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WINDOWS



Dozens of skaters took to the frozen surface of Amsterdam's historic Prinsengracht canal at Amsterdam in Netherlands as the deep freeze gripping Europe briefly made it possible to skate on a small section of the canal for the first time since 2018. People skated and walked on a small stretch of ice between two bridges close to the landmark Westerkerk before growing cracks in the ice forced all but the most daring off the ice

19 more Covid vaccines in pipeline

NEW DELHI: Nearly 19 coronavirus vaccine candidates are in different clinical trial stages and may be available in the coming months, Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said on Monday. Addressing the media, Vardhan said that in the next 2-3 weeks, vaccination against Covid-19 will be started for people above 50 years of age. "About 18-19 vaccine candidates against Covid-19 are in the pipeline and are in preclinical, clinical and advanced stages. We are hopeful that we will be able to offer newer vaccines to India in the coming months," Vardhan said.

NTPC to pay ₹20 lakh to kin of Tapovan victims

JOSHIMATH: State-run power giant NTPC on Monday said it would pay a compensation of Rs 20 lakh each to the families of labourers who died in the recent flash flood at its Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project in Uttarakhand. A workforce has been set up at the plant to coordinate with the administration and gather all required information about every missing worker, NTPC's spokesman RP Jayada said. He said rescue work is underway on a war-footing at Tapovan-Vishnugad project site by multiple agencies to reach people believed to be trapped inside the tunnel. Real-time information is being shared with the agencies involved in the exercise to expedite it, Jayada said.

BUSINESS



Centre may put 4 banks on sale

P6

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



SC slaps notice on WhatsApp, FB

WhatsApp may be worth \$2-3 tn, people value privacy more, says the apex court

NEW DELHI

THE Supreme Court issued notices to popular social media platforms WhatsApp and Facebook on a plea against its new privacy policy here on Monday. The apex court said people had grave apprehensions on loss of privacy, making it clear that it was the court's duty to protect this right as it heard an application against WhatsApp's new privacy policy.

The observation came as senior advocate Shyam Divan, representing petitioner Karmanya Singh Sareen, sought direction to restrain WhatsApp from implementing its new privacy policy in



India. "They have come up with new differentiating privacy policy for the Europeans and different set of rules applicable to Indians," Divan argued. He added that till the time new data protection law came into force in India, WhatsApp should not bring its new privacy policy.

At this, Chief Justice SA Bobde replied, "We will issue notice in the matter."

A bench, headed by the Chief Justice and comprising Justices AS Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, told the counsel for WhatsApp, "People have grave apprehensions about loss of privacy."

You may be 2 or 3 trillion-dollar company, but people value their privacy more than your money. We have to protect people's privacy." Senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Arvind Datar, appearing for WhatsApp, strongly contested Divan's argument, saying that the Delhi High Court is already seized of the matter. Sibal said that Europe had a different set of data privacy laws, and WhatsApp's new privacy policy for India is similar to policy applicable in the US, Australia and other countries. "The fact is that this policy was applicable to the rest of the world except Europe."

Continued on Page 7

Centre releases GST compensation of ₹2,167 cr to AP



HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Finance Ministry on Monday released 16th weekly instalment of Rs 5,000 crore to the States to meet the GST compensation shortfall, taking the total amount released so far to Rs 95,000 crore.

Till now, 86 per cent of the total estimated GST compensation shortfall has been released to the States and Union Territories (UTs) with legislative assembly.

Further, additional borrowing permission of over

Rs 1.06 lakh crore was granted to the States. As part of that amount raised through special window passed on to Andhra Pradesh is Rs 2,167.20 crore and Rs 1,703.56 for Telangana.

The Centre set up a special borrowing window in October 2020 to meet the estimated shortfall of Rs1.10-lakh crore in revenue due to GST implementation. The borrowings are being done through this window by the Centre on behalf of the States and Union Territories.

RACHABANDA LIKELY FROM UGADI

HANS NEWS SERVICE AMARAVATI

WITH the positive response from people towards YSRCP government during the present panchayat polls and successful implementation of welfare schemes announced under Navaratala programme of YSRCP election manifesto, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy is likely to organise Rachabanda programmes in the State soon.

Though there is no official confirmation, speculations are rife that the programme would be launched from Ugadi. Chief Minister is said to be keen to start the programme which is aimed at getting direct feedback from people about the implementation of welfare programmes. Sources say that by Ugadi, the local body elections will also be over and hence Ugadi could be the best and auspicious date to launch the programme.

India to test 160-km strike range Astra missile soon

AJIT K DUBEY NEW DELHI

IN a step that would establish its superiority in air combat over China and Pakistan, India would start testing the Astra Mark 2 beyond visual range air-to-air missile, which would be capable of taking down enemy aircraft from a range of 160 kilometres.

The extended range Astra Mark 2 would give India an edge over its adversaries and



would add more lethality to its fighter jets in aerial combat, like the one which happened a day after the Balakot airstrikes on February 26, 2019.

"The trial for the Astra Mark would be starting in the second half of this year and we are hoping to see the missile fully developed by 2022," government officials said.

The next-generation missile is expected to be operational by the next year-end,

former Central Air Commander Air Marshal SBP Sinha (Retd) said.

The retired officer has been associated with the Astra missile programme for a long time now.

The Astra is a beyond visual range air-to-air missile (BVRAAM), which flies over

four times the speed of sound at Mach 4.5. Efforts are now on to integrate the over 100-km strike range missile on the indigenous fighter aircraft LCA Tejas.

The all-weather day and night capable Astra, which currently has a strike range of around 100 km, will eventually replace the expensive Russian, French and Israeli BVRAAMs that are currently imported to arm IAF fighters.

The Indian Air Force and Indian navy have already given orders for 288 Astra Mark-1 Missiles which are already "proven" on the Russian-origin Sukhoi-30MKI fighters. (ANI)

PM to address experts for effective implementation of budget

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will address a webinar on Tuesday for consultation on the roadmap for effective implementation of the Union Budget 2021-22 in the infrastructure sector. The webinar will see

the participation of more than 200 panelists, including representatives of major financial institutions and funds, concessionaires and contractors, consultants and subject matter experts, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

Continued on Page 7

Govt eases curbs on geospatial data for map-making

NEW DELHI

IN sweeping changes in the country's mapping policy, the government on Monday announced liberalisation of norms governing the acquisition and production of geospatial data, a move that will help in boosting innovation in the sector and create a level-playing field for public and private entities.

Under the new guidelines, the sector will be deregulated and aspects such as prior approvals for surveying, mapping and for building applications based on that have been done away with, Department of Science and Technology Secretary Ashutosh Sharma said. For Indian entities, there will be complete deregulation with no prior approvals, security clearances, licenses, for acquisition and production of geospatial data and geospatial data services, including

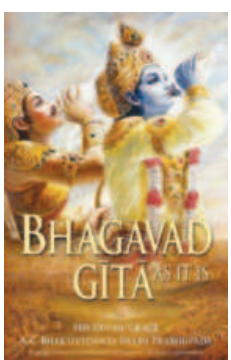
maps, he said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the liberalisation of policies governing the acquisition and production of geospatial data is a "massive step in government's vision for an Aatmanirbhar Bharat". The reform will benefit the country's farmers, start-ups, private sector, public sector and research institutions to drive innovations and build scalable solutions, he said.

Continued on Page 7

Nanosatellite to carry Bhagavad Gita, PM Modi's photograph into space

NEW DELHI

A nanosatellite is all set to take a photograph of PM Narendra Modi and a copy of religious book, the Bhagavad Gita to space. In addition to these, names of 25,000 individuals were also carried by the Satish Dhawan Satellite (SD SAT) that is due of be launched by the end of this month from the space centre at Sriharikota. The nanosatellite has been developed by a private firm



SpaceKidz, reported a national daily. "We have also added the



name and photograph of the prime minister on the top panel with the words

Atmanirbhar mission. This satellite has been completely developed and fabricated in India, including the electronics and circuitry," Dr Srimathy Kesan, founder and CEO of SpaceKidz India revealed to the daily Hindustan Times. The names of Dr K Sivan, Chairperson ISRO and Dr R Umamaheswaran, ISRO's Scientific Secretary have also been etched at the bottom panel of the nanosatellite.

Continued on Page 7

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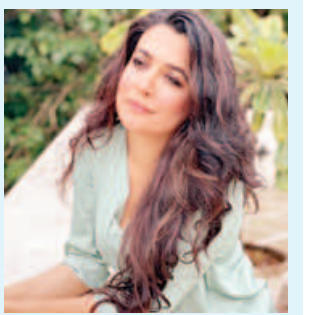
Womensia

TWEET PATROL



MINI MATHUR
@MINIMATHUR

If young people are not always right, the society which ignores and knocks them is always wrong”



Does fashion ignore the 40-plus woman?

SUJATA ASSOMULL

I am 47-years-old and have worked in fashion for over 25 years; earning every smile line on my face and those extra few kilos around my mid area. Unfortunately, the industry I work in writes off every woman over the age of 45. Of course, we all know the reason, it's because fashion sees the youth as the future of the industry, it is where the growth is. But what about the now?

A recent study by the International Longevity Centre (ILC) found that those over the age of 50-years account for over 50 per cent of the spending in fashion — the fact is mature women have more purchasing power and today are also in better shape than ever — they become an easy target for fashion. Yet they are ignored. Brands are so occupied with pleasing millennials and Gen Z-ers, they forget to make styles that work for today's 40 plus woman.

It is only in your 40s when you really understand what your personal style is. You definitely make less fashion faux pas than you did in your 20's, but you still want some style inspiration. I keep reading articles on how "Fifty is the new Thirty" in fashion glossies — yet when it comes cover girls, women over 40 only tend to be chosen for the "Ageless" or "Fab at Every Age" cover. This at a time when inclusivity is one of hottest fashion talking points.

Luckily, there are a handful of real women in this age group who have great taste, I suggest you follow them on Instagram — they have style, substance and just the right amount of sass.

Anaita Shroff Adajania

The 40-something fashion powerhouse is the name behind some of Bollywood's red carpet most glamorous moments and fashion magazine's glossiest covers (Anaita has styled everyone from Aishwarya Rai to Alia Bhatt); though her own sense of style is comfortable, carefree yet always chic; she can go from a handloom sari, a Dior gown to a Savio Jon kurta while always injecting her special blend of boho-chic into the look. The launch fashion director of Vogue India, this celebrity stylist still rocks a bikini better than most swimsuit cover girls. Anaita was recently part of a Gucci social media campaign for its iconic Jackie 1961 bag and added her own unique cool girl vibe to her Instagram video for the Italian fashion house.

Trinny Woodall

I grew up watching "What Not to Wear" the BBC make-over show featuring Trinny Woodall and Susannah Constantine — women who

always said it as it is. Today Trinny runs her own successful make-up company, Trinny London, (and I suggest every woman over 30 use her Miracle Blur — it smooths the face and blurs those lines in an instant). Trinny's personal Instagram handle is the one to follow though, a digital closet confidential. From shopping to styling tips this 50-something likes to have fun with her fashion. Honest about the aging process, she enjoys dressing up and her flamboyant (yet mainly high street) outfit of the day choices will always surprise you.

Roohi Oomerbhoy Jaikishan: The executive director of an Indian FMCG company, RR Oomerbhoy has a maximalist take on fashion. A true style maven — she is an art collector, a clotheshorse and a host-ess with the

mostess. While food has become the mainstay of her Instagram account, she shares recipes from some of her fashionable friends around the world, it is served with a side of fantastical fashion. From timeless saris by her mother-in-law, veteran fashion designer, Pallavi Jaikishan to Erdem floral dresses Roohi adds her own sense of eclectic charm to her ensembles. A permanent fixture on best dressed lists, her fashion super-power is the way she plays with fun and statement making accessories. It is never about fashion diktats for Roohi but about her own personal take on style.



Anaita Shroff Adajania in La Fourti

Better that breakfast

NEWS ROUNDUP Begin your morning with a nice bowl of fruit, porridge or granola and yogurt, and you can feel brilliant in no time! Not only are these foods tasty, satisfying for your hunger and a valuable source of energy, but you'll be pleased to know that they are great flat-belly foods. Combined they are supposed to help burn abdominal fat, improve digestion and help you keep away from the cupboard for longer. Breakfast is the

most important meal of the day; kick starting your metabolism and fueling your day ahead, so providing your body with a healthy and nutritious meal will do wonders for your body. Plus there are so many alternatives and additions you can make to this simple meal that provide that little bit extra; adding a spoon of peanut or almond butter, pouring on some honey or making a tasty smoothie, can make your breakfast just that little bit more delicious.



It's always the way forward: JJ Valaya

PUJA GUPTA

The year 2020 was a period of silence for the Indian fashion industry as everything came to a halt. Then, 2021 started with a big announcement -- designer Sabyasachi Mukherjee sold 51 percent of his fashion brand to Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited.

First Anita Dongre, then Raghavendra Rathore and now Sabyasachi, why are Indian fashion houses opting to take the corporate route? Are strategic collaborations the way forward in order to establish Indian brands as global entities?

"This was always the way forward" replies industry veteran JJ Valaya who took to Instagram to unveil his latest SS21 collection today. Titled 'BURSA', the line is the second chapter of his collection which was launched at the FDCI India Couture Week in September 2021.

"What is now happening in India, was happening in the West several decades ago and popular designer brands like Coco Chanel, Burberry, Versace are the leading example of it," Valaya tells.

"It's only when the corporate comes in, that there's stability of the business and the brand goes to another dimension. So, I think this is a fantastic move forward and it's only going to go better."

Earlier designer Anita Dongre's company had received a sizable investment from a large US Private Equity Fund in 2013 and was the only Indian designer with a retail presence in New York. Now Sabyasachi has announced he is set to open a 6,000 square foot retail space in the city in early 2022.

Asked if he has similar plans, Valaya answers: "Well, if it happens, we will surely consider it. I feel for us it's a couple of years to go before we can take this route. At the moment, we are doing a significant amount of experimentation and expansion within. If we find a suitable partner, of whom we are convinced can take the brand to another level, we will certainly be open for it."

Talking about his collection, Valaya believes: "I always believe when you are truly inspired to do a collection then seeing all the interpretations in six months is never enough, you must give it at least 12 months to kind of try and interpret it in as many ways and forms as possible."

He adds, "And fortunately for us, in India we have two very clear themes between winter and summer that allows a significant change in the weather and that gives us room to experiment. And yet having said that, at the same time we are essentially a couture design house and we focus on wedding clothes and occasion wear. So the challenge is always how will you make the bride, the groom and the guests look spectacular still wearing the silks and organza but making them relevant to the season. This second chapter of Bursa -- is essentially a whole new interpretation of inspiration we initiated six months ago."

As the pandemic has changed how Indian couture is seen and interpreted, has it also brought on a change in design philosophy?

Valaya replies: "I have always been very clear that come hail or storm, the signature of the brand should never change. So, of course things will lead us to all kinds of circumstances... but the DNA of a brand should persistently continue. So, if you ask me that if the pandemic changed the way I think, No, it didn't."



Artist Michelle Poonawalla exhibits series on companionship

Titled 'Kagaz', the show featuring her works runs till February 26, 2021

Celebrating friendship and companionship during these challenging times, five portraits taken by artist Michelle Poonawalla in her home city of Pune, are part of an ongoing exhibition in an Ahmedabad gallery.

Poonawalla, an artist who lives and works between London and Pune, is showing this new series of drawings as part of 'Kagaz', a group exhibition of works on paper which runs until February 26 at 079 Stories.

For Poonawalla, drawings and works on paper represent a very personal and emotive medium, allowing her to delicately portray the emotion of the subjects. As with Poonawalla's larger body of work the drawings are intended to create a moment of reflection for the viewer and ask them to think about their surroundings and the wider world.

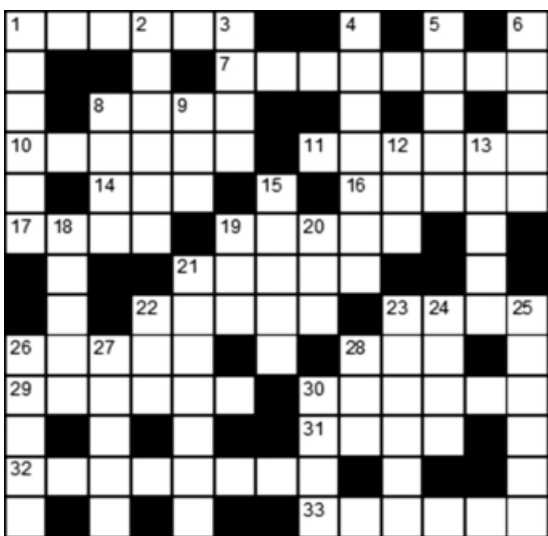
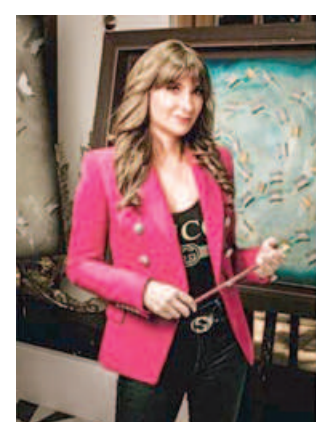
Talking about the exhibition, Poonawalla says: "For me drawing is a very important medium. Whilst audiences may be more familiar with my larger installations and digital work, drawing forms the base of everything I do and I was delighted when 079 Stories asked me to present a series of works on paper."

Poonawalla's works explore universal, socially engaged topics that resonate with a diverse range of audiences, creating powerful memories and moving experiences.

Her practice combines cutting-edge technology and traditional artistic mediums in an emotionally charged and poetic form; often utilizing sound, video mapping, projection, motion sensors and other techniques to bring her innovative paintings and installations to life.

Paper is the strongest and the most versatile medium of expressing oneself may it be in the form of words, crafts, or art.

'Kagaz' is a celebration of this and alongside Poonawalla the exhibition presents 21 artists from across the country displaying works on paper including Anuj Ambalal, Al Qawi Nanawati, Ashish Kushwaha, Claire Iono, Ghanshyam Rathod, Hindol Brahmabhatt, Krishnendu Roy, Malabika Burman, Milburn Cheria, Pradeep Ahirwar, Rachnan Badrakia, Ronak Sopariwala, Satish Gupta, Shahanshah Mittal, Shefali Nayan, Shrikant Kadam, Vikesh Ghosh and Viraj Mithani.



SOLUTION TO FEBRUARY 15

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CROSSWORD

- Across**
- Term of play in polo (6)
 - To some extent (8)
 - Assist or aid (4)
 - Small two-door cars (6)
 - Abrasive (6)
 - Panaji is its capital (3)
 - Sensational (5)
 - Computer screen symbol (4)
 - Dairy product (5)
 - Monetary unit of Ecuador (5)
 - Neck of mutton (5)
 - Playful sprite (4)
 - Sleeper's woe (5)
 - Vessel or duct (3)
 - Governess (6)
 - Active (6)
 - Snakelike fish (4)
 - By which people are familiarly called - not only cats and dogs? (3,5)
 - Cuts off (6)

- Down**
- Ostentatious (6)
 - Persist in (4,2)
 - Serpents (4)
 - Interstellar clouds (7)
 - Professorship (5)
 - Horse (5)
 - Quasimodo's creator (4)
 - Meadow (3)
 - Not speaking (3)
 - Relating to or of a city (5)
 - Killer whales (5)
 - S. American "beaver" (5)
 - Mongrel dog (3)
 - Work unit (3)
 - Public disgrace (7)
 - Monetary unit of Japan (3)
 - Russian physiologist who experimented with dogs (6)
 - Functions (4)
 - Canoes used by Eskimos (6)
 - Take as one's own (5)
 - Efts (5)
 - Contend (3)
 - Not so much (4)

SUDOKU

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SOLUTION TO FEBRUARY 15

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