

BSS given Sena name like 'property deal': Saamana

UBT mouthpiece attacks rival camp, PM Modi and BJP over EC allocation verdict

First India Bureau

Mumbai: The Shiv Sena - Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray faction on Monday described the Election Commission's decision to allot the Shiv Sena name and bow and arrow poll symbol to the camp led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde camp as a "property deal".

It is no longer a secret that the name Shiv Sena and its poll symbol have been "purchased" like shopping for peanuts from an outlet, said an editorial in Saamana, the mouthpiece of the Sena-UBT.

In a big blow to Uddhav Thackeray, the Election Commission on Friday allotted the name Shiv Sena and its



Shiv Sena -UBT chief Uddhav Thackeray addresses a press conference at Shiv Sena Bhavan in Mumbai on Monday. He is flanked by Sanjay Raut (on his right) and other party leaders. —PHOTO BY BHUSHAN KOYANDE

poll symbol bow and arrow to the Shinde group.

The EC allowed the Thackeray faction to retain the name Shiv Sena - Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray and the flaming torch poll symbol, given to it in an interim order in October last year.

"The Election Commission treated the whole issue like a property deal and handed over Shiv Sena, nurtured by Thackeray, to those who are licking the boots of Delhi," the Marathi publication claimed. "It is also not hidden

any longer that the bow and arrow symbol of Shiv Sena was given because of the favour from Union Home Minister Amit Shah. This person is number of enemy of Maharashtra and Marathi people. Those who are aligning with Shah should be

seen as enemies of Maharashtra," it claimed. The editorial also reiterated Sena-UBT leader Sanjay Raut's claim that Rs2,000 crore has been spent so far for the present (Shinde-led) government formation and obtaining a favourable decision from the EC.

There is a possibility that some major industrialist like Adani, Ambani or Nirav Modi will purchase all the MLAs and MPs and claim ownership of a party. The Rs2,000 crore deal was used to buy the new government and now the Shiv Sena name and its symbol have been traded. What sort of democracy is this?

—Saamana

Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it said, "The PM should announce from the Red Fort that he has dismantled the independence in its 75th year and an autocratic regime has started in the country. The judiciary, Parliament, news media and EC like autonomous institutions will henceforth function as our slave." Further targeting the BJP-led Centre, the edi-

I stand by my statement, will bring proof: MP Raut

First India Bureau

Mumbai: Shiv Sena - Uddhav Thackeray faction leader Sanjay Raut on Monday refused to budge from his corruption allegations against the Election Commission on selling the bow and arrow symbol to the rival Shinde faction. He further stated that he stands by his statement and will show the "proof at an appropriate time."

On February 19, Raut alleged that deals and transactions worth Rs2,000 crore have been approved so far to get the Shiv Sena party name and its bow and arrow symbol. Speaking to the reporters, the Uddhav faction leader said, "We have approached the Supreme Court against the EC. I stand by my statement that there was a deal of Rs2,000 crore, by which, the Shinde faction got the party name and symbol."

Speaking to the reporters, the Uddhav faction leader said, "We have approached the Supreme Court against the EC. I stand by my statement that there was a deal of Rs2,000 crore, by which, the Shinde faction got the party name and symbol."

Chavan alleges doc forgery, spycraft

First India Bureau

Mumbai: Ashok Chavan, former Maharashtra chief minister and senior Congress leader, has accused "some private and contractual persons" of spying on him and attempting to defame him through forgery of his official letters.

He believes this may be part of a conspiracy to harm him and has called for the police to register an offence. "Some private and contractual persons are spying on me. It has appeared a person is collecting details of my meetings, travel plans etc. There is a possibility some conspiracy is being hatched against me to cause some harm. The police should take cognizance of it and take appropriate legal action," he tweeted.

Chavan has accused unknown persons of altering content in official letters he wrote as the Maharashtra PWD Minister from 2019 to June 2022 under Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray.

The Congress leader also said police have been probing his complaint since January 31.

Gadkari lays foundation stone of park for divyangs

Nagpur (PTI): Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Monday laid the foundation stone of the 'Divyang Anubhuti Inclusive Park', a facility that will have tactile pathways, touch and smell garden and a host of other amenities for persons with disabilities (PwDs), an official said.

The park will have a play area for specially-abled children, a hydro-

therapy room (use of water to treat any symptoms of the body), waterfall sound therapy, a clay unit, a sensory park and an amphitheatre, he said.

The Union minister, who has conceptualized the facility, said the park is being constructed keeping the three lakh 'divyangs' in Nagpur and also over five lakh senior citizens.



Nitin Gadkari lays the foundation stone of 'Divyang Anubhuti Inclusive Park' in Nagpur on Monday. —ANI PHOTO

Case filed against Raut over Shinde 'derogatory' remark

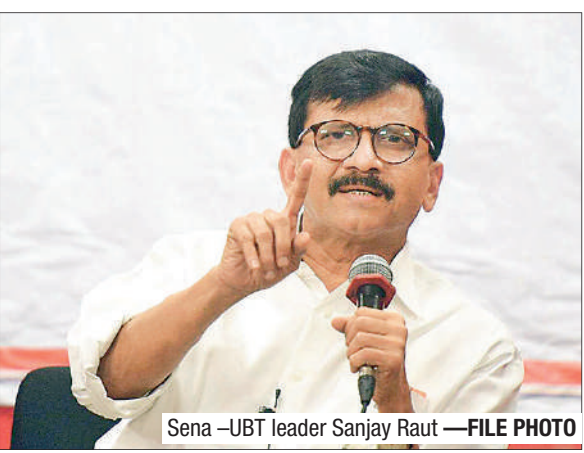
First India Bureau

Nashik: City police have registered a case against Shiv Sena -Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray leader Sanjay Raut for allegedly making derogatory remarks against Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, an official said on Monday.

Shinde faction officer-bearer Yogesh Beldar lodged a complaint at Panchavati police station here late Sunday night. He alleged that during an interaction with a TV channel, Raut used derogatory words against CM Shinde and maligned his image.

A case has been registered against Raut under Indian Penal Code Section 500 (defamation).

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, during his visit to Pune on Saturday, said those who chose to "lick the soles"



Sena -UBT leader Sanjay Raut —FILE PHOTO

'CORRUPTION' CHARGE
In a tweet on Sunday, Raut also claimed that a "deal of Rs2,000 crore" has taken place so far to "purchase" the Shiv Sena party name and its bow and arrow poll symbol, a charge dismissed by the Shinde faction and the Bharatiya Janata Party.

of people with opposite ideologies have found which side truth was on after the Election Commission ruling. It declared the faction headed by CM Eknath Shinde as the real Shiv Sena.

When asked about Shah's remark, Raut on Sunday said, "What is the present chief minister licking? Maharashtra doesn't give importance to what Shah says."

'Sena party office at Vidhan Bhavan belongs to us'

First India Bureau

Mumbai: Balasaheb Bhanu Shiv Sena (BSS) chief whip, Bharat Gogawale, and other faction leaders reached the Vidhan Bhavan (state legislature) here on Monday to take over

the Shiv Sena office in the complex.

They handed a notice to the Speaker of the Maharashtra Assembly, Rahul Narwekar, asking for handover of the Shiv Sena legislative party office at Vidhan Bhavan. Addressing media

persons, Gogawale said, "We have given a notice to the speaker and are following the orders of EC. We will take a call on how to proceed further. Since the EC has recognized us as the Shiv Sena, this office belongs to us now."

On February 17, the Election Commission allocated the party name "Shiv Sena" and the bow and arrow poll symbol to the faction led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. Notably, both factions

of Shiv Sena -led by Eknath Shinde and Uddhav Thackeray- have been fighting for the bow and arrow symbol of the party since Shinde revolted against and brought down Thackeray's MVA government last year.

Maha BJP hits back at Uddhav's 'Mogambo' snipe

Mumbai (PTI): A day after Shiv Sena -UBT leader Uddhav Thackeray called Union Home Minister Amit Shah "Mogambo", the iconic villain from the 1980s blockbuster film "Mr India", the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday centred its retort around the film's lead character's ability to disappear.

On February 17, the Election Commission (EC) declared Eknath Shinde's faction of the Shiv Sena as the legitimate one and awarded it the bow and arrow poll symbol. In response, Amit Shah proclaimed that Balasaheb Thackeray would now know which side was true.

On Sunday, Thackeray sarcastically responded with the famous line from the movie "Mogambo khush hua" in reference to Shah's success.

"Uddhav Thackeray is rushing to label the BJP leadership as Mogambo. What he fails to understand is with such idiotic commentary, he himself is becoming Mr India. You have almost disappeared from Maharashtra politics. You must stay at home," said Atul



THE TUSSLE

Both Shiv Sena factions led by Uddhav Thackeray and incumbent Chief Minister Eknath Shinde have been involved in a legal battle over ownership of the party name and bow and arrow poll symbol since last year. A revolt by Shinde and 40 MLAs led to the collapse of the MVA government led by Thackeray in June.

Bhatkalkar, BJP MLA from Mumbai.

Meanwhile, Vanchit Bahujaan Aghadi chief Prakash Ambedkar, when asked about such remarks by mediapersons in Akola, said one should happily accept such metaphors in politics.

'VBA to contest all 2024 polls with Uddhav-led Sena faction'



Vanchit Bahujaan Aghadi chief Prakash Amedkar with Uddhav Thackeray. —FILE PHOTO

VBA chief Ambedkar reinforces tie-up, expresses hope for MVA constituents NCP, Congress to join

First India Bureau

Akola: Reiterating his outfit's commitment to alliance with the Shiv Sena - Uddhav Balasa-

heb Thackeray, Vanchit Bahujaan Aghadi (VBA) head Prakash Ambedkar on Monday said it will contest all elections in 2024 with the Uddhav Thackeray-led faction.

The Maharashtra Assembly elections are due in 2024. Polls to various civic bodies, including the cash-rich Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), are also overdue.

The Shiv Sena -UBT and VBA had an-

nounced a tie-up on January 23.

Ambedkar had then said the alliance was between the Shiv Sena -UBT and the VBA for the moment, but he hoped other constituents of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (the Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party) would also join.

To a query from reporters here on Monday, Ambedkar said, "The friendship between the Shiv Sena -UBT and VBA will re-

NO DICE

The Shiv Sena -Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray and Vanchit Bahujaan Aghadi announced their alliance last month. Despite hints dropped by Prakash Ambedkar, MVA's NCP and Congress have not shown interest in joining them.

main in the 2024 Assembly elections, and whatever polls will be

held in between, the election alliance with remain."

Ambedkar also said no candidate has been fielded by the VBA-Uddhav Thackeray Sena faction for the upcoming by-election to Chinchwad Assembly seat in Pune.

Hence, the VBA is supporting independent candidate Rahul Kalate, he added.

In a big blow to Uddhav Thackeray, the Election Commission

on Friday allotted the name Shiv Sena and its bow and arrow poll symbol to the group led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

The EC allowed the Thackeray faction to retain the name Shiv Sena - Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray and the flaming torch poll symbol, given to it in an interim order in October last year, till the conclusion of ongoing Assembly bypolls in the state.

HC allows death row convict to attend daughter's wedding

- Kolhapur's Sunil Kochkoravi was sentenced to death for his mother's murder in 2021
- He will be taken to his house from Kolhapur jail from 9 am to 6 pm on Feb 23-25



First India Bureau

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court on Monday permitted a death row convict found guilty of killing his mother to attend his daughter's wedding for three days. The man was sentenced to death for killing and eviscerating his mother in an inebriated state with intention to eat her. A division bench comprising Justice AS Gadkari and Justice PD Naik directed the au-

thorities at Kolhapur jail, where the man is lodged, to take him to his house from 9 am to 6 pm on three days - February 23 to February 25. The convict, Sunil Kuchkoravi, pronounced guilty by a Kolhapur sessions court in the 2021 murder case with his death sentence awaiting confirmation, had sought temporary bail for one week from the HC to attend the wedding. The court said while

in capital punishment cases, the convicts are not entitled to temporary bail or other reliefs like parole or furlough, it was inclined to allow the convict in the present matter to be taken to his house for three days as his daughter was getting married. Chaudhari on Monday pointed out that convict comes from poor financial background and hence cannot afford to pay escort charges incurred on police person-

nel taking him to wedding venue. The HC then exempted convict from paying escort charges, and directed the competent authority of state government to make the necessary payments to policemen who will escort him. "We are allowing him to be taken out of prison for three days only because it is his daughter's wedding" the court observed. A sessions judge in Kolhapur in south Ma-

LAW & MOTIVE

When the court queried as to why death sentence was imposed in the murder case and if it was a brutal killing, Kuchkoravi's lawyer said the convict had killed his mother in an inebriated state. On the motive behind the crime, he said that it was not clear. "We don't know the motive. Even his family is shocked. He was a wonderful man, they all say. Unblemished record. He used to have frequent headaches so he used to consume liquor," Chaudhari told the bench.

harashtra had convicted and sentenced Kuchkoravi to death for the offence of murder in July 2021. The state government had filed a sentence confirmation plea before the HC in 2021 itself. The confirmation plea was yet to be heard.

Maha RERA issues show cause notices to 313 projects

First India Bureau

Mumbai: The Maharashtra Real Estate Regulatory Authority (Maha RERA) on Monday said it has issued show cause notices to 313 big projects across the state. It cited an external auditor's report pointing to several shortcomings as reason for the action.

The watchdog appointed a reputed audit firm as part of its mandate to look at projects at a micro level, and the notices have been sent to projects red-flagged by the firm, an official statement said. The shortcomings include total expenditure claimed to be incurred by a developer not reflecting on the ground, it said.

Its statement pointed out that there are situations where a developer has claimed 75% of the budgeted expenditure as done, when the project is only 50% complete.

Similarly, there are situations where the targeted date of com-



Suburban Mumbai accounts for maximum number of projects (109) under scanner. —FILE PHOTO

pletion is less than six months away, but the work is less than half complete, the statement said, adding that the audit took into account statutory progress reports filed with Maha RERA, ratings of a developer and data from bankruptcy courts.

The statement said professionals having experience in banks and income tax's recovery wing have been asked to investigate by visiting such projects.

If a developer does not cooperate, an investigator's report will be taken as final and action will be ini-

Pulls up developers for 'shortcomings' on basis of report by external auditor

tiated, the statement warned. Among projects that have been issued the notices, suburban Mumbai accounts for the maximum number of projects at 109, followed by neighbouring Thane with 58, Pune at 56 and Mumbai city at 44, it mentioned.

CRUCIAL READ

CONSTABLE TALKS MAN DOWN FROM THIRD FLOOR OF BLDG WITH FOOD, PATRIOTIC SONG

Mumbai: From offering parathas to singing patriotic songs, Subhada Salaskara a Constable with Mumbai police, used her persuasive skills and the help of the fire brigade to save a mentally ill man who had climbed to the third floor of a building in Borivli East. The man had expressed his wish to join the Army. Senior Inspector Anil Awhad arrived at the scene, it took some time for the fire brigade to get there. After an hour and a half, they succeeded with the help of ladders and the fire officers. They then provided counseling before releasing him.

4 BOOKED FOR CHEATING 12 ON PRETEXT OF JOBS

Mumbai: The Mata Ramabai Ambedkar (MRA) Marg police have booked four people for cheating 12 others of Rs1.56 cr by promising them jobs in Railways. According to police, one Harichandra Kadam(32) filed the cheating complaint. Four accused took Rs6 lakh-Rs14 lakh each from the victims in 2021 and gave them fake joining letters from the railways which had signatures on them. When the boys came to know that they were cheated, the accused stopped answering their calls. A police officer said that an FIR has been registered in this case and a search for the accused is on.

WOMAN DIALS HOSP NUMBER, LOSES ₹1 LAKH

Mumbai: A 52-year-old woman who looked up the number of a Mumbai hospital online ended up losing nearly Rs1 lakh to fraudsters. Umamah Shaikh, wanted to consult a neurologist and she looked for the number on Google of Ruby Hospital. She dialled the number and was asked to book an appointment and pay Rs 10. After this, she went to the hospital and found out there was no such system. Later, she discovered transactions worth Rs99,999 had been made using her bank account details from the links she had filled in. The Oshiwara police have registered an FIR in the case.

SOLANKI DEATH: OUTFITS PROTEST OUTSIDE IITB, DEMAND THOROUGH PROBE

Mumbai: Members of various student organisations on Monday staged protests in front of the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology Bombay against the death of Darshan Solanki, an official said. Solanki, a first year student hailing from Maninagar in Ahmedabad in Gujarat, allegedly died by suicide on February 12. Demanding justice for Solanki, members of the Students Federation of India, DYFI, Republican Party of India, Jati Anth Sangharsh Samiti, Bhim Army, among others, staged a protest outside the IIT Bombay campus in Powai. They demanded a probe in the case.

CHAIN SNATCHER HELD IN THANE, 10 CASES SOLVED

Thane: Police have arrested a 26-year-old man for allegedly snatching gold chains involved in 10 cases including one of theft of a motorbike in Thane district. Gold jewellery weighing 135 grams and a motorbike collectively valued at Rs6.75 lakh were recovered from the accused, Mohammad Karibshah Sayyed, who was nabbed from Kalyan area on Saturday, a police spokesperson said on Monday. A police probe team worked on various leads, including the intelligence and technical inputs, official said.

FIRE AT AUTO GARAGE IN THANE; NO CASUALTIES

Thane: On Monday morning, a fire broke out in a garage in Thane city of Maharashtra, where motor vehicle spare parts and other items were stored. No injuries were reported in the incident. Firemen and the Regional Disaster Management Cell quickly responded and extinguished the blaze by 6 am. Some old auto parts, grease, and other vehicle spare parts were destroyed in the fire and cooling operations are ongoing. Fire officials are yet to determine the cause of the fire.

Prithvi Shaw brawl: Court grants bail to social media influencer Gill, 3 others

First India Bureau

Mumbai: A court on Monday granted bail to social media influencer Sapna Gill and three other accused in a case pertaining to alleged attack on Indian cricketer Prithvi Shaw with a baseball bat in Mumbai last week.

Four people, Gill, Shobhit Thakur, Rudra Solanki and Sahil Singh, were arrested last week and were sent to 14-day



Sapna Gill —FILE PHOTO

Prithvi Shaw —FILE PHOTO

judicial custody. They later filed bail applications which were granted by Andheri court. Gill, in her applica-

tion claimed the FIR filed against her has been registered on "completely false and bogus allegations". "The state-

ments in the FIR are fabricated, concocted and without any basis and the applicant (Gill) is being falsely implicated in the above case," the bail plea said.

Gill, along with her friend Thakur and six others, was booked under Indian Penal Code sections 143, 148, 387 and 506. Public prosecutor Atia Sheikh, had opposed the bail pleas, saying the investigation has not been completed yet.

HC slams JNVS authority over admissions plea of 5 students

First India Bureau

Mumbai: While hearing a plea on a case related to admission cancellation of five students, the Bombay High Court pulled up authorities concerned with the state's Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme.

A division bench comprising Justice Gautam Patel and Justice Neela Gokhale, in a judgment passed on February 17, quashed a November 2021 order passed by the con-

cerned authority cancelling admission granted to five 11-year-olds in the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya School in Ratnagiri for Class VI.

During the proceedings, the court questioned, "Is the objective of the Maharashtra government's Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme being fulfilled when authorities blindly adopt a hyper-technical approach to deny education to those entitled?"

C&D recycling plant: NMC to make it operational soon

First India Bureau

Nashik: The Nashik Municipal Corporation (NMC) has set a deadline of six months to make its proposed construction and demolition (C&D) waste recycling plant operational.

A plot of land adjacent to the existing civic compost plant in Pathardi has been identified for this purpose.

During a meeting with representatives from various industries, NMC Commissioner Chandrakant Pulkundwar revealed that the contractor has been finalized and the work order will be issued soon.

Initially, the plant was planned to be set up on land reserved in Makhmalabad, but the residents there had strongly opposed it.

More than 80% kids in measles-affected wards vaccinated

Under its outbreak immunization response, BMC has achieved the target within three months

First India Bureau

Mumbai: After combating a widespread measles outbreak, the Brihanmumbai Mu-

nicipal Corporation (BMC) has successfully vaccinated more than 80% children in wards affected by the viral disease in the past three months.

As per official data, outbreak response immunization (ORI) undertaken by the civic body began on December 01, 2022. Since then, out of 2.32 lakh kids in the age group of 9 months to 5 years, over 1.98 lakh (85.29%) have been administered an



Measles is a highly contagious disease caused by a virus in the paramyxovirus family. —FILE PHOTO

additional dose of the MR vaccine.

As per health officials, the measles out-

break is under control across the city and they have achieved an overall target of im-

munizing more than 80% of children in wards affected with measles.

"The measles vaccination coverage in the city and state is satisfactory. However, there is a need for emphasizing routine immunization to avoid future outbreaks. We have achieved 80-85% of additional measles dose coverage in the outbreak health posts. We plan on continuing our measles vaccination

drive" said a senior official from the civic Health Department.

Dr Subhash Salunkhe, former Director of Health for Maharashtra who heads the outbreak task force, said achieving maximum measles vaccination coverage is needed to curb the outbreak. "We have been regularly reviewing the vaccine coverage and surveillance in the city/state and it is satisfactory," he said.



REKHA KUMAR
The writer is a personal development skills facilitator.
rekhakumar@protonmail.com

W

e all feel weak at times. Some days, one might have no energy or may find it difficult to do what one needs to do. But imagine feeling this way for a long time. How would we want others to view us? One would want them to understand and show empathy.

Empathy is the quality by which one is able to enter into the thoughts and feelings of others. It is the ability to put oneself in the other person's place.

Empathy requires that one slows down and patiently considers and thinks about another person. This may seem difficult to achieve with an overload of social media posts and rapid-fire texting. If technology controls us, responding to messages seem like another chore on one's to-do list. Even if there is a delay in replying to a message, a well thought out response can be heart-touching than no response.

Some struggle to show this skill because of their upbringing or adverse past circumstances. Stress and the prevailing attitude of people around can make a person indifferent. Also, what one feeds

into the mind, can influence how one feels about others.

Appreciating others to keep doing their best strengthens them, especially when they feel low. Sometimes, a person may be blunt or critical of others in the family although one would not think of treating outsiders this way.

There is a difference between the way one feels when one discovers an error and corrects it, and the way one would feel when someone else brings a mistake to attention and asks one to correct it. Empathy will help us to appreciate that difference.

Giving suggestions and offering correction is an art. Knowing what to say, when, where and how to say, without causing any embarrassment, wins the trust of others. Having understanding is more important than just good intentions. A machine can run smoothly with power but if the gears and bearings are not adjusted with proper lubrication, it will soon halt. Similarly, good intentions along with empathy, brings out the best in others.

A person is more amenable and in a receptive frame of mind when something favourable is said about him or her. Errors over trifles and non-essential details, if overlooked, help in keeping a balanced perspective towards others.

Gentleness and an empa-

Empathy is the quality by which one is able to enter into the thoughts and feelings of others. It is the ability to put oneself in the other person's place

thetic attitude make it easier to accept a different point of view. One will need to learn all facts about a situation and then patiently, put up with inconveniences caused by the shortcomings of others.

Empathy enables one to see the potential in others without making quick judgements. A negative attitude will be mutually harmful and would close the door of friendship. No one likes others to be blind to their good points, so trying to find something commendable in others that may not be as obvious, is far more pleasing to look at.

Empathy increases one's respect for others. If someone makes a blunder or gives a foolish reply, thoughtfulness will prevent one from having a superior attitude or laugh out in ridicule. By striving to understand another person's struggles, one is less likely to criticise. One can see beyond the differences and ask oneself, 'how would I react if someone made me feel inferior or valueless? How would I feel if others judged me before they

even got to know me? If I was in this situation, how would I feel? What would I need?

When we carefully observe and use imagination, we realize how similar we are to others in terms of feelings and reactions. This can prevent us from making negative judgements.

Some are sensitive about their age, weight, health or any physical defect, such as a birthmark. To call attention to any such tender spot, or make a joke of it, would be like treading on their toes, showing a lack of empathy.

One may needlessly offend others by one's choice of words, which may be either too high toned and artificial or haughty and harsh.

The ones prone to offend others are usually most sensitive themselves, expecting others to be tactful. Such ones lack mental discernment and find the discomforts, handicaps or sufferings of others amusing.

Someone said, "Empathy is in our bones". It moves caring people to help others. An empathetic person keeps a balance by appreciating the importance of sentiments yet at the same time shunning the extreme of becoming overly sensitive by avoiding giving or taking offence. As long as one can sweeten another's pain, life is not in vain!

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL

IN-DEPTH

BIDEN'S VISIT TO KYIV SENDS A STRONG MESSAGE TO RUSSIA



As Russia-Ukraine is about to enter its second year, President Jo Biden made a sudden, unannounced visit to Kyiv on his way to Poland, NATO's frontline state bordering Russia. This is Biden's first visit to the war torn country. The war began on February 24, 2022. Biden tweeted that he was in Kyiv to reaffirm "our unwavering commitment to Ukraine's democracy, sovereignty and territorial integrity" for which Biden will be announcing on Tuesday a new military aid package worth \$500 million. The package talks of critical weapons but was silent on fighter planes which Kyiv is desperately seeking. Irrespective of whether Ukraine is armed with fighter planes or not, this was a hugely significant moment for the war-torn country which is clearly being used as a proxy by Western alliance against Russia. The repercussions of Biden's visit would be known later when Russia launches a fresh attack in spring. Fear of a deadlier war looms over world peace and economy.

SPIRITUAL SPEAK

Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and his powerful strength.
—Bible

TOP TWEETS

Amit Shah
@AmitShah



Statehood day greetings to the sisters and brothers of Mizoram. May the state scale new heights of development in the times to come.

Anurag Thakur
@ianuragthakur



Happy Statehood Day to the wonderful people of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram! Your rich cultures & traditions have added so much to India's incredible diversity. May you continue to prosper & grow as you contribute to India's remarkable journey.

● Vol 1 ● Issue No. 285
● RNI TITLE NO.

MAHENG/2022/14652

Printed and published by

Anita Hada Sangwan on behalf of First Express Publishers. Printed at Dangat Media Pvt Ltd, No.22, Dighe MIDC, Vishnu Nagar, TTC Industrial Area, Dighe, Navi Mumbai-400701. Published at Plot No. 3 Scheme C of Manglorean Garden Home, CHS Limited, Survey No. 5, 6C (Part) Ville Parle East, Mumbai 400057. Phone 022-46031417.
Editor-In-Chief: Dr Jagdeesh Chandra
Editor: Kartikey Dev Singh
responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act

PAY FOR FACEBOOK, INSTA TO STAY SAFE



Get ready to pay for Meta Platforms' Facebook and Instagram if their experiment on the new "Meta Verified" paid services succeeds in Australia and New Zealand where it is being rolled out this week. If it succeeds the two tech giants are expected to gradually introduce it in other countries, including in India. Both Twitter and Meta are introducing the monthly subscription model to provide subscribers "more protection from impersonation" an important criterion when impersonators have been ruling the roast in India, USA and several other countries vitiating the political and communal atmosphere.

High fee being charged by Meta could be a dampener for

Get ready to pay for Meta Platforms' Facebook and Instagram if their experiment on the new "Meta Verified" paid services succeeds in Australia and NZ where it is being rolled out this week

Meta. Elon Musk, the eccentric Twitter owner, had earlier announced a new "Twitter Blue" for subscribers willing to pay \$8 per month for the verified blue tick mark and some other features. The service has already been introduced in some countries. Meta proposes to charge

\$11.99 a month for extra protection against impersonation on the web. On Android and Apple's iOS system it will be \$14.99 per month. Given India's market size the price could be lowered.

As mischievous users of social media platforms use fake identities Meta intends to introduce a new feature about authenticity and security. To avail of the service subscribers will be required to provide the national identity (it can be Aadhaar in India) and photograph for authentication. The minimum age criteria of 18 years, which is being egregiously violated in several parts of the world, would also be enforced. For those wary of impersonation of their accounts will be encouraged to opt for the service.



First India

To Receive Free Newspaper PDF Daily



Whatsapp:

<https://bit.ly/fiwhatsappmumbai>



Telegram:

<https://t.me/thefirstindiamumbai>

**Click the above link  & subscribe us on your
preferred platform.**



CONNECT WITH US

ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS FOR LATEST NEWS, ENTERTAINMENT & SPORTS UPDATES



firstindia.co.in



firstindia.co.in/epaper



/thefirstindia



/thefirstindia



/thefirstindia

MEGHALAYA, NAGALAND ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

RaGa to blame for Cong’s falling standard: Shah

At an election rally in Nagaland, Shah strongly condemned a Congress spokesperson’s choice of words for PM Narendra Modi

Mon Town (PTI): BJP leader and Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday strongly condemned a Congress spokesperson’s choice of words for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and said the standard of Opposition party’s members is falling by the day since Rahul Gandhi became its leader.

“The kind of language the Congress spokesperson has used (for PM) and the sort of reaction it has drawn from people from across the country... you will see Rahul Gandhi that the Congress will not be visible even through telescope after the Lok Sabha polls in 2024. People will respond through the ballot box,” Shah told a public meeting here.

Amit Shah neither made reference to the objectionable word nor named the Congress leader, but BJP leaders said it was in relation to Congress spokesperson Pawan Kherra recently referring to the prime minister as “Narendra Gautamdas Modi”.



Amit Shah waves at supporters during a public rally, in Nagaland’s Mon, on Monday. —PHOTO BY PTI

HOME MINISTER AMIT SHAH MAKES BIG STATEMENT ON UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

Home Minister Amit Shah made a big statement in Kohlapur over Uniform Civil Code. Amit Shah said, ‘We are moving in the direction of UCC’. Along with this, he praised the Modi government for law against triple talaq. Know in detail in this report what Amit Shah said on UCC.

Kherra made the statement while criticising the government over the row involving the business conglomerate headed by Gautam Adani.

Modi’s full name is Narendra Damodardas Modi, with the middle

name Damodardas standing for his father’s name, a common practice in many parts of the country.

Shah said the prime minister is respected world over as he has brought happiness to

the lives of the country’s 80 crore poor and ensured its security and development.

“For such a beloved prime minister of ours, the kind of language which has been used is something I strongly condemn,” he added.

“It is a matter of concern for me and everyone concerned about the standards of public life that the standard of Congress functionaries is falling by the day since Rahul Gandhi became the party leader,” Shah further said.

BJP-NDPP will retain power in Nagaland: Shah

Mon Town (PTI): Union Home Minister and senior BJP leader Amit Shah on Monday asserted that the BJP-NDPP coalition will retain power in Nagaland and it will solve all problems of the state.

He also assured the people of expeditiously bringing the Naga peace talks to a successful end and also addressing the issues of the Eastern Nagaland People’s Organisation (ENPO), which has been demanding a separate state.

“The NDPP-BJP coalition will form government in Nagaland after polls. We will solve all problems of the state,” Shah said, addressing an election rally here.

The organisers claimed that Shah’s visit is the first by any Union Home minister to this district in the eastern tip of Nagaland, which also shared boundary with Myanmar.



Preparations underway for Amit Shah’s rally for the upcoming Nagaland elections on Monday.

AMIT SHAH TO ADDRESS ELECTION RALLIES IN MEGHALAYA TODAY

Shillong (ANI): Union Home Minister Amit Shah will visit poll-bound Meghalaya on Tuesday and address two rallies in Shillong. Meghalaya BJP chief Ernest Mawrie said Shah will address the first election campaign rally at West Shillong and the second at Pynthorunkhrah. “On February 14, BJP President JP Nadda visited Shillong. Shah will visit Shillong on Tuesday. He will address two election rallies in West Shillong and Pynthorunkhrah,” Ernest Mawrie said. Shah will visit Nagaland today where he will address an election rally. He further said that PM Narendra Modi will visit Meghalaya on February 24 when he will also hold a roadshow in Shillong. “We are now waiting for permission for the Tura rally, but the Prime Minister will take part in a roadshow in Shillong on February 24. The roadshow will be started from Central Library through the Police Bazar and lakhs of people will take part in the roadshow,” he said. “The Prime Minister will pay floral tribute to freedom fighter U Tirot Sing. The people of Meghalaya love Prime Minister Narendra Modi,” Ernest Mawrie added. This time BJP is contesting in all 60 seats. The Meghalaya assembly polls will be held on February 27 along with Nagaland. The counting of votes will take place on March 2.

RAHUL TO CAMPAIGN IN MEGHALAYA, KHARGE IN NAGALAND

New Delhi: Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi will be in Nagaland and Meghalaya, respectively, that will go to elections on February 27. Kharge will campaign in Nagaland on Tuesday and Gandhi in Meghalaya on Wednesday.

MEGHALAYA: 5 DIE AS TMC’S VEHICLE MEETS WITH ACCIDENT

Shillong: At least 5 persons died after a vehicle carrying TMC supporters for an election rally in Meghalaya met with an accident on Monday. The accident took place in Bol-medang near the Kharkutta area of the state.

IN THE COURTYARD

SC ADJOURNS PILS OVER UNIFORM LAWS ON DIVORCE

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday adjourned for four weeks on petitions seeking direction to the Centre to make gender and religion-neutral laws on uniform marriage age, divorce, maintenance and alimony. The court also observed that the question is to what extent the court can intervene in the prayer raised by the petitioner.

GODHRA CASE: GUJ GOVT SEEKS DEATH PENALTY FOR 11

New Delhi: The Gujarat govt on Monday told the Supreme Court that it will press for death penalty to 11 convicts in Godhra train burning case, as it was a ‘rarest of rare and grave offence.’ The death penalty of these convicts was commuted to life term by Gujarat HC. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing Gujarat govt, submitted this before a bench headed by CJI.

HATE SPEECHES: SC ASKS DELHI COPS TO FILE CHARGE SHEET

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has taken note of Delhi Police’s submission that the probe in a case of hate speeches at religious assemblies in Delhi in 2021 was at an advanced stage, and asked them to place on record the charge sheet to be filed in the matter. A bench was told this by Additional Solicitor General KM Nataraj, appearing for the Delhi Police.

SC JUNKS EX-IPS BHATT’S PLEA IN 1996 DRUG SEIZURE

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a petition filed by former IPS officer Sanjiv Bhatt challenging a Gujarat High Court order which set a deadline for completion of trial in a 1996 drug seizure case. A bench of Justices BR Gavai and Aravind Kumar also imposed a cost of Rs 10,000 on Sanjiv Bhatt for filing a “frivolous” petition.

DIPLOMATIC MEETING!



PM Narendra Modi and EAM S Jaishankar with Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer in a group picture with US Congressional delegation, on Monday.

Kushwaha quits JD(U) again, floats new party

Patna (PTI): Disgruntled JD(U) leader **Upendra Kushwaha** on Monday resigned from CM Nitish Kumar’s JD(U), less than two years after returning to the party, and announced formation of the Rashtriya Loktantrik Janata Dal’. JD(U) president Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias “Lalan”, however, berated



Kushwaha as an over-ambitious party-hopper, whose return was “opposed by all, but supported by the CM.

JP Nadda offers prayers at Sri Krishna Matha temple in Udupi

Udupi (ANI): Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president JP Nadda on Monday visited and offered prayers at Sri Krishna Matha temple in Karnataka’s Udupi.

Ahead of the Karnataka Assembly elections, BJP president JP Nadda is on a three-day visit to Karnataka. According to BJP, Nadda



Nadda at an event in Udupi.

will address a public meeting in Udupi and Belur. He will also visit Mangaluru for a programme and participate in a bike rally in Chikkamangaluru.

During the visit, Nadda will also visit the Sringeri Mutt. One of the holiest and most important Hindu pilgrim centres, Sringeri was one of the four Peethas (centres) established by Adi Shankaracharya.

Cabinet Secy-led panel to monitor Mission Karmayogi

New Delhi (PTI): Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba will head a top panel, including a senior official from the Prime Minister’s Office and seven secretaries, to monitor the implementation of the Centre’s ambitious Mission Karmayogi programme for training of government employees, officials said on Monday.

Mission Karmayogi aims to create a competent civil service “rooted in Indian ethos” with a shared understanding of the country’s priorities, and working in harmonisation for effective and efficient public service delivery.

The mission, billed as one of largest capacity-building initiatives in govt organisations anywhere in the world, seeks to keep the civil service at the centre of all change, empowering it to deliver in challenging environments, officials said, adding that Mission Karmayogi adopts a citizen-centric approach for civil service reforms.



Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba

The govt recently approved setting up a Cabinet Secretariat Coordination Unit or CSCU as part of the institutional framework under the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) or Mission Karmayogi.

The CSCU will have as members a nominee of PMO, secretary (coordination), cabinet secretary, DoPT secretary, home secretary, expenditure secretary, environment, forest and climate change secretary, higher education secretary and revenue secretary.

Kamal Nath to be Cong’s face in MP polls, says Digvijaya

Bhopal (Agencies): Former Chief Minister and Rajya Sabha MP



Digvijaya Singh has said that state Congress chief Kamal Nath will be the party’s face in the upcoming Assembly elections due at the end of the year. Digvijaya Singh further said the party will contest the elections under Kamal Nath’s leadership, and therefore, “he will be the face”.

Sharat K Verma

New Delhi: Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has made a big claim. He has said that NCP supremo Sharad Pawar was aware of this plan, rather he was a part of the plan, after the 2019 assembly elections, when he took oath as Chief Minister and Ajit Pawar as Deputy Chief Minister. Fadnavis has said that he took oath only after Sharad Pawar’s consent. Sharad Pawar

has categorically denied this. He has said that he considered Fadnavis a cultured and good man but he is spreading lies. Whoever is aware of the events of November 23, 2019, knows how hurt and angry Sharad Pawar was after this incident and how he did the operation to reunite the MLAs of his party with him.

The entire sequence of events indicates that Sharad Pawar was not aware of this. If Sharad Pawar had to play this game, he would have



NCP President Sharad Pawar.

—FILE PHOTO

done it openly, as he did in 2014. Keep in mind that even in the 2014 assembly elections, the BJP did not get a major-

ity and the Shiv Sena did not support it in forming the government. Then BJP formed the government only with the exter-

nal support of NCP. So if Pawar had to support the BJP, he could have done so openly. Anyway, the way Sharad Pawar became active immediately after the oath of Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar on the morning of 23 November and turned the tables within three days, it does not seem that he was a part of this plan.

Anyway, if he was a part of the plan and did not allow the government to be formed then Fadnavis and BJP leaders would have exposed

him at the same time. But nobody said anything then. Now after three years, Fadnavis is ‘laying it bare’. In fact, when Sharad Pawar made Ajit Pawar the Deputy Chief Minister in the MVA, this discussion is going on since then. Now Fadnavis has given air to this thing with a special purpose. He wants to create mistrust between Congress and Shiv Sena regarding Pawar. He is doing this to increase the contradictions within the Aghadi.

ARUNACHAL, MIZORAM STATEHOOD DAY

PREZ DROUPADI MURMU, PM MODI, HM AMIT SHAH EXTEND GREETINGS

President Murmu arrives in Itanagar on Monday afternoon on a two-day state visit

Itanagar/Aizawl: President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday greeted the people of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram on the statehood day of the two northeastern states.

In a tweet, the PM said: "Statehood Day wishes to the people of Arunachal Pradesh, a state synonymous with dynamism and patriotism. The people from the state have contributed to India's progress in many sectors. I pray that Arunachal Pradesh keeps scaling new heights of progress in the coming years."

Arunachal Pradesh is celebrating its 37th statehood day.

Meanwhile, President Murmu arrived in Itanagar on Monday af-



President Droupadi Murmu with the traditional dance troupes on her first visit, in Itanagar on Monday.

Narendra Modi @narendramodi

Statehood Day wishes to the people of Arunachal Pradesh, a state synonymous with dynamism and patriotism. The people from the state have contributed to India's progress in many sectors. I pray that Arunachal Pradesh keeps scaling new heights of progress in the coming years.

ternoon on a two-day state visit. On Tuesday, the President would address the special ses-

sion of the Assembly. Arunachal Pradesh became a full-fledged state on February 20, 1987.

A variety of programmes were organised across the state to celebrate the day. India's second least populous state, Mizoram, also celebrated its 36th statehood day on Monday.

On the occasion, Chief Minister Zoramthanga greeted the people of the state.

Addressing a gathering in the day's main programme in Aizawl, the Chief Minister requested the people to work unitedly and strive forward to make Mizoram as a self-sufficient model state in the country. "If the people work wholeheartedly and with all sincerity, Mizoram will be a self-sufficient state and its growth would go to a desired level," he said.

Zoramthanga, who is also the President of the ruling Mizo National Front, paid tributes to the people who sacrificed their lives for creating present day Mizoram. The statehood day was also observed in all the 11 districts of the state. The mountainous state became a full-fledged state on February 20, 1987.

NIKKI MURDER CASE

"Initial plan was to show murder as road accident"



Nikki Yadav and Sahil Gehlot. —FILE PHOTO

New Delhi (ANI): Nikki Yadav's live-in partner Sahil Gehlot during interrogation has claimed that his initial plan was to show the murder as a road accident, Delhi Police sources said on Monday. Sahil further claimed that he had decided to push Nikki out of the car. However the plan could not be executed and he killed Nikki at Nigambodh Ghat, the police sources added.

Sahil is the prime accused in the Nikki Yadav murder case.

Delhi's Dwarka court on Friday granted two-

days' police remand of five the accused.

Delhi Police earlier told ANI that the Crime Branch had arrested five persons, including Sahil's father Virendra in connection with the case on charges of helping his son in the "conspiracy".

Sahil's father, Ashish, Naveen, Amar, and Lokesh were arrested by Crime Branch.

According to police sources, Sahil Gehlot's father Virender Gehlot expressed no remorse and had no qualms during the course of the interrogation.

DELHI COURT EXTENDS SAHIL'S POLICE CUSTODY BY 2 MORE DAYS

New Delhi (PTI): A metropolitan court here on Monday extended the police custody of Sahil Gehlot, accused of killing his girlfriend Nikki Yadav and stuffing her body into a refrigerator in southwest Delhi, by two days. The link court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Samiksha Gupta remanded the other five co-accused in the case in judicial custody for 14 days. The investigation officer had sought a three-day extension of Gehlot's custodial interrogation.



Sahil in police custody.

NPCL-Norway MoU for better energy usage



NPCL and Norway officials during the signing of MoU.

First India Bureau

Greater Noida: Noida Power Company Limited (NPCL) has signed a consortium agreement for carrying out a pilot project on Demand Response in Greater Noida under the India-Norway Energy Taskforce.

The agreement was signed in the presence of the joint secretary of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, the Indian government, and the Norwegian government's ambassador to India. NPCL will select the interested consumers who are willing to participate in the above demand response programme. Consumers

from across the categories may apply at NPCL's Customer Care Centre at Knowledge Park-1 to be a part of the above programme.

Demand Response is an important component of modern energy management systems that enables electricity consumers to actively manage their energy consumption during peak demand periods. Demand Response allows consumers to adjust their energy consumption from peak hours to off-peak hours, which can help balance the grid and prevent blackouts, the officials said on this occasion.

Chinese drone seized in Punjab's town

Chandigarh (Agencies): The Border Security Force (BSF) said that it recovered a Chinese Quadcopter drone in Punjab's Fazilka district on Monday.

On specific information, teams of the BSF and Punjab Police launched a search operation in the area of New Hasta Kalan village, and recovered the Quadcopter drone (DJI Matrice 300 RTK), made in China, from an open area on the outskirts of the village. The BSF in coordination with Punjab Police once again was able to capture a rogue drone, it added. Punjab shares a 553-km long international border, with a barbed wire fence, with Pakistan.

COLOUR OF DEVOTION!



Devotees throng Khandoba Temple in Jejuri, near Pune district of Maharashtra on the occasion of Somvati Amavasya. According to rough estimates, over two lakh devotees offered prayers at the temple on Somvati Amavasya that occurred after nearly three years. —PHOTO BY VIJAYKUMAR HARISHCHANDRE

CRUCIAL READ

COUPLE KILLED, TWO CHILDREN INJURED IN ROAD ACCIDENT



Sant Lal Nishad (40) and his wife Kismati (35) died on the spot, and their kids Ansh (10) and Anshika (2) are undergoing treatment.

AFTER JOSHIMATH, 28 HOUSES ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE IN KARNAPRAYAG TOWN

Karnaprayag: After Joshimath, cracks have developed in several houses in Karnaprayag in Chamoli district, which are increasing rapidly now. As many as 28 houses in the area are on the verge of collapse. Chamoli District Magistrate Himanshu Khurana, Karnaprayag SDM Himanshu Kafaltia, MLA Anil Nautiyal and disaster management officer NK Joshi inspected the affected areas in Bahuguna nagar, Subhash Nagar and Upper Bazar. The DM was stunned after witnessing the wide cracks on the walls of houses in Bahuguna Nagar. The residents requested the officials to make proper arrangements to guarantee their safety. Khurana instructed the officials to shift the affected people to safer places and install crackmeters in the affected structures to monitor the cracks.

WILD ELEPHANT TRAMPLES 4 TO DEATH IN J'KHAND

Ranchi: A wild elephant that got separated from its herd has trampled 4 persons including 2 women, to death in Lohardaga district in a span of 12 hours. The deceased have been identified as Jhalo Oraon, 28; Neha Devi, 20; Lal Mohan Mahto, 65, and Muniya Devi.



Namibian cheetahs to be released into the wild in a month

Bhopal (ANI): Madhya Pradesh Forest Minister Vijay Shah said that the Namibian cheetahs would be released into the wild during the next one month.

"Will release two male cheetahs to jungle approximately in a month. A date has not been fixed yet. After monitoring male cheetahs and their situation, we will release the female cheetahs," Shah said.

The first set of Cheetahs brought from Namibia was released by PM Narendra Modi in the Kuno National Park in September, when eight of the big cats were flown in to revive their population in India after over half a century it went extinct in the country.

Minister Vijay Shah earlier said,



"PM Narendra Modi has taken up the initiative of re-introduction of Cheetahs from Namibia and South Africa.

In September, of eight cheetahs, five were females, and they were flown in from Windhoek in Namibia to Gwalior and then transferred to Kuno.

Meanwhile, 12 cheetahs from South Africa landed at Gwalior Airport on Saturday. The big cats made their journey in Indian Air Force's C-17 Cargo plane.

TRIPURA ASSEMBLY POLLS

CPM's Jitendra Chowdhary becomes CM contender!

Maresh Sharma

New Delhi: In Tripura, Jitendra Chowdhary is the chief ministerial candidate from the CPM. Although the party gave him authority and has not formally made him a claimant but has cut the tickets of Manik Sarkar, who was the Chief Minister for 25 years and other MLAs who were ministers

with him. Jitendra Chaudhary is the only MLA from the CPM who won last time, who got ticket this time also. CPM also gave this message to him that he is the contender for the post of Chief Minister. Dr Ajay Kumar, in-charge of the Congress in the state, has announced that Jitendra Chowdhary will become the CM if a joint government is



formed between the Left and the Congress. Anyway, Congress

Although the CPM has not formally made him a claimant but has cut the tickets of ex-CM Manik Sarkar

does not have any 'vote capital' in the state. Its entire vote bank went

with the BJP. CPM got more than 42 per cent votes despite losing. This means that it has largely retained its votes. The Congress, on the other hand, came down to two per cent votes as its entire vote went with the BJP. Despite this, the CPM has given 13 seats to the Congress. So, there is no special hope for the Congress. But Ajay Kumar, referring to Ji-

tendra Chaudhary's tribal identity, declared him the CM's claimant. Both the parties can get the benefit of this. The state has 20 seats reserved for tribals and is dominated by the IPFT, an ally of the BJP, and Tipra Motha, another tribal party. Both CPM and Congress are hoping to make a dent in the ST vote by naming a tribal chief minister.

COMMODITIES

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, Price, Change, % Chg. Rows include GOLD and SILVER with their respective prices and percentage changes.

CURRENCIES

Table with 4 columns: Currency, Price, Change, % Chg. Rows include USDINR and GBPINR with their respective prices and percentage changes.

*Rates till the edition went to print.

MUMBAI | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023

business
BRIEFS

CIPLA SHARES
PLUNGE 6% AFTER
USFDA INSPECTION



Mumbai: Shares of Cipla fell sharply on Monday after its Pithampur manufacturing facility received eight inspectional observations in Form 483 from the United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA). The stock fell 6.79% to hit an intraday low of Rs956.20 over a previous close of Rs1,025.80. "We hereby notify that the USFDA conducted a current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) inspection at our Pithampur manufacturing facility from February 6-17, 2023," Cipla stated.

'CEREAL PRICES TO
REMAIN ELEVATED IN
NEXT FINANCIAL YR'



New Delhi: Prices of cereals are unlikely to surge as they did recently but may remain elevated well into next financial year, according to Crisil Ratings. Climate change, strong global and rise in domestic demand contributed to the rise in wheat, a staple cereal, the rating agency said. Retail inflation in India again breached RBI's upper tolerance band in the month of January 2023, with the Consumer Price Index pegged at 6.52%.

AIR TRAFFIC IN
INDIA SURGED
96% IN JANUARY



New Delhi: Passengers carried by Indian domestic airlines during January 2023 were 125.42 lakhs, as against 64.08 lakhs during the corresponding period of the previous year, Directorate General of Civil Aviation data showed. It registered an annual growth of 95.72%. In its 2022 Commercial Market Outlook for India, Boeing recently said India's air traffic has transitioned from recovery to growth and was largely driven by the strength of the domestic market, which has recovered to 98% of pre-pandemic levels. (ANI)

WHATSAPP BIZ
OFFERS TRANSIT SOLN
ACROSS NATION



Mumbai: Meta's instant messaging platform WhatsApp now supports transit solutions across the country. The company now supports various Metro rail services across the country via WhatsApp business platforms and offers technologies for booking, buying, and cancelling tickets directly from the WhatsApp chatbot. On top of that, users can also recharge tickets and access journey information, fare details, timings, and other details directly on WhatsApp. (FIB)

AFTER \$132 BILLION HINDENBURG ROUT

GAUTAM ADANI MAPS
COMEBACK STRATEGY

First India Bureau

Mumbai: Nearly a month after the jaw-dropping Hindenburg report that scrapped off \$132 billion in market value from Gautam Adani's empire, the billionaire has now hired a US crisis communication and legal teams, repaid debts and promises to repay more.

The ports-to-power conglomerate helmed by Adani — who was once Asia's richest person — is hoping to gain back in his way after the Hindenburg report on January 24 accused it of accounting fraud, stock manipulation and other lapses. The Adani Group has denied the allegations.

Adani and his aides have been in damage repair mode ever since. Besides a campaign to portray themselves as responsible bor-

rowers with prepayments and on-time payments of debt, executives have also kicked off a series of meetings to pacify overseas bondholders, who were reached out by the tycoon for more than \$8 billion in funding in recent years.

Reflecting the group's realization of the severity of the hit to its image, it has brought in Kekst CNC as a global communications advisor, Bloomberg News reported February. 11. The public relations firm co-headquartered in New York and Munich is known for its work with other corporate blow-ups in recent years, like WeWork Inc.'s valuation implosion in 2019.

Kekst's mandate is to help the group regain investor trust by laying out the proper context, not just on the Hindenburg allega-

tions but other concerns that have swirled around the fundamental strength of the business, a person familiar with the matter said.

The Adani Group has also engaged American law firm Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz to fight back against the short seller's claims, the Financial Times reported citing unnamed sources. Wachtell is one of the most expensive US law firms and has experience in defending clients facing attacks by shareholder activists.



India's overall oilmeal
exports rose 70%: Data

New Delhi: (ANI) India's overall oilmeal exports so far during the current financial year - April to December - were 70% higher year-on-year at around 3.3 million tonnes, data compiled by vegetable oil industry body, The Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA), stated. Oilmeals are basically the residue left over after extraction of oil from oilseeds, and they are widely used as livestock feed worldwide. Till December, the total exports were at 2.82 million tonnes.

In January alone, ex-

ports of India's oilmeal were provisionally reported at 472,438 tonnes, up 167% from 176,967 tonnes the same month last year, data showed.

It is important to note export of rapeseed meals has set a new record - 1.91 million tonnes - and broke the earlier highest record for the financial year 2011-12. Also, the better price realization from rapeseed (mustard) oil and export of rapeseed meal not only supported the domestic price of mustard seed, but also encouraged larger sowing area.

Godrej Aerospace to manufacture
8 modules of DRDO turbojet eng

First India Bureau

Bengaluru: Godrej Aerospace has bagged the order to manufacture eight modules of the DRDO's turbojet engine. On Monday, Godrej & Boyce, the flagship company of the Godrej Group, announced that its business Godrej Aerospace is the first Indian private



company to win the order for manufacturing eight modules of the DRDO Engine for aerial applications.

Godrej Aerospace won the order competing with over 25 companies owing to

Sensex loses 311 points, tracking
weak global cues; fin stocks drag

Mumbai: (ANI) The domestic markets made losses on Monday, tracking weak global cues. BSE IT and BSE Auto indices gained on Monday while the BSE Financial Services index settled in the negative territory. Federal Reserve officials' comments that they might have to remain hawkish for an extended period of time influenced investors and were somewhat negative for the equity markets. BSE Sensex lost 311 points or 0.51% and settled at



60,691.54 while NSE Nifty lost 99 points and closed at 17,844.60 on Monday.

Some of the most active stocks that went up on Monday were Cera, Gokex,

Allcargo, Sonata Software and Dishman Carbogen on BSE. Some of the laggards were Cipla, Primo, Shilpa Med and DB Realty on BSE.

The worst performers were banks and financial services and energy stocks. Nifty Bank and Nifty PSU Bank ended down over 1% while Nifty Oil & Gas declined 1.14%. In Asian markets, Japan's Nikkei gained 19 points, Hong Kong's Hang Seng surged 167 points while China's Shanghai SE surged 66 points.

Banks, financial institutions
should safeguard banking
security: RBI top official

Bengaluru: (PTI) In view of the cybersecurity risk posed to the banking sector, Reserve Bank of India Executive Director Rohit Jain on Monday asked banks and financial institutions to adequately resource the banking security structure. He also underlined the need to be prepared for the potential impact of the emergence of cloud computing and Internet of Things (IoT) in banking.

The senior RBI official was delivering a keynote address during a panel discussion on cybersecurity in the run-up to the first G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting and Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD) in Bengaluru from February 22 to 25.

Security by design needs to be embedded as part of banking processes, and security controls should be conceived and implemented, he said. "Keeping in view the emerging environment and the risks involved, the information



security function should be adequately resourced — in terms of number of staff, level of expertise, the usage of tools and techniques, as well as adequate investment in IT and ITES," Jain said.

The banks should continuously evaluate the threat profile of their critical information assets, conduct tests for vulnerabilities and ensure their resilience to cybersecurity risks, he added.

There should be due diligence conducted before onboarding new products and technologies. The Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) security function needs to be put in place processes to ensure all changes in applications and across technology stack together, Jain said.

FOR CROSS-BORDER TRANSACTIONS

India, S'pore to link digi payment systems

New Delhi: (ANI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Singaporean counterpart Lee Hsien Loong will witness the launch and linkage of cross-border connectivity between the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) of India and PayNow of Singapore on Tuesday.

The linkage of these two payment systems of both countries would enable residents of both countries to the faster and more cost-efficient transfer of cross-border remittances. The launch is scheduled at 11 am on Tuesday and is to be held via video conferencing.



Shaktikanta Das, Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and Ravi Menon, Managing Director, Monetary Authority of Singa-



pore (MAS) will preside over the launch event. India has emerged as one of the fastest-growing ecosystems for fintech innovation.



Do not wait too long to implement a new strategy or idea, act on it when the enthusiasm is at its peak.

—Dr Jagdeesh Chandra,
CEO & Editor-in-Chief, First India



MNS LEADER RECALLS RAJ THACKERAY'S 'FORCED RESIGNATION'

'Uddhav reaping what he had sown'

First India Bureau

Mumbai: Maharashtra Navnirman Sena leader Sandeep Deshpande on Monday called Uddhav Thackeray a 'two-faced snake', claiming that the former chief minister was "reaping what he had sown".

Citing the "forced" resignation of Raj Thackeray from Shiv Sena in 2005 and the circumstances leading to it, the MNS leader said Uddhav was suffering today what his nephew went through earlier. "Uddhav Thackeray is a two-faced snake. When 40 MLAs of Shiv Sena left him and formed the government with Eknath Shinde, he called them traitors. What kind of hypocrisy is this? Uddhav Thackeray is reaping what he had sown," he said.

Alleging that Uddhav had always resorted to the politics of breaking up rival forces, Deshpande alleged that he had inducted 6 MNS corporators at a time when Raj Thackeray's son was admitted to hospital.



Uddhav Thackeray

"Uddhav Thackeray has always indulged in the politics of breaking rivals. Everyone knows that when Amit Thackeray (son of MNS chief

Raj Thackeray) was admitted in the hospital, he (Uddhav) took advantage of that opportunity and prised away 6 of our corporators by giving them Rs 5 crores each. His past deeds are coming back to haunt him," the MNS leader said.

"Everyone knows what Uddhav Thacker-

ay did to Raj Thackeray. Raj Thackeray was forced to quit the party and the same thing is happening with Uddhav Thackeray today," he added, recalling the MNS chief's resignation from the then undivided Shiv Sena.

The Election Commission on February

17 allotted the party name 'Shiv Sena' and the symbol 'Bow and Arrow' to the faction led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

Both factions of Shiv Sena (Eknath Shinde and Uddhav Thackeray) have been fighting for the bow and arrow symbol of the party since Shinde (present Maharashtra Chief Minister) revolted against Thackeray last year.

While the Shinde faction welcomed the decision of being recognized as the real Shiv Sena, the Uddhav Thackeray faction said they would move the Supreme Court.

Calling the poll panel's decision as "murder of democracy", Uddhav Thackeray said he will approach the Supreme Court against the decision.

Last month, both the Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and former CM Ud-

dhav Thackeray-led factions of the Shiv Sena submitted their written statements in support of their claims of control over the party name and symbol to the Election Commission.

The EC had frozen the bow and arrow symbol of the Shiv Sena and had allotted the 'Two Swords and Shield symbol' to the Eknath Shinde faction of Shiv Sena and the 'flaming torch' (mashaal) election symbol was allotted to the Uddhav Thackeray faction for the bypoll in Andheri East assembly constituency in November last year.

However, exuding confidence in winning the election with the 'torch' symbol, former Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray had challenged Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde to contest the election with the "stolen bow and arrow", stating that the 'battle has begun'.

Thackeray holds meeting with his camp leaders

First India Bureau

Mumbai: Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray on Monday held an urgent meeting with his close associates at the Shiv Sena Bhavan in Mumbai to decide their future course of action, specially after losing the 'Shiv Sena' name and poll symbol 'bow and arrow' to the faction led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

Leaders close to Thackeray, including Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Raut, Subhash Desai, Anil Desai and Anil Parab, were present in the meeting held at the Sena Bhavan located in Dadar area.

Thackeray has also invited several

district level leaders of his camp to discuss the future course of action.

The Election Commission on Friday recognised the Shinde-led faction as the real Shiv Sena and ordered allocation of the 'bow and arrow' poll symbol to it, in the process delivering a big blow to Uddhav Thackeray, whose father Bal Thackeray founded the outfit in 1966.

The EC allowed the Thackeray faction to retain the name Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) and the flaming torch' poll symbol, given to it in an interim order in October last year, till the conclusion of the upcoming Assembly bypolls in the state.

Govind Pansare murder: Several outfits hold 'jawab do' protest!

Nagpur: Several political and social outfits on Monday held a protest against the 2015 murder of communist leader and rationalist Govind Pansare.



He and his wife were shot at in Kolhapur city on February 15, 2015. Pansare died five days later, while his wife survived.

Among the outfits that took part in the 'jawab do' (give answers) protest at Nagpur's Samvidhan Square were the Com-

munist Party of India, the Janata Dal (Secular), the Nationalist Congress Party, the Socialist Unity Centre of India and the Maharashtra Andhshradha Nirmoolan Samiti.

"It has been eight years since Comrade Pansare was killed but the police has still not

arrested the real conspirators. Only some suspects have been arrested," alleged CPI (Nagpur) secretary Arun Wankar.

Charges were framed against 10 accused in the case by a court in Kolhapur in January this year, which sets the criminal trial to begin.

The 10 accused have been charged under Indian Penal Code sections for murder, attempt to murder, conspiracy as well as provisions of the Arms Act.

Uddhav politicised Shankar, lost party and symbol: Himanta Biswa Sarma

First India Bureau

Mumbai: The Election Commission gave an important decision on Friday, giving Eknath Shinde the symbol of bow and arrow and the name of Shiv Sena. Then, Uddhav Thackeray and Sanjay Raut strongly criticized this decision, with Raut claiming a deal has been made for 2000 crore rupees to get this decision. Commenting on the matter, Assam



Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma made a strange statement on Monday.

"By politicizing God, Uddhav has lost the battle of party and symbol.

In fact, there is a dispute between the two states over the whereabouts of Bhimashankar, reputed to be the sixth Jyotirlinga of Lord Shankara. The Lord resides in the Himalayas and cannot be confined to any particular place. In Maharashtra, the opposition party is doing politics in the name of Shankara," said Sarma.

During the Bhimashankar Dham Jyotirlinga Temple Yatra at Vahati, Sarma said

that the location of the Bhimashankar Jyotirlinga is in the Kamrup region according to the Shiva Purana. "The Assam government had issued an advertisement in this regard which led to a dispute between the states of Maharashtra and Assam. There was no need for the debate. Shankar is present in every part of India. Bhimashankar temple has been there for thousands of years," he said.

Two Naxalites, worth ₹10L reward, nabbed by cops

First India Bureau

Gadchiroli: Two Naxalites with a cumulative reward of Rs 10 lakh on their heads were held by Gadchiroli police on Monday while working in a security firm and car showroom in Hyderabad in Telangana after being on the run since 2006.

Thuge alias Madhukar Chinanna Kodape (42) was recruited as a member in the outlawed outfit's 'Aheri LOS' in 2002 and later worked in various teams based in Jimalgatta and Sironcha, from where he absconded in 2006, a police release said.

"He is an accused in nine murder cases, eight encounters, two dacoities and has a reward of Rs 8 lakh on his head," an official said.

Woman Naxalite Shamala alias Jamani Mangalu Punam (35), a resident of Bijapur in Chhattisgarh, who was working as a member in Aheri LOS, was also nabbed. "She is an accused in one murder case, five encounters, and carried a reward of Rs 2 lakh on her head," he said.

'Raut destroying Uddhav, will face cases for remarks'



First India Bureau

Mumbai: An aide of Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde on Monday said Sanjay Raut was doing "good work of destroying Uddhav Thackeray".

Bharat Gogawale, chief whip of the Shinde-led Shiv Sena, also said police cases were being filed against Raut for an alleged derogatory and inappropriate term used by the latter while describing Shinde.

"Sanjay Raut is do-

ing a good job of destroying Uddhav Thackeray. His work is slowly and steadily helping us. We wish him good luck," he said.

The language used by Raut against Shinde should have been controlled by someone.

"Now, our supporters have started filing complaints against Raut for his derogatory remarks made on Sunday. This will teach him a lesson on how to speak in public," Gogawale said.

In '24 polls, Maha will be BJP-free: Patole

First India Bureau

Pune: With the ruling coalition of BJP and Shiv Sena going from strength to strength, on Monday, Congress state president and MLA Nana Patole, who reached Pune to campaign for Mahavikas Aghadi candidate Ravindra Dhangekar, claimed that "in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, not a single seat of BJP will be elected, Maharashtra will be BJP-free." "Narendra Modi and



Nana Patole

Amit Shah keep visiting places when the elections come. But at other times, they are not seen anywhere. Two days ago, Amit

Shah made a statement in Pune that he has resolved that BJP will win all the seats in Maharashtra in the Lok Sabha elections. But

the people of the country and the state have known Modi and Shah very well. The BJP has been rejected in the recently held graduate elections and will face defeat in the Kasba and Chinchwad by-elections as well. Therefore, not a single BJP seat will be elected in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, Maharashtra will be BJP-free," said Patole.

Patole further said that he had met BJP leader and MP Girish Bapat a few days ago,

and his health is not good. "When Bapat needs relief, BJP leaders have fielded him for campaigning in the Kasba assembly by-election.

This shows the mentality of the BJP leadership. By taking over the central machinery, the BJP has given Shiv Sena's bow and arrow to the Shinde group. So far, such incidents happened in the country. Since then, that party has been rejected by the people," said Patole.

MAN-ANIMAL CONFLICTS IN MAHA'S TADOBA ANDHARI

Cameras to be installed for alerts on big cat intrusion

First India Bureau

Chandrapur: Cameras will be installed near a village in Chandrapur in Maharashtra to curb conflicts between humans and big cats in the Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, a senior official said on Monday.

These cameras will have a mechanism by

which villagers, officials and personnel from the 'primary response team' will receive alerts in case a wild animal intrudes into human habitat in the vicinity, TATR Chief Conservator of Forests Jitendra Ramgaokar said.

"Twenty cameras will be installed around Seetarampeth village.



They will send alerts via internet after the image of a leopard or tiger is captured. It is a first of its kind project in Maharashtra to curb man-animal conflicts and is estimated to cost Rs 25 lakh," he told reporters.

He also said TATR Foundation Day will be celebrated on February 23, during which

computer tablets, laptops and bicycles will be given to meritorious girl students who reside in the buffer and core zone. The state forest ministry has decided that one-third of the income generated from tourism in TATR will be used for development work in villages in the vicinity, Ramgaokar said.

MUMBAI, TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 21, 2023

First India

City



First

LUXURIATE IN EXQUISITE
SIMPLICITY!



The preppy aesthetic has never really lost any of its significance and is still present as one of the most popular fashion trends. Let's dive into the world of preppy aesthetics with City First



MRIDULA SHARMA
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

Preppy refers to attire made for preparatory schools which explains why these looks are frequently distinguished by a lot of stripes and equine patterns and are

highly inspired by Ivy League uniforms. Preppy fashion is both traditional and modern, as well as feminine and humorous.

Preppy attire is much more adaptable than that. Clean lines, timeless shapes, and subdued hues might be the focus, or it can be joyful and whimsical with vibrant hues and fanciful patterns. It employs wardrobe essentials like blazers, skirts, and pants to seem put-together and professional, but modifies the formula (using ultra-cropped cable knits or a reference to modern trends, for ex-

ample) to avoid looking stuffy or outdated. So, if you want to attempt it, here are some pointers to get you going.

Keep to traditional cutting and basic forms and dress in fitted attire. Make sure your clothing fits properly because the whole point of preppy fashion is to seem polished and professional. Keep in mind to pick gentle pastels or subtle hues. You might use natural fibres like cotton or linen instead.

Use modest, timeless pieces as accessories. Simple pieces of jewellery, such as a

watch or necklace, as well as a belt or scarf, can be used to complement a preppy ensemble. Avoid going overboard since an outfit can quickly seem overloaded with too many accessories. Add some colour to complete the look. A splash of colour can liven up a conservative ensemble. Consider donning a colourful scarf, pair of shoes, or blazer.

Traditional preppy elements can be dressed up with typically edgy materials, such as imitation leather, to lend intrigue to an otherwise classic ensemble.



HEALING SOCIETY

THROUGH MENTAL WELLBEING



KARTIK BAJORIA
(Author is a Jaipur-based Communication Skills Educator & Writer)

Society imposes strange, unreasonable paradigms on us. Men must never cry. Women must always sacrifice. The patriarchal edifice upon which our hypocritically gilded 'mansion of pride' is modelled, leads to trauma, suffering, pressures, unrealistic expectations, and in some extreme cases, solicits the worst fate – of life itself!

My wife Anuja Mishra's parents were both Delhi University Professors. Her late mother Professor Sadhana Mishra was a Literature Professor; alongside which she was an extremely socially-conscious & active citizen of Delhi, regularly galvanising support, and resources and leading protest marches against multiple societal atrocities.

Tragically, we lost this incredibly brave individual when she succumbed to her chronic clinical depression and took her own life, in 1996! At the time, my wife was a 15-year young teenager; and her younger brother Uday was merely 4 years old! Leaving a shocked

and grieving family of a father & three children, Sadhana might have put an end to her suffering but inadvertently pressed the 'play' button on the family's anguish! Suffice it to say that the trauma Anuja endured for decades had built to breaking point.

It was only recently that she sought professional therapy and quickly realized the transformative benefits of expert mental help. She was finally able to come to terms with the horrific demise of her mother.

In parallel, I too have endured a more-than-manageable share

of mental trauma. Sparing the gory details; all manner of Abuse on my mother and me at the hands of my father since I was a little boy of 6 (before being sent to Doon). A complicated relationship with my father until 5 years ago, when my mother (after 40 years of an agonizing marriage), my wife, our just-born daughter (at that time) and I decided to separate from my father. The day after we left him, he filed countless false lawsuits against us for Theft & Dissertation that we continue to be embroiled in, through a multi-city, protracted legal battle! The Thyroid Cancer that I was diagnosed with in 2019, I believe truly, to be a manifestation of Mental Trauma (rather than anything clinical). I too continue to be in Mental Therapy and both Anuja & I are vocal proponents of it; despite potential losses in terms of work we may get as educators & Writers, respectively!

In November 2022, Anuja decided, despite our modest means, to do an event in remembrance of Anuja's mother. We called it Driveway Devi, a 1 day Art Show, literally in the driveway of our home in Jaipur. When we began



Anuja and Kartik Bajoria presenting a painting made by IWI children to Dr Shashi Tharoor

prepping and spreading the word in the lead-up to this small little endeavour, we were inundated with support. Artists from all over the country sent in artwork. People, especially women from all ages, stages, and strata shared stories of Mental Health & Struggles. Sunday 18th December 2022 was the Art Show. Rukshmani Kumari, Sadhana Garg & Shamini Shankar inaugurated the show, and in 5 hours, we had raised a rather unanticipated, nearly 5 lacs! We received immense support from all quarters – bipartisan political patronage with an endorsement letter from Vasundhara Raje, an interview with Congress Spokesperson Aiyshwarya Mahadev, unprecedented support from Shraddha Murdia through her Kashti Foundation, Rajeev Singh through his Town Coffee,

and many other generous individual donors.

We were extremely conscious of associating with an organization that was legitimate and doing actual, real, on-ground work (as most NGOs tend to be fraudulent fronts for their promoters to fill their coffers). We tied up with the Indian Women Impact which has been doing groundbreaking work with rural communities here in Jaipur. In conjunction with them, we have already started employing the funds from the Art Show to organize Mental Wellbeing Programs for the most marginalized women & girls.

After the show, Anuja & I realized that we cannot possibly stop! We felt compelled to carry on. And hence, Driveway Devi went from being a stand-alone Art Show to raising Funds & Awareness for Mental Health - to Driveway Devi, Mental Wellness Initiative. Under this, we plan to do 2 things. One, each quarter, organise an event with a different Sector for Mental Well-being - A Mental Health Festival at a School, and in a subsequent calendar quarter, A Therapeutic Writing Retreat squarely for Men, and so on. Second, we want to keep the Conversation around Mental Health going on permanently, and to have the widest cross-section of individuals, including but not limited to Mental

Health Practitioners. We already have a rich repository of interviews/interactions with a diverse set of people, including Students, Actors, Politicians, Civil Servants, Home-Makers, and Artists; all these people speak at length about observed and/or personal mental health battles. This conversation has a PROFOUND impact on Normalizing Therapy, a desperate need of the hour, given the life and times we are in - Globally, Politically and otherwise. All our work can be easily accessed through Instagram @drivewaydevi and/or through our website kartikbajoria.com

We anticipate that from 2023 onwards, Driveway Devi will be a 'facilitator' for all things Mental Well-being related. Events, drives, raising funds, awareness, advocacy, getting individuals and/or organisations in touch with the right resources; all this and more is planned. Most of all, together, we hope to reduce, if not annihilate, the stigma attached to mental health and help collapse all the barriers to getting mental help.

It is time. Time to remodel the 'mansion of pride' I referred to at the outset of this article. To demolish, conceive afresh, and construct a society free of bias and patriarchy, judgment and labels, prejudices and persecution. Let us all come together and be Mentally Wealthy!



Artists and Supporters gather for the Driveway Devi Art Show with Chief Guests Rukshmani Kumari, Sadhana Garg and Shamini Shanker



Children in their after-school classes as part of the IWI Bridge School

FACE OF THE DAY

JYOTI RAJPUT, Doctor

YOUR DAY

Horoscope by Saurabh Sachdeva

1182

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 20 You care about your lover but somehow hesitate in expressing that care. Don't make friends for money and status rather make friends who will stick with you forever. On social front, you may have to spend some extra money in buying gifts for someone for some specific occasion.	TAURUS APR 21 - MAY 20 You love to live close to your family. Best day to buy gold and silver or any precious metal for investment sake. You are a child at heart and never let this child die. You have a big heart and you always help someone if you can. Video call is possible as you miss your social circle.	GEMINI MAY 21 - JUNE 21 You are a pro in your field and none can beat you. You give tough competition to people. Many people get inspired by you. You will get special treatment from your dear ones. Take stand where you need to, don't run in the same direction where everybody else is going. Health remains perfect.	CANCER JUNE 22 - JULY 23 Visit a doctor if you have any doubts about your health. Don't attack stress even if you don't have any. Let go of things that are not in your control. You want to have your own house and you will work hard to make your dream come true. Overall a good day.
LEO JULY 24 - AUGUST 23 You make sure to make things work your way. Never demotivate someone even if someone is not capable of doing something. You are most wanted by your friends. You can have romantic affair in office and a serious one. You will invest money in clothes and accessories today.	VIRGO AUG 24 - SEP 23 Your spouse is someone who can do anything for your happiness. You are opportunist and this will make you successful one day. There may be delays in property possession and it won't effect you. You are happy spending whole day at home. Help your mothers at home today.	LIBRA SEPT 24 - OCTOBER 22 Scrumptious food is what you are craving for today. You always maintain cordial relationship with everyone. You workout daily to keep yourself fit. You may start a side business to earn extra money. You are not a jealous kind and you feel happy for others.	SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOVEMBER 22 You will feel amorous towards your wife. This is the best time try something new with life give yourself a new purpose. Work on your limitations, there can be no better time than this. You have more opposite sex friends than the same and you may be judged sometimes.
SAGITTARIUS NOV 23 - DEC 22 Spend time talking with likeminded people as it will make you feel good for now. Boisterous behaviour is what everyone needs right now, do whatever you can do to cheer everyone up. You will feel financially comfortable and infant you are in position to invest money in some new venture.	CAPRICORN DEC 23 - JAN 20 You are very generous by nature and also you are the backbone of your family. Today is a favourable day for business. You may postpone your study plans. You are very fortunate to have a great friend circle. Be careful of the words that come out of your mouth.	AQUARIUS JAN 21 - FEB 19 You need a break from day to tensions and the way to cope up with stress is to meditate. You must create an environment of understanding at home. You will succeed in any sort of examination if you put your heart and soul to it. Promotion can be expected even if other are not.	PISCES FEB 20 - MARCH 20 Your spouse may make you spend more than you expected. Fantastic day for investing money in stock market as you can make fortune. You need help on academic front and you should not shy away from asking. You miss your parents a lot and somewhere fear to loose them.

M

egan Fox set the record straight about fiancé Machine Gun Kelly while making a bold return to social media weeks after scrubbing Instagram clean of all of her photos. “There has been no third-party interference in this relationship of any kind,” Fox wrote in the notes app of her iPhone, which she then posted online. “That includes, but is not limited to... actual humans, DMS, AI bots or succubus demons.” Fox cleared her entire grid earlier this month, which sent fans into a frenzy that the couple had split after more than two years of dating. “While I do hate to rob you of running random baseless news stories that would have been much more accurately written by ChatGPT, you need to let this story die and leave all of these innocent people alone now,” the “Transformers” star finished her Instagram post.

Cheating Rumours

Megan Fox

Her post...

BIRTHDAY BASH!

Shilpa Shetty and Raj Kundra are parents to two kids- 10-year-old son Viaan, and 3-year-old daughter Samisha. Their daughter turned 3 years old just a few days ago, and Shilpa Shetty wished the little one by sharing an adorable video of her trying on her mom's heels. Two days ago, Shilpa Shetty and Raj Kundra hosted a grand birthday bash for Samisha, which was attended by Rani Mukerji, Karan Johar's kids Yash and Roohi, Tusshar Kapoor's son Lakshya, and others. Now, Shilpa Shetty has shared pictures from the Peppa Pig-themed bash, and looks like the kids had a blast at the party!

Shilpa Shetty Kundra

Mehendi Glimpses

Hardik Pandya and Natasa Stankovic's wedding pictures have been taken over Instagram! They have finally shared pictures from their haldi ceremony, and they are simply beautiful!

For the Haldi ceremony, Hardik Pandya wore a pink and white kurta with diagonal stripes over it, paired with a white pyjama.

Her post...

Meanwhile, Natasa Stankovic looked beautiful in a yellow ensemble that featured a short yellow top, with a multicoloured fringed cape draped over it. She paired it with yellow wide-legged pants that featured red, green and pink embroidery and mirror work. Meanwhile, their son

Agastya Pandya twinned with his dad and rocked a pink and white kurta with white pyjamas. They made for a picture-perfect family, and the first picture showed them posing together in front of a colonnade.

SIX MONTHS OLD

6 months back Sonam Kapoor and Anand Ahuja welcomed their little bundle of joy, their baby boy, Vayu into their lives. On Monday, as Vayu turns 6 months, Sonam took to her Instagram handle to share an adorable picture and a video of her darling boy and it has melted our hearts. Taking to her Instagram handle, Sonam Kapoor shared a picture and a video of her son Vayu. In the first picture, we can see Vayu on Sonam's lap. Both the mother-son duo were busy play-

Her post...

ing with his toy as they look down, away from the camera. Sharing this post, the Delhi 6 actress wrote, “6 months of my Vayu. The best job in the world.. my biggest blessing.. love you, my darling boy. your papa and I couldn't have asked for more. #6monthsold #6monthspostpartum #vayusparents #everydayphenomenal.”

Natasa Stankovic

Priyanka Chopra

COUPLE GOALS

Post...

Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas are one of the most adorable couples. These two have always been each other's biggest cheerleaders and often grab the limelight for their social media PDA. Well, yesterday the American singer performed in Vegas and no point in guessing that his biggest supporter and cheerleader for the show was his wife. We shared pictures of their look earlier today and now a video of the actress dancing in the crowd is going viral. A fan page on Instagram with the name jeryxmi-mi shared a video on their Instagram page. In the video, we can see Nick Jonas performing on stage with full energy as the crowd can be heard cheering for the singer. Sharing this video, the fan page wrote, “Nick gives his best show onstage for his biggest cheerleader in the public.”

SPOTTED!

Rakesh Bedi

Ishita Chauhan

fi FIRST INDIA

Bollywood celebrities Rakesh Bedi and Ishita Chauhan were spotted at Jaipur International Airport on Monday.

PRIME TIME RESEARCH MEDIA ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF GLOBAL EDUCATION & GLOBAL ICON AWARDS



Sunil Gavaskar felicitating Nalanda Public School



Sunil Gavaskar felicitating Dr Thejo Kumari



Sunil Gavaskar felicitating Raja Shukla



ASHISH TIWARI

cityfirst.mumbai@firstindia.co.in

P Prime Time Research Media Pvt Ltd, in association with partners Bharat 24 & 1st News India (Media Partner), First India & News10india (News Partner), Igougo (Travel Partner) & Xoom Studio (Creative Partner) concluded the prestigious 10th Global Education Excellence Awards, 2023 & 10th Global Icon Awards, 2023 to celebrate and honour the winners at different levels and Segments for their continuing commitment to excellence, developing best practices and innovative strategies for the growth of the service sector with vision and inspiration.

The Program witnessed the starry presence of Sunil Gavaskar as Chief Guest. The event was a hub of doers and achievers from the Education, Service and Media sectors. The event was a huge celebration of the Education, Service and Entertainment Industry. Stars added fashion flavour dressing in their best styles and Entrepreneurs from various segments took the charge of sharing innovative ideas, thrilling journeys and experiences. The platform gave a great opportunity for professionals and stakeholders to exchange views and ideas encouraging budding talent to work hard and take calculated risks.

The exacting and daunting feat of zeroing in on the winners was achieved by Prime Time Research Media, with the support from its associates and partners, after an elaborate and meticulous selection process which included inviting nominations from potential nominees, substantial research & surveys, collation of feedback & opinions, screening based on pre-determined judging parameters and subsequently choosing the winners through an independent jury panel.

The Director of the company, H N Jha expressed later that, "The pandemic COVID-19 has affected the service industry most. And, the way industries like Agriculture and Allied sector, IT, Healthcare and Education bounced back is commendable."

He further elaborated, "Adversity is the biggest opportunity. The way various segments of the service industry performed carved a way for others to follow. Every challenge became a chance. Dedication, Hard work, innovative approach, adaptability and zeal to excel redefined the Indian service industry."

Prime Time Research Media Pvt Ltd are committed to organising more awareness through such events as such conglomeration are the small token of appreciation to each winner for their continuous dedication to the business fraternity and mankind along with the society as a whole with best practices and ethics. These recognitions are to support morally and further strengthen their ability to drive their objective through turbulent times and apply the best of the professional modules to manage and keep their missions afloat. All the entries are stringently evaluated against an internationally recognised standard on an industry-wide global scale.



Harsh greeting Sunil Gavaskar



Sunil Gavaskar felicitating Saurabh Kumar Agarwal



Ranveer at NBA All-Star Celebrity Game

Netizens went gaga over their favourite Superstar Ranveer Singh's appearance at the NBA All-Star Celebrity Game as he represented his nation. Singh played for Miami Heat legend Dwayne Wade's team at the game. His fans were excited to see him take part in the most anticipated game at the Salt Lake City in Utah on Saturday. He was one of three Asians present at the game, Hasan Minhaj and Simu Liu being the other two.



Ranveer Singh

Hollywood Actor-Director Ben Affleck introduced Superstar Ranveer Singh at the NBA All-Star Celebrity Game. The NBA India account on Instagram shared a photograph of Ranveer and Ben Affleck in deep conversation on the court.

The Fans came in huge numbers to

Adaa Khan crosses 4 million followers on Instagram!

Actress Adaa Khan is on cloud nine as she recently crossed 4 million followers on Instagram. The actress posted a video message, thanking her fans for this achievement. Adaa looked absolutely gorgeous in a black and white gown, she let her hair fall over her shoulder and sported minimal makeup. She is ecstatic as she starts the video, holding '4' and 'M' balloons!

"Thank you so much, guys. We have completed 4 million families on Instagram. Thank you for your love. Aap sabne mujhe itna

pyaar deeya, itna saraha hai, iss wajah se main yahaan pahunchi hoon Jab main Instagram mein nayi aayi thi, toh maine nai socha tha maine yahaan phuchingi. But thanks to you and thank your love, I have reached here," she said. She captioned the post as, "Love u guys sooo much thank u for ur love and support! #gratitude."



Adaa Khan

Raj was aspirational: Ranbir

Superstar Ranbir Kapoor, who is back on screen as the quintessential romantic hero in the much-awaited Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar, says Raj from Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (DDLJ) has inspired him to play charming lover boys in cinema, having seen the iconic film at least 20 times!

"Raj was everything! You know, he could do

anything! I think Aditya Chopra gave us a character, that was aspirational, he was naughty and he was charming like it shook you up! I know I saw that film probably 20 times in the theatre!" reveals Ranbir, who has won the country's heart in cult romantic films like Bachna Ae Haseeno, Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani, Rockstar, Tamaasha, to name a few.

Ranbir has spoken his heart out on YRF & Hindi cinema's influence on people's lives in the unani-

mously acclaimed Netflix docu-series The Romantics. The docu-series is a tribute to the legacy of Yash Chopra, YRF and its cultural impact on India and Indians for the past 50 years. The national over-pouring of love for Yash Chopra and YRF was evident as The Romantics became the Number 1 trending title on Netflix within 48 hours of its drop, a rare feat for a documentary!



Ranbir Kapoor

GREETINGS!



Jagdeesh Chandra with Amit Mehta, Kamlesh Mehta, AK Jain and Sushila Nagar

Jagdeesh Chandra greeted Kamlesh C Mehta on Monday at Jaipur, also present were Advocate AK Jain, Sushila Nagar and Amit Mehta. Kamlesh Mehta is the founder of Forsyth Media Group, a renowned and popular Indo-American English media group in North America; he belongs to Rajasthan, having immigrated to USA in 1986.