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New youngest ManU player in European competition

Alwin Benjamin Soji

BENGALURU: Shola Shoretire became Manchester United's youngest ever player to play in the European competition.

This feat was achieved when Shoretire, who is 17 years and 23 days old, came on to play for Manchester United in the 76th minute of their second-leg Europa League Round-of-32 match against Real Sociedad on Friday, February 26.

Shoretire said about it on Twitter, "What a feeling to make my European debut! To become United's youngest ever player in Europa is an incredible honour and a proud moment for me and my family! On to the next round."

The previous record was held by Norman Whiteside, who was 108 days older than Shoretire. He made his debut on September 15, 1982, against Valencia in the same competition.

Shoretire's manager said, "Shola's got some skills, attributes that we think are going to make him a very good player. It's a platform of course tonight — just 15 minutes — so it's something to build on, something for him to remember at Old Trafford. If the fans had been here, he would have enjoyed it more because they give you so much more energy."

Radio host criticised for racist remarks

Nishitha Rachel

BENGALURU: German radio host Matthias Matuschik is being criticised online for an on-air tirade against K-pop group BTS, which many viewed as racist.

A user was able to record his Thursday-night comments and upload it on Twitter. The tweet contains radio station Bayern 3 presenter Matuschik's reaction to BTS' recent MTV Unplugged programme. He is heard calling the band "similar to a virus like Covid-19" and saying they should "go on a 20-year 'vacation' to North Korea."

Matthias went on to slam BTS for covering "Fix You" by Coldplay, calling the



K-pop group BTS

former's effort sacrilege and blasphemy.

He said, "BTS is an abbreviation for a virus like Covid-19 and hopefully there will be a vaccination against them soon."

"The German radio host could've simply expressed his displeasure with the Fix You cover in a civil manner rather than enabling racism. Equating people with a deadly virus and wishing

they be exiled to North Korea is not only racist and offensive but also makes no sense. His evident animosity and resentment, is obnoxious and I hope proper action is taken towards him," said

Patricia Paul, a BTS fan.

"Just extremely maddening that all BTS wanted to do with that song was comfort and support people going through hardship. And some random white man who I guarantee doesn't know a single thing about them gets to stand on his undeserved platform and spout hatred at them for it", said a user on Twitter.

Columbia records, the recording company that BTS has signed with in the USA has also spoken out in support with the K-pop band. They tweeted, "Columbia Records stands with the Asian Community and condemns all forms of racism and xenophobia. We just all work together to strive for racial justice" (sic)

Twitter

Army recruitment drive in Ranchi

Pavithra Prabhu

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Ranchi, Chhavi Ranjan, on Friday, February 26, announced that an Army Recruitment Rally would be organised for all 24 districts of Jharkhand at Morabadi, Ranchi, from March 10.

The candidates chosen from this recruitment drive will then undergo medical exams and written tests.

Candidates are required to bring the requisite documents along with the original Admit Card to the drive.



Representational Image

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They can only appear in one category during the recruitment year.

Deputy Director General Recruiting (Bihar &

Jharkhand) requested the youth to be wary of touts who "exploit and cheat innocent and poor youth of the state."

Strife mars relief in Myanmar: UN

Akshara D M

The political strife in Myanmar has impacted the ability of humanitarians efforts to reach vulnerable communities, including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the country's conflict-affected areas, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said in a statement on Thursday, February 25.

"Relief actors are working to resume activities that have been paused in some parts of the country and the humanitarian community is committed to stay and deliver support to those in need," said UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator Ola Almgren.

He added that the UN and its partners have, for many years, been responding to humanitarian needs caused by conflict and natural disasters in Myanmar.

Factors such as closure of banks, interruptions of payments and cash withdrawal systems, and reported increase in price of basic commodities like food and fuel in some areas, are said to have affected relief efforts.

Apart from the political strife, about 1 million people affected by conflict and natural disasters are in need of support and protection, said OCHA in Statement.

It added that humanitarian access to the local populace "remains constrained" due to safety concerns and administrative procedures, such as travel authorisations.

Parsi Gara: Another art form going extinct?

Priyansha

JHARKHAND: A nearly 200-year-old Sino-Indian art form is about to be forgotten in the realm of easier and less-time-consuming techniques.

Parsi Gara, a unique embroidery from, came to India via traders who brought it for their wives and friends from China. The art form is now struggling to retain its identity, because artisans are giving up on it.

Zenobia S Davar, a Mumbai-based fashion designer, said, "Gara requires a lot of patience and time as



Handwoven, authentic Parsi Gara

Zenobia S. Davar

the needle used in this embroidery is not big, and the work is intricate compared to other embroideries. Also, there's

also lot of imitation of Parsi Gara in the market. This leads to the loss of authenticity."

Mohammad Uzair, a 45-

year-old artisan from Lucknow whose father also wove in the Parsi Gara style, said, "Lucknow is known for embroideries, but we are not teaching it to our children as this work requires a lot of time and there's no profit involved. If I work for eight hours, I will get just Rs 300."

Aashu Khan, a textile retailer from Lucknow, said, "We cannot say that there's no demand for Parsi Gara. People are interested to buy it, but less-time-consuming machine work is eating into the business. It's a very fine embroidery which needs patience and concentration."



IDP camp in Kachin state

Patrick Brown, UNICEF