

6 29010 002330

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20, 2023
JUMADA AL AKHIRA 7, 1445

gulfnews.com



Scan for
our social
media

NATION | P5

**Big Bad Wolf
book sale begins
in Sharjah**



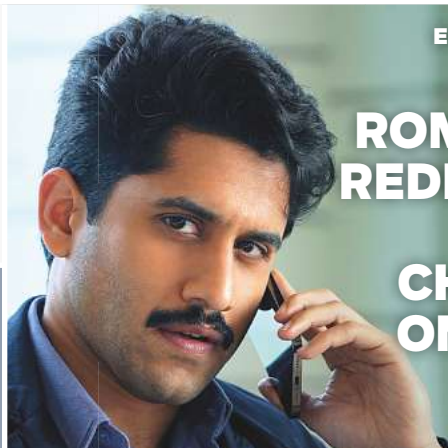
THE VIEWS | P8

**Can US really
change course of
Israeli policies?**



BUSINESS | P6

**Bayanat, Yahsat
to create 'space
tech' champ**



ENTERTAINMENT | P15

**FROM
ROMANCE TO
REDEMPTION:
NAGA
CHAITANYA
ON HIS WEB
SERIES**

T&C Apply

**ABC
VALUE OFFER**



**ABC
CARGO & COURIER**



800 916
www.abccargo.ae

3035365_001

ON GULFNEWS.COM

tell me
WHY

**finding your
'tribe' is crucial**



Emma Burdett, Founder of WILD (Women in Leadership Deliver) network, joins Maria Botros on the Tell Me Why podcast to talk about the importance of finding a community to get support and achieve a sense of belonging

■ **WILD is a platform for existing and future female leaders to come together and share knowledge**

■ **Many women still struggle with confidence**

■ **Women's networks are the answer to gender equality**

■ **'My mental breakdown, personal experience in the corporate world inspired me to set up WILD'**



Scan the QR code
for episode 20 of
the *Tell Me Why*
podcast

IPL auction in Dubai breaks the Rs200 million barrier

Aussies Cummins and Starc take home sizeable purse from Rs1 billion fund

DUBAI

BY A.K.S. SATISH
Sports Editor

In a historic day in the Indian Premier League, the world's richest franchise league raised the bar a few notches higher to break the Rs200-million barrier during the mini auction held at the Coca-Cola arena in Dubai yesterday. The salary cap for each team in the inaugural edition in 2008 was Rs200 million, but today it stands at a whopping Rs1 billion per team.

The mini auction is about

filling the slots, but saw intense bidding between the 10 franchises for some of their key targets that they have identified to bring balance to the squad.

The World Cup-winning Australians were the main targets with skipper Pat Cummins receiving a record bid of Rs205 million, breaking the previous mark of Rs185 million set by England all-round-

Australian skipper Pat Cummins received a record bid of Rs205 million, only to be overtaken hours later by compatriot Mitchell Starc with Rs247.5 million bid.

er Sam Curran last year. But Cummins' record stood only for a few hours when Kolkata Knight Riders secured left-arm pacer Mitchell Starc for Rs247.5 million.

Biggest Indian earner

Pacer Harshal Patel was the biggest earner among the Indian players with Rs117.5 million, but uncapped Jharkhand wicketkeeper Sameer Rizvi was the biggest surprise when he was roped in by defending champions Chennai Super Kings for Rs84 million.

On the day, the 10 franchises spent a total of Rs2.34 billion from a total spend limit of 2.63 billion for 72 players, including 30 international stars, from a total of 333 cricketers, who were in the fray.

SPECIAL REPORT P12



**WORLD
China's
deadliest
earthquake
in a decade
kills 127 | P10**

UN Security Council to vote on Gaza truce

US SAYS WORKING ON DRAFT RESOLUTION ON AID DELIVERY

UNITED NATIONS

UN Security Council members were in intense negotiations yesterday on an Arab-sponsored resolution to spur desperately needed humanitarian aid deliveries to Gaza during some kind of a halt in the fighting, trying to avoid another veto by the United States.

US Deputy Ambassador Robert Wood told reporters yesterday morning that negotiations were still underway. Ambassador Lana Nusseibeh of the UAE, the Arab representative on the 15-member council, said she hoped the council could vote on a resolution.

Outstanding issues

The US was working with countries on the Security Council to resolve outstanding issues related to a draft resolution demanding that Israel and Hamas allow aid access to the Gaza Strip and set up UN monitoring of the humanitarian assistance delivered, the US State Department said yesterday.

Speaking at a briefing, Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said Washington would welcome a resolution that fully supports addressing the humanitarian needs of the people in Gaza but the details of the text matter.



AFF

■ US Deputy Ambassador to the UN Robert Wood (right) talks with his advisers during a UN Security Council meeting on 'The situation in the Middle East' yesterday.

The draft resolution on the table Monday called for an "urgent and sustainable cessation of hostilities," but this language is expected to be watered down in a final draft.

The Security Council had scheduled a vote late Monday afternoon, but it was postponed to try to get the US to support the resolution or abstain.

The US vetoed a Security Council resolution backed by almost all other council members and dozens of other nations demanding an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza. The 193-member General Assembly overwhelmingly ap-

proved a similar resolution on December 12 by a vote of 153-10, with 23 abstentions.

The draft resolution on the table Monday called for an "urgent and sustainable cessation of hostilities," but this language is expected to be watered down in a final draft, possibly to a "suspension" of hostilities or something weaker to get US support, diplomats said.

—Agencies
SEE ALSO P9

NATION

**Dubai busts
illegal
immigration
network
operation | P5**

BUSINESS

**Festive rush:
How high can
New Year's Eve
rates climb at
UAE hotels? | P7**

NATION

**Looking for a
Christmas tree?
Look no further
than Satwa in
Dubai | P4**



MIDDLE EAST

**US pushes
naval coalition
as Houthis vow
to attack more
ships | P9**

Advertisement



**We Were
Cool Before
#Hashtags!**



**Before smartphones and streaming, there was
FiLLi – still brewing strong**

Way back when dial-up internet was a thing and phones were just phones (not smart, not foldable, just... phones), FiLLi was already brewing the perfect cup of tea. Yep, we've been cool since the days of floppy disks and VHS tapes.

Remember when flipping phones were the ultimate symbol of cool? At FiLLi, we were flipping cups of tea with the same flair. When people queued for the first iPod, we were queuing up new flavors. And when social media was just a twinkle in the internet's eye, we were already socializing – one cup at a time.

Before Facebook, we were the original social network, one where friendships were forged over a steamy cup, not a friend request. We've seen the rise and fall of boy bands, the evolution from cargo pants to skinny jeans, and the entire lifespan of the DVD.

While everyone else was trying to figure out their MySpace Top 8, we were perfecting our top 8 tea blends. And we've been here for all the big moments – from the rise of reality TV to the first tweet, all shared over the magic of a FiLLi brew.

So, here's to FiLLi – where we've been serving up epic tea before epic was even a hashtag. 20 years down, and we're not even thinking of slowing down. Because before there was 'going viral,' there was going to FiLLi for a genuinely good time.

**"FiLLi – Trending Since Before It Was a
Thing. Celebrating 20 Years of Being
Unapologetically Tea"**

20 Years
OF INSPIRING TEA DRINKERS

Filli

Subscribe in print and online

www.store.gulfnews.com

www.gulfnews.com/subscriptions

Tel: 600 587 234

E-mail: circ@gulfnews.com

PRICE
UAE: Dh 5.00
Bahrain: BD 0.500
Oman: RO 0.500
India: Rs 40.00
S.Arabia: SR 5.00
Pakistan: Rs 100.00

3035366_42