

## SC RESERVES VERDICT ON BATCH OF PLEAS ON MAHARASHTRA POLITICAL ROW

MUMBAI NEWS HIGHLIGHTS: THE THACKERAY FACTION PLEADED BEFORE THE APEX COURT FOR SETTING ASIDE THEN MAHARASHTRA GOVERNOR B S KOSHYARI'S JUNE 2022 ORDER TO THEN CHIEF MINISTER UDDHAV THACKERAY TO TAKE A FLOOR TEST.



Mumbai News highlights: A five-judge constitution bench of the Supreme Court headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, today asked how can Uddhav Thackeray be reinstated as CM when he resigned before floor test, while reserving its verdict on a batch of cross-petitions of Uddhav Thackeray and CM Eknath Shinde factions pertaining to Maharashtra political crisis. The Thackeray faction pleaded before the apex court for setting aside then Maharashtra Governor B S Koshiyari's June 2022 order to then chief minister Uddhav Thackeray to take a floor test, asserting democracy will be in danger if it is not overturned. In other top news of the day, Mumbai Police has detained at least three

persons, including "designer" Aniksha Jaisinghani and her uncle, from Ulhasnagar in a bribery case filed by Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis' wife Amruta. According to the police, searches were also conducted early Thursday. Amruta had alleged that Aniksha introduced herself as a designer and tried to bribe her with Rs 1 crore seeking her "intervention" in a criminal case. Aniksha's father Anil Jaisinghani has 17 cases registered against him, was arrested thrice in betting cases and is wanted in over seven cases in five states. Responding to the Maharashtra Leader of Opposition Ajit Pawar who sought a point of information on Amruta Fadnavis' FIR against a 'designer', the Deputy CM today said in the Assembly that an FIR against the accused was filed earlier but not made public. The accused, he added, had revealed the "names of police officers and political leaders" and was "tapping all phones for one and a half years". "I cannot say whether there is a political conspiracy in it as we cannot trust a person's version who was offering us to take names," he added.

### BJP WON'T LET RAHUL GANDHI SPEAK IN PARLIAMENT WITHOUT AN APOLOGY: SOURCES



New Delhi: Amid chaos in the parliament, leading to adjournment of both houses for the second consecutive day, sources in the BJP today said they won't let Congress MP Rahul Gandhi speak in the house unless he apologises for his remarks on Indian democracy in London.

Both houses of the parliament were adjourned again today amid loud sloganeering from the BJP, which is demanding Congress MP Rahul Gandhi apologise for his remarks at Cambridge University, and opposition parties demanding a Joint Parliamentary Committee probe into the Adani-Hindenberg row. Audio of the proceedings were muted while chaos ensued inside the parliament. Congress, repeating Rahul Gandhi's charge that microphones of opposition leaders were muted in the parliament, took a dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Earlier, the mic used to be turned off, today even the proceedings of the House were muted. The house is mute for PM Modi's friend," the grand old party tweeted in Hindi.

Rahul Gandhi was seen in the Lok Sabha for the second time today since the row erupted over his comments.

### RAJESH GOPINATHAN RESIGNS FROM TCS; WHO IS K KRITHIVASAN, THE NEW CEO-DESIGNATE



Mumbai/New Delhi: Amruta Fadnavis, the wife of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, has filed a complaint in Mumbai against a designer in a bizarre case involving allegations of threats and conspiracy.

A woman named "Aniksha" and her father have been named by Amruta Fadnavis in a First Information Report (FIR) filed on February 20.

Amruta Fadnavis, a banker, alleges that the woman, claiming to be a designer, tried to bribe her, offering her ₹ 1 crore to intervene in a criminal case involving her father.

The woman allegedly contacted Ms Fadnavis first in November 2021. According to the FIR, Ms Fadnavis said the woman sent her video clips, voice notes and messages from an unknown number on February 18 and 19.

The Mumbai Police has filed a case against the woman and her father for conspiracy and under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

### DESIGNER ANIKSHA, NAMED IN FIR BY AMRUTA FADNAVIS IN 'BRIBE' CASE, ARRESTED BY MUMBAI POLICE



Aniksha Jaisinghani, the designer named by Amruta Fadnavis in her FIR alleging bribery and "conspiracy", was arrested by Mumbai Police on Thursday from her Ulhasnagar residence in Mumbai, reported The Indian Express.

Aniksha has been booked under Section 120 (B) (conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code and under the Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 on February 20 by the Malabar Hills police station in Mumbai.

Amruta Fadnavis alleged that Aniksha, who is a "designer" offered to provide her information on bookies, through which both of them could allegedly earn money. Amruta, the wife of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, further alleged that Aniksha had offered her Rs 1 crore to get Aniksha's father, Anil Jaisinghani, out of a police case. Fadnavis named Anil Jaisinghani in the Maharashtra Assembly on Thursday. "My wife has filed an FIR, She has said in it that some people used her to pressurise me.

## BABAR PICKS SINGH REACTION

### ABABAR AZAM WAS ASKED TO PICK HIS PREFERRED LEAGUE BETWEEN IPL AND BBL. HARBHAJAN SINGH REACTED IN AN EPIC MANNER AS BABAR PICKED THE AUSTRALIAN T20 LEAGUE.

The Indian Premier League (IPL) is undoubtedly the biggest T20 league in the world, both in terms of players' participation, popularity and the revenue it generates. There remain other T20 leagues as well like the Big Bash League, the Pakistan Super League, the SA20 League, etc. In a video that has surfaced online, Babar was asked to pick his favourite between the IPL and BBL. To the surprise of many, the Pakistan captain went on to pick the Australian T20 league over the Indian. His comment drew varied reactions from fans on social media, and even former India cricketer Harbhajan Singh couldn't resist sharing his views.

"IPL or Big Bash, which league do you like the most?", Babar was asked.

"The conditions over there in Australia are different. The pitches over there are really fast and you get to learn a lot. Whereas in IPL, you get the same Asian conditions," Babar said in response.

Taking to Twitter, Harbhajan reacted with a laughing emoji on the video.

Babar is presently busy with the Pakistan Super League Season 8. The talismanic batter led his team to a brilliant victory over Islamabad United on Thursday. He led from the front, scoring 64 runs from 39 balls as Peshawar Zalmi put 183 runs on the board. In reply, Islamabad could only score 171 runs, and hence, was eliminated from the race to the final.

Speaking of his side's win, Babar said: The way the fast bowlers executed and came back, it was outstanding. The ball started to reverse after 10 overs. We couldn't finish well with the bat, we were 20 runs short. There's always room for improvement. We need to bowl well in the first six overs."

Zalmi will now take on Lahore Qalandars in Eliminator 2 on Friday.

# ALERT! MAHARASHTRA, KARNATAKA COVID-19 CASES ON THE RISE; GOVT ISSUES ADVISORY, SHARES DISTRICT-WISE CASELOAD

UNION HEALTH SECRETARY RAJESH BHUSHAN, IN A LETTER, HAS GIVEN DIRECTIONS TO SIX STATES, INCLUDING MAHARASHTRA, WHICH HAVE SEEN A RISE IN THE NUMBER OF COVID CASES IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS BY STEPPING UP SURVEILLANCE, TESTING, AND MONITORING VACCINATIONS. HE ALSO DIRECTED THAT PRE-EMPTIVE MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN IN AREAS OF CONCERN TO CONTROL EMERGING CASES OF INFECTION.

New Delhi: The central government has directed six states to examine the increasing covid-19 situation at the micro level and surveillance, test, and monitor new and emerging covid clusters.

Over the past few weeks, India has seen a rise in covid-19 cases, with a total of three thousand plus cases in the week that ended 15 March. Advisory issued by Centre

**Karnataka, Maharashtra,** Gujarat, Telangana, **Tamil Nadu,** and Kerala are the six states which have been reporting a continuously high number of cases.

"There are few states which are reporting a higher number of cases indicating the possible localized spread of infection and there is a need to follow a risk assessment-based approach to prevent and contain the infection without losing the gains made so far in the fight against the pandemic," Union Health Secretary **Rajesh Bhushan** said in a letter.

Maharashtra has reported an increase in weekly cases from 355 to 668 with a positivity rate of 1.92 per cent.

According to the **Health Ministry**, Karnataka reported a rapid rise in weekly cases ending 15 March. The state reported a positivity rate of 2.77 per cent, higher than India's positivity rate of 0.61 per cent.

"It is advised that State should examine the situation of COVID-19 at the micro level (district and sub-districts) and maintain focus on the implementation of necessary measures for prompt and effective management of Covid-19 duly ensuring effective compliance with various advisories issued by this Ministry. The five-fold strategy, i.e., Test-Track Treat-Vaccination should be followed with a continued focus on adequate & proactive testing as per guidelines, monitoring new and emerging clusters of new Covid-19 cases along with monitoring the trend of influenza-like illness (ILI) & SARI cases in at health facilities or through dedicated fever clinics regularly for detecting early warning signals of the spread of infection," Bhushan said in a letter.

The ministry has also given directions to the states to continue genomic sequencing for prescribed samples of international passengers, collection of samples from sentinel sites, and local clusters of cases, enhance the pace for administration of booster shots for those who are eligible beneficiaries, and ensure that states must maintain a strict vigil in any areas of concern to control the spread of infection.



## US MAN CUTS OUT WOMAN'S HEART, COOKS IT FOR HIS FAMILY, THEN KILLS THEM

According to reports, 44-year-old Lawrence Paul Anderson committed the gruesome murders just weeks after he received an early release from prison.



A man, who killed a woman, cut her heart out and then stabbed two people to death, including a 4-year-old child, has been sentenced to life in prison in US's Oklahoma state, reports say.

According to The Independent, 44-year-old Lawrence Paul Anderson committed the gruesome murders in 2021, less than a month after he received an early release from prison.

Weeks after he was freed, he murdered and carved Andrea Blankenship's heart, carried it to his aunt and uncle's house and cooked the organ with potatoes.

He then attempted to serve the macabre meal to the couple before he stabbed and killed 67-year-old Leon Pye and his 4-year-old granddaughter Kaeos Yates, ABC news reported.

Anderson had served just three years of a 20-year sentence on a drug case when he was given a commutation by Oklahoma's governor Kevin Stitt. His release was part of a mass commutation effort by the state but an investigation later found that he was placed in the commutation list by mistake.

Anderson received five consecutive-life sentences after he pled guilty to murder, assault and maiming.

Anderson's aunt, who was also injured in the attack and the other victims' families, have filed cases against the Oklahoma governor and the prison parole board.

## WHATSAPP FOR IOS USERS GET NEW FEATURE TO COPY TEXT FROM IMAGES

WhatsApp has released a new stable update for all iOS users that can be downloaded and installed via the Apple App Store on eligible iPhones.



### HIGHLIGHTS

1. WhatsApp for iOS finally gets support for Optical Character Recognition (OCR).
2. The new update is now available for iOS users who have updated the app to 23.5.77.
3. The changelog does not specifically highlight the feature though.

WhatsApp, one of the most popular instant messaging apps in India and other global markets, has released a new feature on iOS. The company has now released a new update for its iOS app. WhatsApp users on iOS will now be able to copy text from images, thanks to the new update. It has been available for iOS users as a standalone feature but only in the Photos app. With WhatsApp releasing the new update, the feature could be used directly from the messaging app without having to switch to the Photos app.

Unlike a beta update, which tests many features with a select number of users, the new WhatsApp feature is widely available for all users on iOS. **WABetaInfo**, which spotted the new update, also revealed some more details about the feature. Let's take a look at the new WhatsApp update and features introduced on iOS.

WhatsApp for iOS Gets Optical Character Recognition (OCR) Support.

WhatsApp has released a new stable update for all iOS users. The update can be downloaded and installed via the Apple App Store on eligible iPhones. The new WhatsApp feature for iOS provides the ability to extract text right out of an image.

Although the feature has been available for iOS users in the Photos app, users previously could not use OCR on WhatsApp as the app did not provide support for the feature. Once users update the app, they can directly select and copy text from an image and paste it elsewhere.

## WATER ON EARTH FORMED IN INTERSTELLAR SPACE LONG BEFORE SUN: STUDY

Using the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) telescope, astronomers detected gaseous water in the planet-forming disc around the star named 'V883 Orionis' about 1300 light-years away from Earth

A new study has found that the water we drink and use for daily chores was formed in interstellar space long before the Sun came to life. The new finding may help indicate towards the missing link for water in our solar system.

Water that you drink and use for daily chores was formed in the interstellar space long before our Sun came to life, a study has revealed, finding the missing link for water in our solar system.

Using the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) telescope, astronomers detected gaseous water in the planet-forming disc around the star named 'V883 Orionis' about 1300 light-years away from Earth.

This water carries a chemical signature that explains the journey of water from star-forming gas clouds to planets, and supports the idea that water on Earth is even older than our Sun.

"We can now trace the origins of water in our Solar System to before the formation of the Sun," said John J. Tobin, an astronomer at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in the US and lead author of the study published in Nature.

When a cloud of gas and dust collapses, it forms a star at its centre. Around the star, material from the cloud also forms a disc. Over the course of a few million years, the matter in the disc clumps together to form comets, asteroids, and eventually planets.

Tobin and his team used ALMA, in which the European Southern Observatory (ESO) is a partner, to measure chemical signatures of the water and its path from the star-forming cloud to planets. This mid-infrared instrument will be able to resolve the gas-phase of water in these types of discs.