

The Australian Indian EXPRESS

English

Australia, US and UK announce new security partnership called AUKUS

Canberra, (TIE Australia). Australia, the US and UK have announced the creation of a new trilateral security partnership.

US President Joe Biden, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison made the announcement during a virtual event.

In a joint statement, the three governments said the partnership, called "AUKUS", will help "significantly deepen cooperation on a range of security and defence capabilities".

The first initiative under AUKUS is for Australia to acquire nuclear-powered submarine technology, leveraging decades of experience from the US and UK.

Under AUKUS, the three nations will focus immediately on identi-

fying the optimal pathway to deliver at least eight nuclear-powered submarines for Australia.

Over the next 18 months, Australia, the UK and US will intensely examine the full suite of requirements that underpin nuclear stewardship and demonstrate a clear pathway to becoming a responsible and reliable steward of this sensitive technology. Australia will establish a Nuclear-Powered Submarine Taskforce in the Department of Defence to lead this work.

Nuclear-powered submarines do not have the same limitations that face conventional submarines on weapons storage, speed and endurance. They can stay completely submerged for many months, limiting the opportunities for detection by adversaries.

As a three-ocean nation, it is necessary for Australia to have access to the most capable submarine technology available. As a nation, we are ready to take the step to pursue the most advanced submarine technology available to defend Australia and its national interests.

Australia has no plans to acquire nuclear weapons and this proposal will remain consistent with Australia's longstanding commitment to nuclear non-proliferation. All three nations are deeply committed to upholding leadership on global non-proliferation.

The Government's intention is to build the nuclear-powered submarines in South Australia, maximising the use of Australian workers.

Building the submarines in Australia is the best way to develop a strong and effective sustainment industry, which will enable us to meet every requirement to safely operate and maintain nuclear-powered submarines.

The pursuit of nuclear-powered submarine technology means that Australia will no longer proceed with the Attack class conventional submarine program with the Naval Group.

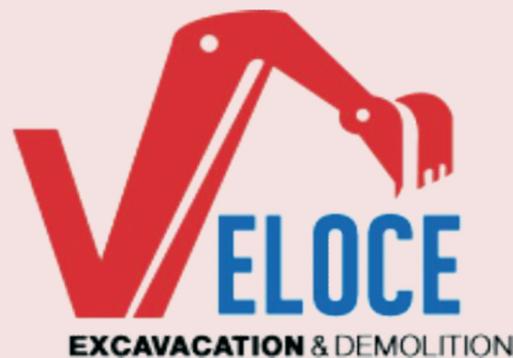
The Government would like to thank the Attack class submarine workforce, Naval Group, the Government of France and Lockheed Martin Australia for their efforts to date. However, accelerating changes to regional security make conventional submarines unsuited to our

operational needs in the decades ahead.

The Government will actively work with industry to ensure the people and skills developed under the existing program are not lost to the Government's Naval Shipbuilding Enterprise as we establish a new program to support the delivery of nuclear-powered submarines to the Navy.

The Government will also acquire additional long-range strike capabilities for the Australian Defence Force.

Throughout the decade, Australia will rapidly acquire long-range strike capabilities to enhance the ADF's ability to deliver strike effects across our air, land and maritime domains.



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The passion of helping others drove me to be a Real Estate Agent : Manny Adhana

Helping others, commitment towards work and patience are the three things that drives Real Estate Agent Manny Adhana to be the person he is now. He says "only hard work won't fulfill your life, it is the concern that you show towards yourself by staying healthy, enhancing knowledge and growing relations with like minded individuals which will present you a wholesome living". As his agency Imperial Real Estate completes 5 months let us know more about him.

1. Tell us why you moved into the real estate business?

Mr Manny : Well, being a businessman I gladly take up opportunities that come my way to invest in. Victoria hosts a multicultural society and hence it is a growing market. People migrate in to reside, making the place ever buzzing. For a long time I researched and after identifying such indications of running a prosperous real estate agency business I sealed my decision.

Anybody who wants to Buy, Sell or Rent their property looks out for a genuine person to rely on and I took

up that opportunity and motivated myself to be the person who can help them.

2. Some initial experience that you would like to share?

Mr Manny : To be in the business one needs to be patient and believe in their skills. When I started, there were fewer recommendations that came my way. Patiently I started growing my network, met new people, understood their requirements. Subsequently as I proved to be trustworthy for them my job became easier. Clients drop in themselves, they call me to update their requirements. The brand that I have built working in the community is showing r e -

sults today. And I am enjoying the time where I can live my passion of helping others.

3. What are the tools you have used to promote your business?

Mr Manny : Initially I was

in the fitness industry, people who visited my gym were the first ones who helped me to grow my network. The inputs that I got from them gave me an idea of their requirements. I had to take care of the varying requirements of different communities. To capture the market I started running Facebook Ads and shared information across my database. My clients who knocked at the beginning were the ones who needed a bankable person they can trust to sell-off their property. Over the years my work has proved my genuinity and integrity. Presently my name is worthy enough to bring b u s i -

ness without any doubts.

4. Any suggestions for new entrants in your line of Business?

Mr Manny : Only way one can get success as an agent is by building relationships. One has to be in the market, develop interpersonal and negotiation skills to create a platform. Interacting more with people brings in a lot of information that we can use while negotiating with clients. Other than that trust, clarity and genuinity are the other traits that can help hold your position in the business.

5. How do you keep yourself motivated?

Mr Manny: During these pandemic situations all of us are affected. Long lockdown weeks have brought out the worst in all of us, but I believe we can counter anything with our mind. I cannot change the situation but help myself by staying active and indulging in healthy activities. To keep my mind at ease I read a lot, hit the gym everyday, wake up early to walk at least for an hour, eat healthy food and give adequate time to my family. I focus on the controllables, tweak them as per my convenience and get a fruitful result.



Australians more anxious, stressed amid Covid: Survey

Melbourne, (TIE Australia). A majority of Australians believe that their lives have gotten worse since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, a new survey revealed on Thursday.

According to the survey of more than 3,000 people, which was published by the Australian National University (ANU), Australians felt more negative about the future than they did at the start of the pandemic, reports Xinhua news agency.

The poll was conducted with about half of the Australian

population in lockdown in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), New South Wales and Victoria.

"The dramatic changes in the past four months have led to declines in life satisfaction, worsening in psychological distress and an increase in loneliness across Australia," Nicholas Biddle, the co-author of the study, said in a media release.

More than 60 per cent of respondents said they were

anxious or worried about coronavirus, up from 49.8 per cent in April.

The number of Australians who said they were concerned about contracting the virus almost tripled from 10.7 per cent in April to 30.8 per cent in August.

Half of the respondents said they were more stressed this year than in 2020, and over one quarter said their relationships had become more strained in 2021.

Confidence in the federal government's handling of the pandemic fell from 45.5 per cent in April to 40.6 per cent while faith in state and territory governments fell from 67.2 to 62.1 per cent in the same time period.

"These lockdown blues are impacting on people's reflections on their own lives," co-author Matthew Gray said.

"Australians are more likely to think that their life had gotten worse, were more likely to say

that they felt more negative about the future than they were in May, were more stressed, and more likely to say that their relationship had got more difficult or strained."

The report was published as Australia's overall Covid-19 infection tally has increased to 78,545, while the death toll stood at 1,116.



Record Low Unemployment Shows Underlying Economic Strength

Melbourne, (TIE Australia). Victoria is well on the way to smashing its target of creating 400,000 jobs by 2025, with 288,000 finding work since September 2020, according to data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics today. The data shows that more than 29,000 people found work in August alone – the highest of any state, while employment fell

nationally in the month. While restrictions put in place to save lives and protect our health system have, and continue to, put pressure on the businesses and the economy – the data shows the underlying strength of the economy heading into the most recent lockdown. Victoria's unemployment rate fell to a staggeringly low 4.1 per cent, the lowest unemployment rate

in Victoria since records began in 1978. This is easily the lowest of any State, and well below the national average of 4.5 per cent. Victoria's participation rate has also reached a new record level – rising to 66.9 per cent in August – with both male and female participation rates increasing. These results show that Victoria's economy is resilient despite the impacts of

the global pandemic. The Victorian Government continues to provide significant support to Victorian businesses impacted by the pandemic, providing more than \$10 billion in direct economic support to businesses since the start of the pandemic. The most recent support package provides an unprecedented \$2.34 billion (jointly funded by the Commonwealth

and Victorian Governments) and will support around 175,000 Victorian small and medium-sized businesses hit hardest by the current public health lockdown. The Government's latest budget was focused on growing jobs, with more than \$26 billion to support an average of 38,000 jobs across the state each year over the next four years.

Supporting Regional Businesses When They Need It Most

Victoria, (TIE Australia). Support for licensed bars, cafes, hotels and clubs across regional Victoria will continue through September, and other businesses in regional areas will also be supported where ongoing restrictions severely affect operations. With the City of Ballarat entering a seven-day lockdown, all eligible businesses in that local government area will receive Business Costs Assistance Program and Licensed Hospitality Venue Fund payments for the last two weeks of September – along with more than 100,000 metropolitan businesses. Payments to

businesses will range from \$5,600 to \$40,000 for the fortnight to help pay wages, rent, utilities and other ongoing expenses. In recognition of ongoing patron and density limits, Licensed Hospitality Venue Fund payments will be made across the state for the period 17-30 September, regardless of location.

Some 2,300 eligible cafes, restaurants, hotels and bars in regional areas and more than 7,000 in metropolitan Melbourne will receive automatic payments. Venues with a capacity of under 100 people will receive \$10,000 for the

fortnight, those with a capacity of 100-499 will receive \$20,000 while the largest venues will receive \$40,000. In addition to automatic Business Costs Assistance Program payments in Melbourne and the City of Ballarat, the Victorian Government has confirmed that payments under this program will be made for the next two weeks to eligible businesses outside these areas. Eligible businesses include hospitality and accommodation operations, gyms, hair and nail salons, and tourism and events-related businesses. The full list of eligible ANZSIC codes for the Business

Costs Assistance Program in regional Victoria outside the City of Ballarat will be available on the Business Victoria website from Friday. Under the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Four, businesses with an annual payroll of up to \$650,000 will receive \$5,600 – equal to two weekly payments of \$2,800. Businesses with a payroll of \$650,000-\$3 million will get \$11,200 and businesses with a wages bill of \$3 million-\$10 million will receive \$16,800. The Victorian Government has provided more than \$10 billion in direct economic support to business since the start of the

pandemic, including \$4.2 billion in cash grants to 145,000 businesses since the May/June lockdown. The Business Costs Assistance Program Round Four and payments under the Licensed Hospitality Fund since 28 July 2021 are jointly funded by the Victorian and Commonwealth governments.

Industry Support and Recovery Martin Pakula "This continuing support recognises the changed restrictions in regional Victoria, particularly in Ballarat. It's about providing support to businesses most impacted and who are making sacrifices to keep our community safe."

Nation-First Care For Victorian Tradies Against Silicosis

Victoria, (TIE Australia). Victorian stonemasons at risk of silicosis will be able to get free world-class health screenings and treatments thanks to a landmark partnership between WorkSafe and The Alfred. Minister for Workplace Safety Ingrid Stitt today announced Australia's only dedicated public hospital occupational respiratory clinic, The Alfred Occupational Respiratory Clinic. For the first time, eligible workers in the stonemason industry can now undergo a full health assessment for silicosis and receive both their health outcome and a treatment plan during a one-day clinic visit. This will reduce time off work and take away much of the stress and anxiety of waiting for results. The clinic builds on the work of WorkSafe's free silica health screening program, which was launched in May 2019 as part of the Andrews Labor Government's comprehensive plan to protect workers from exposure to crystalline silica and provide ongoing care to those affected. More than 90 per cent of Victoria's estimated 1,400 past and present stonemasons have since registered for screening. While reaching this registration milestone is an achievement, tragically there have been 168 claims to WorkSafe following positive diagnoses for silicosis.

A fast-tracked compensation process is in place for affected workers and their families so they can get the personalised treatment and support they need. The clinic will provide a central location for assessments of eligible workers in the stonemason industry and an ongoing centre for those with a positive diagnosis to manage their illness. Stonemasons are at a particularly high risk of silicosis due to working with engineered stone which contains high concentrations of crystalline silica. The Government's Silica Action Plan includes a state-wide ban on the uncontrolled dry-cutting of engineered stone, a tough new compliance code, developing Australia's first licencing scheme and an enforcement blitz by WorkSafe inspectors.

Minister for Workplace Safety Ingrid Stitt said "Silicosis has had a debilitating effect on too many tradies – this partnership will mean many people facing this horrible disease will be able to get the care and support they deserve from a dedicated team of health professionals."

WorkSafe CEO Colin Radford said "Silica health screening and treatment is often a stressful experience for workers and their families, which is why having a centralised clinic to manage their health journey will make such a difference."

New Freedoms When 70 Per Cent First Dose Target Reached

Victoria, (TIE Australia). Thanks to the incredible efforts of our community, Victoria will hit our 70 per cent first dose vaccination target tomorrow – becoming the second state in Australia to do so. With this milestone, new freedoms can take effect – but emerging risks must be addressed and we need to keep the momentum going to hit 70 per cent and 80 per cent double dose targets as soon as possible. Victoria's Chief Health Officer has recommended some modest easing to restrictions from 11.59pm Friday, 17 September in lockdown areas of metropolitan Melbourne and Ballarat – expanding outdoor social interaction, exercise, the distance you can travel from home and more.

The most significant change is that there will now be one other reason to leave home: outdoor social interaction. This means one person may meet another person not from their household for a picnic, a walk, or another outdoor activity. Additionally, up to five adults (plus dependents) from two households will be able to gather outdoors if all adults present have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. The time permitted for exercise – and now outdoor social interaction – will increase from two

hours a day to four hours. The distance you can leave home for shopping for necessary goods and services, exercise and outdoor social interaction will increase from five kilometres to 10 kilometres. As part of further changes to exercise, two people will now be able to train outdoors with a personal trainer. Skate parks and outdoor communal exercise equipment will reopen. Child-minding for school-aged children will be permitted if only one parent is an authorised worker. Up to five people will be able to attend an entertainment venue or physical recreation facility to broadcast a performance, class, or concert. Real estate inspections will resume by appointment only. To ensure they're COVIDSafe, only people from the same household can attend the inspection appointment and the real estate agent must stay outdoors during the inspection. While these changes can go ahead, public health officials have become increasingly concerned about COVID-19 transmission and exposure in construction settings, with evidence that it emerging as a 'vector' of the virus into regional areas. Changes will be made to limit

further spread in this industry, allowing people to keep working safely. In order to continue working, construction workers state-wide will need to show evidence to their employer that they have had a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by 11:59pm Thursday, 23 September. Limited medical exemptions and proof-of-booking exceptions will apply, in line with previous requirements for residential aged care workers. In light of the cases seeding from Melbourne into regional Victoria, construction workers will now not be able to cross the metropolitan-regional boundary for work. Tea rooms will need to close and food or drink will not be able to be consumed indoors at work. Worker shift bubbles must be in practice and all sites will require a COVID-Safe Marshal on site. From 11.59pm tomorrow night, there will also be some changes to COVIDSafe settings in regional Victoria – excluding the City of Ballarat which entered lockdown yesterday. In regional Victoria, gyms and outdoor and indoor pools (excluding spas, saunas and steam rooms) will reopen with limits and hydrotherapy and swimming lessons can occur. Tour buses can operate up to 10 people

Have Your Say On The Future Of Victoria's Parks

Victoria, (TIE Australia). The Victorian Government has launched a new Parks Victoria Land Management Strategy (LMS) and is inviting Victorians to give feedback on how our parks will be managed into the future. The draft Land Management Strategy (LMS) is a state-wide document that sets out long-term strategies for the

protection, management and use of Parks Victoria land for the next decade. The LMS will help Parks Victoria respond to the complex social, cultural and environmental challenges, including working alongside Traditional Owners, increasing demand for visitor experiences, a growing population and climate change.

Once finalised, the Land Management Strategy will be an important guide for developing and reviewing park management plans and set out priorities for partners, stakeholders and community. Along with the draft LMS, Parks Victoria has developed a draft Outcomes Reporting Framework providing clear measures to track the strategy's implementation over time. Parks

Victoria, with DELWP, supported the development of the Cultural Landscapes Strategy facilitated by the Federation of Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations. The objectives identified in the Cultural Landscapes Strategy will complement the outcomes and priorities of the LMS.

Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate

Change Lily D'Ambrosio said "This is a significant opportunity for the Victorian community to have their say and make sure our parks are healthy and resilient for future generations."

"The Strategy is about long-term outcomes – setting out how we restore and protect our parks and support sustainable tourism, particularly in regional Victoria."



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Harish Rawat meets Sonia, asked to settle Punjab issue

New Delhi, (TIE Australia) Punjab Congress in-charge Harish Rawat has met Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, and sources said he has been asked to settle the raging tussle within the party as MLAs have once again started raising voices and seeking the Legislative party meet.

Rawat met the two top leaders here on Wednesday.

He is also said to have spoken to the top Congress leaders in Punjab.

The MLAs have demanded that two neutral observers be

sent from Delhi so that they can narrate their grievances. The prime movers this time are Pargat Singh and Tript Singh Bajwa, both are close to the state President Navjot Singh Sidhu.

While Rawat is likely to travel to Chandigarh before he starts the second leg of his yatra on Saturday from Haridwar. He was in Chandigarh in the first week of this month to settle issues, but fresh trouble has surfaced.

Punjab Congress President Navjot Singh Sidhu had last month travelled to Delhi to meet

Congress leadership but was advised to talk to General Secretary in-charge Harish Rawat, who was in Chandigarh that time.

Harish Rawat has met all the stakeholders in the state. He has also held meetings with Chief Minister Amarinder Singh regarding the tussle. Rawat in Chandigarh had said, "We are heading towards an amicable solution."

Both Sidhu and Amarinder are pitted against each other and the state Congress infighting has escalated.

Harish Rawat had met Rahul Gandhi on the issue in the past and had briefed him about the situation in the state.

There is also uneasiness after Amarinder Singh remarks on farmers' protest which was criticised by Samyukt Kisan Morcha.

Amarinder said, "His government as well as the people of

Punjab, had always stood with the farmers on the issue of the farm laws, and it was sad that they were now suffering due to the continued protests of the farming community across the state".



BJP to induct influential leaders of other parties in poll-bound states

New Delhi, (TIE Australia) In the run up to next year's Assembly polls in five states, the BJP has planned to induct local influential leaders of other political parties to boost its campaign.

As per the plan, the BJP will try to induct influential leaders from the opposition camps, both at the Assembly and block levels.

Five states -- Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur -- are scheduled to go to the polls next year.

A senior BJP leader aware of the development pointed out that there are many influential leaders in the opposition camps at the Assembly and block levels who are unhappy with their current organisation due to different reasons.

"We are approaching these disgruntled leaders with a request to join us to serve the people. Those who are ready to serve the people and agree to follow the ideology of the BJP

are welcome. There will not be any pre-condition like ticket or other promises for joining the party," he said.

The BJP is also approaching influential individuals with an offer to join the party.

"We can find many influential individuals at the local level. Many of them are not interested in electoral politics, but are willing to work for the society. We will ask them to join us to serve the people and the society in a better way," a party leader said.

The BJP leaders in some poll-bound states believe that these people will help the party at the ground level, besides weakening the opposition camps.

A party insider said that feedback will be taken from the local BJP leadership before allowing anyone to join the saffron camp.

Bengal bypolls: BJP urges EC to deploy 90 companies of central forces

New Delhi, (TIE Australia) The BJP on Wednesday urged the Election Commission of India (ECI) to deploy a minimum of 90 companies of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) for the bypolls to three Assembly constituencies in West Bengal scheduled on September 30.

A BJP delegation submitted a memorandum to the poll panel demanding the deployment of at least 40 companies of CAPF in Bhabanipur from where Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is contesting, and at least 25 companies in each of the other two Assembly constituencies in Samsanganj and Jangipur.

BJP national General Secretary Arun Singh, MPs Swapan Dasgupta and Lockett Chatterjee, and party leaders Sanjay Mayukh, Om Pathak, Shishir Bajoria and Neeraj signed the memorandum.

testing for survival. The Trinamool Congress has deployed its entire strength of hooligans," the BJP memorandum said.

The BJP claimed that the Trinamool, its office-bearers, ministers and other senior functionaries are now preparing to abuse the state's resources in support of Banerjee.

The BJP also alleged that the officials who were shifted out by the Commission, either for completing three years in a post or for being found unfit for conducting free and fair polls, have been brought back in the three Constituencies by the Trinamool, demanding that they should be immediately transferred out of the Kolkata district.

"Hoardings, posters and banners with photos of Chief Minister Banerjee should immediately be removed from all

government and municipal sites from the KMC area," the BJP demanded.

Citing Covid, the BJP urged the ECI that the presence of the agents of the candidates inside the polling booths should be restricted only to the national parties, while all other polling agents should be seated outside the booths.

"Firhad Hakim, a state minister and administrator of Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC), who is a close confidante and an undeclared election agent of Banerjee, should be debarred from participating in the poll process in any form and be relieved from his charge of KMC until the conclusion of the elections in Bhabanipur, an area falling within the limits of KMC," the BJP further demanded.

UK PM reshuffles cabinet

London, (TIE Australia) UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson has reshuffled his cabinet with an aim to put in place "a strong and united team to build back better from the pandemic", according to Downing Street.

Wednesday's reshuffle will also have a focus on "uniting and levelling up the whole country", Xinhua news agency quoted the Downing Street as saying in a statement.

Dominic Raab, who has removed as the Foreign Secretary, will now become Justice Secretary and also take up the role of Deputy Prime Minister.

He had been under fire for his handling of the UK's withdrawal from Afghanistan and his decision to stay on holiday until hours after Kabul's fall to the Taliban, according to local media.

His replacement Liz Truss, who was International Trade Secretary, has become the second woman to hold the position of Foreign Secretary in Britain.

She has reportedly received praises for securing trade deals between Britain and a number of countries following the Brexit.



Raab replaced Robert Buckland who was removed from the Justice Secretary post.

Buckland tweeted: "It has been an honour to serve in government for the last seven years, and as the Lord Chancellor for the last two. I am deeply proud of everything I have achieved. On to the next adventure."

Johnson's reshuffle also brought about the exit of Gavin Williamson as Education Secretary and Robert Jenrick as Housing Secretary.

The removal of Williamson from his post came as he was criticised for his handling of disruption to schools and exams during the pandemic, according to local media.

Jenrick has faced calls for resignation after he admitted last year his decision to unlawfully approve a controversial property development bid by a Conservative donor.

Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change, has filled the vacancy left by Truss to become the International Trade Secretary.

Nadhim Zahawi, Minister for Covid Vaccine Deployment, has been promoted to Education Secretary.

Michael Gove, Minister for the Cabinet Office, has been appointed as the new Housing Secretary.

Nadine Dorries, Minister for Mental Health, has become the new Culture Secretary.

Home Secretary Priti Patel, Defence Secretary Ben Wallace and Health Secretary Sajid Javid have retained their posts.

The UK's previous major cabinet reshuffle was in February 2020, just before the Covid-19 pandemic started and the country went into its first lockdown.

EU to convene defence summit in 2022

Strasbourg, (TIE Australia) The European Union (EU) will convene a defence summit next year during the French presidency of the Council of the EU, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced.

The situation in Afghanistan and the rapid collapse of the government there necessitates that the EU step up its defence, von der Leyen said on Wednesday during her second State of the Union speech before members of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France.

"It is time for Europe to step up to the next level," von der Leyen said.

"(French) President (Emmanuel) Macron and I will convene a summit on European defence," she added.

Macron has been insisting on the 27-nation EU developing more autonomous military capacities.

"Witnessing events unfold in Afghanistan was profoundly painful for the families and friends of fallen servicemen and servicewomen... We have to reflect on how this (US-led) mission could end so abruptly," she said.

"There are deeply troubling questions that allies will have to tackle within NATO... But there's simply no security and defence issue where less cooperation is the answer. We need to invest in our joint partnership and to draw on each side's unique strength," von der Leyen said.

She said the EU was working with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg on a new EU-NATO Joint Declaration to be presented before the end of the year.

However, this was "only one part of the equation," she said.

"Europe can, and clearly should, be able and willing to do more on its own."

The rapid collapse of Afghanistan's US-backed government and the victory of the Taliban have prompted many European politicians to reflect on the EU's role in international affairs and on its over-dependence on American military forces, and to call for strategic autonomy of the bloc in defence and security matters.



The Mass Exodus from Afghanistan, but where are they heading to ?

The Taliban reported that thousands of people were scrambling to flee Afghanistan. The United Nations warned that up to half a million Afghans could flee the country by the end of the year and has called on neighbouring countries to keep their borders open. It is reported that 2.2 million Afghan refugees are already in neighbouring countries and with the current crisis 3.5 million people are forced to flee their homes within Afghanistan's borders. So where are they heading to? Which countries are giving them a sanctuary to start a peaceful life?

The European Union Support

It has been reported that Pakistan and Iran have taken in most of the refugees, apart from that the UN citing humanitarian considerations are requesting the European countries to take in refugees from Afghanistan. Officials in several European Union countries say they are keen to avoid a repeat of the 2015 migrant crisis, when there was a populist backlash against large numbers of Syrian refugees being allowed to enter EU territory.

France, which evacuated more than 2,800 people from Kabul airport, mostly Afghans, has indicated it will accept some refugees but has not specified a number. Germany has also not specified a number but Chancellor Angela Merkel has said as many as 40,000 people still in the country may have a right to be evacuated to Germany if they feel they are endangered.

Other EU countries, like Austria, Poland and Switzerland have said they will not accept any new Afghan arrivals and are upping their border security to guard against illegal arrivals.

The UK has said it will take in 5,000 Afghans in 2021 as part of a scheme to resettle 20,000 over the next few years, focusing on those at greatest risk from the Taliban.

The UN Support

The UN has called on its member states to help Afghan people in "their darkest hour of need" - but while some countries have offered refugees a safe haven, others have indicated they will not be giving sanctuary to those fleeing the crisis.

Both Pakistan and Iran have said that they cannot cope with a further influx of Afghan refugees. Officials in both countries have said that any refugees that do arrive will have to stay in camps near the border until they can return to Afghanistan.

Uzbekistan has said it will help transfer Afghans to third countries but will only host refugees temporarily. The Tajikistan government previously offered to accept up to 100,000 refugees but it's unclear if any have been allowed in yet. Turkmenistan has said its airspace can be used for evacuation flights but it hasn't made any commitment to take in refugees itself.

Deliberate move by Islamic countries

Even in the past it was noticed that hardly any Islamic countries ever took in refugees of their own faith. Many across the world believe this to be by deliberation since spread of Islam is one of the prime

duties for followers of the faith. This cause gets a boost if Islamic refugees find homes in non-Islamic countries. Human rights, humanitarian considerations, welfare of women and children are cited for nations to accept the refugees.

Past history tells us that Muslim refugees remain strictly binded within their traditional way of life, culture and religion even in their adopted nations. Majority of them are unable to assimilate the culture of the nations to which they migrate. This gives rise to many communal and cultural issues over time. The end result is that they drift apart from the nation's main stream. This in turn makes them second rate citizens which results in more problems.

Islamic refugees never go back to their homeland, they stay in the adopted country and overtime try to implement their religious laws to govern themselves. This is where they come in friction with the adopted country which results in confusions and violence. Many European nations are testimony to this in the last few decades. It has to be remembered that the mass exodus of Islamic refugees is like a silent invasion to gain footholds in foreign lands. Hard core Islamist leaders uses such tactics to push in Islamic refugees in non Islamic countries to start of building a base for a future nefarious plan. Such things have been happening for a long time and several non Islamic countries had to go through devastating consequences.

Apple unveils iPhone 13 Pro and iPhone 13 Pro Max

San Francisco, (TIE Australia) Apple has introduced iPhone 13 Pro as well as iPhone 13 Pro Max with an all-new Super Retina XDR display with ProMotion featuring an adaptive refresh rate up to 120Hz and comes in the same size as last year -- 6.1 and 6.7 inches.

iPhone 13 Pro has been launched at a starting price of \$999 while the iPhone 13 Pro Max starts at \$ 1099.

According to the company, the iPhone 13 Pro lineup features the best camera system ever on iPhone.

The all-new Wide camera has a larger sensor with 1.9 um pixels, the largest ever on iPhone, for less noise and faster shutter speeds needed across lighting conditions, producing even more detailed photos.

Coupled with the larger f/1.5 aperture, the Wide camera on iPhone 13 Pro and iPhone 13 Pro Max offers a massive improvement in low-light situations, up to 2.2x when compared to iPhone 12 Pro, and nearly 1.5x when compared to iPhone 12 Pro Max.

Sensor-shift optical image stabilization (OIS) - unique to iPhone - is available on both models, stabilizing the sensor instead of the lens, so images are smooth and video is steady, even when the user is not.

The new Ultra Wide camera features a much wider f/1.8 aperture and a new autofocus system, bringing a 92 per cent improvement for low-light environments, producing images that are brighter and sharper.

Video takes a huge leap forward with Cinematic mode for beautiful depth-of-field transitions, macro video, Time-lapse and Slo-mo, and even better low-light performance.

Both models also offer end-to-end pro workflows in Dolby Vision, and for the first time, ProRes, only available on iPhone.

The biggest change under the hood is the Apple A15 chipset that offer a marked boost in performance. The new chipset on the iPhone 13 Pro and iPhone 13 Pro Max promises 50 per cent per cent better graphics performance

iPhone 13 Pro and iPhone 13 Pro Max also include 5G with more bands for better coverage, big improvements to battery life for the best battery life ever on iPhone with iPhone 13 Pro Max, new storage capacity of 1TB, and the Ceramic Shield front cover, tougher than any smartphone glass.



STORY - The Rabbits and the Elephants

This is another nice story from the Hitopadesha collection. Once upon a time, there lived a herd of Elephants in a forest. A mighty Elephant by the name of Chaturdanta was their king. There was a big lake in the middle of the forest where all the animals used to go to drink water and to take a bath. Once it happened, there was no rain for the whole year and the lake dried up. Many of the birds and the animals died of thirst. The Elephants got worried that if they didn't get water soon many of them would die of thirst.

The Elephants decided to take the matter to their king, Chaturdanta. So they approached their king and said, "Your Majesty, as you know there is no water in our forest, many of the birds and animals have died due to thirst. We require water in order to survive. If we will stay here soon many of us will die. We have to find water as soon as possible". The King Elephant considered the idea and asked

the Elephants to go in different directions to find water. Fortunately, one of them found a large lake full of water in another jungle far away.

The King Elephant got happy to hear this news. He ordered all his followers to make their way towards the lake. This lake was full of water and never went dry even if it didn't rain. On the way to this lake, there was a settlement of Rabbits. The Elephants had to pass through this settlement of Rabbits. Thousands of Rabbit got crushed under the heavy feet of the Elephants and many of them got wounded. The Rabbits fled in terror. The situation was getting severe, so the King of the Rabbits called up a meeting.

In the meeting, the King said, "A herd of Elephants is passing through our area. They have killed thousands of our friends. We are in a critical need to avoid more deaths. I want all of you to think of a way to save our race". All the Rabbits

underwent a thought process. Suddenly, a little Rabbit derived a plan and said to the King, "Your Majesty, if you will send me as your messenger to the King of the Elephants, I might find a solution to this problem". The Rabbit King gave his approval to the idea. The little Rabbit rushed towards the lake.

When he saw the herd of Elephants returning from the lake, he realized that it was impossible to get near to them. Then he thought about how he could talk to the King of Elephants. Thus, he climbed up a hill and shouted, "O, King of the Elephants. Please listen to me". On hearing the Rabbit's voice, Chaturdanta stopped for a while and replied, "Who are you? From where have you come?" The smart Rabbit answered, "I am a messenger sent to you by the Moon God". The King of the Elephants said, "Why have you come here?"

The Rabbit replied, "Moon God has

sent a message for you. A messenger speaks only the truth. Please consider that a messenger is never punished for what he has to say. He is only doing his job so you must not be angry with me". Chaturdanta confirmed to him that he won't be harmed in any way.

The little Rabbit said, "The Moon God is angry with you because you have brought your herd to his holy lake and have disturbed the peace. You have crushed thousands of Rabbits to death on the way to the lake. Rabbits are under the special protection of Moon God. Since you have bothered the Moon God and his special creatures, he is extremely annoyed with you and wants you to leave his kingdom at once. If not, then you might face terrible consequences".

The King Elephant was scared to hear this message from the Moon God. He said, "You are right. We have killed many rabbits on our way to the lake. But really that was done in ignorance. I will see that you do not suffer anymore. I want to request the Moon God to pardon me for my sins.

Please advise me what I should do". The Rabbit replied, "Ok. I will take you to the Moon God. Pay your homage to God and ask him to forgive you for the crime you have committed. Come with me".

At night, the Rabbit led the King of Elephants to the lake. Both, the Rabbit and the Elephant stood near the bank of the lake. There they saw the reflected image of the Moon in the still water. Just then, a mild breeze blew disturbing the waters of the lake and the moon seemed to move to and fro. When Chaturdanta saw this, he thought that the Moon God was really angry with him. He bowed to the Moon God in panic. The Rabbit said, "Oh Moon God, The King of Elephants has done a sin in ignorance. Please forgive him. He is taking away his herd from here and promising never to come back".

Frightened Chaturdanta bowed once again to the Moon God and left the place with his herd immediately. And the Rabbits lived happily in their settlement ever after.

Moral : Wit can win over might.

Astrology for the next week 17.09.2021 - 23.09.2021

Aries : This week, in order to get the best out of your good health, you will have to use your extra energy in a positive manner. Otherwise, you can waste your energy by using it in the wrong direction. So it would be good for you to spend your time with your friends and family, or play a game with them, to utilise your energy well. Although there will be a constant inflow-outflow of cash all throughout the week, you may feel that you have spent a lot of money at the end of the week. Therefore, while taking proper advantage of every opportunity, continue your efforts towards becoming financially strong.

Taurus : The time can be highly favourable from a health point of view. During this time, due to the conjunction of Jupiter and Venus in the sixth house, you will be able to put in your best efforts and try to accomplish every work with great enthusiasm. Besides this, if you are having a prolonged disease, there can be possibilities of getting rid of that disease. This week, the married people will get financial support from their in-laws and this will help them overcome all the financial troubles. In such a situation, you are suggested to take your time before investing this money, otherwise, troubles might take place. For any reason, staying out of the house till late at night or spending excessive money on your amenities can make your parents angry this week. Therefore, while keeping this in mind from the beginning, do not do anything that may cause you to get scolded or reprimanded.

Gemini : Due to the presence of Ketu in the sixth house in its exalted sign and Rahu's aspect on the sixth house, this week is good for health, but thinking too much about anything can give you mental stress. Therefore, you will put in your best efforts to improve your habit, in which you will be able to get success by the end of the week. During this week, the unexpected increase in your expenses will disturb your peace of mind. Due to this, you may be prone to mental stress. In such a situation, keep

yourself calm, work on a plan to get out of this problem, otherwise you may have to spend some money on your health because of these expenses. Due to the transit of several planets this week, happiness will return to your family life. However, before that, there will be a possibility of expansion in your family. This increase is possible due to the marriage of a person or the birth of an infant. In such a situation, celebrate this happiness with family.

Cancer : This week, due to the conjunction of the Sun and Mars in the third house, and the full aspect of the Moon in the same house, you will need to engage in all such activities which will make you relaxed. Also, stay away from such tasks which can harm your image as well as your health. For this, it is better not to let negative thoughts come to your mind, and instead of talking here and there in your spare time, read a book while eating a salad. Due to the presence of Saturn in its own sign and its conjunction with Jupiter in the seventh house this week, the married people will get financial support from their in-laws and this will help them overcome all the financial troubles.

Leo : This week you will look very emotional, due to which you will find it difficult to keep your emotions under control. In such a situation, your peculiar attitude will confuse people and hence you may get annoyed. It will be better for you, just avoid disclosing your feelings to others. This week, due to the transit of the Sun and Mars in the second house, you will most likely overcome the problems while making any financial decision during this week, with the help of which you will be able to take any decision related to investment. It is also possible for you to earn good money as well. Due to the aspect of the Moon in the second house, you may suddenly get a new family-related responsibility this week. Because of this, all of your plans can get interrupted.

Virgo : To keep yourself fit, you won't have to struggle a lot during this week. Due to

Rahu present in an exalted state in Taurus, in the ninth house, you will be fortunate during this time. Due to this, you will be able to keep yourself healthy, even if you make little efforts to maintain your health. Financially, these weeks are going to be very auspicious for the natives of your zodiac sign, due to the simultaneous transit of the conjunction of Mercury and Venus in the second house. In such a situation, do not let your efforts fall a bit because favourable planetary positions can provide a great opportunity for you to increase your wealth at this time. This week, one of the family members or your life partner may cause your mental stress. Because it is possible for them to ask you for something on which you have to spend a big part of your income.

Libra : During this time period, you will constantly make changes to improve your lifestyle. For this, you can also decide to do yoga and exercise on a daily basis, for a better and healthy living, while removing yourself from your comfort zone. However, at this time you should avoid taking on too much workload. This week, due to the transit of Ketu in its exalted sign in the second house, you can easily accumulate some money. Because during this time you can get the money you had lent to other people. Also, there is a possibility that you can earn some money to invest in your new project at this time. This particular person with whom you are emotionally connected may irritate you this week due to his/her careless and indecisive behaviour. Therefore, it would be better to treat them well, while improving their nature. The position of the planets this week is pointing towards the possibility that some conflict situations arising in your relationship with your siblings, friends, relatives and colleagues during this period.

Scorpio : This week, due to the presence of Ketu in the house of Ascendant, your frequent eating habits can prove to be troublesome for you. Therefore, understand that it is a good hobby, but it is also not justified to spoil and play with your health.

Thus, you should avoid adding more calories to your diet this week. If you were thinking of making an investment related to your home, then this week is expected to be much better than usual. Because this investment will be beneficial for you, as well as you will be able to get extra money from any part of your house through rent, etc. This week, your spouse will help you to reconcile the family and this will also prove to be the most beneficial thing for you. Yogas are also being made that you may receive a nice gift of some kind from your relatives and friends. This week, keep in mind that if you have committed any mistake while working in the workplace, accepting it will reflect your wisdom.

Sagittarius : This week, you will have plenty of energy but workload can cause troubles. Despite this, you will be able to relish food with your family members and share happy moments etc, because during this time, Rahu is transiting in its exalted sign in your sixth house. Due to Ketu transiting in its exalted sign in the twelfth house this week, you will incur sudden monetary gains. With this, you will be able to strengthen your financial position to a great extent, and as a result, you can also decide to financially help a member of your household. Your participation in social festivals will give you an opportunity to get in touch with many influential people of society. In such a situation, do not let all these opportunities go off your hands, try to take the best advantage of them. This week, all the unfavorable situations of your past will turn out to be in your favour at the workplace.

Capricorn : During this time period, Saturn in your house of ascendant is retrograde in its own sign and transiting with retrograde Jupiter, due to which you will constantly make changes to improve your lifestyle. For this, you can also decide to do yoga and exercise on a daily basis, for a better and healthy living, while removing yourself from your comfort zone. However, at this time you should avoid taking on too much workload. If you make a long-term

investment this week, you can gain a lot of benefit from it. However, you will need to reach any decision only after consulting the elders of the house. This week, more than your comforts, paying attention to the needs of your family members should be your real priority. Because of this, you will get to know about several situations going on in the family from which you were still unaware.

Aquarius : The selfish behavior of a friend or colleague can ruin your mental peace this week. In such a situation, you may not be able to keep yourself focused even while driving. So while driving, you are advised to be more careful this week. Financially, these weeks are going to be very auspicious for the natives of your zodiac sign because Mars and the Sun will have aspect on your second house. In such a situation, do not let your efforts fall a bit because favourable planetary positions can provide a great opportunity for you to increase your wealth at this time. This week, you will give priority to the needs of the family members, understanding your responsibilities towards your family. In such a situation, it would be better for you to partner with their happiness and sorrow, so that they feel that you really care about them and they can open up themselves and their situations in front of you. This week, you will witness a lack of enthusiasm and energy at work.

Pisces : This week will provide good results, on the health front. Although mild problems will come and go, you will not become a victim of any major disease and physically you will be healthier than before. This week, you will realize that money plays a vital role in adversities as you may face some financial troubles. There might be ups and downs in the financial condition this week because the Moon is present in your second house and the seventh aspect of Mercury and Venus is falling on your second house. The money that you saved in the past, will help you get rid of these troubles. This week, natives of this zodiac will try their best to reconcile with their family members.

Kim Kardashian defends her 2021 Met Gala look

Los Angeles, (TIE Australia). Reality TV star Kim Kardashian has defended her 2021 Met Gala look, which was one of the most-discussed topic ever since.



Many have questioned how her faceless all-black outfit by Balenciaga fit the event's "In America" theme, Kim explained why her outfit was very American, reports aceshowbiz.com.

She took to her Instagram account to defend her look which successfully bewildered many people.

Alongside a picture of her attending the Monday event, the 40-year-old celeb wrote in the

caption: "What's more American than a T-shirt head to toe?!"

Her post evoked mixed reactions.

"How are you the most talked about person at an event and nobody can even see you? THATS LEGENDARY," one user wrote.

"I will never understand this look," another added.

In addition to Kim's faceless look, people were fazed upon knowing that she even bothered to get makeup for the star-studded event.

It further confused fans.

"Ahaa! I was wondering if she still got her makeup done when I saw her with the mask," a user wrote underneath Mario's post.

A user simply said: "What was the point with the makeup since you are fully covered up?"

"How did you sealed (sic) the makeup, So the mask wouldn't undo all your work?" asked another.

Vishal Bhardwaj to direct spy-thriller 'Khufiya' for Netflix

Mumbai, (TIE Australia). Filmmaker Vishal Bhardwaj is all set to direct a spy-thriller titled 'Khufiya' for streaming giant Netflix.

'Khufiya' is inspired by true events and based on an espionage novel 'Escape to Nowhere' by Amar Bhushan. The film stars Tabu, Ali Fazal, Wamiqa Gabbi and Ashish Vidyarthi in pivotal roles.

Bhardwaj said, "With 'Khufiya', my attempt is to create an edgy espionage film that contrasts the slow burn of intelligence & surveillance work with one's deep rooted emotional conflicts"

Tabu will once again be seen working with Bhardwaj. The two have previously worked in films like 'Maqbool', 'Haider' and 'Talwar', which Bhardwaj co-wrote and co-produced with Meghna Gulzar.

She will also be seen in his son

Aasman Bhardwaj's directorial debut 'Kutney'.

Tabu said, "Khufiya is a one of a kind project, extremely close to my heart and I am excited to be a part of this gripping spy thriller. As always, it's a delight working with VB (Vishal Bhardwaj) again, and feels like homecoming!"

Produced by Vishal Bhardwaj Films and directed by Vishal Bhardwaj, 'Khufiya' is a story about Krishna Mehra, a R&AW operative who is assigned to track down the mole selling India's defence secrets. All along, grappling with her dual identity of a spy and a lover.

Pratiksha Rao, Director, Films and Licensing, Netflix India added: "His films are known to brilliantly showcase inherent conflicts between different characters and their worlds through moving stories, and we can't wait for our members to experience this through the incredible story of Khufiya."

Whitney Houston's 'The Bodyguard' gets a remake at Warner Bros

Los Angeles, (TIE Australia). Matthew Lopez, the Tony-nominated playwright of "The Inheritance," has been roped in to pen the remake of the late pop icon Whitney Houston film "The Bodyguard" at Warner Bros.

The upcoming movie will be inspired by the 1992 romantic drama, which starred Houston and Kevin Costner, reports variety.com.

Lawrence Kasdan of Kasdan Pictures, and Dan Lin and Jonathan Eirich of Rideback are producing the new film. Rideback's Nick Reynolds will serve as the executive producer.

Kasdan was the writer-producer of the original. Lin has been attached to the property since 2011, which has seen delirious speculation over the potential lead cast for years.

Names from Chris Hemsworth and Tessa Thompson to Channing Tatum and Cardi B have been floated. No cast has been set for LApez's script at this stage.

"The Inheritance" premiered at London's Young Vic in 2018, where it was hailed as "the most important American play of the century." It transferred to the West End later that year, and opened on Broadway in the fall of 2019.

Lopez's show has received the Olivier Award, Drama Desk Award, Evening Standard Theatre Award, London Critics' Circle Award, Outer Critics Circle



Award, Drama League Award, GLAAD Media Award, WhatsOnStage Award and the South Bank Sky Arts Award.

He is the first American Latine writer to win any of these awards for best play.

His Off Broadway work includes "The Whipping Man" and "The Legend of Georgia McBride."

Last year, he signed an overall television development deal with Amazon Studios.

Facing flak, US network turns game show 'The Activist' with PC into documentary

reports variety.com.

The show, originally set to premiere as a series on October 22, had faced serious heat since Usher, Julianne Hough and Priyanka were announced as hosts late last week.

Social media users and opinion writers had laid into the competitive nature of a show meant to celebrate and encourage activism, among other concerns.

In a joint statement, network CBS and producing partners Global Citizen and Live Nation announced the format switch, saying: "'The Activist' was designed to show a wide audience the passion, long hours, and ingenuity that activists put into changing the world, hopefully inspiring others to do the same."



Los Angeles, (TIE Australia) After becoming a target of online criticism, series 'The Activist', which stars Indian actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas among many others is being reconfigured and will now become a one-time documentary special instead of a five-episode competition series.

Although footage for the original incarnation of the series had already been shot, this version of 'The Activist' will be entirely new, with filming expected to begin from scratch,

Birth certificate of actress-MP Nusrat Jahan's son reveals father's identity

Kolkata, (TIE Australia). The speculation over the father of Bengali actress and Trinamool Congress MP Nusrat Jahan's newborn son Yishaan J. Dasgupta has been put to rest by the infant's birth certificate on the website of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation. Yishaan was born on August 26.



Nusrat has been dating Bengali actor Yash Dasgupta after her much-publicised estrangement with her husband Nikhil Jain. Speaking to the media recently, she referred to the talk about the father of her newborn child, and said: "I think that's a vague question to ask and put a black spot on somebody's character as a woman. The father knows who the father is and we are having a great parenthood moment together. Myself and Yash, we are having a good time."

In the online birth certificate uploaded on Wednesday night, the father's name is mentioned as Debashis Dasgupta. Though there was no mention of Yash in the birth certificate, Debashis, who contested and lost on the BJP ticket in the recent West Bengal Assembly elections from Chanditala in the Hooghly district, is the official name of Yash Dasgupta.

Dasgupta, 35, has been accompanying Nusrat for her hospital visits. Last week, Nusrat and Yash visited the Kolkata Municipal Corporation. It was believed that the two had come to get the second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine, but it may have been regarding the birth certificate, sources said.



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The auspicious occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi was celebrated by Sonali songara, Vidhita kanojia, Mohit sabhnani and Nachiket Jagirdar with excitement and devotion. The Lord of Prosperity and wisdom is prayed by bringing home the idol and worshipping it in full glory. Celebrating it in Australia with family and friends was ecstatic and immensely joyful for the family.



Despite recent losses, Aussie team very good for T20 World Cup: Maxwell

Sydney, (TIE Australia). Australian cricketer Glenn Maxwell has said that despite his team's lacklustre T20 International showing in a couple of recent series, the side is "very good" and looking forward to the ICC T20 World Cup in the UAE and Oman in October-November this year.

"I think they're very good," Maxwell said of Australia's hopes at the T20 World Cup. "When this team comes together, I think we'll slip straight back into us being in a great position. We're all looking forward to it."

It has been eight months since any of the stalwarts such as Steve Smith, David Warner or Pat Cummins played for Australia and six months since Glenn Maxwell, Marcus Stoinis or Kane Richardson featured. But all six will be

involved in Australia's quest for a maiden T20 World Cup Trophy, as will captain Aaron Finch, who missed the 1-4 series loss against Bangladesh through injury.

"You look through our line-up, we've got a team full of match winners and guys that on their day can take the game away from the opposition. I think that's what it's going to take. Any day when it's one of our players' chance to go and win us a game -- if we can take that (chance) it's going to be hard for anyone to stop us," Maxwell told icc-cricket.com on Wednesday.

Australia will be a much stronger side with the seven experienced players returning to the setup, and if the team is to go deep in the tournament some of these players will have to play a big role.

Maxwell is confident they'll hit

the ground running and that it "will be hard for anyone to stop us".

"The key for us to win a T20 World Cup this year is to get off to a fast start," he said. "Teams that can get off to a good start early in the tournament, get a couple of players on fire, get a couple of batters in good form, and get a couple of bowlers taking early wickets, that is the key to a lot of teams winning these tournaments."

The Australians have been drawn in a tough group alongside champions West Indies, world No.1 England and South Africa. Maxwell feels the Australians will have to be at their best to progress.

"There are no weak teams in this World Cup and we know that. We know we've also got a very good chance of beating



everyone on our day. Both groups are going to be tough, it doesn't matter. As I said before there are no weak teams in this World Cup so every game is going to be tough for us.

"If we play our best, I feel that's going to be good enough

on the day. I think we'll be focusing solely on what we can do every game and hopefully, that is good enough at the end of the day."

Australia will begin their campaign on October 23 against South Africa.

India's unpredictability makes it dangerous: Aussie batter Alyssa Healy

Mackay (Australia), Australian women's cricket team player Alyssa Healy has said that she looks at someone like India's Rohit Sharma "who is one of the most devastating white-ball batters" to mould her game across all the formats of the game.

Ahead of the multi-format series against India, beginning with the three-match One-day International series on September 21, Healy who is likely to open for the home team said, "I look at the modern Test game and see how it's changed quite a lot. I watch a lot of the men's cricket and I look at someone like Rohit Sharma who is one of the most devastating white-ball batters in the world and yet he's a really successful opener in Test cricket.



"So for me, I said look at somebody like him (Rohit) and think about how he translates those skills across all the

formats, could I potentially replicate that somehow?" Healy was quoted as saying by espnricinfo during a Fox Cricket

launch event for the India series.

Healy, who has so far played four Tests, added that the side is focused on the pink-ball Test after the ODI series, though it has been a challenge preparing for format due to the Covid-19 restrictions and the series getting condensed due to the pandemic.

Healy, who played her first three Tests as a middle-order batswoman, was promoted to open during the 2019 Ashes, and she scored her maiden Test half-century. She is likely to continue in that role against the one-off Test against India.

"It's a tricky one (opening or coming down the order) because I've only played four Tests so I wouldn't say I'm overly comfortable with how to play or how to

approach a Test," Healy said.

Healy said that the unpredictability of the Indian team made it dangerous. During the 2017 ODI World Cup, India defeated Australia in the semifinals, while during last year's T20 World Cup India took the opening match before Australia clinched the title with a massive victory at MCG.

"Sometimes a bit of the unknown and the unpredictable nature of India makes them incredibly dangerous. They've picked a few new players that we haven't seen before on this tour," Healy said. "So they always love throwing something new at us, even if it is Poonam Yadav, she always has something new to throw at us, just to kick us off track again."

Adam Gilchrist backs Cummins to succeed Paine as Oz Test captain

Perth, (TIE Australia) Former wicketkeeper-batsman Adam Gilchrist has backed Pat Cummins to become Australia's next Test captain. He feels that Cummins is the front-runner to

take over the captaincy from Tim Paine whenever the 36-year-old batsman decides to step down from the role.

"Pat Cummins is literally the type of leader that Australian

cricket admires, and the players acknowledge and respect. I think he is the leader by way of being at the top of the pack to assume that position. Be it the first Test at the Gabba, the first Test of the

next summer or whenever the next Test cricket is after this summer whenever Tim Paine does finish up. It is inevitably getting closer, the changing of the guard at the top, and I think

Pat is the gentleman that's positioned highest in readiness to take over," said Gilchrist on SEN Radio's Whateley show on Wednesday.