and will be a step towards greater integration & jointness among the Armed Forces

DRDO celebrates National Technology Day 2024 through lectures & orations in its labs & establishments

The International Press : Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) celebrated the National Technology Day 2024 by organising various lectures and orations in its laboratories & establishments on May 10, 2024. On this occasion, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat presided over a special function organised by Defence Science Forum (DSF), Delhi. In his address, the Chairman DRDO greeted the scientists & technologists and appealed to them to rededicate themselves in the service of the nation by providing cutting-edge technologies for making the country strong and self-reliant. Former GM of Integral Coach Factory, Chennai Shri Sudhanshu Mani was the Chief Guest of the function. Chief Technologist for Amazon Web Services Smt Shalini Kapoor was the Guest of Honour. Shri

Sudhanshu Mani delivered his keynote address on the topic 'Leadership and innovations in large organisations: some takeaways from Vande Bharat/Train 18 Project'. The other keynote address was given by Smt Shalini Kapoor on 'Future trends in AI and Digital Transformations'. Convener DSF and Director General (Life Sciences) Dr UK Singh, in his welcome address, brought out the importance of AI in R&D and need of innovative leadership style in large organisation like DRDO. A total of forty five oration papers were received from various DRDO laboratories and establishments, out of which best three papers were selected for presentation. The DRDO Technology Day Spectrum was also released on the occasion. A monograph titled 'Investigations on failures of defence hardware components: Fundamentals and case histories' authored by

former Scientist 'G', Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory Dr KP Balan was unveiled. DRDO publications namely DRDO Newsletter (2024); Defence Science Journal (May, 2024), and the Defence Scientific Information & Documentation Centre (DESIDOC) Journal of Library science and information technology were also released. In addition, Commendation Certificates were given to DRDO scientists on the occasion. National Technology Day Orators were also felicitated. National Technology Day is celebrated on May 11 every year to remember the successful nuclear test conducted by India and recognise & honour the significant contributions of scientists and engineers who have played a crucial role in the country's technological progress. It also serves as a reminder of the importance of science and technology in nation-building.

News Continue

Contd. from P/1 Government organizes workshop on Quality Control in Green Hydrogen; deliberations held on Quality Standards, Testing Infrastructure and Ease of Doing Business

Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Shri Bhupinder S. Bhalla. The portal can be accessed here: <https://ngnm.mnre.gov.in/>

A report on "Green Hydrogen Standards and Approval Systems in India" (report can be accessed here) and another one on "India's Green Hydrogen Revolution" (report can be accessed here) were also released during the workshop.

Five panel discussions were held at the workshop, where experts from leading technical institutions, regulators and industry deliberated on the following issues pertaining to the green hydrogen ecosystem. Green Hydrogen Ecosystem: Imperatives, Challenges and Way Forward

Standards in Hydrogen Storage Standards of Electrolyser Manufacturing & Performance Standards for Green Hydrogen Production Plants & Systems Green Hydrogen based Applications

Around 300 stakeholders from ministries, PSUs, government agencies, industry, associations, research institutes, laboratories and academia attended the workshop.

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Putin reappoints Mishustin as Russia's PM

Russian President Vladimir Putin proposed the reappointment on Friday of Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, a technocrat who has helped him through the war in Ukraine and the economic challenges wrought by



When Sushmita Sen Fainted During "Hectic" Miss Universe Shoot At The Taj Mahal

Sushmita Sen, who was crowned Miss Universe in 1994, did an iconic photoshoot in front of the Taj Mahal the same year. Designer Ritu Kumar shared a video from the archives that features Sushmita Sen's aforementioned shoot.



Putin reappoints Mishustin as Russia's PM



The International Press : Russian President Vladimir Putin proposed the reappointment on Friday of Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, a technocrat who has helped him through the war in Ukraine and the economic challenges wrought by Western sanctions over Moscow's invasion.

The Duma's approval of the low-key Mishustin is nearly certain, as there is virtually no opposition in parliament, which has supported Putin in all his decisions, including the February 2022 invasion of Russia's smaller neighbour.

As dictated by law, the government resigned just before Putin, Russia's paramount leader for nearly a quarter of a century, was sworn in for another six-year term on Tuesday after winning in a landslide re-election in March.

There is no indication that Putin plans a big reshuffle of the government, which includes veteran Sergei Shoigu, in charge of Russia's defence since 2012, and Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, in charge of Russia's diplomacy for two decades.

Keeping his government intact would send a message of stability and of Putin's satisfaction with his team's progress at home and abroad, analysts say.

"President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin submitted to the State Duma a proposal on the candidacy of Mikhail Vladimirovich Mishustin for the post of Chairman of the Government," the speaker of the Duma, Vyacheslav Volodin, said on the Telegram messaging app.

"Today, deputies will make a responsible decision on behalf of their constituents on this issue," Volodin said.

LOW-PROFILE BUREAUCRAT KEEPS ECONOMY AFLOAT Mishustin, a career bureaucrat, was said

to have no political ambitions before Putin tapped him as prime minister in 2020. With no background in the security services, he is not part of the so-called siloviki (strongmen) faction of intelligence veterans close to Putin.

While keeping a low profile, however, Mishustin has been credited with keeping Russia's economy afloat after Kyiv's allies hit the country with sanctions that have greatly complicated financing for Russian businesses and curtailed markets for the country's vast natural resources.

Before becoming prime minister, Mishustin headed the federal tax service for a decade, where he was credited with more than doubling revenues.

In October, with Russia facing increasing sanctions, Mishustin said Moscow would simplify procedures for citizens and companies from 25 "friendly" countries - including China, India, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Kazakhstan and Belarus - to invest in Russia.

At a perilous moment for Putin in June last year, Mishustin said Russia must rally around the president as an abortive mutiny by mercenaries fighting in Ukraine had presented "a challenge to its stability".

"For this, the consolidation of the whole of society is especially important. We need to act together, as one team, and maintain the unity of all forces, rallying around the president," Mishustin said. Mishustin, who will speak in the Duma before the vote, must answer how he will solve a number of tasks set by Putin for the government, including "economic and regional development, and increasing the defence capability of our country", Volodin said.

NHAI Debars Toll Operating Agency for Misbehaving with Highway Users



The International Press : Acting tough on misbehavior with the general public by toll (user fee) operator and its employees, NHAI has taken strict action and debarred Ms. Riddhi Siddhi Associates for an incident of assault and misbehavior with the National Highway users at Sirmandi Toll Plaza on Amritsar-Jamnagar section in Rajasthan.

An incident of assault and misbehavior by the employees of toll operating agency with highway users at Sirmandi Toll Plaza on 05.05.2024 was reported. Taking prompt action on the matter, the incident was examined by NHAI and a 'Show Cause' Notice was served to the firm. The reply submitted by the toll operating agency was not found to be satisfactory. It was noted that in total violation of contractual provisions and NHAI Standing Operating Procedure, the agency was indulged in violence and misbehaving activities with the highway users. The Authority has debarred M/s.Riddhi Siddhi Associates for a period of three months from the list of pre-qualified bidders. NHAI contract agreement with its toll operators clearly

defines that the personnel deployed by the Contractor shall not misconduct/ misbehave with the members of Public and shall observe strict discipline and decency in their behavior. Last year, NHAI issued detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to curb altercation incidents at Toll Plazas and

safeguard interests of both the commuters and the toll operators. NHAI is committed to ensure safe and seamless travel on National Highways and has recently taken strong action against errant agencies involved in violence and misbehavior with highway users at toll plazas.

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CINEMA

Amid breakup rumours with Aditya Roy Kapur, Ananya Panday is spending time with this star kid?

The International Press : Aditya Roy Kapur and Ananya Panday made for the IT couple of Bollywood. It was back in 2023 that their pictures from Lisbon went viral confirming about their relationship. They were papped spending time together like couples. Even when Ananya Panday appeared on Koffee With Karan 7, she was teased about her connection with Aditya Roy Kapur. However, latest reports state that Ananya Panday and Aditya Roy Kapur have parted ways. Reportedly, after being in a relationship for two years, Aditya and Ananya have called it quits. So how is Ananya Panday coping up with it?

Well, it looks like Ananya Panday is spending time with her bestie amid all the breakup rumours. Ananya Panday shared a post on her Insta stories that was similar to bestie Suhana Khan. Both the divas shared the score board of IPL 2021 that has KKR on the top. Kolkata Knight Riders is currently leading the points table and Suhana, Ananya can't keep. Both the divas are quite constant in the stands cheering for Shah Rukh Khan's team. Even when KKR won the match against Mumbai Indians in Wankhede Stadium, Suhana and Ananya were together. Shah Rukh Khan's daughter seems to be being the perfect BFF for Ananya and being there as a support as the rumours take over gossip mills.

All about Ananya-Aditya breakup Talking about Ananya Panday and Aditya Roy Kapur's breakup, a close friend revealed to The Bombay Times that they parted ways almost a month ago. They were going well but the breakup has shocked all. But Ananya-Aditya remain to be cordial with each other. Both the celebs are said to be dealing with the situation maturely. Ananya is also busy spending time with her new furry friend. Just a month ago, Ananya had made a cryptic post talking about what is meant to be will come into life. And it will leave to teach a lesson.



Sonam Kapoor is the unsung hero of brilliant biopics and it's time we gave her due credit

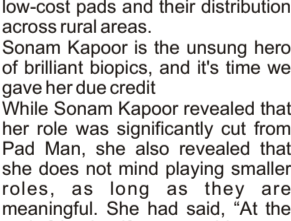
The International Press : Sonam is not often given credit for delivering more hits than you probably think she has. From Prem Ratan Dhan Payo to Raanjhanaa to I Hate Luv Storys, Sonam has aced almost all Bollywood genres, sans horror, and she has done so brilliantly. But what flies even more so under the radar is that she has been part of some of the most iconic Bollywood biopics in recent times. And it won't be wrong to say that it was Neerja, a gut-wrenching biopic, that really made Sonam's acting chops shine in a career-defining performance. Sonam Kapoor is the unsung hero of brilliant biopics, and it's time we gave her due credit. The first time we see Sonam Kapoor in a biopic is in Bhaag Milkha Bhaag opposite Farhan Akhtar in 2013, where she plays the role of Bero, a fleeting but significant love interest for Milkha Singh, who essentially puts him on the path of honest earning. Sonam's role, though not very lengthy, is so beautifully essayed that it reminds anyone watching of the innocence of first love, all the promises that come with it, and how, oftentimes, they end up not being fulfilled. Sonam Kapoor is the unsung hero of brilliant biopics, and it's time we gave her due credit. Then comes Neerja, a film that well and truly showed what a champion Sonam Kapoor is at her craft, and why she deserves way more credit than she is given. Sonam stars in



and as Neerja, in a biopic about Neerja Bhanot, who thwarted a hijacking plan of the Pan Am Flight 73. The biopic is shown from Neerja's point of view, where she, at just 22, not only alerts the pilots to ground the plane but also dies while trying to get passengers out of the plane. Sonam Kapoor is the unsung hero of brilliant biopics, and it's time we gave her due credit. Sonam Kapoor brilliantly showcased the fear, inner dilemmas, and eventually inspiring bravery of Neerja, and this earned her a special mention at the 64th National Film Awards. Sonam Kapoor is the unsung hero of brilliant biopics, and it's time we gave her due credit. Then in the same year, 2018, we see

Sonam play small but integral parts in two of the most brilliantly done biopics in Bollywood, Sanju and Pad Man. While Sanju focuses on the rise, fall, and redemption of Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt, Pad Man follows the inspiring story of Arunachalam Muruganatham, who made it a mission to provide low-cost sanitary pads to women in rural India. Sonam Kapoor is the unsung hero of brilliant biopics, and it's time we gave her due credit. Sonam Kapoor is the unsung hero of brilliant biopics, and it's time we gave her due credit. These four biopics might as well be some of Sonam's best work. For years she has been sneakily dropping amazing performances, almost always, bar Neerja, going unnoticed, and it is time we give her fair share of appreciation for being the unsung hero of Bollywood biopics in recent times.

When Sushmita Sen Fainted During "Hectic" Miss Universe Shoot At The Taj Mahal



The International Press : Sushmita Sen, who was crowned Miss Universe in 1994, did an iconic photoshoot in front of the Taj Mahal the same year. Designer Ritu Kumar shared a video from the archives that features Sushmita Sen's aforementioned shoot. Ritu Kumar captioned the video, "Sushmita Sen's Miss Universe Photoshoot." Sharing more details about the video, the ace designer wrote, "In 1993, I struck a deal with the Miss India team to design clothes for the contestants. In 1994, Sushmita Sen won the Miss India title and went on to win the Miss Universe title in the US. This was a historic moment and one that I was delighted to be part of. As part of my deal with Miss India to create clothes for the contestants, I was tasked with creating her wardrobe as she toured the US and I started sending her suits made out of bandhani and

zardozi, kurta-pajamas and saris that were all received really well." Ritu Kumar described what happened before the shoot and how they later managed to ace the shoot with a pink saree that Sushmita wore. She also mentioned that Sushmita Sen fainted during the shoot. "When she landed in Delhi after the tour I got a frantic call to come to the Taj Palace. On reaching I learned that the team had scheduled a shoot outside the Taj Mahal the next day but the clothes they got sent were shorts and t-shirts - too skimpy to be worn outside a mausoleum! So, at night we opened up the store and located a pink sari and quickly altered a blouse. We also got hold of some other key pieces and within hours we were ready for the shoot. The shoot turned out to be hectic and poor Sushmita even fainted at one point but the images were worth our toils," read an excerpt from Ritu Kumar's post. The designer signed off the post with these words, "To date, I think of her in that pink sari wearing a crown and the UP Police personnel around us clapping with pride! These images were splashed all over the country's leading publications with credits to us and, more importantly, to the weavers."

Sports News

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Former Argentina World Cup winning coach Menotti dead at 85

Cesar Luis Menotti, who famously coached Argentina to their first World Cup triumph in 1978, has died at the age of 85, the country's football federation (AFA) announced Sunday.



Ex-skipper Elgar 'stabbed in the back' by Cricket South Africa

Former Test captain Dean Elgar described a toxic environment of politics and poor administration in South African cricket and said he felt he had been "stabbed in the back" when he was summarily axed from the leadership role last year.



Man City's Haaland is a 'spoilt brat', says Keane



The International Press : Manchester City striker Erling Haaland has been branded a "spoilt brat" by Roy Keane as the former Manchester United star stepped up his war of words with the Norwegian. Keane has been critical of Haaland on several occasions this season and he reignited their feud following City's 5-1 win against Wolves on Saturday. Haaland scored four times in the rout as City moved within one point of Premier League leaders

Arsenal with a game in hand. But the 23-year-old appeared frustrated when he was substituted by City boss Pep Guardiola in the closing stages at the Etihad Stadium. Guardiola later said Haaland was annoyed with the officiating in the match, but Keane was quick to lambast the striker. "I think we saw Haaland yesterday brought off not too happy, behaving like a spoilt brat," Keane told Sky Sports in his role as a pundit for Liverpool's

win against Tottenham on Sunday. "I don't really care that much about that man, so that's all right," Haaland said. Keane was infamously sent off for a brutal foul on Haaland's father Alfie, who was playing for Manchester City during a derby against United in 2001. Alfie made just a handful of appearances after that before having to retire aged just 30, although it was later claimed the injury from Keane's tackle was not the cause. Keane admitted in his

autobiography that his challenge was premeditated due to a prior grudge. After Keane was hurt in a tackle with Alfie, then playing for Leeds, in 1997, the Norwegian stood over him, apparently accusing his rival of feigning injury. But Keane had ruptured his cruciate ligament and he wrote in his book of their 2001 clash: "I'd waited long enough. I hit him hard. The ball was there (I think). Take that. And don't ever stand over me sneering about fake injuries."

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Former Argentina World Cup winning coach Menotti dead at 85



The International Press : Cesar Luis Menotti, who famously coached Argentina to their first World Cup triumph in 1978, has died at the age of 85, the country's football federation (AFA) announced Sunday. "The Argentine Football Association regrets to report with great sadness the death of Cesar Luis Menotti, former world champion coach of Argentina," the AFA said in a statement. The chain-smoking Menotti managed 11 clubs, some more than once, and two national teams in a coaching career that lasted 37 years.

But he will be best remembered for leading Argentina to the 1978 World Cup played on home soil at a time when the country was ruled by a repressive junta. In the final, Argentina defeated the Netherlands 3-1 after extra-time with flamboyant man of the tournament Mario Kempes scoring twice against a Dutch side shorn of Johan Cruyff, who had refused to play in the World Cup. Menotti opted not to pick 17-year-old phenomenon Diego Maradona, who had made his international debut the year before.

Ex-skipper Elgar 'stabbed in the back' by Cricket South Africa



The International Press : Former Test captain Dean Elgar described a toxic environment of politics and poor administration in South African cricket and said he felt he had been "stabbed in the back" when he was summarily axed from the leadership role last year. Elgar, 36, is now playing for English county Essex after retiring from international cricket. He said in a wide-ranging interview with the Rapport newspaper that he had held back from criticising his former employers before his contract with Cricket South Africa expired at the end of April. He said he was exposed to an unhealthy culture after he was appointed captain in March 2021. "I became a part-time cricketer and full-time politician, something that I never want to go through again. "I am a sportsman, not a politician or a cricket administrator, but I was thrown into a cauldron in which I had to be all three. If I had known that before, I would never have accepted the captaincy." He said the resignation of former captain Graeme Smith as director of cricket in March 2022 had put a heavy burden on him, coach Mark Boucher and the team management. Elgar said it was difficult to balance the interests of the team with those of CSA's management. "I tried to make the best of a bad job, to control the things I could control. But my own form took a dive." He said that with hindsight he wished he had been more selfish and focused more on his own game. - No recognition - It was a shock nevertheless when he was summoned to a meeting with director of cricket Enoch Nkwe and new coach Shukri Conrad in February last year and told that he had been replaced as captain by Temba Bavuma. "It felt as though they did not recognise all my hard work over the previous year-and-a-half, that they didn't realise how much we had improved as a team," said Elgar. "From being sixth or seventh in the world we became a team with the potential to play in the World Test championship final." Elgar led South Africa in 18 of his 86 Tests. They climbed the Test rankings with series wins against West Indies, India and Bangladesh before losing away series in England and Australia in his last two series in charge. Conrad was appointed as head coach of the Test team in January 2023 and appointing Bavuma was one of his first moves. According to Elgar, the only reason Conrad gave for the change was that he felt "better aligned" with Bavuma. Elgar said he had good relationships with his former teammates, including Bavuma, and played under the new captain in series against West Indies and India, captaining the side in his final Test against the latter team after Bavuma was injured. But he said he realised after the meeting with Nkwe and Conrad that he had to make a decision about his future. "Shukri Conrad is the reason why my Test career was cut short," said Elgar. He said he was enjoying the healthy cricket environment at Essex, where he has a three-year contract. "I think I don't fit into the South African situation as it is now and probably into the future," he said. Cricket South Africa has been approached for comment.

Sri Lanka, Scotland qualify for women's T20 World Cup



The International Press : Sri Lanka survived a scare against the United Arab Emirates on Sunday to secure the last place at this year's women's T20 World Cup, after Scotland also booked a spot at the tournament. In the second semi-final of the global qualifying event in Abu Dhabi, Sri Lanka posted 149-6 batting first, with Vishmi Gunaratne top-scoring with 45. Sri Lanka, seventh in the world T20I rankings, were in trouble for much of the UAE's chase, but the hosts fell away after the dismissal of captain Esha Oza for a 44-ball 66, finishing on 134-7 to lose by 15 runs. Chamari

Athapaththu's side will head into the World Cup, to be held in Bangladesh in October, with hopes of getting out of the group stage for the first time after a historic T20 series win over former world champions England last year. Earlier, 14th-ranked Scotland qualified for a maiden women's World Cup by cruising to an eight-wicket win over Ireland. Captain Kathryn Bryce took 4-8 from four overs as Ireland were restricted to just 110-9 batting first. "It's unbelievable, I feel like we've worked so hard for this for so long, and had our share of disappointments," Sarah Bryce, who was at the crease

with sister Kathryn when her team secured victory, told Cricket Scotland. "To finally get over the line, it makes me well up every time I start thinking about it, we're actually going to a World Cup." Bryce made a 29-ball 35 not out after Megan McColl's fifty, as Scotland chased down their target with 3.4 overs to spare. Scotland will meet Sri Lanka in Tuesday's qualifying final, with the winners to join holders Australia, India, New Zealand and Pakistan in Group A at the main event which runs from October 3-20. The qualifying runners-up will play Bangladesh, England, South Africa and the West Indies in Group B.

All-round Jadeja helps Chennai jump to third



The International Press : All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja starred with bat and ball as defending champions Chennai Super Kings thrashed Punjab Kings by 28 runs to boost their IPL play-off hopes. Left-hander Jadeja top-scored with 43 off 26 balls to guide Chennai to 167-9 after being invited to bat first in Punjab's adopted home ground of Dharamsala. Jadeja then returned figures of 3-20 from his four overs of left-arm spin to help restrict Punjab to 139-9 for Chennai's sixth win in 11 matches as they climbed to third in the table. The top four teams will make the play-offs with

the final on May 26 in Chennai. The performance from the veteran Jadeja comes as a welcome sign ahead of the T20 World Cup in June in the West Indies and the United States. Chennai suffered an early blow with Sri Lanka pace bowler Matheesha Pathirana set to return home due to a hamstring injury. Pathirana, called "Baby Malinga" for his slinging action modelled on former Sri Lanka quick Lasith Malinga, was Chennai's standout bowler and took 13 wickets in six matches. But medium-pace bowler Tushar Deshpande took on the responsibility in the absence of Pathirana

and injured Deepak Chahar as he struck twice in his first over and Punjab's second in the chase. Deshpande sent Jonny Bairstow, bowled for seven, and then Rilee Rossouw, bowled for a duck, trudging back to the pavilion in the space of four balls. Prabhsimran Singh, who made 30, and Shahshank Singh, who hit 27, attempted to rebuild in their stand of 53 but their departure triggered a collapse. Jadeja struck regular blows including skipper Sam Curran to rattle the middle-order and derail the opposition chase. Earlier Chennai suffered from a lack of

partnerships despite a second-wicket stand between skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad, who hit 32, and Daryl Mitchell, who struck 30. Jadeja took charge and with some help from the middle order as he took Chennai to a par total at the picturesque ground overlooking the Himalayas. But the Sunday crowd were left disappointed when veteran M.S. Dhoni was bowled for a first ball duck off a slower ball from Harshal Patel, who along with Rahul Chahal took three wickets each. Jadeja smashed three fours and two sixes before departing in the 20th over from left-arm quick Arshdeep Singh.