

# The Australian Indian EXPRESS

English

## Australia's Victoria state prepares for protests

Melbourne, (TAIE) Authorities in Australia's Victoria are preparing to confront and contain demonstrators who have been rampaging through the state capital Melbourne's central business district.

Police made more than 200 arrests on Wednesday as throngs of protesters flooded through the streets bringing traffic to a grinding halt, reports Xinhua news agency.

Victorian Police Chief Commissioner Shane Patton, speaking to local media on Thursday, said riot police, armed with tear gas and rubber bullets, would continue to be out in force.

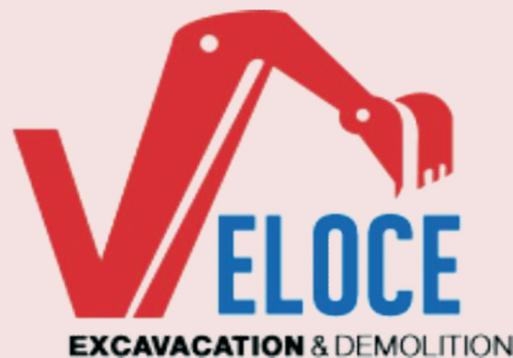
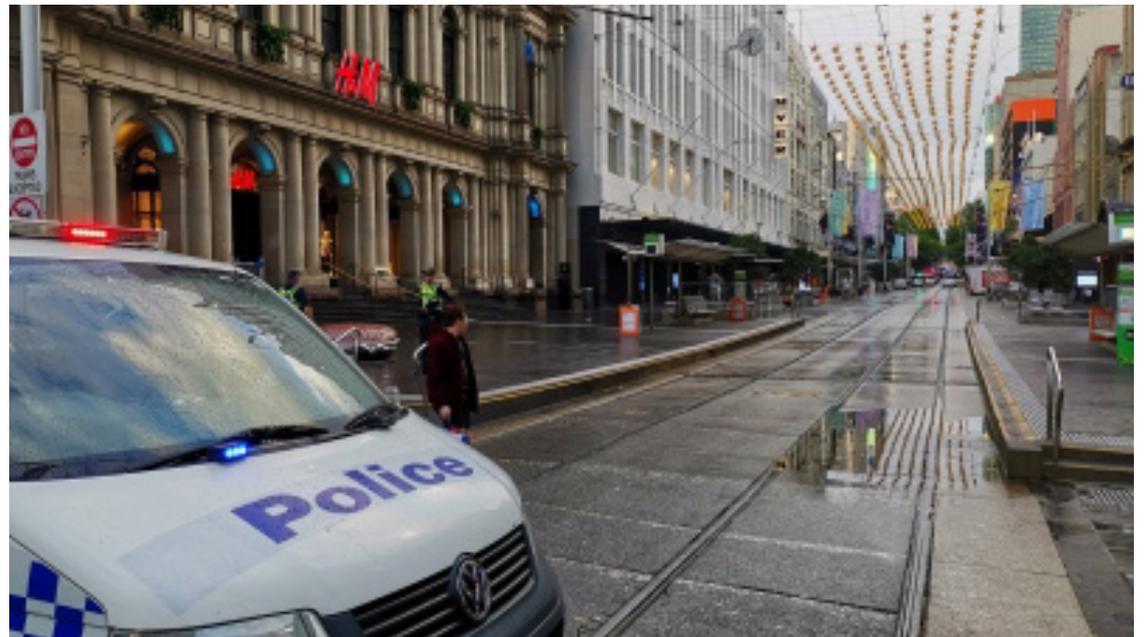
"We won't tolerate the city being held to ransom," Patton said, adding that "we would

hope common sense is starting to prevail, and they are starting to reflect on their conduct and what the public sentiment is towards these people who are doing this".

The protests were initially orchestrated by construction workers opposed to new vaccine mandates placed on their industry.

Other people, including anti-vaccine and anti-lockdown demonstrators, quickly joined the fray in a defiant show of opposition to the state's handling of the pandemic.

Victorian health authorities recorded another 766 new local cases on Thursday, bringing the active cases to 6,666 which mostly clustered around Melbourne.



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## WORKING TOGETHER ALWAYS BRING SUCCESS IN OUR LIVES SAYS REAL ESTATE AGENT CHIRAG YADAV

It has been an interesting journey for Real Estate Agent Chirag Yadav from being a proficient engineer to owning a successful business today. His sheer energy, voices out loud his zeal to do something larger than most of his counterparts. As he says “ Working together always brings success”, he follows it closely and emerges as the fore-runner. Running his real estate business Govind Real Estate for the past two years has been an enriching experience for him. In a brief interview he tells more about it.

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

**Mr Chirag :** I always wanted to make progress in every phase of my life. It is the continuous improvement of my skills and persona with the passage of time that has brought me here today. The real estate industry is full of opportunities, and when I thought of starting something with my skill set I was naturally driven to it. Being a mechanical engineer I worked as a contractor for Australian Defence for a significant period of time. It helped to boost up my confidence and interaction skills. Infact, I am a regular at Bhajan Kirtan associations that has helped me to meet new people, understand the continuous demand for houses. All these were positive indications for me to move into real estate.

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

**Mr Chirag :** It was my interest in meeting new people, staying active within the community that has driven me towards the trade. Look, for a

business to grow one has to be fully devoted. When I started off I worked 12 -14 hours a day. There were no holidays and I explored any referrals that used to come my way. Keeping a tab of the market, making the clients understand the market conditions, repeated visits in the leads that I got gave me a strong mileage. The most important part of my business is to convince the clients, gaining their trust, to be a person to rely on. And my innate nature is that I am friendly, my positive attitude towards anything shows me the right path and

rightfully helped me to improve my business.

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

**Mr Chirag :** Keeping myself open to any kind of referral helped me a lot. Real Estate business is not about working with a small group of people or remaining constrained within a community. It is about

helping people who can be from any country of origin. Yes, initially I worked within the indian community only but with time and recognition my client base grew. My hard work work shows today, I do not need to go to the client, they themselves find me and gives me the responsibility to handle their property.

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

**Mr Chirag :** I must say, it is the hard work that can only help you in the business. In this period when the business is slow I would suggest not to move to a new trade. But if somebody is aggressive enough to earn more, the market has that kind of potential to suffice it. See if you cannot run, you have to walk, if you even cannot walk you have to drag yourself towards the goal. Ultimately the show must go on. So for new entrants I will say, you have to keep your networks throbbing and nurture every opportunity that comes your way.

### 5. How do you keep yourself motivated?

**Mr Chirag :** I enjoy the success that I get after closing each deal. That is the source of motivation for me. Every day is a day to learn something new, achieve a new height, and even after working for two years in the business I never close my mind to learn something new. Apart from that, the number of people that I meet each day, their requirements, and creating solutions for their necessities keeps me energetic. I believe working together always brings success in our lives and following that has helped me reach this position which I enjoy gleefully.



## Speaking Up Against Workplace Violence via WorkSafe campaign

Melbourne, (TAIE). Speaking Up Against Workplace Violence The Andrews Labor Government is backing a WorkSafe campaign reminding Victorians that work-related violence and aggression is never ok, and ensuring employers are aware of their occupational health and safety obligations. The campaign returns to screens after a successful first run and follows reports of our retail workers and vaccination staff facing

aggression from members of the public. Violence can happen to workers in any workplace but is a particular concern for our frontline workers in healthcare, retail, hospitality, education and the transport industry. Just as the community benefits from their work, Victorians need to be there for them. It doesn't matter if it is a nurse, bus driver or someone who serves you across the counter – violence and abuse is never 'just part of the job.'



Campaign tracking data shows that half of Victorians are now aware of the central message, with awareness and understanding of the issue highest amongst employers. Employers who saw the ads were also more likely to acknowledge that it is their responsibility to protect their workers from all forms of violence. Work-related violence can cause severe distress and mental injuries to those who

witness it but many incidents still go unreported. Workers who saw the campaign said they would be more likely to report incidents than those who didn't. The campaign builds on previous campaigns that have focused on violence towards healthcare workers and aims to send a clear message to the Victorian community that everyone deserves to be treated with respect while at work.

## New Commissioner For LGBTIQ+ Communities Appointed

Melbourne, (TAIE). The Victorian Government is ensuring lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex and queer Victorians continue to have a strong voice to advocate for their rights and wellbeing. Minister for Equality Martin Foley today announced the appointment of Todd Fernando as the new Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities – the second person to fill this groundbreaking role. A descendant of the Kalarie peoples of the Wiradjuri nation who identifies as queer, Mr Fernando brings a wealth of experience to the position as an accomplished diversity and inclusion consultant with extensive experience working with both First Nations and LGBTIQ+ communities. Mr Fernando is passionate about improving the lives of LGBTIQ+ communities and brings to the role his experience in delivering reform social policy and cultural safety frameworks in both the public and private sectors. With a deep personal understanding combined with his background in academic research focused on the social and cultural experiences of LGBTIQ+ Indigenous Australians, Mr Fernando understands the need to recognise and celebrate the many parts that make up the Victorian LGBTIQ+ community. In 2018, along with other members of the Aboriginal rainbow community, Mr Fernan-

do cofounded Koorie Pride Victoria, an advocacy organisation that campaigns for the social inclusion and advancement of Victoria's LGBTIQ+ Aboriginal community. Victoria became the

first state in Australia to have a Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities, previously known as the Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality, when Ro Allen was appointed to the role in 2015.

Believed to be the first openly queer and Aboriginal Commissioner in Australia, Mr Fernando has been acting as the Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities since June following Ro Allen's

appointment as the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commissioner. The Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities works closely with Victoria's LGBTIQ+ communities to provide crucial advice to the Victorian Government on the development of policies, services and programs that are inclusive and meet the needs of our diverse communities.

Minister for Equality Martin Foley said "Equality is not negotiable in Victoria – while we're making great progress towards equality for LGBTIQ+ communities, we still have plenty of work to do, and Todd Fernando will be an important part of this."

Parliamentary Secretary for Equality Harriet Shing said "Todd Fernando has a strong track record of standing up for LGBTIQ+ communities, and we are thrilled that he will continue to do so as the next Victorian Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ communities."

Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities Todd Fernando said "I am honoured to work with a Government that believes equality is not negotiable. It's time to build on existing achievements by connecting more closely with LGBTIQ+ people, communities, and organisations, while recognising the many parts that make up who we are."



## Victorian Farmers Saving Energy Cost to Support Agribusinesses Sustainable

Victoria, (TAIE). Supporting Agribusinesses To Be More Sustainable Victorian farmers are saving on their energy costs and reducing their emissions on-farm, thanks to a Victorian Government grant program supporting investments in more energy efficient technology. Minister for Agriculture Mary-Anne Thomas today visited Meredith Dairy in western Victoria, one of several businesses benefitting from the Agriculture Energy Investment Plan (AEIP). The AEIP offers grants up to \$250,000 to install infrastructure and technology that will make farms more competitive and protect local jobs. Under the AEIP, family-run business Meredith Dairy received a \$250,000 grant to support its investment in a biomass energy unit, a solar power system and cool room upgrade. The project is expected to generate over \$94,000 in on-farm energy savings each

year, which is almost a third of the business's on-farm energy costs. In addition to grant funding, the AEIP supports farm businesses to better understand their on-farm energy usage and how to reduce it.

This includes free on-farm energy assessments to assist farmers in identifying how they can improve energy efficiency and productivity, as well as research partnerships, demonstrations of energy-efficient technology on-farm, and educational resources for producers on alternative energy options. Under the AEIP, 546 grants totalling \$29 million have been awarded so far and almost 1,370 on farm energy assessments have been completed, valued at \$12 million. The Government is protecting and strengthening the future of agriculture through the 10-year Agriculture Strategy, building a more resilient, energy efficient and internationally



competitive sector that is well-placed to respond to climate change. This program is

one of the many ways the Victorian Government is leading the way in providing a clear path

forward for farmers to prepare for and respond to climate change.

## Pathway For Vaccinated Victorians To Come Back Home

Victoria, (TAIE). With Victoria moving towards its vaccination targets at a rapid pace, parts of the state's domestic travel permit system will be modified to allow Victorians in Greater Sydney and the ACT to come back home. Under current rules, Victorians in Extreme Risk Zones can't return home unless they obtain an exemption, have another valid permit (such as for specified workers) or are exempted for limited reasons. As part of the changes advised by the Chief Health Officer, which

will come into place from 30 September, Victorians in an Extreme Risk Zone will be eligible to return home to Victoria if they are fully vaccinated. They must test negative 72 hours before their departure, quarantine at home for 14 days upon arrival, and get tested again at the start and the end of their quarantine period. The current Extreme Risk Zone rules will remain for Victorians who aren't fully vaccinated. Those who are not currently fully vaccinated can still apply for an exemption to enter Victoria under

the existing limited criteria. To ensure people from extreme risk zones are meeting their quarantine obligations, Authorised Officers will conduct at-home spot checks on Victorians quarantining. Vaccinated permit holders returning to Victoria will be required to attest their vaccination status on their application and may be asked to provide proof of vaccination when requested by an Authorised Officer. They will face fines if they provide false or misleading information. They'll also

have to carry proof of their vaccination status so it can be checked at airports, seaports or borders. Service Victoria is developing a solution for Victorians to show their vaccine certifi-

cate and vaccination status in the Service Victoria app. They are also looking at how this can be linked to an individual's Victorian travel permit application.



## \$80 Million In Regional Housing Funding Up For Grabs

Victoria, (TAIE). The Victorian Government is calling on all developers and landowners in regional Victoria to put forward any developments or vacant land that could be turned into social or affordable housing. The Government is investing \$80 million to address a critical shortage of housing in regional Victoria, with recent rental market data showing housing affordability has fallen to its lowest level since data was first collected in 2000. This is an opportunity for landowners and builders to contribute to the future of their communities by growing the supply of housing and creating jobs under the Government's landmark \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build. This round of funding will focus on purchasing new homes, house

and land packages and developable land that is zoned for residential use. Strict guidelines for proposals will need to be addressed including proximity to retail, schools and transport. All Victorian regional areas will be considered, with a preference for the Greater Geelong, Latrobe, Moorabool, Golden Plains, Greater Shepparton, Baw Baw, Mildura, Wellington, East and South Gippsland, Macedon Ranges, Bass Coast, Surf Coast, Mount Alexander, Horsham, Swan Hill, Alpine and Mansfield Local Government Areas. Landowners and developers are encouraged to partner with community housing providers, local government and other organisations to submit proposals to Homes Victoria. They can tender more than one proposal,

with submissions due no later than 2:00pm on Thursday 7 October 2021 through [tenders.vic.gov.au](http://tenders.vic.gov.au) (Buying for Victoria). The Government is investing \$1.25 billion into new social and affordable housing in regional Victoria as part of the Big Housing Build, which includes minimum investment guarantees for 18 regional Local Government Areas. Up to \$485 million is set aside for projects outside the 18 priority LGAs, and Homes Victoria is working hard to create new opportunities for social and affordable housing in all parts of regional Victoria. The Big Housing Build will provide more than 12,000 new homes across the state – boosting social housing stocks by 10 per cent – and create 10,000 jobs a year.



## Victorian Government Putting Small-Scale Producers On The Map

Victoria, (TAIE). The Victorian Government is supporting small-scale and craft businesses across the state, helping producers work together to put their high-quality produce on the tourism map. Minister for Agriculture Mary-Anne Thomas

today visited Fleurs de Lyonville – a chemical-free micro flower farm in the Central Highlands, to officially open stream three of the Small-Scale and Craft Program. Fleurs de Lyonville uses regenerative agricultural practices and supplies to consumers via

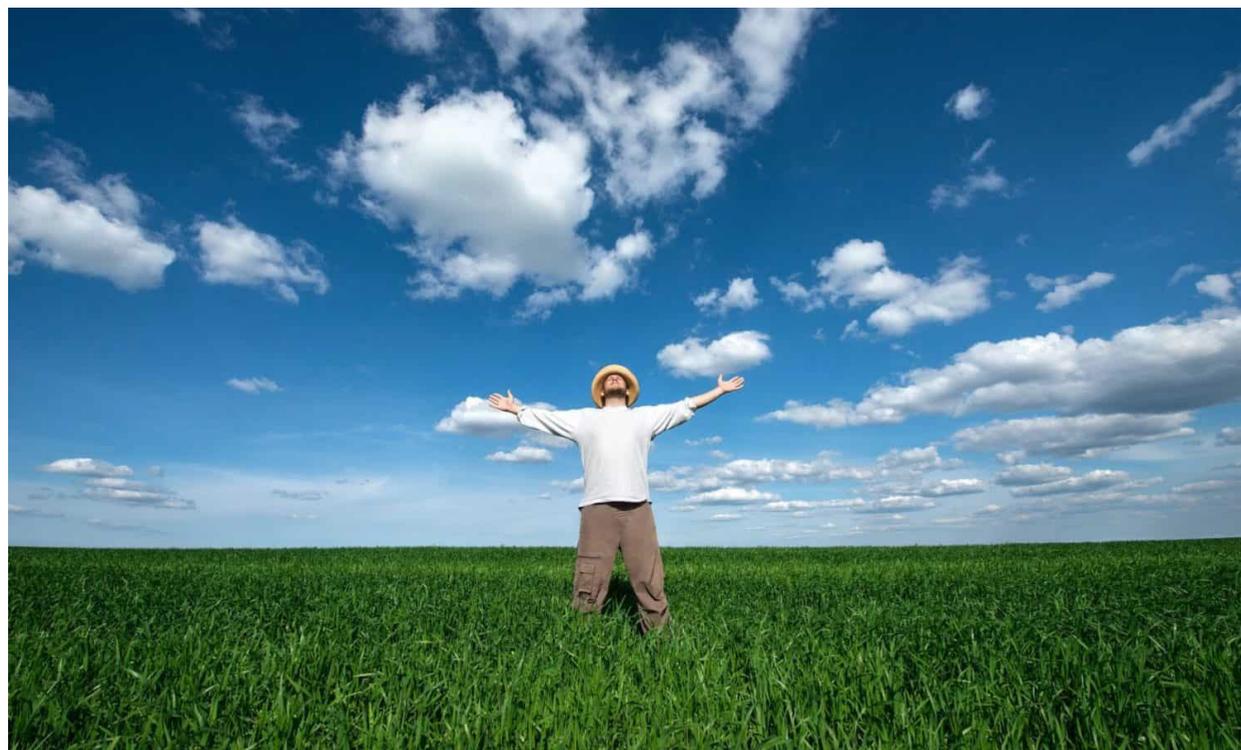
local grocers, florists and wedding packages. Under the program, the business received funding to purchase a polytunnel and hoop houses to increase production and diversify its product line. Alongside Fleurs de Lyonville, many other small-scale

and craft producers across Victoria have received grants through previous streams of the program – including gourmet pie producers, olive growers, sake distillers and alpaca farmers. Stream Three offers grants of between \$25,000 and \$100,000 for eligible small-scale and craft agribusinesses. These grants will support projects that showcase multiple producers and support the creation of distinct visitor experiences, creating tourist attractions that put their region on the map. The Government is helping small agribusinesses grow as a key pillar of its Agriculture Strategy, which will in turn boost visitation to regional towns and create jobs. The Small-Scale and Craft Program supports the vision for an agriculture sector that is strong, innovative, and

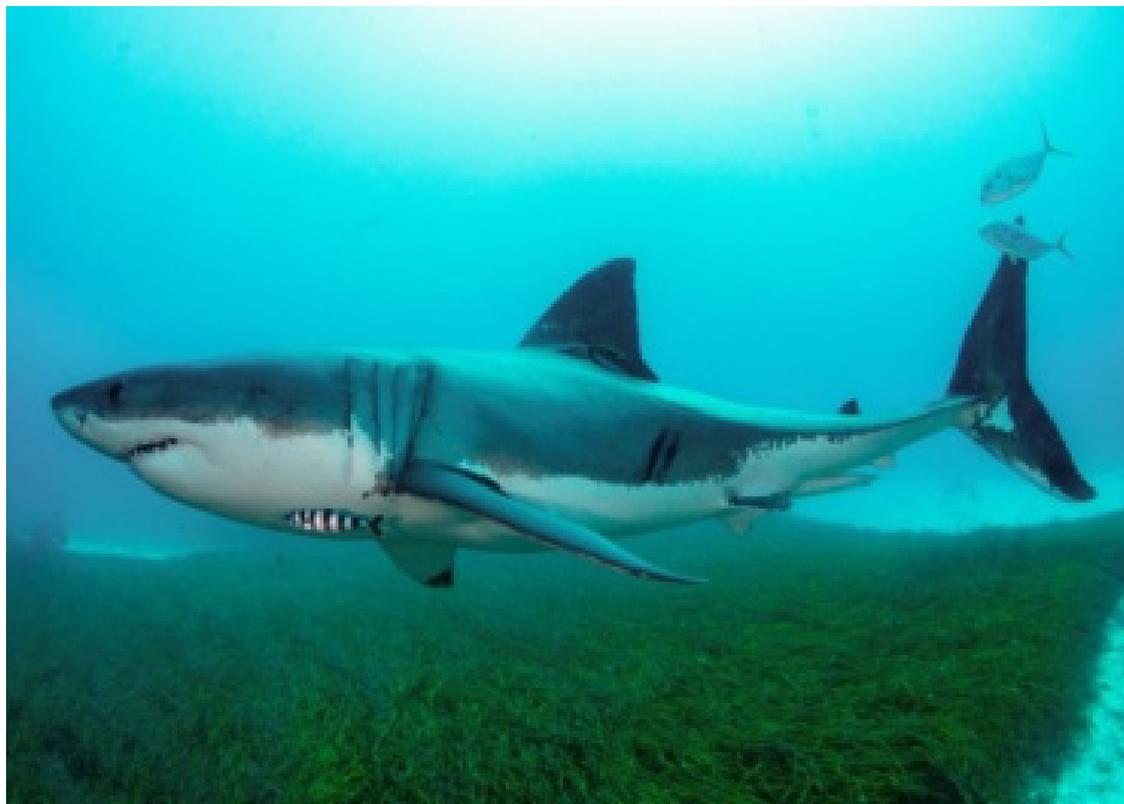
sustainable. It is a \$10.2 million program over four years that delivers on the Government's election commitment.

Minister for Agriculture Mary-Anne Thomas said "Victoria's small-scale and craft sector is central to our agri-tourism appeal and reputation as a producer of high-quality, niche agricultural offerings." "From truffles to craft beer, Victoria's small-scale producers create food and beverage offerings worth discovering." "Our small-scale and craft sector is making a name for itself on the global stage and continues to grow as more creative Victorians use their skills and passion to make the world-class produce that our state is known for."

Fleurs de Lyonville owner Janae Paquin-Bowden said "We are extremely excited to have received this grant. It has allowed us to significantly upgrade our infrastructure and cut flower growing space, a project we would not have been able to undertake without funding."



## Report says 39 Australian shark species face extinction



Canberra, (TAIE). More than 10 percent of Australia's shark species are at risk of extinction, a government report has found.

The National Environmental Science Program (NESP) marine biodiversity hub on Tuesday published the first-ever complete assessment of extinction risk for all Australian sharks, rays and ghost sharks (chimaeras), Xinhua news agency reported.

It found that Australia is home to more than a quarter of the world's cartilaginous fish species, with 182 sharks, 132 rays and 14 chimaeras calling Australian waterways home and that 12 percent, or 39 species, are facing extinction.

Peter Kyne, a senior researcher from Charles Darwin University (CDU) and lead author of the

report, said urgent action was needed.

"While Australia's risk is considerably lower than the global level of 37 percent, it does raise concern for the 39 Australian species assessed as having an elevated risk of extinction," he said in a media release.

"Around Australia, many of our threatened sharks and rays are not commercially important so these are largely 'out of sight, out of mind', but they require protection at national, state and territory levels."

He said that "there are positive signs" of protection and management working for some iconic species such as the White Shark and Grey Nurse Shark, although the assessment shows that these species "remain threatened".

## Additional mental health support in Australian capital

Canberra, (TAIE). Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Andrew Barr on Tuesday announced increased support for mental health services amid the region's ongoing Covid-19 lockdown.

Barr said the ACT government would invest an additional A\$14 million (\$10 million) to support mental health, alcohol and drug services in the area of capital Canberra, reports Xinhua news agency.

He described Canberra's coronavirus lockdown, which began on August 12 and is now set to end on October 15, as one of the most challenging periods in the city's history.

"It's okay to not be okay at the moment, and support is available," Barr told reporters.

On top of the funding from the ACT government, the federal government committed A\$2.5 million to support Canberra



mental health clinic Head to Health.

"Many Australians, particularly our young, are doing it really tough," Health Minister Greg Hunt said in a statement.

"The current outbreak and lockdowns are creating immense pressure and distress, and it is vital that we continue to support people's mental and emotional wellbeing throughout these challenging times," Hunt added.

## Voter support for Aus PM falls to 18-month low

Canberra, (TAIE) A new survey has revealed that voter support for Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison has fallen to an 18-month low, the lowest level since the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

According to the latest Newspoll survey released on Sunday night, the proportion of voters satisfied with Morrison's performance has fallen three points since late August to 46 per cent.

It coincides with a rise in the number of voters dissatisfied with Morrison to 50 per cent, giving him a net satisfaction rating of negative four.

It is Morrison's lowest net rating since March 2020 and marks a major fall from a positive-34 rating in September 2020.



In August, 50 per cent of Newspoll respondents chose the incumbent Morrison as their preferred Prime Minister compared to 34 per cent for opposition Labor Party leader Anthony Albanese.

The gap between the two shrunk to 12 points in the latest poll, with 47 per cent preferring Morrison and 35 per cent Albanese.

Albanese's Labor leads Morrison's Coalition 53-47 on a two-party preferred basis, marking five consecutive Newspolls where the opposition party has held the ascendancy.

The poll was taken at a time when about half of the Australian population was in lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19.



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## The Political drama in Punjab is not ending soon

Chandigarh, (TAIE). Finally the Congress Party High Command pressed the stop button of the roller coaster ride that was tossing and tumbling the leaders of the Punjab Congress. Political analysts even went on to say that the Congress Party must be going through a placid condition that encouraged them to have adventures with the reputedly peaceful Amarinder Singh led Congress Governed Punjab.

But even after the appointment of a new chief minister the political drama in Punjab refuses to end. Three days later after the appointment of the new CM, ex CM Amarinder Singh lashed out at the Congress high command, saying the "Gandhi children (Rahul and Priyanka)" were "inexperienced" and had been misled by their advisers during the recent series of events in the state.

The former Punjab CM also reiterated that he will oppose "tooth and nail" any move to project Punjab Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu as the party's chief ministerial face in next year's elections. If that happens,

Amarinder said, he will pit a strong candidate against Sidhu in the polls to ensure the defeat of "such a dangerous man".

### Humiliated Ex Chief Minister Amarinder Singh

Senior Congress leader Amarinder Singh resigned from his post as the Chief Minister of Punjab after months of political tussle, saying he stepped down as he felt 'humiliated'.

Amarinder Singh has been active in politics for the past 52 years. In his press conference before resigning from the top post he made it clear that he would explore and exercise his future options when the time comes, Amarinder Singh said he would decide his future course of action in consultation with his supporters, who have stood by him for over five decades.

Justifying his decision to step down months before the state goes to the polls, Amarinder Singh said he was humiliated three times by the Congress leadership in the past two months taking strong exception at being subjected to

"humiliation" by calling a Congress Legislative Party meeting in a secretive manner, without taking him into confidence.

He was recorded saying "Apparently, they (Congress high command) do not have confidence in me and did not think I could handle my job. But I felt humiliated at the manner in which they handled the whole affair."

"Let them appoint who they trust," he said, taking a dig at the party leadership.

### Amarinder Singh termed Navjot Singh Sidhu as the disaster

Dubbing Navjot Sidhu as anti-national, dangerous, unstable, incompetent and a security threat to the state and the country, Amarinder Singh badgered him in anger.

He said there was no question of supporting Sidhu, who was clearly mixed up with Pakistan and a danger, as well as a disaster, for Punjab and the country.

"I cannot allow such a man to destroy us, I will continue to fight the issues that are bad for his state and its people," said the outgoing Chief Minister, lashing out at Sidhu for his close alliance with the leadership across the border.



"We have all seen Sidhu hugging Imran Khan and General Bajwa, and singing praises for the Pakistan Prime Minister at the opening of the Kartarpur Corridor while our soldiers were being killed at the borders every day," he said, pointing out that the ex-cricketer had attended Imran's swearing-in even after he (Amarinder Singh) categorically told him not to.

"The government of Punjab means the security of India, and if Sidhu is made the face of the Congress for chief ministership, I will fight him at every step," he added.

### Tactical Move by the Congress High Command

With the high voltage political feud within the party the Congress

high command tactfully handled the situation. The suspense was sorted as they appointed Dalit leader and three consecutive term legislator Charanjit Singh Channi as the Chief Minister.

Charanjit Singh Channi took oath of office along with his two deputies Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa and O.P. Soni, both ministers in the previous Council of Ministers.

Three-time legislator from the Chamkaur Sahib assembly constituency in Rupnagar district, Channi had joined the Congress in 2012 and was holding the portfolios of Technical Education, Industrial Training, Employment Generation and Tourism and Cultural Affairs in the outgoing cabinet.

## NOBEL LAUREATES, ACTIVISTS SEEK UNIVERSAL FUND TO END CHILD LABOUR

New Delhi, (TAIE) As child labourers grew by 160 million by the start of 2020 and the pandemic forced another 150 million into multidimensional poverty, Nobel laureates, child labour survivor-advocates, and youth activists on Wednesday together demanded the world leaders an end to child labour and child poverty through a dedicated, universal social child protection fund.

The appeal was sent out in the 'International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour' at a first of its kind virtual events, the 'Fair Share to End Child Labour' was hosted by Laureates and Leaders for Children and co-sponsored by the Government of Sweden, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the International Labour Organization.

The stage was set by Nobel awardee Kailash Satyarthi - last week made the global ambassador for SDGs - who said: "Laureates and Leaders has released a

calculation. Just \$52 billion can provide social protection to every child and pregnant woman in low-income countries. This amount is less than two days of Covid relief measures taken in G7 countries and equivalent to just 0.4 per cent spent in social protection programmes in Europe."

Satyarthi's idea of something like a Global Social Protection Fund was echoed by Sweden's Prime Minister, Stefan Lofven; Director General, International Labour Organization (ILO), Guy Ryder; Fair Share Namibia Lead and former junior Mayor Ongwediva Town, Rebekka Nghilalulwa; International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) General Secretary Sharan Burrow; President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network Professor Jeffrey Sachs among others.

US Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro spoke about the condi-

tion of poor children in her country.

Stating that "child poverty is a stain on the US," DeLauro said, "This is a result of a policy choices 10 million children struggle against poverty in the USA."

She also spoke about how it was recently that the USA started a child tax credit, a universal child allowance that is credited to a child's parents' account.

Honourary president of World



Religion of Peace Bishop Gunnar Stalsett too lent his support for the cause.

The highlight of the event were small interventions by a child labourer survivor-advocate Khusboo Sharma (India), Founder of Street Beats Foundation and a survivor child soldier Wani Francis (South Sudan) and child labour survivor, Champa Kumari (India) and advocate Manan Ansari (India), who narrated their tales of survivals of either mining work or

soldier as children and resolve to set free children like them still trapped in poverty and child labour.

Apart from these, the litany of speakers included Norway's Minister for International Development, Dag-Inge Ulstein;; African Union

Commissioner for Social affairs, Amira El Fadil; German Permanent State Secretary for Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Bjorn Bohning; 1996 Nobel Laureate Jose Ramos Horta; Assistant Director General for Education, UNESCO, Stefania Giannini; Deputy Director General of WHO, Zsuzsanna Jakab; Chair Alliance 8, 7 Anousheh Karvar; President, Robert F Kennedy Human Rights, Kerry Kennedy among others.

The two hour plus virtual event ended with an emotional appeal by Satyarthi. Reminding the world about how everything is globalised, technology, businesses, markets, he said: "This is the time to globalise compassion for our children, time to globalise morality, globalise justice, this is the time to globalise our responsibility for our children and this is the time to globalise accountability among each other."

## Australian Iron Ore Exports hit by collapse of Chinese Real Estate Developer Evergrande

Canberra, (TAIE) With the continued trade war going on between Australia and China, the Australian economy has been hugely affected. China has already banned Australian coal and Wine. Now, as reported by the Guardian a leading think tank has warned that the demand for Australian Iron ore

The biggest Chinese real estate developer Evergrande, formerly known as the Hengda Group, expanded aggressively to become one of China's biggest companies by borrowing more than \$300bn. But last year, Beijing brought in new rules to control the amount owed by big real estate developers. The new measures led Evergrande to offer its properties at major discounts to ensure money was coming in to keep the business afloat. Now, it is struggling to meet the interest payments on its debts.



could dry up with the collapse of the Chinese Giant Real Estate Group Evergrande. According to the experts, Australian Iron ore producers risk being used as a pawn in Beijing's geopolitical power play against Canberra.

This uncertainty has seen Evergrande's share price tumble by around 85% this year. Its bonds have also been downgraded by global credit ratings agencies.

## The newest Strategic Security Alliance AUKUS is to safeguard the seas efficiently

Canberra, (TAIE). AUKUS, the new security alliance between the three countries Australia, UK and US, was announced last week. It has been formed with the specific purpose of enabling Australia to build a nuclear powered Submarine. Biden, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison appeared together virtually to detail the new alliance. Since then it is being seen as a provocative move by China, which has repeatedly lashed out at Joe Biden as he's sought to refocus US foreign policy on the Pacific.

The nuclear powered submarine that Australia has been allowed to build is a submarine whose propellers work with the help of nuclear reactors. Australia will be only the second country after Britain, in the 1950s, to gain access to American technology to build nuclear-powered submarines. The SSN or nuclear powered submarine doesn't have a nuclear arm but only works on nuclear power propul-

sion. The Australian prime minister said plans for the nuclear-powered submarines would be developed over the next 18 months and the vessels would be built in Adelaide, Australia.

China sees Australia as an ally of the US. And now when trade war is going on between the two countries China has been pushing Australia around. China behaves as a colonial power who strategically frightens Australia to retaliate if they do not let them acquire land and put up their company on the Australian land criticizing them as an ally of the US and their adversary. China has been hitting back since the days Australia made an indiscretion saying that there should be proper investigations of the origin of CoronaVirus.

China is the world's second preeminent naval power and has a very big missile force. So to guard the South China Sea and the Pacific, Australia needs the nuclear propelled Submarines which are much more silent under water than the conven-

tional diesel powered submarines. The new submarines The allies US and UK want Australia to build these submarines so that they can keep a watch of the Pacific waters against the common foe China.

Morrison said the three countries had "always seen through a similar lens," but, as the world becomes more complex, "to meet these new challenges, to help deliver the security and stability our region needs, we must now take our partnership to a new level."



Matt Pottinger, who served as deputy national security adviser in the Trump administration, said that equipping Australia with nuclear-powered submarines was a significant step that would help the US and its allies on the military and diplomatic fronts.

Underwater warfare capabilities have been Beijing's "Achilles' heel," Pottinger said. A nuclear-powered submarine fleet would allow Australia to conduct longer patrols, giving the new alliance a stronger presence in the region.

"When you have a strong military, it provides a backdrop of deterrence that gives countries the confidence to resist bullying," said Pottinger, who is now a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. "Part of the problem right now is that Beijing has gotten rather arrogant and it's been less willing to engage productively in diplomacy."

Chinese Foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said at a regular briefing on Thursday that the three English-speaking nations should "abandon their Cold War and zero-sum game mentality." Otherwise, he said, they would "lift a rock that drops on their own feet," according to the Global Times, a Communist Party-backed newspaper.

## Biden plays down chances of UK-US trade pact

New York, (TIAE). US President Joe Biden has played down the chances of a post-Brexit free trade deal between his government and the UK, as he held talks with Boris Johnson at the White House.

Biden said he would discuss the issue "a little bit" with the UK prime minister, adding: "We're going to have to work that through."

Downing Street said a direct deal with the US remained his "priority".

However, UK ministers have been pondering joining an existing North American trade pact instead, the BBC reported.

Biden and Johnson also discussed Northern Ireland, climate change and Afghanistan during the 90-minute meeting.

The UK is keen to strike free trade deals around the world in the wake of leaving the European Union's single market, including with the US, with which annual trade was worth an estimated \$273 billion in 2019.

A deal would encourage more business between the two countries by making it cheaper, usually by reducing or eliminating taxes called tariffs.

Johnson, echoing Biden, downplayed chances of securing agreement with the US before the next general election, saying: "The Americans do negotiate very hard."

Environment Secretary George Eustice told Sky News: "We still very much hope to be able to put together an agreement with the United States. We are not putting timescales on it."

"It's just not a priority for the US administration," he added.

Johnson highlighted the decision to lift the ban on British beef, and Downing Street is increasingly confident that there could soon be a favourable decision lifting the export ban on lamb.



Speaking to reporters in the Oval Office before the talks, Biden said: "We're going to talk a little bit about trade today and we're going to have to work that through."

He did not counter the assertion from his predecessor Barack Obama that the UK would have to join "the back of the queue" in seeking a trade deal after Brexit.

## Story - The Crows and the Serpent

Once upon a time, there stood a huge banyan tree on the outskirts of a small village. In this tree there lived a pair of crows with their young ones. One day, a snake came to live in the hole at the bottom of the tree. The crows were not happy at the arrival of the snake, but they could do nothing.

After a few days, the female crow hatched a few more eggs and some more baby crows were born. When the crows went out in search of food, the snake crawled up the tree and ate up the babies. When the crows came back, they could not locate their babies. They chased high and low, but to no avail. The crows were full of grief at the sad loss of their young ones.

After a few months, the female crow hatched some more eggs. This time the

female crow stayed in the nest while the male crow went out in search of food. The snake was greedy and ignoring the presence of the female crow, he crept up the tree and attacked the babies. The female crow who was keeping a watchful eye on her babies, tried to fight with the snake, but she was weak. Hearing the shriek of the female crow, other crows came to help her, but the snake had already eaten the young ones and slithered back into his hole.

This killing became the feature of their life. Every time the crows laid their eggs, the snake crawled up the tree and ate all the young ones. Due to this, the crows were never able to raise their young ones. The crows were sad, but they didn't know how to get free from this killer snake.

One day, the female crow asked the male crow that she wanted to leave this tree at once. The male crow consoled her by saying that the tree had been their home from the past many years and they should reside here. He considered asking a wise fox for help in order to get rid of the snake. With this thought, both of them went to the place of the wise fox. The fox welcomed her friends and said, "Both of you seem to be very sad. What happened?"

The crows replied, "We are in a big problem. A snake is after us and he eats up our eggs and the young ones. We seek your help in this matter." They narrated the whole story to the fox. The fox was intelligent; she thought for a few minutes and then laid out a brilliant plan before them. She said, "Listen carefully and do it as per the plan. In the morning, go to the

river bank where the ladies of the royal family would be bathing. They keep their ornaments in a tray on the river bank. The guards keep a watch on them from a distance".

The fox suggested the crows pick up a necklace from the tray and fly away making a loud noise. This would make the guards chase them to the tree where the crows would drop the necklace into the hole of the snake. In order to get the necklace, the guards would kill the snake to save themselves and take the necklace. The crows liked the plan and swore to execute it the next morning.

So, the next morning, the crows were ready with their plan. The crow couple flew to the river bank; the female crow picked up the necklace and flew off. While, the male crow shrieked loudly to

attract the guards' attention. The guards ran after the crows brandishing their sticks and swords. Soon, they reached the banyan tree where they saw the crows dropping the necklace into the snake hole.

As the guards were trying to take the necklace out with the help of a stick, the snake came out of the hole. The snake hissed at them and afraid of him, they killed the snake by sticks and swords. They took the necklace and returned to their place. The crows were happy to see the sight from a distance. They thanked the fox for her help. Thereafter, the crow couple lived happily with their young ones in the banyan tree.

**Moral: Intelligence is greater than strength.**

## Astrology for the next week 24.09.2021 - 30.09.2021

**Aries** : This week, you may face some challenges. You need to stay cautious in terms of your marriage relationship. Try to compromise and adjust to maintain harmony in your relationship. Don't always have a demanding attitude in the relationship. Try to spend quality time together and resolve your issues. You are likely to overcome the challenges with care and patience. Additionally, take care of your health. You may get sleepless nights due to stress and workload. You are advised to have a routine check-up. Include fruits and green leafy vegetables in your diet. Moreover, you may face some financial issues. You may not be able to save money as per your expectation. There are chances of sudden financial expenditure due to family function and religious work. You are advised not to make any hasty decision and avoid an argument with your business partner.

**Taurus** : This week may prove to be hectic for you. There may be a sudden rise in your work responsibility at your workplace. Try to avoid disagreement and argument with a colleague at the workplace, else it may put you in some trouble. There are chances of unplanned expenditure related to your business this week. You are likely to get rewards from foreign-related businesses. In terms of love and relationship, you need to be attentive this week. If you are in a legal matter in a marriage relationship, you may face some issues. There are chances to break up in your relationship. This week, you may get average results in terms of money and finance. Gradually as the week progresses, you may get the desired financial gain from your work.

**Gemini** : The week may be tricky for you. You may get interested in getting your work done through others, which is not likely to work. You may not be happy with the way life may turn for you. You need to work hard and double your efforts to get the desired success and reach your goal. Don't feel embarrassed if you feel drawn towards a person who was never a person of interest for you. Hope for the best, as this may lead to an utter change in your life. You are

generous to achieve anything beautiful and harmonious. You may wish to have a lavish life, and you may put all your efforts into it. Emotional blow-ups are likely to create unending problems, better prepare yourself to face any situation calmly. Showing sympathy towards your near and dear ones may never harm your image. Women with a strong motive may get more energy and stamina to fight back in any negative situation.

**Cancer** : You may reach an important milestone in your professional life this week. You may be able to achieve the desired success and you may expect the much-desired advantage owing to the planetary support. The period may help you to take decisive steps in achieving your targets. Some solid financial plans and efficient implementation are likely to boost your financial status this week. It is likely to provide you with ample support and opportunities for growth and gain. But, it may be a bit of a complex phase for your love life. Some hidden resentments may resurface in this period. You may be required to handle your relations with great care. Planets are likely to bless you with full potential and hence you may progress in your studies.

**Leo** : This may be a progressive week for you. You are likely to be quite keen about enhancing your financial and career prospects this week. You may be able to sort out some tricky issues and may also implement some pending plans to rejuvenate your relationship. This may enliven your spirits. In your career, you may now be better placed to successfully negotiate major deals. However, the negotiations may get dragged for some of the other reasons. You need to have patience. This may spell some stagnation or trouble in your routine work. You may have to face a challenging time while performing to the best of your abilities. However, you may be able to improve your position gradually. You need to continue to study seriously with determination, and this may pay you handsome dividends.

**Virgo** : This week may help you to consolidate your position. You may gain a greater understanding of the prevailing situation at your workplace. However, you may need to have your pawns ready to remove bottlenecks. The pace of your financial progress is likely to start picking up positive momentum during this week. It may also bring some good news regarding your money matters. The impact of planets may enhance your love life this week. Additionally, this may be a good time for you to resolve some pending issues in your relationship. Lack of concentration may affect your performance in your studies. Gradually, you may be able to implement your planning and processes in such a way that your performance may improve tremendously. You may remain highly motivated to improve your fitness levels and your awareness may make you able to prevent any illness during this week.

**Libra** : This week, you are likely to be witty, generous, endearing, and charming. These qualities may make you an amazing, always active and intensely alive personality for others to deal with. You may come across some challenges this week. But remember, emotional blow-ups may only create unending problems, better prepare yourself to face any situations calmly. Showing sympathy towards your near and dear ones may not harm your image, so always support them in their difficult times. You may find more time to spend with your children, as you are likely to realize the necessity of paternal care in their life. This week, you are likely to spend quality time with your beloved. It may also help you to find out the virtues you possess like being wonderful, witty, and generous. However, you may go through complex situations. You may find yourself restless and argumentative in whatever work you undertake.

**Scorpio** : Even though you may be hard-working, highly organized, and have a strong aptitude for money matters, you may find it difficult to attain your career goals easily, this week. You need to stay strong as emotional blow-ups may only create

unending problems, better prepare yourself to face any situations calmly. Show gratitude towards little things and help your family to solve the issues, this may help you to attain peace of mind. Remember, showing sympathy towards your near and dear ones may never do any harm to your image. You may love to be swept off your feet by an amazing soul, as you are romantic, dramatic, and daring. Your correct assessment of any situation often puts you far ahead of those who deal with you in day-to-day life. There are chances of an argument with your neighbor, hence stay cautious. If there is any fight, you may be blamed for aggression.

**Sagittarius** : An act of virtue, forgiving a person for his mistake that hurt you a lot, may make you more respectable among people you love. You may get the desired support from your relatives. Your friends may shower as bliss for you to lay a strong base for your future. With this, your week is likely to start on a good note. Gradually, there may be an improvement in your love life, career, and even finance. Although you know what you want, to get a smooth approach you must be able to present yourself to others with enough logic. Also, investing in the right avenues may be rewarding. A short trip is also indicated this week. You may be happy with the way life may turn and may end up being content and happy in all your efforts this week. However, you need to take care of your health this week.

**Capricorn** : This week, you may feel that you lack the power for analysing to reach an intelligent decision. However, it may prove to be a better prospect for you as you may find out your co-workers are likely to help you to achieve your goals. If you find it difficult to commit yourself to certain situations, you tend to withdraw. It will be better if you use your analyzing power and be more communicative with those you deal with. Moments of rejoicing are here for you once again, as you may find out a new way to seek thrills in your favorite way. If you have other options better depend on it

than preferring journeys, as chances are there for minor accidents or mishaps. You may find someone who can provide you with proper guidance as you are in confusion whether to enter a new venture or not. Overall, this week may bring positive changes in your life.

**Aquarius** : This week may be a bit challenging for you. You need to be careful in terms of your family relationship. There are chances of miscommunication or disagreement with them. Don't get into argument with in-laws during this retrograde period of Saturn and Jupiter. Short distance traveling may take place this week. Writing mail and messages in the group is likely to play an important role in the workplace. You should have confirmation related to the details of the message and mail before sending that further. You may be emotionally inclined towards your family. YOU may get the desired financial help and gain from family members. Try to avoid aggression, as it may harm your health. Avoid eating unhealthy and junk food. This week, you should try to improve the quality of your diet.

**Pisces** : This week your communication is likely to play an important role. If you are involved in writing or journalism work, then there are chances of success this week. Business-related wholesale or back end work is bringing some good news for you. However, you should plan your expenditure this week based on priority. There are chances of expenditure on health and family. Small celebrations at home and get-together with in-laws may also give a rise to your expenses. You may face some challenges in your marriage relationship. Try to spend quality time together rather than having an unnecessary argument. There are chances of a small trip with your siblings. You may get the desired help from siblings. Be regular with your self-study and stick to your daily routine. Clear all the pending work related to your study and practice all the subjects which you may have not taken seriously. This week all the stars are predicting that you need to clear the backlog.



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## Injury setback for Australia ahead of second ODI vs India women

Mackay (Australia) (TAIE).The Australian women's cricket team received a rude shock on the eve of the second One-dayer against India women as opener Rachael Haynes suffered an injury and looks doubtful for Friday's day-night encounter.

Haynes suffered a nasty blow to the right elbow during training on Thursday and has been taken for a scan.

Haynes, who top-scored in Australia's series-opening win on Tuesday with 93 not out, was batting in the nets when she was struck by a rising ball. She doubled over in pain, then removed her gloves and walked out of the nets and to the team changerooms to ice the injury, before leaving the ground a short time later, Cricket Australia's official website reported on Thursday.

"Rach suffered a knock to her right elbow while batting today and has been taken to get scans," said Australia team physio Kate Beerworth.

The 34-year-old has been in impressive form at the top of the order for Australia, making 65 in last Saturday's practice match against the Indians in Brisbane before guiding the hosts to victory alongside skipper Meg

Lanning two days ago in the first CommBank ODI.

Should Haynes be ruled out of Friday's match, Australia are likely to elevate current number five Beth Mooney to open alongside Alyssa Healy. Mooney, who opens alongside Healy in T20Is, has been a run machine in the WBBL for Perth Scorchers and Brisbane Heat in recent seasons, regularly featuring in the top run-scorers in the competition. She also bats at the top of the order for Queensland in domestic 50-over cricket, and has a century and five fifties to her name (ave 34.94) in 17 innings as an ODI opener, the report said.

Should the 27-year-old left-hander be given another opportunity to open the innings, a middle-order spot might then open up for 19-year-old Victoria all-rounder Annabel Sutherland.

The uncapped Georgia Redmayne could also come into the picture after her stunning run of form through the 2020-21 Women's National Cricket League summer, helped Queensland lift the Ruth Preddey Cup for the first time. Redmayne has however been on lighter training duties after experiencing knee soreness earlier in the tour.



Australia will be looking to extend their world record ODI winning streak to 26 on Friday when they face India in a day-night encounter.

## UK PM wants lifting of ban on families' travel for Ashes

London, (TAIE). With England set to tour Australia for the traditional Ashes series in December there are concerns in England over the impact of the lengthy bio-bubble on the health of the players as the team will be going Down Under soon after the T20 World Cup. To lessen the mental stress, England players have sought to travel with their families for the Ashes, a move opposed by the Australian government which has imposed strict travel restrictions on visitors due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

United Kingdom Prime Minister Boris Johnson has stepped in on behalf of his country's cricketers and has pleaded for the families to be allowed to travel to Australia with the players to lessen the stress caused by staying away from the family during Christmas.

Johnson raised this issue with Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison during their meeting in Washington DC where they are on a diplomatic visit. Johnson later said that Morrison has promised to come back with a

solution soon, as reported by the media in the two countries.

"I raised it [with Morrison] and he said he was going to do his best for the families," Johnson told reporters in Washington. "He totally got the point that for cricketers it is very tough to ask people to be away from their families over Christmas. He merely undertook to come back and see if he could find a solution."

In response, Morrison said: "I would love to see the Ashes go ahead, as I shared with Boris last

night. But there's no special deals there. I don't see a great deal of difference in skilled workers or students, who will be able to come to Australia when you reach the vaccination rates."

The first Test is set to start at Brisbane on December 8, but the tour remains in doubt after a number of England players expressed reservations about the 14-day strict quarantine they will have to undergo on reaching Australia for the tour and the measures that will be in force for the duration of the tour.

The Australian government has been very strict on quarantine measures and even its Olympic and Paralympic contingents returning from Tokyo were made to undergo quarantine considering the Covid-19 status in some of its states.

Australia plans to ease travel restrictions only after 80 percent of double vaccination for over 16s is completed, and according to reports that may not happen before the start of the Ashes.