



Want to give the next gen chance to lead: Nooyi on departure as PepsiCo CEO

NEW YORK, SEPT 3 /-/- PepsiCo's Indian-origin CEO Indra Nooyi, who will step down Wednesday after 12 years at the helm of the global beverage giant, said that "lot of fuel" is still left in her "tank" and she looks forward to doing something different with her life and spend more time with her family. Chennai-born Nooyi not only broke the glass ceiling in corporate America when she was named CEO of the global beverage giant in 2006 but, through her journey, inspired millions of young Indians who dreamed of and aspired to emulate the success the India-born woman achieved in America. In her concluding remarks during PepsiCo's Third Quarter 2018 Earnings Conference Call on Tuesday, Nooyi said, "You know 12 years is a long time as a CEO, and even though I have a lot

of fuel still left in my tank. I wanted to do something different with my life. Spend more time with my family and give the next generation in PepsiCo a chance to lead this great company." Nooyi said she has been blessed to have had the opportunity to lead PepsiCo and work with such incredible people including our outstanding board, executives and other associates, our customers and other partners, our shareholders and all our other stakeholders. Nooyi will step down after 24 years with the company, the last 12 as CEO. She will remain Chairman until early 2019 to ensure a smooth and seamless transition. PepsiCo's Board of Directors had in August announced that they unanimously elected Ramon Laguarta, 54, to succeed

Nooyi, 62, as Chief Executive Officer. Laguarta was also elected to the company's Board of Directors, effective October 3. One of the most powerful and influential business leaders in the world, Nooyi was regularly featured on power lists compiled by Forbes and Fortune magazines. She was also among the few female executives to lead global corporate giants. Just under five per cent of Fortune 500 companies currently have a female CEO. Apart from being a prominent face of women leadership across the world, she was also the epitome of success for the millions of young Indians who aspired to be like her as they watched her journey through the ranks of PepsiCo and eventually leading the global conglomerate. She was among the first of a handful

of India-born executives to helm global corporates. Nooyi was appointed as CEO in 2006, becoming PepsiCo's fifth chief executive in its 41-year history, and the first woman. Nooyi, a mother of two daughters, was also very vocal about the challenges women faced in trying to find a balance in managing their home and work. She had famously said at an Aspen Ideas Festival in Colorado in 2014 that women "cannot have it all." In a parting letter she wrote before stepping down as CEO, Nooyi shared some reflections on what she has learnt during her tenure and the lessons that have guided her throughout her career. "Think hard about time," she said. "We have so little of it on this earth. Make the most of your days, and make space for the loved ones who matter most. Take it from

me. I've been blessed with an amazing career, but if I'm being honest, there have been moments I wish I'd spent more time with my children and family. So, I encourage you: be mindful of your choices on the road ahead, she said. Nooyi wrote in the letter that serving as PepsiCo's CEO has been the honour of a lifetime. Now it's on to the next adventure for us all. Thinking about my life beyond PepsiCo, I'm reminded of the words of the great Sufi mystic Rumi, she said. Quoting Rumi, she said, Goodbyes are only for those who love with their eyes. Because for those who love with heart and soul, there is no such thing as separation. In the conference call, Nooyi said throughout her tenure, PepsiCo has strived to achieve a difficult balance between attending to short

term pressures while managing for the long-term. She noted that PepsiCo has made positive contributions to communities around the globe in which it operates through its support of access to clean drinking water, human rights, nutrition, agricultural programmes and many more initiatives. She said in the midst of managing the business for the long-term, PepsiCo also delivered strong and consistent financial performance specifically during the period 2006 to 2017. et revenue grew more than 80 per cent and the company added a new billion dollar brand almost every other year. We return \$79 billion to shareholders through dividends and share repurchases. Our market capitalisation increased by \$68 billion. Dividends per

share nearly tripled from \$1.16 to \$3.17, and we generated total shareholder return of 162 per cent, she said. The quarterly earnings report on Nooyi's final day on the job beat analyst estimates. Revenue rose 1.5 per cent to \$16.5 billion while earnings totalled \$1.59 a share, both figures beating analyst estimates. Nooyi described her successor Laguarta as a terrific executive with a long and proven track record of growing businesses. She said he has a deep understanding of the changing preferences of consumers and other critical trends unfolding around the world, and he has demonstrated that he knows how to navigate them successfully. She expressed confidence he will lead PepsiCo to "new and greater heights in the years to come. (PTI)

CREATIVE WORLD

Michelle Williams to play astronaut Christa McAuliffe in 'The Challenger'

LOS ANGELES, OCT 3 /-/- Michelle Williams is set to feature as astronaut Christa McAuliffe in "The Challenger". The space drama centres on the 1986 incident when Space Shuttle Challenger broke apart 73 seconds into its flight, killing all seven crew members, including McAuliffe. According to Variety, Martin Zandvliet is up for direction. Jayson Rothwell is attached as scriptwriter. Producers are John and Art Linson, and Ben Renzo from Argot Pictures. The film is expected to go on floors in May. McAuliffe was a high school teacher from New Hampshire who was selected to join NASA's Teacher in Space Project, and had been planning to conduct experiments and teach lessons from the Space Shuttle Challenger. She was posthumously awarded the Congressional Space Medal of Honor in 2004. (PTI)



Rose Byrne cast in sci-fi thriller 'I Am Mother'

LOS ANGELES, OCT 3 /-/- Rose Byrne has joined the cast of sci-fi thriller "I Am Mother". According to Variety, the 39-year-old actor will voice the title robot Mother in debutante director Grant Sputore's film. Byrne said the movie is a "unique, eerie, unnerving and visionary science fiction piece. He is such an exciting talent to come out of Australia and I am so flattered to be on board with such an incredible artist." Michael Lloyd Green penned the script, which was on the 2016 Black List. Hilary Swank and Clara Rugaard also star in the film. Rugaard plays the first of a new generation of humans raised by Mother - a kindly robot designed to repopulate the earth following mankind's extinction. But the arrival of a blood-drenched woman (Swank) poses a threat to their unique bond. Shooting began last year in Australia. (PTI)



Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex visit the University of Chichester Tech Park, in Chichester, Britain - REUTERS

Donna Strickland: Meet the first woman to win Nobel Physics Prize in 55 years

NEW DELHI, OCT 3 /-/- The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has on Tuesday awarded three scientists the Nobel Physics Prize for groundbreaking inventions in the field of laser physics. The award recipients include Arthur Ashkin, Gerard Mourou and Donna Strickland - the first woman to win a Nobel Physics Prize in the last 55 years. Strickland is just the third woman to win a Nobel Physics Prize since it was first awarded in 1901. She is a student of Mourou and is an associate professor in

the Physics and Astronomy Department at the University of Waterloo in Canada. Born on May 27, 1959, Donna Theo Strickland is a Canadian physicist, academician and now, a Nobel laureate. Strickland jointly holds one half of the award with her former PhD advisor Mourou, while the other half has been given to Ashkin. Gerard Mourou and Donna Strickland paved the way towards the shortest and most intense laser pulses created by humankind. The technique

they developed opened up new areas of research and led to broad industrial and medical applications. Their technique is now used in corrective eye surgery. Mourou and Strickland's technique is known as chirped pulse amplification, CPA. Take a short laser pulse, stretch it in time, amplify it and squeeze it together again. Ultra-sharp laser beams make it possible to cut or drill holes in various materials extremely precisely - even in living matter. Millions of eye operations are performed



every year with the sharpest of laser beams. (PTI)

JCB Prize shortlist: Two translated works make the cut

NEW DELHI, SEPT 3 /-/- Two translated works - "Jasmine Days" and "Poonachi" have made it to the inaugural JCB Prize for Literature longlist announced Wednesday. While "Jasmine Days" (Juggernaut Books) by Benyamin has been translated from Malayalam to English by Shahnaz Habib, "Poonachi" (Westland, Publications), originally penned in Tamil by Perumal Murugan, has been translated by N Kalyan Raman. The two works are among the five books that made the cut from

a longlist of 10 books announced last month. "Through the life of a young protagonist, 'Jasmine Days' describes the lives of foreign workers in a Middle East country on the brink of a revolution. "Beautifully written and translated, this compassionate and morally complex novel confronts some of the difficult questions of our times," the jury said. Describing "Poonachi" as "funny and warm", it noted that the book forced its readers to look at themselves and their

contribution to an "unequal world". Perumal Murugan is a master story-teller who reflects profoundly on our transactional society and its inequities and struggles. Through the character of the lonely goat, he has written a powerful modern fable," the jury added. The jury comprised of film director Deepa Mehta, entrepreneur and scholar Rohan Murthy, astrophysicist and writer Priyamada Natarajan, novelist Vivek Shanbhag, and author and translator Arshia Sattar. Other books featured in

the list include "Half the Night is Gone" (Juggernaut Books) by Amitabha Bagchi, "All the Lives We Never Lived" (Hachette Book Publishing) by Anuradha Roy, and "Lattitudes of Longing" by Shubhangi Swarup. "The job of literature is to supply a language for reality, and these books are all exquisite in their description of the worlds often very turbulent worlds we inhabit. "But literature is also a record of the sensitivity of the observer and these novels are a testament to the beauty and richness of

human beings' inner lives," Shanbhag said. The prize, which carries a cash reward of Rs 25 lakh, the richest literary award in the country, was established earlier this year with the aim of enhancing the prestige of literary achievement in India and creating greater visibility for contemporary Indian writing. The final prize will be announced on October 27. In case the winning work is a translation, the translator will be awarded an additional Rs 5 lakh. (PTI)

Sylvester Stallone starts filming 'Rambo 5', reveals first look

LOS ANGELES, OCT 3 /-/- Sylvester Stallone started shooting for "Rambo 5" on Tuesday. The 72-year-old actor, who reprises his role as troubled Vietnam War veteran John Rambo in the fifth part of the action franchise, made the announcement on Instagram. He also shared his first look from the film dressed as a cowboy. "Tonight we start filming 'Rambo 5' and I wrote in one post, "Comes a Horseman Wild and Free. @rambo5 #rambo5," he wrote in another. The film will be directed by Adrian Grunberg and scripted by Matthew Cirulnick. In May, Stallone confirmed that "Rambo 5" is slated to be released next autumn. The Hollywood action star will next be seen in "Creed 2", reprising arguably his most famous role of boxing legend Rocky Balboa. The sequel, featuring Michael B Jordan as Adonis Creed, will hit theatres November 21. (PTI)

Demi Lovato doing well, says sister Madison De La Garza

LOS ANGELES, OCT 3 /-/- Demi Lovato is on the road to recovery, singer's younger half-sister Madison De La Garza said. Lovato, 26, is currently in rehab after being hospitalised for a drug overdose in July. De La Garza, 16, said it has been a difficult time for their family but she is happy that her sister is putting up a fight, she said. "Demi is doing really well," she said on the "Millennial Hollywood" podcast. "She's working really hard on her sobriety and we're all so incredibly proud of her. It's been crazy for our family, it's been a lot," the actor, best known for playing Juanita Solis in "Desperate Housewives", added. Lovato was first spotted in public for the first time after her hospitalisation. (PTI)

Emma Stone to appear in Paul McCartney's next music video

LOS ANGELES, OCT 3 /-/- Emma Stone inadvertently revealed Tuesday that she will appear in a new music video for Beatle legend Paul McCartney. According to The Hollywood Reporter, the Oscar-winning actor was addressing a Q&A panel with the Child Mind Institute, where she opened up about her battle with anxiety, a condition she has been struggling with from the age of seven.

When moderator Dr Harold S Koplewicz asked Stone, "What's next?" And before the "La La Land" star had a chance to answer, Koplewicz added, "besides a video with Paul McCartney?" To this Stone responded: "I don't think you're supposed to announce that." The actor, who will next be seen in British period drama "The Favourite", also said she is working on the "Zombieland" follow-up. McCartney's new LP, his 18th solo, "Egypt Station" released September 7. (PTI)