Pahlaj Nihalani, former CBFC chief, dies

Mumbai: Veteran Bollywood producer and former chairperson of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) **Pahlaj Nihalani**, died on Thursday at his residence in Bandra due to liver ailments. He was 76.

His last rites were performed at the Santacruz Hindu crematorium. In anntandace was actor Govinda, who got his break with Nihalani's 'Ilzaam' (1986). "Pahlaj ji had a rare ability to identify talent and help people rise from the ground to great heights," he said.

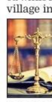
Filmmakers Farhan Akhtar, Zoya Akhtar, Anees Bazmee, David Dhawan and sons Rohit and Varun, Boney Kapoor, Ramesh Sippy and Abhishek Kapoor were also present.

Nihalani started his career as a producer in 1982 with 'Haathkadi'. His notable films include 'Shola Aur Shabnam', 'Aankhen', 'Dil Tera Diwana', 'Talaash' and 'Rangeela Raja'.

In Jan 2015, he became chairperson of CBFC and introduced strict guidelines that barred certain expletives, trimmed kissing scenes, and restricted content that could hurt religious sentiments. PTI

Man, son electrocuted while saving wife in UP

Varanasi: A man and his son were electrocuted while rescuing his wife from a live wire at a village in UP's Mau district Thursday morning reports **Rajeev Dikshit**.



ASP Anoop Kumar said that Meena Devi (45) came in contact with a live wire while switching on a water pump at her home. Hearing her scream, Devendra Mishra (48) rushed to help her but got caught in the current.

When their son, Neeraj, went to rescue them, he and Devendra managed to free Meena, but the latter sustained severe burn injuries. The electric shock threw Neeraj several feet away, causing serious head injuries.

Meena managed to alert the neighbours, who rushed the three of them to the community health centre, where doctors declared Devendra and Neeraj dead. TNN

Hold sr bureaucrats liable for juniors' faults: HC to UP govt

Rajesh Kumar Pandey | TNN

Prayagraj: The Allahabad HC has urged the UP CM to recognise that it's time to hold senior bureaucrats and top administrative heads accountable, and even criminally liable, for the lapses of their departments or subordinates. The court directed the chief secretary to place the judgment before the CM for appropriate action.

A bench of Justice Vinod Diwakar, in its June 3 order, observed the state must adopt the doctrine of "superior responsibility", under which senior officers in the administrative hierarchy are held accountable for the conduct and performance of those under them. "Senior officers must ensure effective delivery of public services."

The HC was hearing a plea challenging a Bareilly court order denying a man an NOC for passport renewal. The denial was based on two pending criminal cases

The court was hearing a petition filed by Avnesh Kumar Agarwal, who had challenged a Bareilly court order denying him a no-objection certificate for passport renewal. The denial was based on two pending criminal cases — one under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

The petitioner argued that probe in the cases were inordinately delayed, with one pending for nearly 20 years and another chargesheet filed in 2024, after 18 years.

The HC referred to its 2023 judgment in Manish Kumar Singh vs State of UP, in which it had directed govt to constitute a high-powered committee to frame guidelines for monitoring investigations in corruption and cheating cases involving govt departments.

Despite the directions, the committee was constituted in Dec 2025 — that too after the present matter drew attention. The bench termed the delay "unfortunate" and said, a key impediment to the implementation of court directives was the mindset within sections of the bureaucracy, which tend to retain discretionary powers as an end in itself. The "apprehension of losing discretion" was identified as a primary cause of red-tapism.

IndiGo suspends 6 overseas routes

Mumbai: India's largest airline IndiGo on Thursday said it has temporarily suspended operations to six international destinations, including Hong Kong and Krabi, as part of network optimisation.

The budget carrier has decided to temporarily suspend services to Langkawi, Krabi, Ho Chi Minh, Hong Kong, and Shanghai starting July 1 and Siem Reap effective July 3 until Sept 30, IndiGo said in a statement.

The decision has been taken in view of a traditionally softer demand in the upcoming quarter and an incredibly challenging cost environment, it said. IndiGo will resume bookings for all impacted services starting Oct 1, subject to an improved environment, it said, adding that the airline stands prepared to reinstate these services earlier than scheduled, in appropriate lead time.

The carrier also stated that it has managed to retain majority of its international operations — over 1,800 weekly international flights — despite this realignment. "These measured changes are designed to align capacity with current market conditions and demand trends..." the statement said. PTI