

REGION

2

THOSE WHO SOUGHT VOTES IN THE NAME OF PANTH, FAILED TO TALK ABOUT PUNJAB IN PARLIAMENT : CM MANN



Punjab Government committed to completing NHAI projects says Cabinet Minister Harbhajan Singh

CHANDIGARH: Cabinet Minister for Public Works and Power, Punjab, Harbhajan Singh, has stated that the Punjab Government is committed to completing the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) projects.



school students. On this occasion, MLA Dr. Amandeep Kaur Arora, MLA Amritpal Singh Sukhanand, MLA Manjeet Singh Bilaspur, MLA Davinderjit Singh Laddi Dhos, Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Saranag, and others were present.

Harbhajan Singh said that the Punjab Government's top priority is to bring reforms in the education sector. Emphasis is being laid on strengthening the basic infrastructure of education for the better future of the state.

CORPORATES & INDUSTRY

5

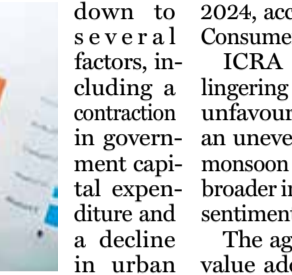
MSME INDUSTRIES WILL PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN DEVELOPED INDIA-2047 MISSION: FINMIN NIRMALA SITHARAMAN



ICRA Predicts Slower GDP Growth for India



NEW DELHI: India's economic growth is expected to decelerate to a six-quarter low in the first quarter of fiscal year 2025, according to a recent report by rating agency ICRA.



HONEY SINGH CELEBRATES RAKSHA BANDHAN IN BIRMINGHAM

CBI submits status report in SC in Kolkata doctor rape-murder case



KOLKATA: The CBI, on Thursday, submitted its status report to the Supreme Court on the progress of the investigation into the rape and murder of a woman doctor in state-run R.G Kar Medical College & Hospital in Kolkata.

Centre launches online National Medical Register to boost quality healthcare



NEW DELHI: In a bid to strengthen the digital healthcare ecosystem, the government on Friday launched National Medical Register (NMR) portal that will be a comprehensive and dynamic database for all allopathic (MBBS) registered doctors in the country.

Keeping holy scriptures of Guru Granth Sahib confiscated, big disrespect by Doha Police: Dharmi

AMRITSAR: The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) President Advocate Harjinder Singh Dharmi, taking strong notice of the confiscation of two holy scriptures of Guru Granth Sahib by the local police in Doha, Qatar, requested the External Affairs Minister (EAM) of India and the Indian Ambassador to Qatar to immediately intervene in this matter.



cated at the police station is a big disrespect, which cannot be tolerated. This matter was recently brought to the attention of the Jathedar Sri Akal Takht Sahib by United Kingdom based Sikh organization Bhai Kanhaiya Humanitarian Aid, who directed SGPC to

pursue this matter. In the light of the order by the Jathedar of Sri Akal Takht Sahib, the SGPC has also written letters to the External Affairs Minister of India and the Indian Ambassador in Doha, Qatar. Advocate Dharmi said that regarding this matter, it was brought to the notice of Bhai Kanhaiya Humanitarian Aid that a Sikh was arrested by Doha Police in Qatar in December 2023, who was later released, but two holy scriptures of Guru Granth Sahib taken from him are still kept in Al Wakara police station by Doha Police administration which is a

great disrespect to the Sikh Guru (master). He said that the Sikh who was arrested and later released in Doha, used to practice the Sikh faith privately along with local community members in the Gurdwara Sahib established in his private property at Birkat Al-Awamer without any public display, due to strict restrictions of Qatar Government on the non-Islamic faiths public worship, etc. Meanwhile, the holy scriptures of Guru Granth Sahib which were taken from his property and kept at Al Wakara Police Station in Doha, are still present there.

Anti-Sikh film Emergency should be banned immediately: Jathedar Akal Takht

FIR should be registered against Kangana Ranaut - Dharmi

JAGMOHAN SINGH Amritsar

Akal Takht the highest Sikh temporal seat Jathedar Gyani Raghbir Singh and the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) President Harjinder Singh Dharmi have demanded an immediate ban on the film 'Emergency', which portrays the character of Sikhs in a wrong way. They said that this film has been made by actress Kangana Ranaut, who remains in controversy due to her anti-Sikh and anti-Punjab expressions, with the intention of deliberately character assassinating Sikhs, which the Sikh community cannot tolerate.



Expressing strong objection, they said that it is clear from the released excerpts of the Emergency film that it has deliberately misrepresented the character of Sikhs as separatists, which is part of a deep conspiracy. They said that on the one hand, the release of the film 'Punjab '95', made on the life of human rights Sikh activist Bhai Jaswant Singh Khalra, was not approved even after 85 cuts, while this Emergency film presenting false facts about Sikh community has been given clearance immediately. He said these double standards are not in the interest of the country, so the government needs to seriously discuss this issue.

Dharmi said that there have been many such cases related to films in the past when Sikh sentiments have been hurt due to misrepresentation of Sikh characters and religious concerns of Sikhs. He demanded an immediate ban on the Emergency film of Kangana Ranaut from Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, and said that it should be ensured from now on that no film with anti-Sikh sentiments is released.

Congress and National Conference forge Pre-Poll Alliance for Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls

FW DESK

Congress and National Conference on Thursday announced their decision to form a pre-poll alliance in Jammu and Kashmir. The announcement followed after senior Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi met with National Conference (NC) president Dr. Farooq Abdullah and vice-president Omar Abdullah in Srinagar.



immensely without an elected government for years. We are committed to restoring statehood with all powers," Dr. Abdullah said after the meeting. Rahul Gandhi, speaking to party workers in Srinagar, reiterated the Congress party's commitment to restoring statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. He highlighted the importance of the upcoming election, the first since the abrogation of Article

370, in giving the people of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh their democratic rights back. Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge expressed confidence in the alliance's prospects, expecting the Congress to secure 40 to 45 seats in the elections. He assured the people of Jammu and Kashmir that the Congress would work to protect their land, forests, and other rights.

Doctor's Gang-Rape & Murder: Striking Doctors Steer Stir to Public Domain in next phase

JAGMOHAN SINGH Amritsar

Striking Doctors decided to steer their ongoing stir into public domain, in next phase with 'Lok-Raj' and 'Global Healers' Organisations (NGOs) calling for public protests by hoisting 'black flags' at all health hospitals, by holding joint 'doctors-public protests' at all health institutions, to take their struggle for 'security and justice' to logical conclusion.

Dr. Manjit Singh Randhawa, President of 'Global Healers' and 'Lok-Raj' organisation, while addressing the protesting doctors at Guru Nanak Hospital here today, assured to 'fight to finish' in public domain to establish 'Rule of Law' based on 'Truth and Justice.'

CBDT Chairman Announces Comprehensive Review of Income Tax Act, 1961

NEW DELHI: In a significant development for India's taxation landscape, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Chairman Ravi Agrawal has unveiled plans for a comprehensive review of the Income Tax Act, 1961.



tices is expected to enhance India's tax framework, bringing it in line with world standards and potentially making it more competitive on the global stage. The review process will also target the elimination of redundancies within the current Act. Outdated clauses and those that have reached their sunset will be removed, streamlining the law and making it more relevant to current economic realities. This pruning of obsolete elements is expected to significantly simplify

the Act for both tax authorities and taxpayers. Simplification for taxpayers is a central goal of this review. By making the law more concise and easier to understand, the CBDT hopes to reduce disputes and litigation, potentially leading to greater compliance and a smoother tax collection process. In a move to address immediate concerns, Agrawal has promised to deploy additional officers within the next 10-15 days to clear the substantial

backlog of pending appeals at the department level. This step aims to expedite the appeals process, providing quicker resolution to taxpayers' issues.

This comprehensive review aligns with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's announcement in the Budget 2024-25, where she called for an overhaul of the Income Tax Act.

The minister has set an ambitious six-month deadline for this task, emphasising the need for clarity and simplicity in tax communications to encourage compliance.

The Income Tax Act, which has been in effect since 1961 and contains 298 sections across 23 chapters, has long been criticized for its complexity.

This review represents a significant step towards modernising India's direct tax framework and potentially easing the burden on taxpayers.

PM greets nation on 1st National Space Day, lauds India's space scientists

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday greeted the nation on the maiden National Space Day to celebrate the achievements of Chandrayaan-3, which scripted history in 2023 by becoming the first to land on the South Pole of the Moon.

"Greetings to everyone on the first National Space Day," PM Modi said in a post on X.com. The Prime Minister also lauded the efforts of the nation's space scientists.

"We recall with great pride our nation's achievements in the space sector. It is also a day to laud the contributions of our space scientists," he said. PM Modi also said the government has taken several measures to boost the space sector.

"Our Government has taken a series of futuristic decisions



relating to this sector and we will do even more in the times to come," he said. Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft consisted of a propulsion module (weighing 2, 148 kg), a lander named Vikram (1, 723.89 kg), and a rover named Pragyan (26 kg). It landed near the South Pole of the Moon on August 23 after travelling about 3.84

lakh km for over 40 days. With Chandrayaan-3's success, India also became the fourth nation after the erstwhile USSR (now Russia), the US, and China to make a soft landing on the Moon. National Space Day is being celebrated nationwide, involving departments, ministries, educational institutions, science organisations, NGOs, and

the public. The theme for the first National Space Day is: "Touching Lives while Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga." On the occasion, ISRO Chairman Dr. S. Somnath said that besides commemorating the success of Chandrayaan-3, the day would also "outline future space initiatives during the Amritkal era".

Meanwhile, India is expected to send an Indian to Space by the second half of 2025 and also land the first Indian on the Moon by 2040. Gaganyaan -- India's first human spaceflight mission which got delayed due to Covid, is also expected to take flight next year. In addition, India is also aiming to send 'robot flights, where a female robot, Vayumitra, will be sent to space in 2025'.



Hydropower at the cost of sustainability?

As Kerala's Wayanad district slowly recovers from the devastation of last month's landslide, another landslide in Sikkim on August 20, 2024, has caused significant damage to six houses and a building of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation at the Teesta-5 hydropower station in Gangtok. While the absence of casualties in Sikkim offers some relief, the event raises alarms for a different reason: this is the second time in less than a year that a natural disaster has targeted a hydropower project along the Teesta River. The previous incident occurred last October, when a deluge from the South Lhonak glacier destroyed the Chungthang dam, crippling the Teesta-3 power station, once the largest hydroelectric project in Sikkim. The project, which originally supplied 1,200 MW, is now operating at a fraction of its capacity. The Teesta-5 project, producing 510 MW, has also been rendered non-functional since the glacial lake outburst. These events highlight the vulnerabilities of hydropower projects in the region. The allure of harnessing the Teesta River for energy has been strong, with plans dating back nearly three decades for 47 power projects across Sikkim and West Bengal. However, only five projects have materialized, and several others remain in limbo. The Teesta, a tributary of the Brahmaputra, flows through challenging terrain that poses significant risks to any infrastructure built along its course. Yet, the quest for profit has often overshadowed the need for robust environmental assessments and disaster-proof construction. In the case of Teesta-3, reports suggest that cost-cutting measures led to the construction of a concrete-faced rock fill dam instead of a more durable concrete gravity dam, contributing to its destruction. This underscores the urgent need for comprehensive environmental impact assessments that accurately account for the risks and costs associated with such projects. By doing so can we ensure that these projects are not only economically viable but also environmentally sustainable and resilient to the challenges posed by nature.

LETTERBOX
Readers' feedback adds value to the newspaper. Please email comments on reports, features and columns to fwletters@gmail.com. We will publish them on this page.

“
There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.
COLIN POWELL

THE FINANCIAL WORLD
RNI NO. CHAENG/2001/03736
PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY SWINDER BAJWA ON BEHALF OF FW MEDIA
PRINTED AT JAGJIT PUBLISHING CO. PVT LTD D-12, INDUSTRIAL AREA, PHASE-1, MOHALI, PUNJAB 160059
PRINTER & PUBLISHER SWINDER BAJWA
OWNER* : FW MEDIA
PUBLISHED AT: PLOT NO-F5, IT PARK, CHANDIGARH CHANDIGARH 160101; PHONE: 9888040061
EDITOR* ABDUL WASEY
(*RESPONSIBLE FOR SELECTION OF NEWS UNDER THE PRB ACT)



ANISH GAWANDE ON HOW MANIFESTOS BRING HOPE, BUT BUDGET ALLOCATIONS DASH IT

The budgetary disappointment

Following a “manifesto moment” in the lead-up to the 2024 general election where several major political parties pledged support for the LGBTQ+ community, the 2024 Union Budget has dashed the hopes of queer Indians yearning for recognition in national politics. A transformative overhaul of the government's approach towards LGBTQ+ rights was never expected — especially given the Solicitor General's vehement opposition to marriage equality before the Supreme Court of India last year. Yet, the mention of transgender rights in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s own manifesto had sparked a glimmer of hope for progress under a Modi 3.0 government. Instead, the LGBTQ+ community found itself reduced to a mere footnote in the Budget: the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's allocation for “Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons” under the Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) programme. This programme promises to fund Garima Grahas (shelter homes), scholarships, and the National Council for Transgender Persons.

Meagre funding
On paper, the budgetary outlay for transgender welfare increased from Rs 52.91 crore in FY24 to Rs 68.46 crore in FY25. But a closer look reveals a harsh reality: actual expenditure was a meagre Rs 22.82 crore in FY24. Nowhere is the impact of this discrepancy more starkly reflected than in the fact that most Garima Grahas have shut down over the past two years due to lack of funding, and the NCTP is barely functional. With just a meagre increase for this financial year, who will fulfil the guarantee



to build Garima Grahas, promised in the BJP's 2024 Sankalp Patra? SMILE is not the only victim of the government's apathy. Even more troubling is the reduction in funding for the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) from Rs 3,079.97 crore in FY24 to Rs 2,892.00 crore in FY25. NACO, tasked with both combating HIV/AIDS and preventing Sexually transmitted infections, plays a crucial role in public health. Despite decades of progress, India still faces one of the largest HIV epidemics in the world, with LGBTQ+ Indians at a higher risk of contracting the virus and facing distinct psychosocial challenges. Today, over 2.4 million people in India live with HIV. Of those, almost 900,000 are not linked to treatment—and more than half a million are unaware they are even infected. The last credible study by NACO in 2003 estimated that 6% of India's adult population was infected with STIs. The more recent National Family Health Survey (2019–21) highlighted that 23.3% of sexually active

Political support helps
I hope that Members of Parliament from the Opposition parties, including my own party (the Nationalist Congress Party), which raised the demands of the LGBTQ+ community in their election manifestos, stand up for the rights of LGBTQ+ Indians in Parliament. I also hope — perhaps naively — that those in the government who got transgender rights included in the BJP's manifesto in the first place realise their missteps and work towards a shared vision of an inclusive future. For too long, queer Indians have relied upon courts as guarantors of rights. As we navigate new political paradigms, it is important for the queer movement to build upon an impressive history of active political engagement — one that saw the Namdeo Dhasal march, in 1988, with trans women and sex workers from Kamathipura to the then Chief Minister Sharad Pawar's residence to demand protection from moneylenders and Shabnam Mausi being elected elected as India's first transgender MLA from Sohagpur in Madhya Pradesh in 1998. Recent successes, such as the establishment of the transgender welfare board in Maharashtra in 2020 and the drafting of Tamil Nadu's LGBTQ+ policy in 2024, indicate that judicial progress results in executive action only when sustained by civil society pressure. We must take this lesson to heart, working not only with the Centre but also States and local bodies to ensure that rights recognised on paper are effectively implemented in practice.

Anish Gawande is National Spokesperson, Nationalist Congress Party (Sharadchandra Pawar) and Founder, Pink List India. Views are personal.



PRABHASH RANJAN EXPLAINS HOW JOINT INTERPRETATIVE NOTES DILUTE INVESTMENT PROTECTION

Protecting Indian capital in Bangladesh

The dramatic developments in Bangladesh that led to the resignation and fleeing of its former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina have created a political vacuum and, thus, uncertainty in India's eastern neighbour. Besides the political and diplomatic fallout of this crisis for India, another significant aspect is how this will impact Indian companies operating in Bangladesh. Indian companies have invested in Bangladesh in sectors such as edible oil, power, infrastructure, fast-moving consumer goods, automobiles, and pharmaceuticals. Despite political opposition, the Sheikh Hasina government rolled out the red carpet for Indian investors and adopted several measures to invite them, such as starting designated special economic zones. Unhappy with India's alleged support of Ms. Hasina's regime, her opponents launched an “India out” boycott movement targeting Indian goods. Since Ms. Hasina is no longer in power, the interim or the new government may adopt a hostile attitude towards Indian companies. It might change the existing laws or adopt new regulatory measures that may adversely impact Indian capital. What options do Indian businesses have in such an eventuality?



and general legal principles that have attained the status of international law. The Indian companies that have invested in Bangladesh can use the first two legal frameworks to protect their investments from regulatory risks. For instance, Indian companies can rely on Bangladesh's Foreign Private Investment (Promotion and Protection) Act. However, there are limitations to relying on the domestic law of the host state because it can be changed unilaterally by the state to the investor's detriment at any time. Likewise, contracts may be of limited value when it comes to challenging the sovereign actions of the state that adversely affect foreign investment. Therefore, the third legal framework, international law, assumes importance.

Legal protection for Indian investors
As Jeswald Salacuse argues, three basic legal frameworks broadly apply to foreign investment. First, the domestic laws of the country where the investment is made. Second, contracts may have been signed between the foreign investor and the government of the host state, or among foreign investors and companies of the host state. Third, the international law contained in applicable treaties, customs,

The India-Bangladesh BIT
International law cannot be changed unilaterally and can be used to hold states accountable for their sovereign actions. When protecting foreign investment, the most crucial instrument in international

law is a bilateral investment treaty (BIT). A BIT is a treaty between two countries aimed at protecting investments made by investors of both countries. BITs protect investments by imposing conditions on the regulatory behaviour of the host state, thus preventing undue interference with the foreign investor's rights. These conditions include restricting host states from unlawfully expropriating investments, imposing obligations on host states to accord fair and equitable treatment (FET) to foreign investment and not to discriminate against foreign investment. BITs also empower foreign investors to directly sue the host state before an international tribunal if the investor believes that the host state has breached its treaty obligations. This is known as investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS). According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), by the end of 2023, the total number of known ISDS claims that have been brought stands at 1,332. In case of adverse sovereign regulation, Indian companies can rely on the India-Bangladesh BIT signed in 2009. While India has unilaterally terminated almost all its BITs, the one with Bangladesh continues to exist. The India-Bangladesh BIT contains broad substantive investment protection features, such as an unqualified FET provision that can come in handy for Indian companies challenging Bangladeshi sovereign regulatory conduct. However, the twist in the tale is the Joint Interpretative Notes (JIN) that India and Bangladesh adopted in 2017 to clarify the meaning of various terms in the 2009 treaty. This JIN, now a part of the BIT, was adopted at India's insistence. As part of overhauling its investment

treaty practice to safeguard its regulatory power, India proposed such JINs to several countries. This was done without considering whether India has an offensive or defensive interest vis-à-vis a specific country. This JIN has diluted the investment protection features of the BIT. For instance, taxation measures are excluded from the ambit of the BIT. Likewise, the FET provision is linked to customary international law that would require a higher threshold to show a violation of the treaty. The JIN has been designed from the perspective of the capital-importing country to safeguard its regulatory conduct from ISDS claims. Between India and Bangladesh, New Delhi is the capital exporter, and Dhaka is the importer. Ironically, the JIN that India developed might work to the advantage of Bangladesh, and not the Indian capital operating there.

The larger question
While Bangladesh provides the immediate reference point, the issue is not restricted to India's eastern neighbour. India's outbound investments have grown manifold. According to UNCTAD, outward foreign direct investment from India in 2023 stood at about \$13.5 billion. India is among the top 20 capital-exporting countries. Thus, the issue of legal protection for Indian companies abroad assumes salience. India should, therefore, evolve its investment treaty practice, keeping both its host and home status in mind and not just the former.

Prabhansh Ranjan is a Professor at the Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University. Views are personal.

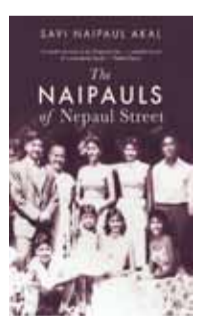
BOOKS: REVIEW

New book reveals untold stories of Naipaul family

The Naipauls of Nepal Street by Savi Naipaul Akal is an intimate and poignant family memoir that delves deep into the lives, struggles, and triumphs of one of the most celebrated literary families of the 20th century. While the spotlight inevitably falls on V.S. 'Vidia' Naipaul, the Nobel Prize-winning author, this memoir provides a broader view of the Naipaul family, capturing the dynamics, aspirations, and complexities that shaped not only Vidia but all seven children of Seepersad and Droopatie Naipaul. The book's title is both literal and symbolic, referencing the family's home at 26 Nepal Street in Trinidad, which served as the anchor for the Naipauls' lives. This home, like the family itself, was marked by ambition, struggle, and resilience. Seepersad Naipaul, the patriarch, was the first in his family to change the surname

from 'Nepal' to 'Naipaul,' signaling a departure from the past and a determination to forge a new identity. His influence looms large in the memoir, as he instilled in his children the importance of education and the pursuit of one's true self. The emphasis on academic achievement was a cornerstone of the Naipaul household, with examinations carrying an almost sacred significance, as Savi Naipaul Akal recalls. Vidia Naipaul's early departure to Oxford University on an “island scholarship” in 1950 marked the beginning of a literary career that would catapult him to global recognition. However, the memoir is careful not to solely focus on Vidia's achievements. Savi's narrative sheds light on the collective efforts of the Naipaul siblings to support one another, financially and emotionally, as they pursued their education and careers. Kamla, the eldest sister,

was the first to leave for higher education, securing a scholarship to study at Banaras Hindu University in India. Savi herself would also venture abroad for studies, eventually becoming a teacher. The memoir's strength lies in its balanced portrayal of the Naipaul family. While Vidia and his younger brother Shiva, who also became a writer of note, are central figures, Savi ensures that the lesser-known members of the family are not overshadowed. The relationships among the siblings are portrayed with honesty, highlighting both the supportive and strained dynamics. Shiva, who was deeply cherished by his sisters, had a complicated relationship with Vidia, a tension that is explored with sensitivity and nuance. At the heart of The Naipauls of Nepal Street is Droopatie Naipaul, the matriarch, whose



The Naipauls of Nepal Street
By Savi Naipaul Akal
Speaking Tiger, 212 pages, Rs 499.

life unfolded in tandem with her marriage to Seepersad and the subsequent achievements of her children. Savi's depiction of her mother is one of quiet strength and adaptability. As her children flourished, Droopatie began to carve out her own space in the world, traveling and developing her own routines. The memoir vividly brings to life her personality and the central role she played in the family's cohesion. Savi Naipaul Akal's writing is marked by warmth, wisdom, and candor. She navigates the delicate task of chronicling her family's history with a steady hand, acknowledging the political attitudes, small joys, and hurtful slights that shaped their lives. Importantly, Savi does not shy away from addressing the more controversial aspects of Vidia's life, including the revelations in Patrick French's biography. Her ability to convey these complexities without privileging any one perspective is a testament to her skills as a writer and chronicler. The memoir is not just a recounting of the Naipaul family's past; it is also a social history that reflects the broader context of colonial Trinidad, the challenges of migration, and the pursuit of education as a means of upward mobility. Savi's late emergence as a writer in a family of renowned authors adds another layer to the narrative, as she brings her own voice and perspective to the Naipaul legacy. In The Naipauls of Nepal Street, Savi Naipaul Akal has crafted a memoir that is both a tribute to her family and a reflection on the forces that shaped their lives. It is a deeply moving account that resonates with warmth, honesty, and an open heart, offering readers a fuller understanding of the Naipaul family and the remarkable, if complicated, life of V.S. Naipaul.



Honey Singh celebrates Raksha Bandhan in Birmingham

MUMBAI: Singer and rapper Yo Yo Honey Singh has celebrated the festival of Raksha Bandhan with his nieces in Birmingham, England.

Taking to Instagram, Honey, who has 14 million followers on the photo sharing application, dropped a string of photos, in which we can see him wearing a black kurta, matching leather jacket and black ripped denim jeans.

He has rounded off the look with pink tinted sunglasses and is flaunting his salt and pepper hairstyle.

The snap shows his nieces tying him a rakhi on the wrist, and offering him to eat sweets.

The post is captioned as: "Celebrating Rakhi in Birmingham with my Nieces

#daughters". Raksha Bandhan will be celebrated on August 19 in India. On this day, sisters tie a rakhi around the wrists of their brothers.

Meanwhile, Honey is all geared up for the release of his homegrown international album titled 'Glory'. The electrifying album 'Glory' is set to revolutionise the music industry and set the music scene ablaze with tracks that are destined to become anthems for the youth.

Packed with 18 genre-bending tracks, from heart-pounding hip hop to fire-spitting rap, 'Glory' is set to rock international charts with its ultimate mix of sounds and multilingual vibes.



Farmers shout slogans during a protest to demand minimum crop prices, before departing for the Haryana-Punjab state border in Shambhu, from a railway station in Amritsar on Tuesday. PHOTO-PRABHJOT GILL

SONAM KAPOOR flaunts her 'minimal, bold and effortlessly on point' look



MUMBAI: Bollywood actress and fashionista Sonam Kapoor brought out her A-game in fashion, where she flaunted "minimal, bold and effortlessly on point" look.

The actress took to Instagram, where she shared a string of pictures. In the pictures, she is seen wearing a powder pink shirt, paired with a blazer and long skirt. She completed her look with sunglasses.

"Celebrating @perniac season 2 podcast drop with that sleek @phoebephilo energy—minimal, bold, and effortlessly on point. Shout-out to the squad for keeping the vibe," she wrote and also mentioned that she is styled by her sister Rhea Kapoor.

Recently, Sonam shared several glimpses from her son Vayu's vintage car themed cake as he turned two on August 20.

Sonam took to Instagram, where she shared a reel of the two-tier toddler friendly, refined sugar free chocolate cake. It featured a vintage ice blue car atop of the cake with the number 2 written on it.

The actress had also penned a heart-felt note for her son Vayu.

"My baby turns two today!!! Happy 2nd Birthday to our sweet, precious Vayu! W Being your mom is the greatest gift I could ever receive. You've filled our lives with so much joy, laughter, and wonder," Sonam said.

The actress shared that with her son, everyday is an adventure filled with "your boundless curiosity, your infectious laughter, and your sweet, loving nature."

"You've brought so much light and happiness into our world, making every moment more beautiful and every relationship stronger. You've deepened the love between your dadaa and me in ways we never imagined, and you've brought pure, unfiltered joy to everyone who loves you-your nani and nana, dadi and baba, kaaa masa, Masi and chachu," she said.

Yo Yo Honey Singh declares himself a true 'Lahori', take a look inside



MUMBAI: Rapper Yo Yo Honey Singh, who is known for 'Blue Eyes', 'Angrezi Beat', 'Brown Rang' and others, has said that he is a true Lahori when it comes to food choices.

The rapper recently took to the Stories section of his Instagram, and shared a picture of his culinary indulgence, the kheer.

He wrote on the picture, "Heer nahi toh kheer sahi. I'm a true Lahori when it comes to food".

Yo Yo Honey Singh hails from Hoshiarpur in Punjab which is 150 kms away from Lahore in Pakistan. The two cities on either sides of the border share similar culinary history.

The rapper, who predominantly raps in Punjabi, started his career in 2003, and broke out on the scene 2011 with his songs like 'Angrezi Beat', 'Brown Rang', 'Dope Shope' and others.

He made his foray into Bollywood in 2012 with the Deepika Padukone and Saif Ali Khan-starrer 'Cocktail' in which his track 'Angrezi Beat' was reused.

Sonakshi Sinha shares loved up glimpse of her 'heart and home'

MUMBAI: Bollywood actress Sonakshi Sinha has shared a sneak-peek from her holiday in New York with her husband Zaheer Khan, whom she referred to as her "heart and home."

Sonakshi took to Instagram, where she posted a handful of romantic pictures featuring her and Zaheer. The first image has her husband holding her. The second image has the two enjoying some wine at a tasting. In the third photograph, Zaheer can be seen giving a soft kiss to his wife.

"Home is where the heart is... and wherever in the world... my heart is with my home - @iamzahero," she wrote as the



caption. This is not the first time Sonakshi has expressed love to Zaheer. Earlier this week, the actress took to her Instagram stories, where she shared

a picture of a dessert which had "I love you more than ice cream" written on it.

The description read: "Everyone needs a cutie like you to laugh with, cuddle upto, and make really bad decisions with. We're like a tiny (but mighty) little gang. If you haven't noticed already, I think you're pretty cool. Honey, honestly, you complete me x."

"Tagging her husband in the picture, she wrote: "Its true."

Sonakshi got married to her longtime beau Zaheer in a civil ceremony on June 23. They had their families and close friends around them during their intimate wedding.

Star cricketer Yuvraj Singh's biopic to celebrate his career and resilience



MUMBAI: Former Indian cricketer and the hero of the ICC 2011 World Cup, Yuvraj Singh is getting a biopic. The yet-to-be-titled film promises to be a grand celebration of his journey and contributions to cricket including the unforgettable streak of 6 sixes in 2007 T20 World Cup, and his stunning performance in the 2011 World Cup owing to which India lifted the trophy after 28 years.

The cricketer's journey extends beyond his cricketing achievements. In 2011, Yuvraj Singh was diagnosed with cancer but he continued to play for his nation in the World Cup, and was declared player of the tournament for his stellar performance. His courageous battle and subsequent return to cricket in 2012 demonstrated remarkable resilience and inspired millions globally.

Since his international debut in 2000, Yuvraj Singh has left an indelible mark on cricket. He won fans over with his aggressive left-handed batting and electrifying fielding. Talking about the film, Yuvraj said, "I am deeply honoured that my story will be showcased to millions of my fans across the globe by Bhushan ji & Ravi. Cricket has been my greatest love and source of strength through all the highs and lows. I hope this film inspires others to overcome their own challenges and pursue their dreams with unwavering passion".

Bhushan Kumar said, "Yuvraj Singh's life is a compelling narrative of resilience, triumph, and passion. His journey from a promising cricketer to a cricketer hero, and then to a hero in real life, is truly inspiring. I am thrilled to bring a story that needs to be told and heard through the big screen and to celebrate his extraordinary achievements".

This marks the second time Ravi is bringing a cricketer's story to the big screen. Reflecting on his connection with Yuvraj Singh, Ravi shared, "Yuvraj has been a dear friend for many years. I'm honoured that he trusted us to translate his incredible cricketing journey into a cinematic experience. Yuvraj is not just a world champion but a true legend in every sense of the word".

The yet-to-be-titled film is bankrolled by Bhushan Kumar and Ravi Bhagchandka, who is known for 'Sachin: A Billion Dreams' and 'Sitaare Zameen Par'.

When Salman gave his co-star Bhumika Chawala valuable tips about industry

MUMBAI: A video of actress Bhumika Chawala, who was last seen in the Hindi movie 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan', has resurfaced in which she was seen sharing her experience of shooting with Bollywood superstar Salman Khan for 'Tere Naam'.



The archival video shared by Lehren, shows the actress talking about her trajectory, and how she had worked in Tamil and Telugu films before making her foray into the Hindi cinema.

da long back in ad films. Satish ji (Satish Kaushik) saw my film 'Khushi' and my performance and they got in touch with me and asked if you would like to work in 'Tere Naam' and I said of course, and it all just happened so organically and rest

She says, "Before 'Tere Naam', I had already done a few south projects in Tamil and Telugu. I have worked with producer Mr. Sunil Manchanda

you know is a history". "Tere Naam" is a remake of the Tamil film 'Sethu'. The film was based on a real-life incident of a guy, who fell in love, lost his mind, and ended up at a mental asylum. Salman's portrayal of Radhe Bhaiyya in the

Manushi Chhillar ends her 'many moods' with her 'favourite food'



MUMBAI: Actress Manushi Chhillar has shared her many moods and how she ended it with her 'favourite food', bhel-puri, a delicacy from Mumbai.

Vijay Krishna Acharya. After taking a break for two years, she was then seen as a wing commander in the Hindi-Telugu bilingual action drama movie "Operation Valentine", opposite Varun Tej.

Manushi took to Instagram, where she shared a string of mirror selfies of herself sitting in her vanity van. She ended it with a picture having bhel-puri and posing for the camera.

"Operation Valentine" was based on the 2019 Pulwama Attack and the retaliatory Balakot Air Strikes, was directed by Shakti Pratap Singh Hada.

"Fake bruise, many moods and ending it with my fav food," she wrote.

She was recently seen in Ali Abbas Zafar's science fiction action film "Bade Miyan Chote Miyan" starring Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff, Prithviraj Sukumaran, Manushi, Alaya F, and Sonakshi Sinha. The film is co-produced by Jacky Bhagnani, Vashu Bhagnani, Deepshikha Deshmukh, and Himanshu Kishan Mehra under Pooja Entertainment and AAZ Films.

A former beauty queen, Manushi, who hails from Haryana was crowned with the Miss World 2017 title, 17 years after Indian actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas was feted with the honour. She made her debut in Hindi cinema in 2022 with Akshay Kumar-starrer historical drama "Samrat Prithviraj", directed by Chandraprakash Dwivedi. It told the story of the life of Prithviraj Chauhan, a king from the Chahaman dynasty.

Coming up next for Manushi is set to appear in the action thriller "Tehran", directed by Arun Gopalan and produced by Dinesh Vijan. She will be seen starring opposite action star John Abraham in the geopolitical film.



Doctors and medical students hold placards shout slogans as they protest against the rape and murder of a doctor in West Bengal, at the Guru Nanak Dev hospital in Amritsar on Tuesday. PHOTO : PRABHJOT GILL

A. R. Rahman unveils soundtrack of his musical film 'Le Musk'



MUMBAI: The Oscar-winning composer A. R. Rahman has released the soundtrack of the movie 'Le Musk'. The soundtrack consists of 12 tracks, and features a blend of ethereal compositions. The OST of the film features a fusion of Jazz, Orchestra and eclectic elements.

The film was earlier presented at Cannes XR, following experiences at Los Angeles and Toronto. The tracks echo the film's story of love, memory, and sensory exploration, and the album promises to be a one-of-a-kind listening experience for both long-time Rahman fans and newcomers.

He further mentioned, "I am thrilled to finally share this soundtrack with the world and offer a glimpse into the world we've created".

The 12 track album features collaborations with artists such as Nora Arnezeder, Sana Moussa, Linda Lind, Mayssa Karara, Hiral Viradia, Simona Gilbert, The Firdaus orchestra and the Budapest Orchestra, the soundtrack of Le Musk also marks the association with the award-winning music engineer Greg penny. The film's soundtrack has been released under the label of Believe Music. Rahman recent album 'Amar Singh Chamkila' too was a huge hit in which he collaborated with Imtiaz Ali, Irshad Kamil and Mohit Chauhan, they're often referred as the dream team given their earlier successes like 'Rockstar' and 'Tamasha'.

A complete **KNOWLEDGE CAPSULE**

Since 2001

The **FINANCIAL WORLD**
Read & Lead

A weekly Newspaper from Chandigarh & Delhi

For more stories & E-paper log on
www.thefinancialworld.com
<https://thefinancialworld.com/hindi>

FOLLOW US SUBSCRIBE

@thefinancialworld @FWMedia_Tweets fw.thefinancialworld FW News