

Healthy India key towards realising Viksit Bharat goal: HM Shah

New Delhi: The concept of a Viksit Bharat (developed India) cannot be realised by being unwell and that is why it is very important that every citizen remains healthy, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday. HM Shah further stated that all countrymen should take good diet, adequate water, adequate sleep and regular exercise, "the rest Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government will take the responsibility of taking care of your health". Speaking at a programme organised by the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) on the occasion of World Liver Day, HM Shah said that everyone should take a pledge to keep their 'liver' healthy with awareness, diligence and complete information. Sharing his experience of a healthy lifestyle, the Home Minister said that there has been a huge change in his life since May 2020. HM Shah said that young people can achieve a lot in their lives with water, diet, exercise and sleep as per the requirements of the body. The Union Home Minister said



that the Ministry of AYUSH is working to develop a system so that we do not fall ill. "Today, even big allopathic hospitals are opening AYUSH wings. The mental and physical health of a person was included in the idea of 'World Yoga Day,' he noted. PM Modi-led government is bearing the entire cost of treatment, up to Rs 5 lakh, for crores of people of the country. The government is also bearing all expenses up to Rs 5 lakh for the treatment of citizens above 70 years of age. PM Modi-led government has spent Rs 65,000 crore to build the health infrastructure in the country and has made arrangements to make every Primary Health Center (PHC) and Community Health

Center (CHC) a complete unit. For generic medicines, a network of more than 15,000 Jan Aushadhi Centres has been opened in the country and through these centres, medicines are available up to 80 per cent cheaper. Under 'Mission Indradhanush', arrangements have been made for free vaccination of children from birth to the age of 15 years and 1 crore 32 lakh mothers were also vaccinated. Under the e-Sanjeevani app, the work of providing more than 30.9 crore digital medical consultations from top health institutions in rural areas across the country has been carried out. In 2014, there were seven AIIMS in the country and today, the number has reached 23. There were 387 medical colleges in 2014 and today, it stands at 780. There were 51,000 MBBS seats which have increased to 1.18 lakh and 75,000 more seats are going to be added, according to HM Shah.

Gold may hit Rs 1 lakh amid Trump tariffs, recession fears: Experts

New Delhi: The gold prices in India could soon touch Rs 1 lakh per 10 grams, as global uncertainties continue to push investors towards safe-haven assets, experts said on Saturday. The sharp rise in gold prices is being driven by fears of a slowdown in the US economy, fuelled by President Donald Trump's renewed tariff policies. According to estimates by global brokerage Goldman Sachs, gold prices could reach \$3,700 per ounce in the near term, and possibly touch \$4,500 per ounce if trade tensions escalate further. If this happens, domestic gold prices on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) could climb to Rs 1 lakh or even Rs 1.25 lakh per 10 grams, market experts said. Gold has already delivered strong returns to investors. In the last five years, gold prices have jumped more than 110 per cent -- from Rs 44,906 per 10 grams on April 17, 2020, to Rs 95,239 per 10 grams on April 17. In the year-to-date (YTD) period alone, prices have risen by nearly 25 per cent. Anuj Gupta, Head of Commodity and Currency at HDFC Securities, said gold prices are currently rallying due to trade war fears and recession concerns in the US. "The safe-haven demand has spiked as investors worry about the economic impact of Trump's tariffs. According to US Fed Chair Jerome Powell, a one per



cent hike in tariffs could reduce US economic growth by 0.10 per cent," Gupta said. Despite the recent gains in the stock market, experts say gold still has room to run. Gupta said that the triggers supporting gold -- including geopolitical tensions and inflation -- remain intact. "Any correction in gold should be seen as a buying opportunity," he added. Navneet Damani, Group Senior Vice President at Motilal Oswal, said the outlook for gold is constructive. "Persistent trade tensions, inflationary pressures, and central bank gold purchases will continue to support prices," he said. Damani expects support for gold at Rs 91,000 and resistance at around Rs 99,000 in the near term. He also advised investors to maintain a 'buy on dips' strategy, saying that gold will remain attractive as long as global policy uncertainty and trade issues persist.

4 dead, several feared trapped after building collapses in Delhi's Mustafabad



Four people died and many are feared to be trapped as a building collapsed in the Mustafabad area of Delhi on Saturday, police said. The incident took place around 3 a.m., police added. "Four people died after a building collapsed in the Mustafabad area in Delhi this morning," Delhi Police said early Saturday. Meanwhile, Sandeep Lamba, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police, North East District, said 14 people were rescued. Lamba said, "... 14 people were rescued, but four among them succumbed... it was a four-storey building... rescue operation is underway. Eight to ten people are still feared trapped." Teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), police, and dog squad are present at the spot. Rescue operations are underway. The house collapse incident occurred just hours after a sudden shift in Delhi's weather on Friday night when heavy rainfall and thunderstorms lashed several parts of the city. In a separate incident last week, a wall of an under-construction building collapsed during a severe dust storm near Madhu

Vihar police station, leaving one person dead and two others injured. The four-storeyed building had 20 to 25 people living in it. So far, 8 people have been rescued and taken to GTB Hospital for treatment. The reason for the collapse is not yet clear. Rajendra Atwal, Divisional Fire Officer, said the fire department received a call at around 2:50 a.m. "We received a call regarding a house collapse around 2:50 a.m. ... we reached the spot and found out that the entire building has collapsed and people are trapped under the debris... NDRF, Delhi Fire Service are working to rescue the people," he said. According to the IMD's forecast for Saturday, the sky will be "partly cloudy" and become "generally cloudy" towards Saturday evening. Very light rain or drizzle is likely, accompanied by thunderstorms, lightning and dust storms, along with winds with a speed of 40-50 km per hour, gusting up to 60 kmph, in the evening. The maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to hover around 38 degrees Celsius and 26 degrees Celsius, respectively.

AP class 10th exam results to be released on 23 April

The Andhra Pradesh government has announced that the results for the Class 10th examinations will be published on April 23rd at 11 am. The evaluation of the examination papers has already been concluded, and the process of online entry for results is currently underway. This year, over 6 lakh students took the Class 10th exams, with more than 5 lakh English medium candidates and over 51,000 students seated in Telugu medium. The examinations were conducted from March 17 to March 31. Students will be able to check their results on the official website, bie.ap.gov.in. In a bid to streamline the process, the Andhra Pradesh government has also introduced a WhatsApp service. Students can access their results by sending 'Hi' to 955230090, followed by entering their hall ticket number and date of birth. To view results via the official website, candidates should navigate to 'SSC Public Examination March 2025 Results', enter their hall ticket number, and submit to see



their results. Additionally, results can be obtained via SMS by sending the hall ticket number to 55352.

TDP, Jana Sena, BJP alliance wins Visakhapatnam Mayor election

In a significant political move, the Alliance Party secured the Visakhapatnam mayoral seat following a successful no-confidence motion against Mayor Harivenkata Kumari. During a special meeting convened by the collector, 74 votes were cast in favour of the motion, ensuring a quorum was met despite the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) boycotting the GVMC council meeting. The no-confidence motion was initiated by the Alliance against the mayor, who faced increasing opposition. With the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) having a total of 98 corporators, the



recent resignation of MLA Vamsi Krishna has left 97 corporators in the council. Out of these, 16 are ex-officio members, with 11 belonging to the Alliance, giving them a com-

bined strength of 75. However, the political landscape has been shaken by the mysterious disappearance of Alliance corporator Bhupathiraju Sujatha, who went missing while returning from Malaysia. Speculation has arisen that her absence may be linked to manoeuvres by the YSRCP. In response, ministers Dola and Atchannaidu, along with local MP Bharat, are taking precautions to mitigate any unexpected developments ahead of the mayoral election set for tomorrow, where Alliance corporators are poised to elect their new leader

Tarnaka Narayana CO School Student Atharva Kondaji Achieves All India Seventh Rank in CNAPS (JOSA), JOSA

Hyderabad, metrodayam. April 19...Tarnaka Narayana CO School Student Atharva Kondaji, a student of class six, who achieved All India Seventh Rank in CNAPS (JOSA), JOSA, was felicitated at the 2nd Year Award Function at Ravindra Bharathi. The chief guests of the program were Dr. C.S. Krishnaprasad Rao, P. Muralikrishna, Dr. M. Rameshwar Rao, GM Gopal Reddy, Nagendra Pratap, Vice President, AGM Bala Parameshwara Rao, Co-Dean Pawan Kumar Sharma, School Principal S.V. Guru Raj and presented the prize to the student. Parents of the students and a team of teachers participated in this program



Indefinite strike at JNTUH College Kondagattu

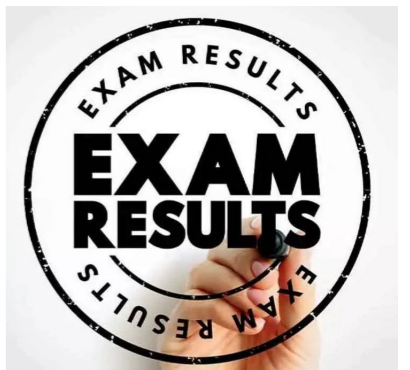
Kodimial, April 19 (Metro udayam):

As per the call of Telangana State Contract Assistant Professors Association, a strike has been started in all universities from Saturday 19-04-2025 As part of this, contract assistant professors at JNTUH College, Kondagattu, began an indefinite strike at the initiation camp at 11 am. The teachers spoke and urged the immediate implementation of the regularization demand of the teachers, keeping in mind the future of the students. They urged the government by organizing an innovative demonstration with umbrellas. They urged the government to regularize and protect their lives, just as an umbrella protects from the sun.



Telangana Inter Exam Results likely in April 22

The Telangana Inter exam results are set to be announced on the 22nd of this month, with Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka presiding over the release event. The intermediate examinations took place from the 5th to the 25th of the previous month, with numerous students eagerly anticipating their results. Candidates can access their results on the official website, where details regarding their performance in the exams will be made available. This announcement marks a crucial moment for both students and educational institutions across the state, as they prepare for the next academic steps following the results. Telangana tourism



In a country as vast and diverse as India, a good policy is only as strong as how well people understand it. A government may create the most visionary plans, but if citizens do not know about them, misunderstand them, or feel left out, those policies are bound to fail. That is where public policy communication plays a life-changing role. When communication is clear, timely, and inclusive, it builds trust, gains public support, and makes citizens a part of the journey. But when it is vague, delayed, or one-sided, it leads to confusion, anger, and even protests. Also Read - CT scans could be fuelling future rise in cancer cases: New study suggests Take for instance the recent Kancha Gachibowli land issue in Telangana. Many people, including settlers and buyers, were caught off guard due to lack of clarity and poor communication from authorities. Years of silence, followed by sudden notices and demolitions, created panic and loss. Had there been open dialogue, public engagement, and regular updates, the issue could have been managed more peacefully. Telangana tourism On the flip side, look at the success of India's COVID-19 vaccination campaign. The government used TV, radio, social media, local influencers, and even mobile vans to educate and inform citizens. The result? Despite being a country of over a billion people, India pulled off one of the world's biggest vaccination drives with public support.

Public policy needs better communication

Public policy is not just about laws, land, or large budgets - it is about people. And people deserve to know, understand, and participate in the decisions that shape their lives. Governments must treat communication not as an afterthought, but as a core part of governance. When the message does not reach the people, even the best policies will collapse like a house built on sand. Let us take a closer look at why effective public policy communication truly matters 1. Connecting with Citizens Public policy communication is the vital thread that connects governments with the people they serve. It enables citizens to understand government actions, policies, and intentions, while also allowing governments to hear the concerns, expectations, and feedback of the public. In a diverse country like India, where cultures, languages, and needs vary widely, this connection becomes even more essential. Clear and inclusive communication helps bridge the gap between authority and everyday citizens, making policies more people-centric and grounded. Ultimately, good policy is not just about good ideas - it is about making sure people understand,



support, and benefit from them. 2. Implementing Policies A policy, no matter how well-crafted, cannot succeed without clear and consistent communication. For any public policy to work on the ground, people must first understand what it means, how it affects them, and what actions they need to take. When people understand a policy, it also helps reduce fear, confusion, and misinformation. Moreover, communication is not just about informing - it is about engaging. Through open dialogue, governments can gather real-time feedback, identify gaps, and adapt their implementation strategies accordingly. This two-way process makes policies more practical, inclusive, and successful. In short, communication

turns policy from paper to practice - from intention to impact. 3. Building Trust and Accountability Trust is the foundation of any strong democracy, and communication is the key to building that trust. When governments are transparent, open, and timely in their communication, they show respect for citizens and invite them into the decision-making process. On the other hand, lack of communication leads to doubt, misinformation, and often resistance. Simply put, transparency builds trust - and trust strengthens governance. 4. Addressing Societal Challenges In a country as socially and economically diverse as India, addressing public challenges requires more than just good policies- it demands meaningful communication. Public policy communication gives voice to different communities, ensuring that no group is left unheard or ignored. When communication is consistent and inclusive, it transforms policy-making from a top-down exercise into a shared journey - one that leads to more just, balanced, and effective governance. 5. Improving Decision-Making Good decisions require good information - and that begins with effective communication. Within the government, public policy communication plays a vital role in ensuring that ministers, officials, and departments stay informed, aligned, and responsive. When internal communication is strong, policies are more coherent, timely, and effective.

Externally, clear communication with the public and stakeholders helps create a two-way flow of information. Public feedback provides valuable insights into how policies are received, where they may be falling short, and what improvements are needed. By using this feedback, governments can refine their approach and make decisions that are more grounded. Conclusion In a rapidly changing world, where information spreads instantly, the importance of public policy communication cannot be overstated. It is the bridge between government intentions and public action, between decisions and their real-world impact. Communication isn't just about broadcasting policies; it is about creating a shared understanding, fostering trust, and empowering citizens to engage in the democratic process. Conversely, poor communication can lead to confusion, resistance, and the failure of even the best-laid plans. As India continues to grow, the need for effective public policy communication becomes even more critical. It is the key to addressing societal challenges, improving decision-making, and ensuring governance that is truly of, by, and for the people. In the end, communication is not just a tool - it is the heart of good governance. (Writer is an Assistant General Manager - Corporate Communication at Sai Wardha Power Generation Private Limited & Post Doctoral Fellow in Media)

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**आंखें ईश्वर को
खुल्लम खुल्ला
नहीं देखतीं
बल्कि दिल
ईमानी हकीकतों
(विश्वास के
सत्य) से उसे
पहचानते हैं। वह
हर चीज़ के
समीप है लेकिन
शारीरिक मिलन
के तौर पर
नहीं।.. (शकील
उवाचा - 335)**



बुक एजेंसी, लखनऊ द्वारा प्रकाशित हिन्दी पुस्तक नहजुल बलागह, खुतबा (प्रवचन) क्रमांक 177, पुष्ट क्रमांक 428)।

"तो इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब (अ.) ने फरमाया के, आंखें उस (ईश्वर) को खुल्लम खुल्ला नहीं देखती बल्कि दिल ईमानी हकीकतों (विश्वास के सत्य) से उसे पहचानते हैं। वह हर चीज़ के करीब (समीप) है लेकिन जिस्मानी इत्तेसाल (शारीरिक मिलन) के तौर पर नहीं। वह हर शय (वस्तु) से दूर है मगर अलग नहीं। वह गौरी फिक्र (चिंतन, विवेचन) के कलाम करने वाला बगैर आमादगी के करन्दो इरादा (इच्छा और दृढ़ संकल्प) करने वाला और अज्जा (अंगों) के बगैर, बिना किसीके मदद के (सबकुछ) बनाने वाला है...।" (अब्बास बुक एजेंसी, लखनऊ द्वारा प्रकाशित हिन्दी पुस्तक नहजुल बलागह, खुतबा (प्रवचन) क्रमांक 177, पुष्ट क्रमांक 428)।

इमाम अली अलैहिस्सलाम आगे और कहते हैं के, "वह (ईश्वर) लतीफ (कोमल, सूक्ष्म) है लेकिन पोशीदगी (छुपा हुआ) से उसे मुत्सिफ नहीं किया (यानी छुपाकर भी छुपाया नहीं) जा सकता। वह बुजुर्गों बरतर है मगर हवास से उसे मौसूफ नहीं किया जा सकता (याने ज्ञानेन्द्रियों से वर्णन के योग्य नहीं है)। वह रहम करने वाला है मगर सिफत (गुण) को नर्म दिली से ताबीर (अभिव्यक्त) नहीं किया जा सकता। वेहरे उसकी अजमत (गौरव) के आगे जलीलो ख्बार (अपमानित) और दिल उस के खोफ से लरजा व हिरसां (कांपते और थरथराने) हैं।" (अब्बास बुक एजेंसी, लखनऊ द्वारा प्रकाशित हिन्दी पुस्तक नहजुल बलागह, खुतबा (प्रवचन) क्रमांक 177, पुष्ट क्रमांक 428)।

नहजुल बलागह इस पुस्तक में लिखा है के, "एकबार जेलबे यमनी नामक आदमी ने पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) के पहिले उत्तराधिकारी इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब (अ.) से सवाल किया कि, क्या आप अलैहिस्सलाम ने अपने परवरदिगार (ईश्वर) को देखा है?...।" (अब्बास

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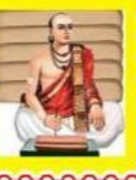
**The Solaris
Bloom is a
radiant collec-
tion of 112
English
poems that
blossom with
imagination,
emotion and
thought.**



Each verse invites readers into a world of wonder—where nature, life, and the cosmos converge in lyrical harmony. From whispers of stardust to echoes of the human heart, these poems span diverse themes and moods. Crafted with elegance

and depth, the book resonates with lovers of both classic and contemporary poetry. Perfect for reflective mornings or tranquil nights, it promises inspiration on every page. Let The Solaris Bloom light up your soul one poem at a time. You will get this book on Amazon.

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**NEED TO
BREAK
SILENCE!**

No doubt to be silent is welcome!
Unnecessary differences arise!
Everything move as soft as possible!
None point out any fault wrong!

Is it universally accepted fact?
Elders suggest three occasions to adhere to silence!
When hearing others, when others not hear you and last one no scope to change others attitude!
It is some what better to follow!

It is not all.at times need to break Silence!
When capable to restrict evil deeds!
When strong enough to save the poor from injustice!
Need not escape on the pretext maintaining silence!



One best example. Bhisma and Drona!
Two Great warriors in mahaabharat!
Unable to stop Duryodhana for humiliating Droupadi in kuru sabha!
They could not break their silence!

Thats why they got punished in war Kurukshetra!
Finally no unnecessary interference in Unwanted affairs may be supported!
But the good cause it is not bad to break silence in need of time!

Composed by:
B. Satyanarayana Rao,
(Ba. Sa. Raa)

**The Miracle of
life**

Two Souls once wandered alone,
drawn by a quiet gravity
a pull that neither saw
but both felt
and chose to walk together,
hands woven like roots of
an ancient tree.
They built a nest, not
from twigs or stone,
but from laughter, long-
ing, and gentle silences.

Love flowed between them
a river that shimmered
with constancy.
And from that Sacred
current,
a new life bloomed
not just flesh and blood,
but a whisper from the
Divine,
cradled in soft skin and
starry eyes.

In a moment, everything
shifted.
The axis of their World
tilted
to orbit the smile of the
newborn Sun
they had summoned
unknowingly.
What once was love for
each other
now grew larger, deeper,
more complex
reflected in the curl of
tiny fingers
and the soft murmurings
of midnight cries.

The mother became a
quiet warrior
laying down her desires,
her time, her hunger,
to nourish the rhythm of
another heart.
She forgot the taste of
hot tea,
but learned the language
of lullabies.

From the hardened hours
of duty,
the father gently carved



out moments of tenderness
racing the clock
to witness the poetry of
first steps,
the thunder of the first
laugh,
the magic of eyes that
see everything
as if for the first time.

Together, they watched
this miracle unfold,
and in those moments of
awe,
they understood
this was not the end of
their love
but its transformation.
A Divine expansion.

Was it not the Creator's
breath
that kindled this tiny
Soul?
That rewrote their story
with a chapter they never
imagined
but now cannot live with-
out?

The miracle lies not only
in the child who arrived
but in the hearts that
grew
to hold more than they
ever thought possible.

Oh yes
what greatness,
what quiet Majesty
in the design of love that
multiplies
by surrender.

Smt. Latha Murthy

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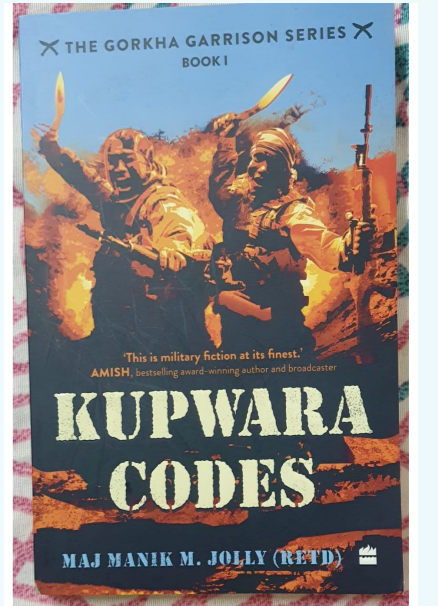


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SUNDAY BOOK REVIEW

**ENCOMIUM
FOR
GORKHAS
VALOUR.**



Kupwara is a District in jammu and kashmir where our army personnel often catch terrorists trying to sneak from Pakistan. Almost everyday one can witness daredevil counter terrorist acts of our soldiers and of our Gorkha Rifles in particular, known for their fighting skills and professionalism in special operations. Kupwara Codes unfolds for the reader a story based on real incidents of breathtaking missions carried out by the personnel of our First Four Gorkha Rifles in Jammu and Kashmir in 2017.

In the opening chapter you find Major Danny Deka, his new Lt Deepak Lathwal and their team of 40 soldiers deeply involved in a daring operation at night in a dense bushy mountain slope in Kupwara. In this breathtaking long operation Danny and Deepak kill five terrorists and this event sets the story on.

Soon after this, suicide bombers explode an IED near the officers Mess when Danny, Deepak, and some others are enjoying themselves in the Mess. This leads to a hideout where a lone terrorist armed to the teeth is ready to run away. It needs no saying that in this nail biting situation, Major Danny takes the lead and kills the terrorist himself but, alas, not before his radio operator is killed by the terrorist. But the Major gives the credit of killing the terrorist to his deceased operator!

From the hideout, Danny and his team recover lots of weapons, ammunition, personal effects of the terrorist and a sheaf of highly incremental documents with encrypted codes.

From here the plot becomes thicker as the Major and his colleagues run from pillar to post, summon all their experience, intelligence, sources of information and technical know-how to decode those Kupwara Codes. And how the Codes are deciphered, what are the diabolical designs of terrorists and how the Major and his team foil their plans make the rest of the enthralling

narrative.

The beauty of this novel lies in bringing out the life of these military officers in action, their dedication, professionalism, first-duty first attitude, their respect for departmental protocols and formalities and preparedness for cooperation wrapped in meticulous coordination. Of course it is the story of Major Danny out and out who steals the show every time and in fact he is the apple of the authors eye, may be his alter ego.

Author Major Manik M. Jolly (Retd) is a decorated veteran who worked with the Gorkha Regiment and Military Intelligence. Every page in the novel, published by Harper Fiction in February 2025 and priced at Rs 299, bears the stamp of his command on the subject, his talent of telling a story, his rich sense of humor, vocabulary and its usage. The glossary at the end comes handy for the reader in understanding the military jargon.

We all agree with Aditya Dhar, the director of the Military movie Uri who said that Maj Manik's ability to present Army life... is remarkable and riveting

M SOMASEKHAR PRASAD,
HOD DEPARTMENT
OF ENGLISH RETD
GANDHINAGAR
HYDERABAD 500020
9866936345.



Katrina Kaif Reviews Kesari: Chapter 2, Calls Akshay Kumar and R Madhavan "Terrific"



Bollywood actress Katrina Kaif has been praising Kesari: Chapter 2, the much awaited follow-up to Akshay Kumar's 2019 blockbuster, which opened in theatres on April 18. On Saturday, Katrina praised the crew behind the stirring historical drama and shared the movie's poster on Instagram Stories. She added, "I'm so proud of you, Karan Singh Tyagi, Amritpal Singh Bindra, and Anand Tiwari—you told an untold story so beautifully." "Akshay Kumar, R Madhavan, and Ananya Panday were just terrific," the actress said, praising the film's main cast. Congratulations to Karan Johar, Dharma Productions, and Leo Media Collective. Prior to this, Katrina and Akshay Kumar appeared together on screen in a number of popular films, such as Namaste London, Welcome, Singh Is King, and Sooryavanshi. Kesari: Chapter 2 delves into the horrific events of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre on April 13, 1919, and is directed by rookie Karan Singh Tyagi. As he battles to reveal the horrific reality of the massacre, in which British forces opened fire on a peaceful assembly at the direction of Brigadier General Reginald Dyer, the movie follows renowned attorney C. Sankaran Nair (Akshay Kumar). The film, which is co-produced by Cape of Good Films, Leo Media Collective, and Dharma Productions, also has important roles from R Madhavan and Ananya Panday. Other Bollywood stars have also shown support for the film. Ibrahim Ali Khan wrote, "Full power. Congratulations and all the best, guys." Director duo Raj & DK described the film as "assured, gripping and intense with super performances," while Arjun Kapoor said, "Proud to see stories like this being told. More power to the team. This one's gonna roar." Kesari: Chapter 2 continues the legacy of the original film, which portrayed the iconic Battle of Saragarhi and starred Parineeti Chopra alongside Akshay Kumar.

Pooja Hegde serves bold beauty and fierce energy



Pooja Hegde has always turned heads, but her latest digital cover for ELLE is in a league of its own—unfiltered, bold, and utterly unmissable. Clad in a chic cream bralette, flowers in hand, and a confidence that's impossible to ignore, Pooja's presence on the cover speaks volumes. From a striking black-and-silver co-ord to a sheer black skirt paired with a sizzling bralette, every look she dons is a fashion-forward statement, blending glamour with unapologetic individuality. But it's not just the visuals that demand attention—it's the voice behind them. In her candid conversation, Pooja opens up about her upcoming Tamil film Retro, co-starring Suriya, calling it one of the most transformative experiences of her career. Shot on Viper Island, the film tested her mettle with harsh terrains and actual viper encounters. The standout moment? A 15-minute continuous shot combining action, dance, and raw emotion. "That moment brought back my belief in the magic of cinema," she says, revealing the grit beneath the gloss. Having spent over a decade in the industry, Pooja is embracing her evolution. She's no longer the actor who says yes to every script; she's now someone who picks roles with purpose. "It's about doing something that resonates," she insists. With Retro hitting theatres on May 1 and Pooja stepping into this fearless new phase, fans are in for a cinematic and personal revelation.

'Dear Uma' dedicates film's success to all women

The recently released film Dear Uma, produced under the Suma Chitra Arts banner, has struck a chord with audiences since its release on April 18. Written, produced, and headlined by Sumaya Reddy, the film has received a positive response both critically and commercially, prompting the makers to hold a success meet on Saturday to express their gratitude. Sumaya Reddy, the driving force behind the film, shared her joy, stating, "The media's support for Dear Uma has been phenomenal. In times when many films struggle to release, ours successfully made it to theatres, and



that's already a big achievement. This film is our tribute to women, and I dedicate this success to every woman out there." She further credited her mother, younger brother, and her entire team for backing her throughout the journey. She added, "Dear Uma discusses life's beginnings and endings in hospitals. It's a meaningful subject, and I hope the film

reaches more hearts." — Part 1: Dream Girl' Director Sai Rajesh Mahadev acknowledged the current challenges in drawing audiences to theatres, saying, "Today, it's difficult to get audiences to the big screen, but with the help of media and strong word-of-mouth, we've managed to do that. I'm thankful to all the reviewers and well-wishers." Veteran actor Rajeev Kanakala also praised Sumaya's dedication. "She worked hard and made no compromises in production. The cinematography by Raj Thota and Radhan's music have been widely appreciated. I hope the film continues its successful run."

'Thug Life' is our peace offering to fans: Kamal Haasan

In what can only be described as a cinematic reunion fans have longed for, actor Kamal Haasan and director Mani Ratnam are joining forces once again after nearly four decades for the much-anticipated film "Thug Life." Their previous collaboration, Nayagan (1987), remains a landmark in Indian cinema — and now, Haasan credits the fans as the sole driving force behind this monumental team-up. Speaking at the launch of the film's first single, Kamal reflected on the bond he shares with Mani Ratnam. "Nothing has changed between Mani and me. We used to dream big while sitting on parked bikes on Eldams Road. We've done only about 25% of what we discussed — Nayagan and now Thug Life," he said with nostalgia. Acknowledging the delay in their reunion, the legendary actor admitted, "The reason we didn't come together all these years is us. But the reason



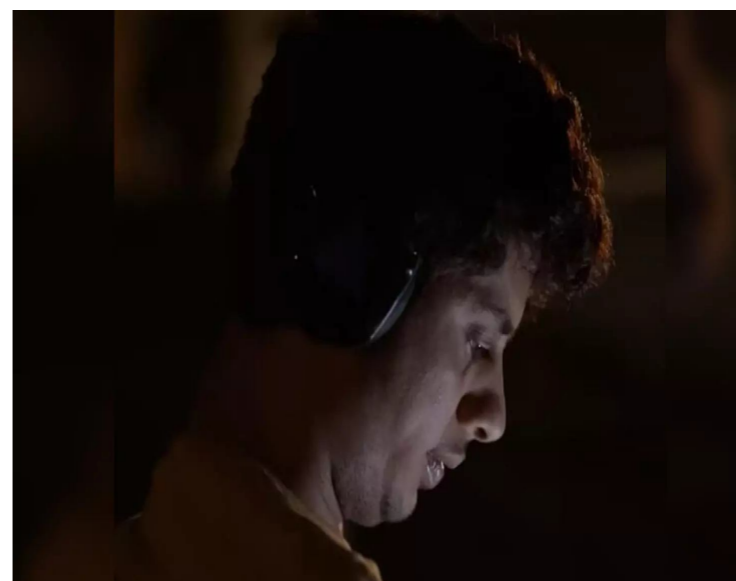
we're here now is you — the fans. When the audience passes a verdict, the industry follows. You've carried us on your shoulders all this while, and we didn't realise it. This film is a peace offering. We can only apologise." Thug Life features Kamal Haasan in the role of Rangaraya Sakhivel Naickan, in what is described as "an epic

tale of power, rebellion, and triumph." Directed by Mani Ratnam and produced by Madras Talkies, the film also stars Silambarasan, Trisha, Joju George, Ashok Selvan, and Abhirami in pivotal roles. With A.R. Rahman composing the music and Ravi K Chandran behind the camera, the technical crew also includes editor

Sreekar Prasad and stunt duo Anbariv. A full-fledged audio launch is scheduled for May 16, and a musical event in Australia will see the entire team in attendance. As two cinematic legends reunite, Thug Life promises not just a film, but a heartfelt gesture to the fans who kept the dream alive.

Gripping trailer of 'Black, White & Gray – Love Kills' unveiled

"Not all love stories make history. Some become crime reports." With this hard-hitting tagline, Sony LIV has dropped the chilling trailer of its upcoming docu-drama series Black, White & Gray – Love Kills. Slated for a worldwide premiere on May 2, this six-episode Hindi original promises a deep dive into the darker shades of love and the unsettling consequences it can bring. Directed by Pushkar Sunil Mahabalm and produced by Swaroop Sampat and Hemal A. Thakkar, the series follows the journey of investigative journalist Daniel Gray. Tasked with uncovering the mystery behind a string of murders, Daniel's pursuit leads him into the life of a young man from a marginalized background. As the layers peel away, what emerges is a disturbing nexus of systemic corruption, patriarchy, and societal disparity—forcing viewers to question the fine line between guilt and innocence.



The show boasts a compelling ensemble cast led by veteran Tigmanshu Dhulia, and includes powerful performances by Mayur More, Palak Jaiswal, Deven Bhojani, Edward Sonnenblick, Hakkim

Shahjahan, Anant Jog, and Kamlesh Sawant. Mayur More, reflecting on his role, called the project "one of the most intense and eye-opening journeys" of his career. "It's a bold, genre-bending mockumentary that compels you to confront discomfort and re-evaluate your understanding of justice," he said. "My character lives in a world where choices are few and consequences are harsh. It's raw and personal." Black, White & Gray – Love Kills is set to deliver a thought-provoking narrative packed with emotional depth and societal critique. Catch it exclusively on Sony LIV from May 2.