

Cross-border smuggling curbed

SHILLONG, Jan 6: Troops of BSF Meghalaya thwarted a major smuggling attempt along the India-Bangladesh border on Sunday. The troops also apprehended one Indian national in AOR of BOP Nongkhen in the area of village Riyazlong, under West Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya while seizing various items worth more than ₹ 9.5 lakh.

Meghalaya witnesses hike in voters number

31,372 of 32500 forms were accepted for corrections



SHILLONG, Jan 6: Meghalaya has a total of 22,69,512 voters as of January 6, 2025, indicating an increase of 52,412 new voters compared to last year's total electors at 22,40,499.

Govt strengthening health care system on a priority basis: Tripura CM

AGARTALA, Jan 6: Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha on Monday said that the state government is working on a priority basis to strengthen the health care system in the state, as the government has taken an initiative to build a health hub in Tripura.

work. One such person was Florence Nightingale, who spread nursing practices worldwide," he said. The chief minister emphasised that the nursing management of any institution must be robust.

Tripura power minister urges to install solar panel for zero electricity bills

AGARTALA, Jan 6: Tripura Power Minister Ratan Lal Nath has urged the state's residents to become self-sufficient electricity producers by installing solar panels, which could lead to zero electricity bills.



Yojana to help citizens produce their own electricity with government subsidies, even earning money by selling surplus energy back to the power corporation," said Nath.

Five human traffickers arrested in Tripura



AGARTALA, Jan 6: In a significant breakthrough, security forces in Tripura have apprehended five human traffickers accused of facilitating illegal crossings of Bangladeshi and Rohingya nationals over the international border.

Two drug peddlers, one extortionist held in separate operations in Manipur

IMPHAL, Jan 6: Security forces arrested two persons for allegedly possessing WY tablets and brown sugar in Manipur's Churachandpur district.



Movement of 331 vehicles carrying essential items along National Highway 2 was ensured, Manipur Police also said in a report.

Arunachal records increase of 0.99 per cent electors

ITANAGAR, Jan 6: Arunachal Pradesh recorded a 0.99 per cent increase in voters compared to last year's final electoral rolls, officials said on Monday.

4 tourists fall in frozen Sela Lake while attempting to walk



ITANAGAR, Jan 6: Four tourists fell into the frozen Sela Lake in Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh, while attempting to walk on its icy surface, an official said on Monday.

the tourists ventured onto the frozen surface of the lake. There was no casualty reported and all of them are fit and fine," additional deputy commissioner (ADC) Hakraso Kri said.

Over 2,350 mln tn cement arrives in Manipur's Khongsang



IMPHAL, Jan 6: In a boost to supply of essential commodities in Manipur, a total of 2,390 million tonnes of cement was transported to the Khongsang railway station by a goods train, Chief Minister N Biren Singh said.

Tripura likely to get trains running on electricity by February

AGARTALA, Jan 6: Trains running on electricity are likely to begin operations in Tripura by February this year, with the completion of a key electrification project in the northeastern state, officials said on Monday.



eastern state. "We had undertaken work for the erection of three traction power substations - Kumarghat in Unakoti district, Teliamura in Khowai district and Udaipur in Gomati district. The erection of Kumarghat substation was completed in March last year," assistant general manager (Transmission), TSECL,

said. Guha said the Railways has sought 5 MW power for each substation on a daily basis, and if required, more power could be supplied.

TENDER NO.11 OF 2024-25 INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) table with columns: Sl. No., Name of Work, Approx Estimated value of work, Tender Value, Earnest money 2% for GNL & 1% for ST/SC/OBC/MOBC, Cost of tender document, Time of completion

PAYAL KAPADIA'S 'ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT' MISSES OUT AT GOLDEN GLOBES

NEW DELHI, Jan 6: Payal Kapadia's "All We Imagine As Light" on Monday failed to convert its two nominations at the 82nd Golden Globe Awards into wins as the film lost to "Emilia Pérez" in the Best Non-English Motion Picture Category and to Brady Corbet of "The Brutalist" fame in the Best Director segment.

Hours after the ceremony, Kapadia shared a throwback photograph with her producers Thomas Hakim, Julien Graff, and Ranabir Das as they were heading to the Golden Globes.

"We didn't win anything but had soo much fun (sic)" she captioned her Instagram Story.

The filmmaker also gave a shout-out to designer Payal Khandwala and stylist Indrakshi Patanaik.

"And a special thank you to @payalkhandwala for this amazing outfit... and @styledbyindrakshi for being the kindest, smartest stylist who helped me feel so confident," wrote Kapadia, who wore a black silk jumpsuit designed by Khandwala.

"All We Imagine As Light", about two Malayali nurses working in Mumbai and their friend, a cook, was nominated in the Best Motion Picture Non-English Language category alongside France's "Emilia Pérez", "The Girl With the Nec-

dle" (Poland), "I'm Still Here" (Brazil), "The Seed of the Sacred Fig" (Germany) and "Ver-miglio" (Italy).

The Best Director Motion Picture category was equally competitive with nominees, including Jacques Audiard ("Emilia Pérez"), Sean Baker ("Anora"), Edward Berger ("Conclave") and Coralie Fargeat ("The Substance").

An official India-French co-production, "All We Imagine..." stars Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha, and Chhaya Kadam. The Malayalam-Hindi movie is produced by Petit Chaos, Chalk & Cheese, and Another Birth.

"All We Imagine As Light" may have missed at the Golden Globes, but the film has been on a winning streak at international platforms since it scripted history by becoming the first film from India to win the Grand Prix trophy at the Cannes Film Festival last year.

The film is nominated in the Best Foreign Language Film category at the 30th annual Critics Choice Awards, to be held on January 12.

The movie was named the Best International Film by New York Film Critics Circle and won an award in the same category at the Gotham Awards recently.

It also claimed the top spot at the Sight and Sound magazine's annual list of 50 best movies of the year.

It is also expected to earn nominations at the BAFTAs where it features in the longlist.

Corbet's "The Brutalist" revolves around a visionary architect and his wife, who flee post-war Europe in 1947 to rebuild their legacy and witness the birth of the modern United States. But their lives are changed forever by a mysterious, wealthy client.

"The Brutalist" was also crowned Best Drama Film and Best Actor for Adrian Brody.

The genre-shifting trans musical "Emilia Pérez" won Best film, Comedy or Musical. It also won Best Supporting Actress for Zoe Saldña, Best Song ("El Mal") and Best Non-English Language Film.

"Emilia Pérez", which is also France's official entry to Oscars 2025, follows four remarkable women in Mexico, each pursuing their own happiness. Cartel leader Emilia enlists Rita, an unappreciated lawyer, to help fake her death so that she can finally live authentically as her true self.

The Golden Globe Awards, telecast in the US on Sunday night, streamed live in India on Monday on Lionsgate Play. (PTI)



Glad our film will finally hit big screen: Kangana Ranaut on 'Emergency'

NEW DELHI, Jan 6: Actor-filmmaker Kangana Ranaut shared the trailer of her much awaited film "Emergency" on Monday, calling the journey to the release of the political drama a long one "filled with challenges". Starring Ranaut as former prime minister Indira Gandhi, the film missed out on its September 6, 2024 release date as it was unable to obtain the clearance certificate from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).

"Emergency" was mired in controversy after Sikh organisations, including the Shiromani Akali Dal, accused it of misrepresenting the community and getting facts wrong.

Ranaut, who also serves as director and producer on the film, said she is looking forward to its release on January 17.

"I'm glad that our film 'Emergency' will finally hit the big screen on 17th January. This story isn't just about a controversial leader; it delves into themes that remain profoundly relevant today, making the journey both difficult and significant," the actor-BJP MP said in a statement. "Releasing just a week before Republic Day, it's the perfect time to reflect on the resilience of our Constitution and experience the film with your loved ones," she added.

Ranaut shared the trailer of the film on her X handle.

She captioned her post as: "1975, Emergency - A Defining chapter in Indian History. Indira: India's most powerful woman. Her ambition transformed the nation, but her #EMERGENCY plunged it into chaos." "Emergency" delves into the emergency that was imposed by Indira Gandhi for 21 months from 1975 to 1977 and its aftermath. "As we mark 50 years since the 1975 Emergency, this film isn't just a historical retelling—it's a reflection on the resilience of democracy and a tribute to those who fought to protect it. 'Emergency' is a cinematic milestone that challenges audiences to question, engage, and remember the cost of freedom," added producer Umesh KR Bansal. (PTI)



Top filmmakers to mentor 'MAMI Select-Filmed on iPhone' initiative

NEW DELHI, Jan 6: The Mumbai Academy of Moving Image (MAMI), organizers of the MAMI Mumbai Film Festival, on Monday announced the second edition of 'MAMI Select - Filmed on iPhone' initiative, which will be mentored by eminent filmmakers Konkona Sensharma, Vetri Maran, Vikramaditya Motwane and Lijo Jose Pellissery.

The initiative is aimed at nurturing four new filmmakers from across India. They will be provided with a grant, the iPhone 16 Pro Max to shoot the film and the MacBook Pro to edit the film.

Four emerging filmmakers will be selected from across the country and they have to make four short films, each between 20 and 40 minutes long and presented in four languages: Hindi, Malayalam, Marathi, and Tamil. The four selected filmmakers will be mentored by an illustrious panel, including actor and director Sensharma, Malayalam filmmaker Lijo Jose Pellissery, director-producer Vikramaditya Motwane and Tamil filmmaker Vetri Maaran.

From pre-production to post-production, these mentors will guide the filmmakers in pushing the boundaries of storytelling using cutting-edge technology.

The completed short films will premiere at a special screening event, followed by their release on the MAMI YouTube channel, ensuring widespread accessibility and audience engagement.

"As we embark on a new year with a new inclusive vision for MAMI to encourage in-

dependent cinema and fresh voices, I am delighted to announce MAMI Select - Filmed on iPhone where for the first time we have opened the call for applications across the country to make films in four regional languages," said Shivendra Singh Durgapur, Festival Director, MAMI.

Motwane, who was part of the first initiative, said he is happy to be returning as a mentor again.

"I was completely blown away by the quality of the storytelling and the technical finesse of the short films last year and I cannot wait to see what kind of magic the new batch of filmmakers create this year. I'm also honoured and excited to be working with my fellow mentors and genius filmmakers Konkona, Lijo and Vetri Maaran."

Sensharma said she is happy to partner with MAMI on this initiative, given its focus on enabling and providing a platform to fresh young filmmaking voices.

Pellissery called "MAMI Select - Filmed on iPhone" an excellent initiative to foster the talent of budding filmmakers across India.

"Given the diversity of Indian cinema, I was so happy to hear that the aim of this programme is to identify and support filmmakers from different regions of India and to give them a platform to show their films. I am honoured that I was invited to be a mentor for the Malayalam film and I look forward to my interactions with the filmmaker and sharing my knowledge and experience." (PTI)

Wish they become bigger than us: Ajay Devgn on nephew Aaman, Raveena Tandon's daughter Rasha

MUMBAI, Jan 6: Superstar Ajay Devgn on Monday said he hopes newcomers Aaman Devgan and Rasha Thadani, who are set to make their acting debut with "Azaad", go on to become bigger stars than him and colleague Raveena Tandon.

Aaman is Devgn's nephew and Thadani is the daughter of film distributor Anil Thadani and Tandon, who has worked with Devgn in films such as "Dilwale" (1994) and "Divya Shakti" (1993).

Devgn plays a pivotal role in "Azaad", a pre-Independence period drama directed by Abhishek Kapoor. The Hindi film is set to be released on January 17.

"I wish they go beyond us, they become bigger than us. (I hope) Whatever little we achieve, they get more than that. A lot of things have changed.

"When we came into the industry, there was a certain rawness to us. Today's new generation is coming prepared which is a good thing. We were learning on the sets," the "Singham Again" star told reporters at the trailer launch of "Azaad" here.

Devgn said audiences earlier would be a little more "forgiving" towards new actors, but today it isn't so.

"Audiences used to forgive our mistakes somewhere but today's audience doesn't forgive anyone. So you have to come prepared. Hopefully, I feel these children have prepared well and Abhishek has guided them well... I feel no matter what you prepare it always feels less because I know the audience doesn't

forgive anyone today." The actor said the next generation needs to embark on their own journey.

"If you follow someone, then you will never succeed. You can take inspiration from many people but you need to figure your own path," he said.

Aaman said it was his uncle's 2002 period drama "The Legend of Bhagat Singh" which inspired him to become an actor.

"The best advice I got from him (Devgn) was no matter how much success you achieve, you need to be grounded. If you genuinely want to achieve something, you have to be a good person," he added.

Rasha said her mother asked her to follow the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita.

"Putting in your best and then whatever happens is up to god. This stuck with me because in this industry, there are a lot of emotions, overthinking, and, of course, a lot of trolls. If you listen to everyone, it will drain you," she said.

While Tandon and Devgn have worked together, the debutante said she first met him on the set of "Azaad".

"I was nervous. (But) He has this aura that just makes everyone feel comfortable. So, luckily throughout we felt secure and nice. It's just been such a fun experience." "Azaad" also features Diana Penty and Mohit Malik in pivotal roles. The film is written by Ritesh Shah, Suresh Nair, and Abhishek Kapoor, and produced by Ronnie Screwvala and Pragya Kapoor. (PTI)



Jaideep Ahlawat's Hathi Ram Chaudhary sets out to unravel new mystery in 'Paatal Lok 2' trailer

NEW DELHI, Jan 6: Actor Jaideep Ahlawat is returning as the world-weary 'jamunapar' police inspector Hathi Ram Chaudhary in "Paatal Lok 2", whose trailer, released on Monday, promises a new mystery that takes its primary characters to Nagaland.

The eight-episode series, which is slated to stream on Prime Video from January 17, is directed by Avinash Arun Dhaware. Produced by Clean Slate Flimz in association with Eunoia Films, the crime thriller is written, created and executive produced by Sudip Sharma.

Ahlawat, who shot to great acclaim after the season one premiered in 2020, said the first season was a "milestone" in his career and the love he received for it still humbles him.

"Hathi Ram Chaudhary wasn't just a character, it became a mirror reflecting the complexities of society and humanity, striking a chord with millions worldwide. With Season 2, we delve even deeper into Hathi Ram's psyche. This season unravels the raw, vulnerable side of him as he grapples with new adversities, uncharted moral dilemmas, and his own shadows," he said in a statement. (PTI)

