

MUSTREAD



Yuvraj Singh becomes 1st international cricket superstar

Mumbai,(UNI): International cricket icon Yuvraj Singh will don a new hat of an Airbnb host and offer an exclusive one-time-only stay for a group of six at his home in Goa, on west coast of India, from next month. Yuvraj is the first international cricketer from India to host on Airbnb, a release issued here stated on Wednesday. Six guests will have an inside access to the cricketer's three-bedroom holiday home filled with special memories and meaningful keepsakes from his years on the pitch. Singh's home will be available for Rs 1,212 per night (Singh's birthday and jersey number) for a two-night stay from October 14-16. "I am looking forward to being an Airbnb host and opening the doors of my home to a lucky group of six," commented Singh.

T20I ticket sales: Six fans injured in Hyderabad

Hyderabad,(UNI): At least six fans, including two women sustained minor injuries in a stampede at Gymkhana ground here, where the sale of offline tickets began on Thursday, for the third T20I match between India and Australia scheduled to be held at Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Uppal on Sunday. The injured were shifted to a corporate hospital, police said here. There was a minor stampede at the ground where Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) has opened two counters for selling the tickets. The HCA should have arranged atleast eight to 10 counters at the ground but they set up only two counters, police said. Taking serious action over the incident, Telangana Sports Minister V Srinivas Goud warned that stern action will be taken against those selling tickets in black market for the T20. The Minister conducted a review meeting with the Association members over the arrangements for the match. Goud also visited the stadium and sought a report on the capacity of the stadium and the sale of tickets so far.

India looks to Bumrah's return to square series



Nagpur,(UNI)

Going into the match 0-1 against Australia, India here on Friday will look to square the three-match series amidst hopes of Jasprit Bumrah's return on a track that is an antithesis of high-scoring Mohali wicket.

Over 400 runs were scored by India and Australia in the last match, but the track at the Vidarbha Cricket Association looks slowish. The Indian attack led by Bumrah would like to use it to their advantage. India lost the first match by 4 wickets.

Expectations of Bumrah playing the second match are pretty high, considering the bowling performance of Indian bowlers led by Bhuvaneshwar Kumar which has been below par as far too many runs were conceded towards the end of the innings.

The Pakistanis, the Sri Lankans and the Australians have been very severe on Bhuvu in his 19th over, which has been quite a surprise element for the Indian fans.

Bumrah has been out of action since the end of England tour due to back injury.

Yuzvendra Chahal's bowling also has raised question marks as he seems to have lost incisiveness to trouble the batsmen on belter of pitches. However, Axar Patel has proved his mettle straight away after making a comeback in place of the injured Ravindra Jadeja. He bagged 3/17 in the first T20I against Australia at Mohali.

Matthew Hayden gives a mouth-shutting reply to critics of Bhuvneshwar Kumar



Kolkata,(UNI)

India's road to the ICC Men's T20 World Cup started off on a rather sour note as Australia comfortably cruised to victory even as India put on a massive score of to fend off the World Champions. With the challenge of 'Mission Melbourne' looking even more daunting than before, major issues in India's bowling need to be addressed as the death overs have become a major talk point in India's recent perfor-

mances. With many of Australia's young guns and debutants stealing the show last night in Mohali, there seems to be a long way to go before India can be confident about having a successful World Cup campaign. With India receiving another 'reality check' before the start of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, the stakes are high as they face Australia to save the series in the 2nd T20I on September 23, Live and Exclusive on the Star Sports Network and Disney+ Hotstar. Speaking exclusively on Star Sports show 'Match Point', former Australian cricketer Matthew Hayden spoke about who his star performer for Australia in the first T20I against India was and whether India can stick on to their current death bowling regime ahead of the second and third T20Is later this week.

Speaking on Cameron Greene's performance against India, Hayden said on Star Sports show - 'Match Point', "Greene, he has been a really big asset for Australian Cricket for a couple of years now.

Pargat Singh unveils Melbourne Hockey Cup trophy

Jalandhar/Melbourne,(UNI): MLA Olympian Pargat Singh, former captain of Indian hockey team, on Thursday unveiled the trophy of the 1st Melbourne Hockey Cup, to be held at Melbourne Sports Center Parkville, here in Australia from September 23-25. Singh thanked the sponsors of the Melbourne Hockey Cup and said that without their support it would not have been possible to organise such a big tournament in Australia.

Waseem Ahmed, former Pakistan skipper and Olympian Harpreet Shergill, who represented India in the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games, were also present on the occasion.

Mixed luck for Ramkumar in Romania

Sibiu (Romania), (UNI)

India's Ramkumar Ramanathan, pairing with Luca Margaroli of Switzerland, defeated Russian pair of Bogdan Bobrov and Ivan Gakhov 6-7 (7), 6-4, 10-8 in the doubles first round match in the 45,730 Sibiu Open in Romania.

Earlier, Ramkumar Ramanathan was beaten by top seed Federico Coria 6-2, 6-1 in singles first round fix-



ture. (I) Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Christopher Rungkat of Indonesia got first round bye in the doubles first round match in the 45,730 in the Braga Open (Portugal).

In the 45,730 Tennis Ohio Championship in Columbia (USA), Mukund Sasikumar defeated Nicolas Mejia of Colombia 6-4, 6-4 in the singles opening round.



ICC reveals venues for WTC 2023 & 2025 Finals

Dubai,(UNI)

International Cricket Council (ICC) on Wednesday revealed that the World Test Championship (WTC) 2023 Final will be hosted by The Oval in June 2023 while the 2025 Final will be played at Lord's in London, England. The ICC said that the exact dates for both finals will be decided in due course.

The two venues in London will succeed Southampton, which hosted the inaugural final between New Zealand and India in 2021.

New Zealand emerged as the victors in the first edition of the World Test Championship.

The Oval will host the final in June 2023, with the top two teams from the World Test Championship standings making the cut. It has previously hosted the finals of the 2004 and the 2017 editions of the ICC Men's Champions Trophy. Australia and South Africa are currently the top two teams in the standings, with a host of teams on their trail, hoping to surpass them on the table.

Australia have a points percentage of 70, followed by South Africa on 60%. Australia and South Africa will also clash against each other in a three-match series in the current cycle in December-January, which could have a big bearing on the final points table.

"We are delighted to be hosting next year's ICC World Test Championship Final at The Oval which has such a rich legacy and an amazing atmosphere, which is ideal for such an important fixture on the calendar," said ICC Chief Executive Geoff Allardice.

BUSINESS

Air India signs sale-and-lease-back deal with Willis Lease



New Delhi,(UNI)

Tata Group-owned Air India on Thursday said it has signed a sale and lease back deal with Willis Lease Finance Corp for 34 CFM56-5B engines installed on its Airbus A320 family fleet.

Under a sale and lease back financing model, an

asset is sold to a leasing firm and then immediately leased back to the seller.

This frees up capital for operations and transfer the residual value risk to the leasing company. Air India in an official statement said that the engines will be covered under Willis Lease's Con-

stantThrust program which will deliver significant reliability and cost savings versus a traditional MRO (maintenance, repair and overhaul) shop visit program.

Headquartered in Florida, US, Willis Lease is a leading global aviation finance company, specializing in the lease, finance and management of aircraft, spare commercial aircraft engines and auxiliary power units.

"Under the sale side of the transaction, Willis Lease will purchase from Air India 34 engines powering 13 Airbus A321 aircraft and 4 Airbus A320 aircraft.

"Through Constant-Thrust, Willis Lease will provide replacement and

standby spare engines, allowing Air India to avoid potentially costly and unpredictable shop visits on engines powering a transitioning aircraft fleet," Air India said.

Speaking on the agreement, CCO of Air India, Nipun Aggarwal said that the transaction with Willis Lease is very unique and landmark which will enable Air India to eliminate the maintenance burden and fully de-risk itself from the maintenance cost uncertainty associated with the engines which were not covered under any "Power By The Hour" program with the OEMs.

ADB lowers India's GDP growth for FY23 to 7 pc from 7.5 pc

New Delhi,(UNI) : The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has lowered India's GDP (gross domestic product) growth forecast for FY23 to 7 per cent from 7.5 per cent estimated in April this year on higher-than-anticipated inflation and monetary tightening.

The Manila-based multilateral funding agency termed the downward revision in growth as 'modest'. "On the assumption that global demand will remain sluggish and oil prices elevated, this Update revises down the forecasts for growth to 7.0% for FY2022 (ending in March 2023) from ADO 2022's 7.5% projection and to 7.2% from 8.0% for FY2023 (ending in March 2024)," said Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2022 Update.

SBI raises Rs 4,000 cr via Tier 2 bonds

New Delhi,(UNI)

The State Bank of India (SBI) on Thursday said it has raised Rs 4,000 crores via Tier 2 bonds at a coupon rate of 7.57 per cent.

The issue attracted an overwhelming response from investors with bids of Rs. 9,647 crores and was oversubscribed by about five times against the base issue size of Rs. 2,000 crores, a statement from the bank said.

"Based on the response, the Bank has decided to accept Rs 4,000 crores at a coupon rate of 7.57 per cent payable annually for a tenure of 15 years with a call option after 10 years and on anniversary dates, thereafter... The 10-year SDL cut-off was 7.69 per cent annualized on September 20," the statement said.

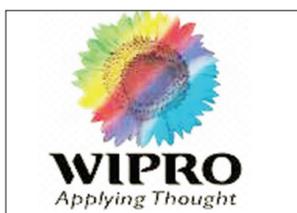


Wipro terminates 300 for moonlighting, NITES threaten legal action

Bengaluru,(UNI)

Wipro Chairman Rishad Premji on Wednesday said his company has removed 300 of its employees who were found to be moonlighting. "It is very simple. It is an act of integrity violation. We terminated the services of those people," Premji told a section of media on the sidelines of the 49th All India Management Association convention.

Moonlighting is a term used for those who clandestinely work for competing companies while being on a payroll for one company. It simply means clandestinely working for more than one company at the same time. Taking cognizance of the issue, Nascent Information Technology Employees Senate (NITES) President Harpreet Singh Saluja termed Wipro's move as unethical and threatened to take a legal course against the illegal clauses



mentioned in the offer letter of IT sector employees. The clauses mentioned in the offer letters and employment contracts need to be reviewed legally by the judiciary, he said. "It is disappointing to hear the news that Wipro has fired around 300 employees in the name of Moonlighting. The arbitrary termination of employees is unethical and illegal, and NITES will leave no stone unturned to provide justice to aggrieved employees," Saluja said.

Alliance Air: Flight to Shimla to resume from Sep 26

Shimla,(UNI): The Shimla airport will have regional air connectivity after a decade with Alliance Air deciding to launch daily operations to Jubbarhati Airport from September 26. Earlier the recommencement was scheduled on September 6, but due to bad weather condition the flight could not commence.

A spokesperson of AA said it will be under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015 under Uddan Scheme, with the vision of connecting far-flung area of India now scheduled for September 26.

Residents particularly hundreds of cab owners are still not certain about the move though as the government has been giving similar assurance since last five years.

CCI nod to Jio Cinema OTT platform merger with Viacom 18

New Delhi,(UNI)

Fair market watchdog Competition Commission of India (CCI) on Thursday said it has approved the merger of Jio Cinema OTT platform with Viacom 18.

Viacom 18 is engaged in providing various media and entertainment services such as broadcasting of channels across genres, OTT video streaming through Voot and Voot Kids, production and distribution of feature films, production and licensing of digital content, and other allied businesses.

The CCI in a statement said that the proposed combination involves the amalgamation of the Jio Cinema OTT platform with Via-



com 18, following an investment by BTS Investment 1 Pte. Ltd. (BTS1) and Reliance Projects & Property Management Services Limited (RPPMSL).

As per the statement, BTS1 is a company incorporated under the laws of Singapore and is currently in the process of raising capital from various investors including sovereign funds, multinationals, and global institutional investors.

RPPMSL, a wholly owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), is engaged in the provision of IT support services, business and infrastructure support services, manpower support services and erection and commissioning of telecom facilities.

HDFC bank signs long-term Data & Tech agreement with Refinitive

Mumbai,(UNI): Private sector lender, HDFC Bank on Wednesday signed a long term data and technology agreement with Refinitiv, a London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG) business, to support digital transformation and innovation programmes across the whole business in India.

Under the multi-year agreement, comprehensive access to Refinitiv's data and products will enable HDFC Bank to realise new customer opportunities and fast-track its innovation agenda while reducing total cost. This will enable innovation as well as cost savings across multiple bank divisions including Wealth Management, Capital Markets & Global Markets, Risk, Compliance, and Customer Onboarding.