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South Asian



Calls emerge for arrest of 'rogue' Ottawa-area MPP

greets anti-mandate protesters at the
War Memorial in Ottawa on Feb. 13.
Calls have emerged for Hillier's arrest
after he urged protesters to disobey a
request from Ottawa police that
people not tie up their phone lines.
(Frank Gum/The Canadian Press)
While Dr. Alan Drummond was

while Dr. Alan Drummond was tending to patients in the emergency room of the Perth and Smiths District Hospital over the weekend, his MPP sent out a tweet encouraging protesters to flood Ottawa police places lines

phone lines.
"This is like a new level," said Drummond, who's had public social media disagreements with Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston MPP Randy Hillier since the COVID-19 pandamic stated hypergraphs.

andemic started two years ago.
"Maybe this will be the beginning of the end of this, if they actually formally arrest him - as I think they

should."
Hillier, who was expelled from the Progressive Conservative caucus prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and now sits as an independent, told CBC he'd sits as an independent, told CBC he'd spent much of the past three weeks protesting in downtown Ottawa, rallying against the "great crime" of not allowing dissent. On Friday, police began clearing those protesters out of the downtown.

on Frank, ponce degin cierum; those protesters out of the dominown. Ottawa police then tweeted a plea Saturday for poole to "stop calling critical emergency and operational phone lines to express displeasure about the police action."

Hillier retweeted that request, affixing his own message: "Keep calling in a democracy expressing yourself is a fundamental freedom #Freedom." Onvoy.2022."

The post was encouraging people to ring up the police force's "operational dispatch," said Hillier.

"operational dispatch," said Hillier. His message was shared widely on Twitter, with many angry that Hillier would urge protesters to call emergencyphone lines. mergencyphone tines. Soon, #ArrestRandyHillier started

Ottawa lawyer James Bowie

"I think Randy Hillier did almost exactly, precisely the same thing as Tamara Lich has done," said Bowie. "I see no juristic reason why she should be prosecuted and he should

But Hillier said he's not worried about "bots on Twitter" calling for

his arrest.
"We should always be able and free to call up our institutions and express either our acceptance or displeasure with their operations," he said. Vocally opposed to COVID-19

Initially elected to the Ontario Initially elected to the Ontario legislature in 2007, Hillier represents a largely rural riding south of Ottawa that includes the communities of Perth, Smiths Falls and Carleton Place and part of Kingston. He was expelled from the Ontario

Place and part of Kingston. He was expelled from the Ontario PC Party caucus in 2019 after making "disrespectful" comments to parents of

"disrespectful" comments to parents of children living with autism. But Hillier's vocal opposition to government mandates during the COVID-19 pandemic has led to even more controversy. Last November, Hillier apologized

for a social media post in which he used names and photos of people to suggest, without evidence, that they had died or suffered harm due to the

COVID-19 vaccine.

That was after the legislature had unanimously called for an apology for "a string of disreputable conduct" in the context of COVID-19. At the time, Premier Doug Ford said Hillier was "ridiculous" and had "gone

nogue."

In the spring of 2021, Hillier was charged for attending a large church service in Aylmer, Ont., during lockdown. Shortly after, he was charged for his role in an anti-lockdown rally in Kemptville, Ont., just outside Ottawa. No longer supports MPP It's a history that saddens and

disappoints some former supporters and constituents, including

Drummond.
"I've always supported the
Conservative Party in Lanark County
[and] actually have supported Randy
Hillier for many, many years. But
when COVID came along, I was kind of surprised by his anti-vaccine anti-mask, anti-public health measures, "said Drummond.

measures,"said Drummond.
Despite Hillier's opinions about
COVID-19 and public mandates, the
Leeds Grenville and Lanark Public
Health Unit was the first in the
province to announce 90 per cent of
residents had been vaccinated.
"We've done extremely well. So
publicly was literating to Ready and

nobody was listening to Randy and everybody was listening to science," The blaring horns and snarled streets of the so-called "Freedom Convoy" blockade in Ottawa are no more, but on Monday Prime Minister Justin Trudeau suggested the work to heal the pandemic divisions in the country that the convoy exposed must now begin. However, he did not answer clearly

However, he did not answer clearly about whether a Monday night vote on the unprecedented invocation of the Emergencies Act will be a

"There's no doubt that the last weeks have been difficult, that the last years have been painful, and that there are still challenges ahead of us. But we can't let anger divide us," said

Trudeau in a press conference.

"More than ever, now is the time to work together. It's also the time to reflect on the kind of future we want retiect on the kind of future we want for our country. There's a lesson for all of us in what happened this month. We don't know when this pandemic is going to end, but that doesn't mean we cannot start healing as a nation."

The convoy blockade encamped in Ottawa on Jan. 28. While numbers many protesters refused to move until a large-scale police operation began on Feb. 18. fluctuated over the next three weeks, Comprised of tactical teams from

multiple jurisdictions, the operation mutiple jurisdictions, ne operation involved police moving progressively and methodically in gaining back control of the nation's capital, street by street, arresting nearly 200 convoy participants in the process. Nearly 400 charges have now been laid.

For weeks though, police as well as least and movement of the process.

local and provincial leaders faced heated criticism for a lack of action in

Canada must work on 'healing' from pandemic, convoy unrest, says Trudeau

preventing the convoy from encamping, as well as the subsequen lack of enforcement amid what has widely been described as the

Police received hundreds of complaints alleging hate-related incidents. They opened more than 100 criminal investigations into alleged harassment, intimidation and assaults on Ottawa residents by the

On Feb. 14, amid continued lack of action from municipal and provincial authorities, Trudeau announced he was invoking the Emergencies Act-a never-before-used piece of legislation. Trucker protests: Police retake control of Parliament Hill

control of Parliament Hill
Under the law, the government had
to introduce a motion in both the
House of Commons and another one
in the Senate stating its reasons for
doing so. And if that vote - set for
Monday night - fails, then the state of emergency in effect under the Act is immediately revoked. Trudeau was asked twice whether

he will declare the vote a matter of confidence, which would up the stakes for the government by putting their authority to govern on the line.
"I have total confidence that the

majority of parliamentarians this evening will vote to protect the rule oflaw,"Trudeau said



es 'no' tonight is doing anything other than indicating that they don't trust the government to make

incredibly momentous and important decisions at a very important time."

He did not, though, give a clear 'yes' or 'no' as he has done in the past when declaring discretionary confidence votes. A spokesperson for Government House Leader Mark Hollanddidnot clarify.

What convoy accounts are being

government has an end date in mino for the powers authorized under the Emergencies Act, which will otherwise expire 30 days from Feb.

downtown core, citing individuals still in the area who are supporting the effort and "pre-positioning." Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland

Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland also addressed questions over the financial sanctions for supporters of the convoy, and in particular a handful of posts on social media suggesting that people who donated small amounts to the convoy have had their bank acc

"It's important for all of us to be very, very careful to get our facts exactly right in each circumstance," Freeland said when asked about the reports, some of which have been

"The RCMP has given to the

people whose trucks were part of occupations and blockades. That is the only information, according to the RCMP that the RCMP has given to

Freeland said the power for banks

to freeze those accounts only applied as of Feb. 15.

"For anyone who is concerned that their accounts may have been frozen because of their participation in these illegal blockades, the way to get your account unfrozen is to stop being part," Freeland said.

to disrupt illegal blockades."

Trucker protests: Freeland says need to be 'very careful' on facts over

nancial measures The RCMP also issued a state on Monday saying that they have not shared any information of donors with

"Under the Emergency Economic Measures Order (Emergencies Act), the list that was provided to Financial Institutions included identities of ners and/or drivers of veh did not want to leave the area impacted by the protest," the nati-nolicing force said.

of donors to Financial Institutions We are now working with the banks to build a process to address the accountsthat were frozen." Public Safety Minister Marco

Mendicino said on the weekend that roughly 76 accounts worth a total of \$3.2 million have been fro supporting the convoy under the nev







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nothing worse happened."

Jolly is not alone in raising alarm
overattacks on press freedom.
Josh Greenberg, director of Carleton
University's School of Journalism and
Communications, said the tenor and

Communications, said the tenor and tone of the protests resemble those in the United States and some European countries in recent years. Most reporters will say they have been on the receiving end of accusations and hate, but Greenberg guidenmarking has changed.

Threats to press during convoy protests a wake-up call, experts say

broadcaster stares at the camera in silence as protesters surround him and scream expletives, calling him a liar andbellowing "freedom." Near the U.S. border in Surrey,

B.C., a cameraman's equipment is showed off his shoulder and two men spit on him. A demonstrator follows another journalist closely, yelling that

being," while police escort the reporter through a jeering crowd. Experts and advocates say the treatment of journalists, captured in many cases on video, during recent protests a against public health measures should be a wake-up call.

measures should be a wake-up call.

"What I've seen over the last two
days has been absolutely sickening,"
Brent Jolly, president of the Canadian
Association of Journalists, said in an
interview Sunday.

"This is what happens when you
have brains scrambled by
misinformation."

Journalists are working in an unprecedented difficult situation in Canada right now, he said, with



ntine and in person.

The degree of hostility and the treets put on journalists' backs are specially concerning, and the sychological consequences can be

psychological consequences can be significant, he said.

Fixing the problem will require a long-term solution that involves a multipronged approach. Newsroom organizations need to beef up security, digital training and protections. Social media companies should be Social media companies should be reviewing the role they play in facilitating a "toxic sludge of discourse," he said, while police consider whether their plans and

harmful online content.

While footage of the attacks is important to document what happened, there's also a danger it will gal vanize further abuse among those who believe they will face impunity,

and Jolly urged Heritage Mir Pablo Rodriguez to take serious responsibility outlined in his mandate letter to combat serious forms of

than their winter hand counterparts do, "he said. Greenberg called for a pause to consider the risks to Canada's democracy when threats are directed at democracy when threats are directed a those whose job it is to report on its twists and turns.

twists and turns.

Paul Knox, a retired journalism professor at Ryerson University, echoed his concern for non-white, non-male journalists.

experience significantly more vitriol than their white male journalist

rocessing Canada had nearly 900,000 job openings this past November, according to the latest job vacancies report. Immigration has long been touted as a strategy to support labour market growth in Canada.

market growthin Canada.

Since employers in certain industries have long demonstrated that there is consistent need for foreign talent, there are some work permits that have expedited processes for workers in certain sectors. The Global Talent Stream, for example, here are received of 10. Global Talent Stream, for example, has a processing standard of 10 business days. It is meant for employers in the tech sector to onboard foreign talent.

The province of Quebec offers a list of occupations that exempt the

of occupations that exempt the employer from the advertising requirement of the Labour Market Impact Assessment (IMA) process. Although they still need an LMA for these positions, they can get one much faster without having to advertise ajobopening.

The LMA is required for the hiring of some foreign antionals. It is a labour market test that the Canadian government may require to demonstrate a worker in Canada is unavailable to do the job. Canada differs fast-tracked LMA processing for the GTS and Quebe Candillated. the GTS and Ouebec facilitated

Everything inflation: It's not just gas and food anymore - and wages aren't keeping up

Everything seems to be getting more expensive. Food, gas and housing prices are on the rise while psycheques are slow to keep pace. The CBC News series Priced Out explains why you're paying more at the register and how Canadians are coping with the high cost of overthing. accusations and hate, but Greenberg said something has changed.

"The level of 'vitrol directed at the media in particular, which has been at a low bot in under the surface and invisible, has certainly surfaced and become highly visible, he said. Interactions posted online tend to involve white male reporters and Greenberg questioned what the consequences might be for young-female reporters who are Black, Indigenous exposely of colour. "Younger BIPOC female reporters experience significantly more vitrol's

what they'veen countered so far.
Rising pump prices are now grimly
routine. We've grown to expect the
effect of shipping delays on food and
things with imported components.
High housing costs are now just an
appalling Canadian factoflic.
But toward the end of 2021, that

recognizable pattern of rising prices began to change. Until about three noticed most price increases occurring in a few very distinct, relatively volatile, categories, such as food, fuel and accommodation. Notanymore.

aedaccommodation. Notanymore. Inflationhas become general While concentists differ on why it is happening and exactly how the change will affect Canadians, all I spokets to greed on one thing. "The story is no longer about energy, about food, about housing," said Tu Ngyeng. a Torento-based occomoist with the consultancy RSM Canada. "It's about pretty much cury dring in the consony." It used to be that Canadian strying to keep within a budget could seek out cheaper goods. They could would

to keep within a budget could seek out cheaper goods. They could avoid driving when gas was expensive, for example, or alter their diets to cut back on imported food. But when inflation is general, that becomes harder.

minion is general, intal occomes hander.

According to some economists, if is a sign that inflation may have set in for the longer term and that it will begin to hart. Canadians store.

Those at the low end of the wage scale - including women, recent immigrants and those in precarious work - are more deeply affected by generalized inflation. People with stagnant incomes and weak barganing power end up paying higher prices, even for the less expensive goods and services they dependon. xpensive goods and services they evenhigher.

Both Tapp and Nguyen explained that the rise in underlying inflation,

inflation" has surged arrived in the same Statistics Canada report that showed prices overall were climbing at 5.1 per cent a year, the highest rate since 1991.

at 5.1 per cent a year, the highest rate since 1897.

Getting to the core of the matter Bat behind that headtline number, people like Stephen Tapp, chief economist at the Candian Chamber of Commerce, drew attention to the three ways that Statistics Canada the Chamber of Commerce, drew attention to the three ways that Statistics Canada measures something called "core" inflation: an attempt by statisticisms to measure underlying movement in prices by chopping out volatile goods.

The strategy, Tapp said, is to exclude prices that tend to rise temporarily, price hise "shar might just unwind and go aways" without becoming part forle, befine "shar might just unwind and go aways" without becoming part foling-termin fallion. What's remerkable about the graph Tapp posted, which is shown below, is that uttll November, core inflation has been dead on target for years, hovering at about two per cent, while headline inflation – number with all of the volatile goods still included—has zipped up and down. But suddenly all three core measures have begun to cilind, one of them by as much as four per cent, showing that the price of everything is on a rising path.

"Those [core] measures are going to

members of the Bank of Canada most canada core can for concern because what they are trying to target is inflation expectations, and expectations have expectations, and expectations have been rising," Tapp said. He's worried there are signs that core is trending

after volatile goods have been removed, has two potential explanations. One is that the rising volatile prices feed back into core, needs energy or has imported

components.

The other is that as inflation rises, everybody expects it to keep rising, so businesses plan price hikes to keep up with expected inflation and workers try to do the same with their

wages.

Tom Velk, an economist at Montreal's McGill University, and a self-described conservative and advocate of monetarist economics, insists there is another reason core inflation is rising: too much money

inflation is rising; too much money flooding into the economy. Although monetarism is out of fashion, notably among central bankers, he is not alone in that view.

"When there's a huge amount of money everywhere, all prices go up," Velk told me from his farm in Vermont, where he said locally produced eggs have shot up to neither the view much damm money" and until it is soaked up with lower government spending and less central bank stimulus, core inflation is not going sway.

going away.

Wages not keeping up
But if there really is too much
money out there, the problem is that
not enough of it is going to the
people doing the work, according to
Kaylic Tiessen, an economist and
policy analyst at Unifor, Canada's
bingest rivials economist.

biggest private-sectorunion.

If Canadians are falling behind, the reason is not strictly because prices

are rising. The problem is that over the past year as inflation surged above five per cent, incomes have failed to

hee per cent, incomes ance muce to keep pace.

"And it means workers are losing purchasing power," Tiessens said in a phone conversation last work.

Of course, not all employees are losing, Sobeys' warehouse workers recently negotiated a four-year deal that included a wage increase of 20 per cent over the life of the contract. People who have studied the conomists of risine wases and trices of the period of the period was a period was the period was th People who have studied the conomics of faining wages and prices in the past say that one of the advantages of lindines in fait it acts as an economic behiviant for wage and price adjustment, allowing everyone to get an increase-even though some workers and seller aget more and some get less according to demand in that sector.

Recently, the governor of the Bank of Telligand, Ander Balley - who crities noted earned hundreds of thousands of pounds year-fixed a backlash when he warned British workers not to demand higher wages.

workers not to demand higher wages as inflation rose for fear of making inflation worse. Tiessen hears something similar when Canadian and U.S. authorities warn of a wage-and-pricespiral.

In fact, she said that despite rising

have caught up.
"We definitely cannot put ourselve in a position where workers as always losing out," she said. "We should not put ourselves in that

position, as an economy, at all." Tiessen said a growing gap Tiessen said a growing gap between the price of necessities and the ability of Canadians to buy them is not just had freworkers and their families. She said it hurst the entire consumers when the said it hurst the entire consumers when the working their the worthy effort to save the economy from the effects of the pandemic, the concept of inclusive economic growth, auraw where Unifer has been astrong advocate, has been frepotten.

A few months ago, when core inflation seemed safely stuck at two per cond, it may have been reasonable for central bankers here and in the United States to be quited mad tel the economy take its course. But now that the conce-stable measure of generalized inflation has begun to shift sharply higher, it seems almost certain that the banks will try to rein it in with higher interest rates. But if the Bank of Canada and the US. Federal Reserve begin to reack down on "everything inflation" with higher interest rates while wages inflation seemed safely stuck at two

Immigration minister commits to speeding up work permit processing

Canada's immigration minister stated his promise to improve ocessing times for work permits during meetings with the Standing Committee on Citizenship and

Immigration.
Last week, Immigration Minister
Sean Fraser told the committee that
Immigration, Refugees, and
Citizenship Canada (IRCC) will use its \$85 million budget to reduce its \$85 million budget to reduce processing times that have been exacerbated by the pandemic. The minister had previously announced that service standards for work permits, study permits, proof of citizenship, and permanent residence card renewals would return to normal butter and control of the property of the property of the property of the process of the proces

card renewals would return to normal by the end of 2022. The IRCC webpage estimates processing times for work permits submitted from most countries are currently not meeting the processing standard. Nonetheless, IRCC is

Mobility Program (IMP) and Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP). In 2019, the total was about 405 000

(TFWP). In 2019, the total was about 405,000.

The TFWP allows Canadian employers to hire foreign nationals to fill labour shortages in Canada. The IMP promotes Canada's broad economic, social, and cultural

interests.

The processing standard for work permits submitted outside of Canada is 60 days, except for International Experience Canada (IEC) work permits, which are supposed to be processed in 56 days. Work permit extensions submitted in Canada have extensions submitted in Canada have a processing standard of 120 days. Before the pandemic, IRCC met these standards more than 87 per cent of the time. Official dates on how often IRCC met its service standards in 2020-2021 havenotyet becnrelessed. When the pandemic hit in 2020, IRCC operations around the world

halted operations. The result eventually led to a backlog in applications. As of February 1, IRCC has more than 85,000 work permit

has more than 85,000 work permit applications in its inventory. IRCC Assistant Deputy Minister Daniel Mills was also at the committee meeting. Mills said in French that the \$85 million budget will not improve processing times for permanent residents, but it will allow will not improve processing since and in a permanent residents, but it will allow IRCC to develop tools such as electronic application systems and online application trackers. Minister Fraser had previously noted that processing for new spousal sponsorship applications have returned to the one-year standard.

returned to the one-year standard.

The Standing Committee on
Citizenship and Immigration is a
group of Canadian politicians from
major political parties that conduct
studies and offer policy
recommendations on how to improve the immigration sys

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are finally

married:

couple

exchange

wedding

VOWS

Farhan Akhtar and Shibani Dandekar are finally married now. The first photos from the ceremony have surfaced on social media. They have exchanged their wedding vows and are officially man and wife. The couple exchanged vows at Javed Akhtar's farmbouse in Khandala in the presence of all close friends and family.

presence of all close friends and family.

The first photos of the two standing

The first photos of the two standing together will leave you ensemerised. The wedding was a basic and simple affair. In the picture, Shibani went for ared off-shoulder gown with a veil and kept her hair open is soft cutris. While Farhan opted for a black tuxed to two compliance the lady love. The decor is simple yet beautiful. The flower door matches Shibani's wedding gown and makes everything look pretty! Early morning, guests were seen arriving at the wedding venue.

According to a report by a table of According to a report by a table of the guests were also been asked to wear easy colours like pasteds and whites for the wedding. The wedding wasn't a mish or a Marathi wedding and instead, they cobe to make it an intimate vow ceremony. Earlier today, Shiban Dandeber also shared a photo of her bridal red shoes and across it, the work, "lef's do this." The red shoes with shiny straps lookedstunning.

The red shoes with shiny straps looked stunning.

The wedding was a star-studded event and was attended by Hrithik Roshan, Rhea Chakraborty, Shankin Anhadevan, Ritesh Sidhwani, Anusha Dandekar, Amrita Aron, and others. Reportedly, the guest list also includes Meiyang Chang, Gaurav Kapur, Samir Kochhar, and Monica Dogra.

Sonu Sood's Car Confiscated By Punjab Police, Actor Accused Of Entering Polling Station And Influencing Voters

In 117 seats, Putijsh assembly elections are going underway and amidst this between news related to actor Sonn Sood has come, as per reports, Sonn Sood's car was selzed by the Putijsh Police as he has been accused of entering into the polling station and influencing voters. For the unversed, Sonn's sister Malvika Sood is contesting from Moga district as a Congress candidate. Moga District PRO Pradibhedep Singh told the wire, "Sonn Sood was trying to enter a polling booth. During this, his car was confiscated and he was sent home. Action will be

During tins, his car was confiscated and he was sent home. Action will be taken against him if he steps out of his house. The SUV has been impounded on the basis of suspicious activity. We have received a complaint that the SUV was taking rounds near the polling booth at Landheke village. polling booth as We have impounded it. For is underway," SHO Da



Reacting to the same, Sonu clarified he was only trying to make sure that fair elections are going on. He told ANI, "We got to know of threat calls at various booths by the opposition, especially the people of Akali Dal. Money being distributed at some booths. So it's our duty to go

Gehraiyaan?

Siddhant Chaturvedi is currently riding high on the success of his latest release 'Gehraiyaan' which also featured Deepika Padukone and Ananya Panday. While the film Ananya Panday. While the film received mixed reactions, Siddhant-Deepika's cracking chemistry gamered much love and appreciation. Shakun Batra's directorial winessed many infinise and Ijplock scenes between Deepika's character Aliahs and Siddhant's chara

accompanied them to Goa and had partied hard with them. Coming back to 'Gehraiyaan', the movie was bankrolled by Dharma Productions and is a complex relationship drama. It also starred Dhairya Karwa, Rajat Kapoor, and

February on Amazon Prime Video Talking about the film, Deepika had earlier told indian express.com had earlier told indianexpress.com that Gehraiyaan has been her most memorable film experience because it's not often one gets to work with a crew, director, and cast who are of a similar age group, think alike, have similar tastes and interests. The Piku actress also penned a grating note. similar tastes and interests. The Piku actress also penned a gratitude note for her finns for such an overwhelming response. She had draited not expensive to Gehraiyaan has been dizzying to say the least! 'Alisha' has been my most visceral, indelible and delicious experience as an artist. While I am costatic and overwhelmed, I am also truly grateful and humbheld!

Brook's brilliant ton helps Lahore Farhan Akhtar and Qalandars crush Islamabad United Shibani by 66 runs LAHORE: Harry Brook hammered in unbeaten knock of 102 as Lahore Dalandars crushed Islamabad United by Dandekar

s in their Pakistan Super Lea (PSL) VII mutch at Gaddaff Sadium here on Saturday night. With the win, Labore consolidated their second spet on the PSL points table. Chasing a formidable target of 198, Islamabad. could master only 131 for the loss of innie wickets in their allotted overs. Islamabad started positively in their chase of 198 and despite skipper Shaheen Slash Afris Gending both their openers back off successive deliveries in the third over, they finished the powerplay at 59 for 2: Rahmanullah. Curbuse C20 and Mahasir Khau (fol. 184). (PSL) VII match at Gaddafi Stadium powerplay at 50 for 2: Rahmanullah Gurbaz (20) and Mubasir Khan (06). It was Rashid Khan who applied brakes on the scoring rate, first by trapping Mohammad Wasim (12) lbw and then having Azam Khan (10) stumped. Zaman Khan also chipped in with a coupleof-wickets, and by the end of the 15th over, Islamabad were 10 f6 for 6 and way behind the asking rate. Danish Azz tried to fellow with an unbeaten 30 Aziz tried to fight with an unbeaten 30 off 26 balls but the task had become insurmountable. Eventually, Islamabad

NEW DELHI: Rohit Sharma was on Saturday named India's Test captain, one of the highest-pressure jobs in world sport, completing his takeover of the leadership across cricket formats after Virat Kohli's exit. The 34-year-old will lead the side in the upcoming two Test series against sill pulse after the Morbid Assistance of the State Morbid Assistance of the State Morbid Assistance of the Morbi

the upcoming two Test series against Sri Lanka starting March 4, chairman of selectors Chetan Sharma told reporters. "Rohit Sharma is the

number one cricketer of our country," he said. "King Kohli" quit as India's Test captain in January having resigned from the T20 leadership last

resigned from the T20 leadership last year and then been sacked as ODI skipper. Rohit, known as the "Hitman" for his big hundreds and six-hitting, this month led the team to a one-day series sweep over the WestIndies.



failed to reach home. They are currently fourth on the points table with eight

points from nine games.

Earlier, Brook reached his hundred off just 48 balls - the second-fastest in the PSL - but what made his knock even more special was the circumstances in more special was the circumstances in which he came out to bat. After opting to bat, Lahore were reeling at 12 for 3 in the third over as Faheem Ashraf first removed Phil Salt (02) and Kamran Ghulam (zero) in the second of the innings before running out Mohammad Hafteez (02) with a direct hit in the next Platez (UZ) with a direct fit in the next over. Brook then joined hands with Fakhar Zaman as the pair revived the innings by adding 101 off just 63 balls for the fourth wicket. Brook was the aggressor of the two, reaching his half-century off 27 balls. In comparison,

Rohit Sharma named India Test

captain

when he hit twin centuries. The swashbuckling batterna, a white-ball star, has scored 3,047 mes inchaling eight centuries in 43 Tests since making his debut in 2013. His attacking batting und penchant for big scores - he scored 177 on his Test debut and has a bip score of 212-make the star of the score of 212-make the score of 2

Fakhar took 39 balls for his 51. Fakha Fabture took 39 bulls for his 51. Fabture files oon after reacting the bachwark to will brook keep batting in the sume vein. He took keep batting in the sume vein. He took Wealm for two fours and as sit in the 15th over and then smashed Wagas Magood for there for us and as it in the 20-tm penaltimate over of the innings. It is pertinent to meetin outher Sabtury yeaterday also became the only third crinciter to score 500 runs in a single edition of Pakkism Super Langua. Before him, Babur (Kanethi Kinga) and Mohammad Rizwun (Mullam Sultans) hand sooms 500° menn in single edition of had sooms 500° menn in single edition. nad scored 500+ runs in a single edition of PSL - both last year, in PSL 6. Fakhar has now the 2nd most runs in a single edition of PSL - 521 and needs only 34 runs to break Babar's record of most runs in a single edition of the tournament-554.

also contrasts with lean fitness finatic Kolil, hat selection chairman Chetan dismissed concerns about the new captain. Puce howler Jasprii Baurah was named as Rohif's Test deputy, putting him in contention to become the next skipper. Rohif is seen as less conchaire than his predecessor, who had frequent run-ins with opposing teams and unpriese. Under Kohl, one of the best batsmen of his generation, India rose up the international India rose up the international India rose up the international.

India rose up the international rankings and shed their reputation for performing poorly away, winning two series in Australia.

Wasim Akram formally inducted into PCB Hall of Fame

West Indies batting legend Sir ivian Richards inducted Akram by presenting him with a presenting him with a commemorative cap and plaque before the start of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) match between Karachi Kings and Quetta Gladiators in Lahore. In a press release, the PCB noted that Akram had taken a total of 916 wickets

Alzmn had taken a total of 916 wickets and scored 6.615 runs during his international career from 1984 to 2003.

"Akram is one of the eight Pakistan stalwarts who are members of the PCB Hall of Fame. Others are Abdul Qadir, Fazal Mahmood, Hanif Mohammad, Imran Khan, Javed Miandad, Wagar Younis and Zaheer Abbas, who will be formally inducted into the prestigations group in the

Abbas, who will be formally inducted into the prestigious group in the coming days, "the press release said.

Commenting on the achievement, Akram said: "I feel privileged to have received this great honour from Sir Vivian Richards, one of the most

Vivian Richards, one of the most iconic figures in cricket, and at a venue that remained my home ground during my polage (accuse." He also appreciated the PCB for launching the initiative to "recognise and acknowledge the contributions of former cricketers."

"It has been an honour to represent Pakistan over 18 years during which I played in 460 international matches. Every wicket and every run Is sorred in these matches was proficeds, "beaut."

"I want to thank all my finas who have been my greatest strengths."

"It want to thank all my fans who have been my greatest strengths. Their support has been invaluable. I also want to thank my family and friends who stood beside me during this incredible journey," Alexansaid. Meanwhile, Richards said that he felt "delighted" to have been give

the opportunity to formally induct Akram into the PCB Hall of Fame. "My first encounter with Akram was in 1985 in Australia, and in the

Akram into the PCB Hall of Fame.
"My first encounter with Akram
was in 1985 in Australia, and in the
twilight of my career, I was happy I
would not be facing him much. I
clearly remember telling my junior
partner that he will cause a lot of
problems for his generation of
cricketers and [he] proved me right,"
hesaid.

Did Siddhant Chaturvedi Take Ranveer Singh's Permission Before Doing Intimate Scenes With Deepika Padukone In

While speaking to Bollywood Bubble, the Gully Boy actor has opened up about the negative comments and flak that he received for doing intimate somes with Deepliks. Siddhard stated that these comments "don't anger him since he and Deeplik are professionals and know their equation." He also revealed that Ranseer was in fact the first person he film. Not just this, Ransver also accompanied them to Gos and had particle hard with them.

West Indies He has led IPL side Mumbail Indians to a record five titles, and had already taken over the white-ball captaincy following Kohli's surprise departure. Always a frontunent to take over the Test duties, Rohit has been a regular member of the Test testmanisco-porting the butting for India in October 2019, Pant-takes over. His ample physique

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Canada protests: Police arrest leaders of trucker convoy

Police in Ottawa have detained two leaders of the trucker convoy in the Canadian capital as they move to break up the last stronghold of the protests against the nation's Covid rules.

Tamara Lich was arrested on Thursday evening after Chris Burber was held, with both expected to be charged criminally, according to CBC News.

Authorities have already cleared other protests located at border

crossings.

It comes days after Canada invoked an emergency law forthe first time.

However, officers were not yet moving in force on the remaining demonstrators on Thursday night -although interim Ottawa Police Chief Steve Bell warned earlier that if "they do not peacefully leave, we have

plans".

The Emergencies Act invoked by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Monday imposes bans on public ssembly in some areas, among other



parked in some 400 heavy trucks and other vehicles on city streets around Parliament - have been warned they face arrest as well as having their trucks seized, their insurance

Police say they are also working with child-welfare agencies to arrange how to remove the protesters' children from the site before authorities move Ms Lich told the Canadian Press

Ms Lich told the Canadian Press earlier that her personal bank account had already been frozen and she was resigned to going to jail. Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland confirmed the government

st economically dama

blockade - of a bridge linking Windsor, Ontario, with the US state of Michigan. Trucker protests at other border crossings in Coutts, Alberta, and Emerson, Manitoba, ended this

100 police check-points around the main protest site, and a large business and residential district in the city

are accusing Mr Trudeau of smearing their peaceful demonstration, while ignoring a violent attack by environmental activists elsewhere in the country on Thursday. demonstrations in Canada's capital, which have lasted for more than three weeks and have attracted international attention.

Ottawa police said Saturday they had made 170 arrests and towed 53 vehicles

protesters who remain during the week are typically joined by thousands of other demonstrators on

thousands of other demonstrators on the streets of the capital. On Thursday, Prime Minister Trudeau defended his government's use of the Emergencies Act in the House of Commons, saying the protests threaten the national

onomy, public safety and US

The use of the law is ar

onservative leader Candice Bergen. The Canadian Civil Liberties

Dwayne Lich has been proposed to act as her surety, meaning he would have to report if she breached any bail

conditions.

In his testimony, he said he flew to Ottawa on Feb. 2 on a private jet at a cost of \$5,000, paid for by a "nice gentleman" named Joseph that he'd

gentleman hamed Joseph that he di only recently met.

"But he told me that my plane ride was taken care of, which was a miracle," he told the court.

The Crown questioned Dwayne Lich

The Crown questioned Dwayne Lish on this ability to serve a sarty, given he'd been in Ottavas throughout mach of the protests while his wife had been recorded telling protestes to 'Holding the line attal crosts."

While he said he didn't believe in the blockades or holding the line, Dwayne Lich last soai the didn't see anything wrong, equating the blockades in a large traffic jam or parkedoars in anow where.

parked cars in a snow storm.

"I don't see no guns. I don't see anything criminal as far as I can see. I just see trucks parked," he said.

Dwayne Lich questions legality of

Emergency situation 'not over' PM Trudeau says after police crackdown in the capital

prompted it is "not something we ever want to see again," nor is it over, said Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

on.Monday.

Asked whether the wide-spanning Asked whether the wide-spanning national emergency powers are still required, given the blockades at border crossings have been alleviated and downtown Ottawa is quiet and largely free from trucks or convoy protesters after a weekend of massive police operations, Frudeau said he doesn't want to keep the Act in effect "a single day longer" than it needs to be. The Canadian Civil Liberties Association said on Thursday it would take the government to court over the "extremensaure". The protests began with a truck convey heading to Othwas to copose a vaccine mandate for truckers crossing the US-Canada border, but eventually became about a broader opposition to pandemic restrictions and Mf Trudeast's government. Defendence the "Freedom Corvey" are acousing Mf Trudeas of smarring their praceful demonstration, while

"This state of emergency is not over. There continues to be real concerns about the coming days. But we will continue to evaluate every single day whether or not it is time," said the prime minister during a press

conference on Monday.

He said that there are still people and trucks who are affiliated with anti-COVID-19 mandates and

blockades.
"This is not something that we want to imagine continuing indefinitely in Canada, we hope to only keep it in place for a number moredays," said the prime minister.
As of Sunday, there have been 191 arrests of "Freedom Convoy" arrivators of "Freedom Convoy" arrivators of the control of the contr

participants in Ottawa, and 79 vehicles have been towed. Nearly 400 charges have been laid so far, ranging from mischief and obstruction, to assaulting a police officer.

assaulting a police officer. Checkpoints remain active around the downtown core, with only those who work or live in the area allowed to enter, as and crews continue to collect genbage and debris left in the streets. Trudeau thanked the law enforcement agencies from across the country who joined the openations in Ottawa and noted that the last few weeks have been difficult, "disturbing," and stressful for many Canadians.

"This situation is not anything nyone wanted and, quite frankly, is not something we ever want to see again " Trudeau said. The nowers are

Contact Now

Azfar Amin



earlier by the government or

Echoing his comments when he first enacted the Emergencies Act on Feb. 14, Trudeau said that the situation required it and the powers have played a role in seeing public

"This situation is not anything anyone wanted and, quite frankly, is

aryone wanted and, quite frankly, is not something we ever want to see again, "Trudeau said. The prime minister said that the country now has a choice to make as a society." To choose is keep "reliving these seemes that tear at the values that bind us as Canadians," or "choose to remember who we are, and the best vision of what Canada can be."

Echoing his comments when he first enacted the Emergencies Act on Feb. 14, Trudeau said that he did not want to take the unprecedented step of using these powers, but the situation

From weeks of unlawful activity, harassment of citizens, impacts to businesses, and acts of desecration, to evidence of ideologically motivated violent extremism and foreign-backed funding and disinformation. Trudeau said it was clear that local and

Later today, MPs will be voting to onfirm the powers, with Trudeau uggesting he also views the vote as the House of Commons has in his

"I can't imagine anyone voting

against this bill as expressing anything other than a deep mistrust in the government's ability to keep Canadians safe at an extraordinarily important time, "Trudeau said. It's expected the NDP will as they have said, reluctantly back the

minority Liberals to see the declaration of emergency motion pass, though the Conservatives continue to question why invoking the Act was

question why invoking the Act was necessary in the first place.

"We believe very strongly that this has been a national crisis," said NDP leader Jagmeet Singh during a press conference following Trudeau's address, "In response to that failure of leadership to ack this seriously, we believe now the measures put in place... are helping to address the serious crisis... But I also want to be clear, we are prepared, and we've advised the prime minister, that we are prepared to pull our support and advised the prime minister, that we are prepared to pull our support and to trigger a vote on emergency measures... as soon as we believe it

During this weekend's special debate on the use of the Em Act, Official Opposition MPs repeatedly spoke about how they feel repeatedly spoke about how they feel the suite of federal powers-from compelling tow truck drivers to move big rigs, to freezing bank accounts and other financial assets of those suspected of being complicit in supporting the convoy-is massive governmentoverreach.

"The rights and freedoms of Canadians must be defended at every turn. The Prime Minister with the help of the NDP are making a dangerous mistake by enacting the Emergencies Act," tweeted interim

Monday to discuss the use of the act, seeing senators too vote to confirm the powers.

Noting the Canadian Civil Noting the Canadian Civil Liberties Association's decision to take the federal government to court over its historic use of the Act, and the other accountability mechanisms like the coming parliamentary review, Trudeau said there will be "checks and balances" to ensure the actions taken have been within the scope of what's been required.

what's been required.

He also suggested there will be future legislation stemming from realizing the systemic gaps in current law that the convoy and its efforts

The prime minister said that the country now has a choice to make as a society: To choose to keep "reliving these scenes that tear at the values that bind us as Canadians," or "choose to remember who we are, and the best vision of what Canada can be."

He saidhis government will always defend the right to free expression and peaceful assembly, but said what's transpired in the last four weeks has

"In a democracy, you can protest, and you can share your opinion at the top of your lungs, you can grous, with elected officials, and you can certainly disagree with me," Trudeau

Canadians who disagree with you. You can't hold a city hostage. You can't block a critical trade corridor and deprive people of their jobs. You can't attack journalists for reporting... What you can do is vote. What you can do is run for office. That's how

He also made an appeal to Canadians to try to mend the rifts they may have within their own social circles over politics or vaccinations, and to expand their information sources, saying there's a lesson for all in what's transpired in relation to the trucker convoy

"Look, in the heat of the moment. "Look, in the heat of the moment, we can all get carried away trying to win an argument. But not every single conversation has to be about winning the argument. Sometimes, it's more important to just be there for one another. As a country, let's aim for more decency in our public discourse, not less, "Trudeau said.

No bail decision yet for Tamara Lich, convoy protest organizer

to wait a few more days before an Ontario Court of Justice judge decides

Ontario Court of Justice judge decides whether to granther bail.

Tamara Lich, the Alberta woman behind a now-halted GoFundMe campaign that raised over \$10 million to support the protest in Ottawa, was arrested and charged Thursday with counselling to commitmischief.

counselling to commitmischief.

Police arrested another key leader,
Chris Barber, on the same day. He was
released on bail Friday.

Before her arrest, Lich told
journalists she wasn't concerned about
being arrested, didn't think the protest
was illegal and allos said her bank
account was frozen.

was illegal and also said her bank accountwas fibroa.

At her bail hearing Saturday, Lied wore a black hoodie with white text that combined a heart and maple leaft or read "Ilove Canadian oil and gas."

She was also required to wear a medical mask, one of the mandates the convoy has been fighting against, along with requiring COVID-19 vaccines to participate in certain activities like



Dwayne's ability to pay a proposed \$5,000 bond if Lich breached any onditions the judge may impose. Lich, who lives in Medicine Hat,

Alta., and her husband both work in the oil and gas sector. Lich told the court she has no savings and few assets, including a 2017 Jeep and 2018 Ford F-150 that they're continuing to

Her lawyer, Diane Magas, later told court that one of the lawyers representing Lich in a proposed \$10-million class-action lawsuit against protesters would be able to drive the couple back to Alberta, allowing her to leave within the next



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