

Afternoon

VOICE



Bhumi Pednekar can't control excitement of ...

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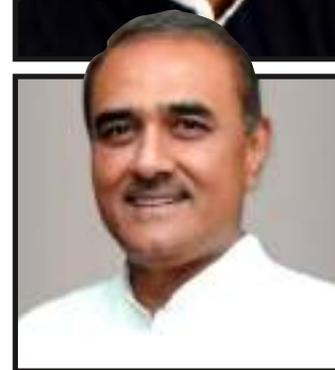
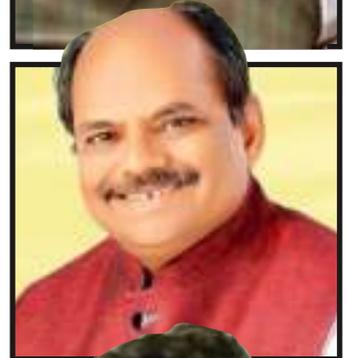


VIEWES & VISION OF CITY

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29 MLAs of smaller parties and Independents to play a big role

RAJYA SABHA ELECTION TODAY



Dr. Vaidehi Taman

@VaidehiTaman

A Mumbai court is likely to decide today on the bail request of two Maharashtra ruling party leaders, Nawab Malik and Anil Deshmukh, which has become crucial ahead of Rajya Sabha elections in which every vote counts.

Nawab Malik, a Maharashtra Minister, is in jail since his arrest in February by the central

Enforcement Directorate in a money laundering case. The state's former home minister Anil Deshmukh is also in jail on money-laundering allegations. Both have approached a special court for one-day bail to cast their vote in the Rajya Sabha election on Friday. On the other hand, the BJP's Devendra Fadnavis, has been reaching out to independent MLAs, working the phones as he recovers from Covid.

Nawab Malik has told the court

that he is an elected MLA and is duty bound to represent the residents of his constituency in electing a representative to Rajya Sabha. Elections will be held for six Rajya Sabha seats in Maharashtra and for the first time in more than two decades, there is a contest with seven candidates.

The ruling Shiv Sena has fielded two candidates, **Sanjay Raut and Sanjay Pawar**. The opposition BJP has put up three candidates - Union minister

Piyush Goyal, Anil Bonde and Dhananjay Mahadik. The Sena, NCP and Congress moved their MLAs to resorts to prevent "poaching".

Ruling coalition allies Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and Congress have nominated one candidate each, Praful Patel and Imran Pratapgarhi. Any candidate needs 42 votes to win a Rajya Sabha seat.

The Shiv Sena-led Maha Vikas Aghadi has the numbers to win

three out of the six Rajya Sabha seats for which 288 MLAs will vote. The BJP, which had 106 members in the assembly, can win two on its own but has fielded a third, setting up a contest for the sixth seat, between the BJP's Dhananjay Mahadik and the Shiv Sena's Sanjay Pawar. Every vote is crucial for the ruling coalition, which is racing to get the Sena's second candidate, Sanjay Pawar, elected.

17th presidential election to be held in India

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

People are eager to know who would be the 17th president of India. Ram Nath Kovind is expected to be the mandatory president at the time of the election. Article 56 of the Constitution of India provides that the President of India shall remain in office for five years. The Election Commission is set to announce the schedule for polls to elect the next President of India at 3 pm today. President Kovind's term ends on July 24. The declaration comes just a day before polls are held to fill 57 vacant Rajya Sabha seats across 15 states.

The members of the Electoral College elect the President, comprising elected members of both houses of Parliament, and elected members of the legislative assemblies of all states, including the National Capital

Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Puducherry. How the President of India is elected. A President in India is elected by the members of the Electoral College consisting of elected members of both the houses — Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

The Electoral College for the presidential election comprises the 776 MPs of the Lok Sabha (543) and Rajya Sabha (233), as well as MLAs of state Assemblies and the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry. The total votes are counted because of their value, which varies from state to state, with an Uttar Pradesh MLA carrying the highest value, followed by Maharashtra and West Bengal.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Editoritis

17th Presidential Election to be held in India

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President of India Ram Nath Kovind is an Indian Politician who is serving as the 14th and current President of India since July 25, 2017. President Ram Nath Kovind is a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party and is also the first person from Uttar Pradesh to serve as the President. Before his presidency, Ram Nath Kovind served as the 26th Governor of Bihar from 2015 to 2017 and as a Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha from 1994 to 2006.

Along with the President, a new Vice-President will also be selected. The BJP, along with its partners, has a comfortable majority in the presidential Electoral College comprising MPs of both Houses of Parliament and MLAs of all state assemblies. The BJP-led NDA also commands the required majority in two houses of Parliament to elect the next Vice-President. New Delhi's political circles are buzzing with discussions on the choices for the next occupant of the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

No President, with the sole exception of first President Rajendra Prasad, has got a second term in office. Many names are mentioned, but they always added a caveat that nobody knows the mind of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who alone will finalise candidates for the two top constitutional offices of the Indian republic. The Prime Minister has pulled out a surprise every time a top appointment was made and proved all speculations and guesses wrong.

Nitish has been upset with the BJP for some time and has been moving closer to Lalu Yadav's RJD. While the BJP appears on solid ground in the presidential elections, there's also a move to field an opposition candidate with the support of NDA ally and Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar. Though Kumar has given no hint of supporting a non-NDA candidate, leaders such as Mamata Banerjee and K Chandrashekhar Rao are trying to engage him through back-channels and offering to support his choice of candidate.

In the current round of Rajya Sabha election for 57 seats, polling for which is scheduled on June 10, the most interesting contest is the one in Haryana between Congress leader Ajay Maken and media baron Kartikeya Sharma. These two candidates are distant relatives. Ajay Maken's uncle Lalit Maken was the son-in-law of former



President of India Shankar Dayal Sharma. Kartikeya's uncle was married to a daughter of Shankar Dayal Sharma. Maken and Kartikeya frequently get together at family functions but are pitted against each other. Kartikeya is the son of Vinod Sharma, who was a minister in Bhupinder Singh Hooda's government in Haryana, and was considered Hooda's closest friend. Hooda had brought this hotelier friend from Chandigarh and given him a Congress ticket from Ambala, and then made him a minister.

To win this Rajya Sabha seat, a candidate requires 31 votes. Congress has exactly 31 MLAs in the state Assembly. The BJP has 40. After electing its candidate with 31 votes, the BJP will have nine surplus votes. The party has committed these votes to Kartikeya. BJP's partner in the state government, Jannayak Janata Party (JJP) of deputy chief minister Dushyant Chautala has 10 MLAs. The JJP has been the prime sponsor of Kartikeya. Then there is one vote each for Abhay Chautala and Gopal Kanda. These two votes are also likely to go to Kartikeya. This takes Kartikeya's total support to 21. The fight is for the seven independents. The state government, BJP and Vinod Sharma are together trying to win over these seven independents, besides some Congress MLAs with an offer of ticket in the upcoming state elections.

Source- Various news agencies

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Voices



Letter's to the Editor

'Rajyasabha polls 2022-Maharashtra: Big trade-bargaining-backbiting' (Editoritis)

It is very enlightening and shows how preferential voting turns the table. The voting for Lok Sabha is simple one vote for a single candidate but for Rajya Sabha voting candidates have to give preference numbers to candidates and even preference numbers 2,3,4 can turn the table. In Maharashtra for 6 seats, 7 candidates are there so all the small parties and Independents hold the key for now and it will be interesting to watch the voting. The MVA is posing as strong unity but no one is sure about MLAs of small parties and Independents. They are making allegations of 'horse-trading' but they are also part of that game for sure.

- Maya Hemant Bhatkar

A stitch in time saves nine

The state government's reluctance to make masks compulsory in spite of rising covid cases in the State comes as a surprise. A stitch in time saves nine & face masks do act as a shield to prevent the virus to a large extent, more so when most have taken the vaccine which surely decreases the effect since some antibodies are prevalent in our systems.

Civic chief Iqbal Singh Chahal should be given a free hand without political interference to take whatever decisions necessary to tackle the re-emergence of the virus. Happen to visit Phoenix Mall, Kurla over the weekend & there was not an empty inch in the mall which should sound alarm bells & COVID could boomerang into a fatal health crisis if left to people to decide on the safety measures to deal with the virus!

- S N Kabra

India should also ask

Fifteen Islamic countries now have opposed Nupur Sharma's alleged insulting remark about Prophet Mohammad. These include Qatar, Iran, Kuwait, UAE, Indonesia, Maldives, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Afghanistan, Jordan, Oman, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Malaysia. The Maldives Foreign Ministry has condemned Nupur Sharma's statement and welcomed the BJP's suspension of Sharma.

After anti-Hindu painter MF Hussein insulted Hindu Deities, Qatar granted him refuge. How did Qatar allow this, India should question Qatar about it.

Dr Zakir Naik, the role model of jihadi terrorists in India, is hiding in Malaysia. How does Malaysia allow it? India should also ask about it.

The genocide of Hindus is taking place in Pakistan and Afghanistan. When will India question them?

- Sagar Shirodkar

Aryan Khan's arrest was illegal

Now that Bollywood actor Shahrukh Khan's son, Aryan Khan has been acquitted of all charges in the Mumbai cruise ship drugs case, he should be compensated for having spent 22 days in jail. His arrest was illegal and he was arrested for a crime he had not committed.

- Jubel D'Cruz

Dinesh Lal to fight elections

BJP fields Bhojpuri Superstar Dinesh Lal Nirahua from Azamgarh in the upcoming by-polls. Nirahua was also BJP's candidate in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections but lost to SP chief Akhilesh Yadav. BJP knows they need someone strong who can pull crowds and convert them into votes, as of now there is no one better than Nirahua for the BJP to pull it off. In 2019, Nirahua's star power did not pay off, let's see if but may happen today.

- Abhay Parihar



Time To Plug Loose Cannon

The government of India is trying to evade the problems that have arisen. This attitude is too costly for the country, the state and the political parties. So let us say it loud and clear that there is a need for a change, but peculiar psychology- how to improve things without changing anything took the upper hand in the central government and the local bodies as well.

The ruling party must consider its duty to tell the people honestly and frankly about the shortcomings in our political and practical activities, the unfavourable tendencies in the economy and social and moral sphere, and the reasons for them. The problem in the country's development grew more rapidly than they are being solved. The inertness and rigidity of the government have grown more rapidly along with the decline in dynamism and increased bureaucracy- all this is doing no small damage. In the religious field signs of stagnation had begun to surface in the life of society.

State department inputs are intelligence and value-based and many investors take them seriously and don't reject them. When Ukraine itself was telling us there would be no war, the US was unequivocal and repeatedly told there would be. So, their information gathering and disbursing are quite accurate. If we prefer to continue to ignore our vote bank politics, the consequences of breakaway provinces and civil war are quite real and quite near. Rest up to us. See e.g. The boasting in Kashmir has now resulted in migration which many have been saying, it is quiet before the storm but we prefer to ignore superficial trips of the

foreign delegates while the opposition of the country was kept at bay. Everything can't be media managed, action speaks for itself and has its consequences. This is simple Newton's law; every action will have an equal and opposite reaction. If we prefer to look the other way, it will not help.

By telling the US to set its own house in order, does not mean that you will not clean the "hatred" that "you" are spreading against the

The inertness and rigidity of the government have grown more rapidly along with the decline in dynamism and increased bureaucracy- all this is doing no small damage.

The point is that if you compare the number of hate speeches put out by the peaceful versus what any fringe Hindu organization may be responsible for, the difference stands out like a sore thumb.

minorities and the Dalits, in particular, as well the other minorities: the Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, in general!

That hatred becomes evident when two professors, one from Delhi University and another from Lucknow University are hounded by the police and the "goondas" of the right-winger's student's union in Lucknow! So, there is nothing to be surprised by the concern shown by the US report. Things have gone from bad to worse as days pass by.

We have, at every opportunity, condemned violence, irrespective of who carries it out. Hindus who call for violence are no less guilty than their peaceful counterparts. The point is that if you compare the number of hate speeches put out by the peaceful versus what any fringe Hindu organization may be responsible for, the difference stands out like a sore thumb. It is time to hatch up our approach to hate and bring out the best for society in the days to come.



C. K. Subramaniam

Writer and Columnist

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No postal letters will be entertained

(The views expressed are authors' own.)

City

Hospitalisations up 3x over last week in Mumbai



Mumbai's Wednesday tally of 1,765 Covid cases was the highest since January 26 (1,858 cases). Alongside the steep rise in cases, the city also saw 83 hospitalisations on Wednesday, up from 74 on Tuesday. No deaths were reported in the state. While numbers underline a marked increase in

viral activity, experts are unanimous that it cannot be called the fourth wave yet. "Severe illness and hospitalisations are low so we cannot call it the fourth wave," said Dr Shashank Joshi, a member of the state Covid taskforce. He, though, called the large community spread "worrysome for sure".

Planning to throw empty vessels at Maharashtra CM BJP worker detained

Several BJP workers were detained by the police on Wednesday for their plan to throw empty vessels towards the convoy of Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray before he addressed a rally here, a senior official said. BJP's Aurangabad city unit president Sanjay Kenekar, Raju Shinde and other women workers of the party had earlier told that they would hand over a



memorandum to Thackeray to highlight the water woes in the city. But later they came to a hotel, where the chief minister was to stay, he said. "Later, the police came to know that these BJP workers were planning to throw empty utensils on the convoy of Thackeray. So the police took timely action and detained them before being released. They were released after the CM's rally got over," the official said.

- PTI

Chargesheet filed against Ranans for obstructing police on duty

The Mumbai police on Wednesday submitted a chargesheet against Navneet Rana, an independent MP from Amravati, and her MLA husband Ravi Rana for obstructing police while being arrested on April 23 after they planned to recite Hanuman Chalisa outside Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray's residence in Bandra.



Image Courtesy : TOI

The chargesheet was filed before Borivali Metropolitan Magistrate's court, which houses the special court for

criminal offences against elected representatives. The 85-page chargesheet was filed in the second FIR

lodged by Khar police. It says that the Rana couple had resisted their arrest by creating a ruckus, being abrasive and abusive towards the police officers who were doing their duty and had asked the couple to sit in the car.

Section 353 makes "assault on public servant to deter it from doing its duty" a criminal offence that attracts maximum two years' imprisonment. The chargesheet said they had a 'common intention' to commit such crime.

62% Covid patients at SevenHills fully vaxxed



Image Courtesy : TOI

More than 62% patients admitted to the SevenHills Hospital, Andheri for Covid-19 are fully vaccinated, indicating that majority could be affected with the Omicron variant of Sars-Cov2 that is known for its ability to evade immunity from vaccines.

The high vaccine penetration, though, is perhaps the reason why most are not encountering a severe disease. SevenHills is the nodal centre for Covid-19 treatment in the public sector at present. Till Monday, the hospital had 101 patients of which 83 were admitted in the ward and 18 were in the intensive care unit.

An analysis by the hospital showed that 22% of all the inpatients were unvaccinated, 9% were partially vaccinated and nearly 7% had taken the booster shot. Importantly, none of the 18 patients admitted in the ICU had taken the precautionary shot.

Face masks mandatory at airports & on flights: DGCA



Wearing a face mask is mandatory at airports and on board flights, reiterated the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in a note issued to all stakeholders on Wednesday.

"Masks can be removed under exceptional circumstances and for permitted reasons only," the DGCA note said, implying that masks can be removed for meals and drinks on board the flights. The regulatory body ordered airlines and airports to ensure strict compliance.

Passengers refusing to mask up should be de-boarded before the flight departure, said the DGCA note. Those on board refusing to comply will be treated as an 'unruly passenger'.

5 students allege for molestation

After the arrest of a karate instructor for raping an 11-year-old student, five more girls have come forward with allegations of molestation against him in Maharashtra's Nagpur district, police said on Wednesday. The Kanhan police on Wednesday registered five more FIRs against Gopal Rameshwar Gondane (40), who has been arrested in the rape case, an official said.

"Godane had allegedly molested his minor students over the last six months. He took the victims to isolated places on the pretext of sharpening their skills for getting them selected in the Indian Army and outraged their modesty," Superintendent of Police (SP) Vijay Magar said.

28-year-old man beaten to death in Mulund, four held



Four contractual civic employees were arrested for allegedly beating a 28-year-old man to death during a theft attempt in the eastern suburb of Mulund here, police said on Thursday. The incident took place in Amar Nagar pipeline locality of the Mumbai suburb in the early hours of Wednesday, an official said.

The victim, Rafique Sheikh, allegedly entered the premises where the accused lived to steal a mobile phone, when one of the accused caught him, he said. The four accused then proceeded to beat the victim with bamboo sticks, killing him on the spot. Someone in the locality alerted the police, the official said. A case under section 302 (murder) of the IPC has been registered against Sunil Kumar Saha, Kapil Sharma, Santosh Kumar Sahani and Foolo Sahani, all contractual workers with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, he added.

- PTI

Maharashtra reports 2,701 new Covid-19 cases



Maharashtra on Tuesday witnessed an increase in the number of Covid-19 cases. The state recorded 2,701 new coronavirus cases. According to state health department, of the new cases reported, 1,765 patients were from Mumbai. The state had recorded 1,881 new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday of which 1,242 were detected in Mumbai.

Interview

What does it mean when you say, "Swarajya was earned by shedding 'Blood, Toil, Sweat, and Tears'?"

I consider myself as a student studying the life of Shiv Chatrapati Maharaj. These warrior legends like Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Maharana Pratap, Rana Sangha, and Prithviraj Chauhan had to go through enormous challenges and the freedom struggle was very difficult. They could earn freedom "Swarajya" by shedding blood and sweat'.

In the present political scenario, do you think the sweat shed by commoners on various fronts has any value?

The state we are living in today had got the status of sovereignty after 1947, but what we should build after independence is where we have to work on. Let it be the Industrial structure, infrastructure, the fundamental rights, or the right to profess religion or formation of state. People have contributed to it on various occasions and that has definitely been of added value. There are generations in the history of freedom struggle where our great freedom fighters laid down their lives, so that we can breathe in an independent nation.

How important is the determination and will of people in better nation building?

Let me give an example: After the First World War, America detonated two of the Japanese cities, Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Not a single human was alive, and it burned lakhs of people in ashes. Although, after the attack, this is aspiring to watch how the people gathered their will to make their nation where it is now. Their economy has more leverage than any of the nations. Its citizens slogged their whole life to rebuild their nation. The hard work and dedication of the people can restore lost countries. Why can't we work hard to protect our sovereign nation?

What is the power of the common man and how can they be compensated in power politics?

One has to keep in mind that it takes everyone to be part of the nation and its government. Then the biggest power of the

Today's Youth Should Work Towards Nation Building

- Shailesh Suresh Varkhade



Mr. Shailesh Suresh Varkhade a mechanical engineer by profession and a well-known History Researcher who has delivered speeches all over India and in London too. He is a companion of an eminent historian of Maharashtra's late Shivshahir Babasahab Purandare. While speaking to **Afternoon Voice Desk**, **Mr Varkhade** spoke about the need for history to be re-introduced in young finds. In an interview with Shailesh Varkhade, we'll understand how Maharashtra has got a status of Swarajya .

common citizen is the right to vote and choose a government. They are the power makers. Voters decide the fate of the government and this brings revolution. This power of commoner forces the government to stop the anarchy and corruption towards a better nation.

These days Shivaji Maharaj is being politicised in Maharashtra? How do you look at it?

Recently, I attended coronation ceremonies at Lalitpur. To my surprise, well-studied people who attended the event were

proficient in the history of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Shivaji was the pioneer of guerrilla warfare, using which he trained his Maratha army to fight the grand army of Mughals. Unfortunately, today's generation drifted away from history and they hardly know who has contributed what for the freedom struggle of our nation.

You are the staunch follower and student of Babasaheb Purandare. What has influenced your life the most?

It's been 22 years since I've

been listening, practising and believing in Babasaheb. I lived each moment with him. I've learned two things: "word-of-mouth and time can't reverse back once gone". If we can't comply with what we have said, what we have promised, better to remain silent than speak what you cannot accomplish.. And the second lesson is that 'Be the Shivaji of your battlefield'. That means, conquer what you aimed for and fight your battles wisely. Love your nation and its people. Contribute in nation building in your own capacities.

What is your advice to my generation of students?

Your generation has advanced with technology. Your generation is much more privileged in terms of education and infrastructure. Make the best use of it, create awareness, and voice your opinion. You are the pillar of the fourth estate. Bring change and build a nation.



Nation

Saket court defers order on appeal to restore temples in Qutub Minar complex

The Saket Court on Thursday defers its pronouncement of order on appeals seeking worshipping rights for Hindus and Jains inside the Qutub Minar complex. The court deferred the matter for August 24, after noting that a fresh application has been filed in the case. Earlier the Court had fixed June 9, 2022, for pronouncement of order while Kelly the order reserved on an appeal regarding the restoration of 27 Hindu and Jain temples in the Qutub Minar complex in Mehrauli.

The Additional District Judge Dinesh Kumar on Thursday said it will hear/decide on the fresh application first. Court noted that an impleadment application has been moved by Kunwar Mahender Dhwanj Pratap Singh claiming to be an heir of United Provinces of Agra and said the property of Qutub Minar belongs to him therefore the minaret along with



Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque should be given to him. Advocate ML Sharma appeared for him. Counsels for both Archaeological Survey of India and Plaintiffs submit that they are opposing the impleadment application.

The main appellant in the matter had claimed that the Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque, which is situated Qutub Minar complex, was built after destroying 27 temples. Appeal suit alleging that the Quwwat-ul-Islam Masjid situated within the Qutub Minar complex in Mehrauli was built in place of a temple complex. Advocate Vishnu Jain appearing for the petitioner (Appellant) apprised

the court that Quwwat-ul-Islam Masjid situated within the Qutub Minar complex in Mehrauli was built in place of a temple complex. Adv Jain reads Section 16 of the AMASR Act 1958, "A protected monument maintained by the Central Government under this Act which is a place of worship or shrine shall not be used for any purpose inconsistent with its character."

Advocate Vishnu Jain appearing for the petitioner (Appellant) apprised the court that Quwwat-ul-Islam Masjid situated within the Qutub Minar complex in Mehrauli was built in place of a temple complex. Adv Jain reads Section 16 of the AMASR Act 1958, "A protected monument maintained by the Central Government under this Act which is a place of worship or shrine shall not be used for any purpose inconsistent with its character."

- ANI

Presidential elections to be held on July 18 and counting on 21st July

The 16th Presidential election will be held on July 18 and the counting of votes will be held on July 21, said the Election Commission of India (ECI) on Thursday. Addressing a press conference, Rajiv Kumar, Chief Election Commissioner of India said the term of office of President Ram Nath Kovind will be ending on July 24. Kumar further said, "The value of the vote of an MP will be 700. Those in preventive detention can vote and those in jail will have to apply for parole and if they get parole, they can vote."

As per Article 62 of the Constitution, an election for the next president must be held before the completion of the incumbent's term. "A total of 4,809 electors to vote in the Presidential elections in 2022. No political party can issue a whip to its members," said Kumar. As per Article 54 of the Constitution of India, the President is elected by the members of the Electoral



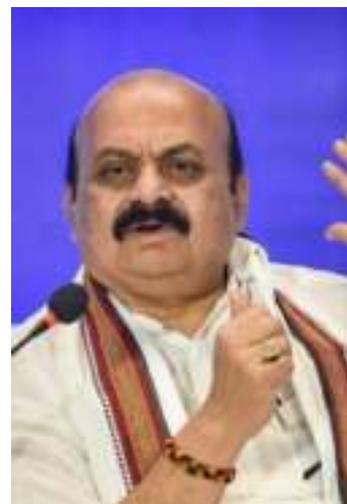
Image Courtesy: BS

College consisting of elected members of both Houses of Parliament and elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of all States including the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Puducherry.

Previously, the Presidential election was held on July 17, 2017, while the declaration of the winner was made three days later on July 20. Article 324 of the Constitution read with the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, and the Presidential and Vice - Presidential Elections Rules, 1974 vests the superintendence, direction and control of the conduct of election to the office of the President of India in the Election Commission of India.

- ANI

Text book revision should be reversed or will hit streets: Siddaramiah



Congress leader Siddaramiah on Thursday said that the party will take their protest to the streets if the Karnataka government does not roll back revised school textbooks, which he said has hurt the sentiments of Kannadigas.

"The textbook has been revised by Rohith Chakrathirtha (head of the textbook revision committee), who is an orthodox RSS man. I hope the government will consider revising it, if not, we will go to the streets," said Congress leader Siddaramiah in Bengaluru.

- ANI

Three arrested for rape minor in Bus

Three persons were arrested and one has been detained for allegedly raping a minor girl in a bus in Bettiah of Bihar's West Champaran, said police on Thursday. Police registered a case and arrested the driver and the helper.

The bus has been seized by West Champaran Police. Mukul Pandey, Sub-Divisional Police Officer said, "Three persons have been charged for allegedly raping a minor girl in a bus in Bettiah in West Champaran district."

The girl was found in the bus in an unconscious state. The bus has been seized. The driver and helper of the bus have been arrested." Meanwhile, another suspect has been detained by police for questioning.

"As soon as the information about the incident was received, two people were arrested while taking quick action. While taking action in the case, one person was arrested today and another suspect has been taken into custody. Inquiry is on in the matter," said Upendra Nath Verma, Superintendent of Police, Bettiah. Further investigation is underway.

- ANI

3 buried alive in landslide in Meghalaya



Image Courtesy: Briefly news

Three members of a family including two minors were killed in a landslide in Meghalaya's South West Garo Hills district on Thursday morning, police said. The incident took place at Jibalgre village under Salmanpara police station in South West Garo Hills district.

The landslide was triggered by incessant rains in the district and other parts of the state in the past few days. Vivekanand Singh, Superintendent of Police of West Garo Hills district said three persons including two minors were buried alive in the landslide incident.

The deceased persons were identified as Pretish Ch Marak

(38), Almos Ch Marak, (12) and Aimbe Ch Marak (3). "One Sengrik D Sangma sustained injuries and was still in the village and Thobes Ch Marak son of Sengrik D Sangma was saved without any injury," the official said.

On the other hand, one timber bridge over the Bandra river connecting Gilmatdam village and Dombagre village under Dalu police station in West Garo Hills district was washed away by flood waters on Thursday. West Garo Hills district police said that one landslide was reported from Akinpara village in the district.

- ANI

China eyeing rail network in Bangladesh

China is eyeing high-speed rail network projects in Bangladesh following Bangladesh Railway (BR) feasibility study for constructing the railway network between Dhaka and Chattogram. In a recent development, China has proposed carrying out the project under the government-to-government-Public Private Partnership (G2G-PPP) framework, reported The Daily Star.

Moreover, Dhaka has also selected China Railway Group Ltd (CREC), a state-run company, for implementing the project, which will cost more than three times the expenditure for Padma Bridge (Tk 30,193 crore). Li Jiming, the

Chinese ambassador to Bangladesh, in April wrote to Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujan for signing a memorandum of understanding between CREC and BR "as soon as possible".

Apart from CREC, two other Chinese companies -- China Railway Construction Corporation and China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation -- expressed interest in forming a joint venture to construct, operate and manage funds for the highspeed rail project under a PPP model. Moreover, the ambassador expected that an MoU would be inked between the two governments in the "near future" to embark on the



high-speed rail project under the G2G-PPP framework, reported The Daily Star.

Under the G2G-PPP arrangement, Bangladesh may request other governments to provide financial support and select state-owned or private entities to act as the investors. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in October 2014 had proposed constructing a highspeed rail

network between Dhaka and Chattogram.

However, the project was apparently put on the back burner considering the huge amount of money -- Tk 93,35,0.93 crore -- required for its implementation. No project under the G2G-PPP arrangement has yet been implemented in Bangladesh. Discussions with several countries, including Japan and South Korea, have been going on to implement some projects under this model. The Chinese proposal came at a time when prominent transport experts questioned the viability of such a huge-investment project.

Some of them said BR lacks the capacity to complete this

"highly ambitious" scheme. Even, the railways' minister himself told The Daily Star last year that the government would "go slow" with the project due to the massive cost involved. In Bangladesh, once the high-speed rail project is implemented, the journey on the 224.64km route between Dhaka and Chattogram via Narayanganj-Cumilla-Feni will take 55 minutes if uninterrupted, and 73 minutes with stopovers. The travel time is currently more than six hours. Dhaka-Chattogram highway is considered the lifeline of the economy as it carries more than 80 per cent of the external trade.

- ANI

Australian energy ministers back renewables, storage to address gas crisis

Australia's energy ministers have agreed to an 11-point plan to address the nation's gas crisis when the country's energy prices are spiking due to high winter demand and supply shortages. Federal Energy Minister Chris Bowen on Wednesday night chaired a meeting with his state and territory counterparts to discuss solutions to the crisis, agreeing to give the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) the capacity to procure and store gas supplies. Australian energy prices are spiking due to high winter demand, gas supply shortages and coal-fired power



Image Courtesy : ANI

generators failing.

Bowen warned that there was no "silver bullet" short-term fix for the current crisis but that the measures would give governments the capacity to manage future crises. "There's storage facilities around the country. We agreed to work to

give the AEMO that power and to give them that power expeditiously," he said. Bowen said the principles outlined are clear that the AEMO should support new technologies and he supports storage and renewables being a particular focus of capacity mechanism going forward.

The meeting also agreed to enhance the powers of energy regulators to ensure transparency for customers and that retailers work in their best interests. A national transition plan for the energy market will be developed for the ministers' next meeting in July.

- ANI

Pakistan: Hindu priest attacked in Karachi and idols desecrated

In yet another incident of atrocity against minorities in Pakistan, a Hindu temple was attacked by some extremists in Karachi, Sindh province of the country. The incident took place at the Korangi Number 5 area of the country's port city. The Shri Mari Mata Mandir, which also houses the residence of the Hindu priest, was attacked late on Wednesday, triggering fear among the Hindu community.

A violent mob attacked the house of the priest and vandalised the idols. No arrests have been made by Pakistan police so far. The idols were brought by the priest a few days ago to be installed in the underconstruction temple. "We don't know who has attacked and why," The Express Tribune newspaper quoted a local

Hindu resident as saying. Eyewitnesses say six to eight individuals on motorcycles attacked the complex. "Five to six unknown suspects entered the temple and escaped after vandalising it," said Korangi SHO Farooq Sanjrani.

Activists say human rights in Pakistan records have touched a new low with several media reports and global bodies reflecting the dire situation for women, minorities, children, and media persons in the country. In Sindh, forced conversions and attacks on minority communities have become even more rampant. Forced conversion of minor Hindu, Sikh, and Christian girls, always under duress, has become an increasingly common phenomenon in the country.

- ANI

US approves USD 120 mln sale to Taiwan



The United States has approved the sale of ship parts to Taiwan worth USD 120 million amid the increasing threat of Chinese invasion. China has warned the US against enhancing ties with the democratic island that Beijing regards as its island and

threatens to overtake by force.

Last month, 30 Chinese warplanes breached Taiwan's air defence identification zone or ADIZ, while a US congressional delegation was on a surprise visit to Taiwan. After the approval of the sale, the US Defence Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress regarding the deal.

"Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) has requested to buy unclassified spare and repair parts for ships and ship systems; logistical technical assistance; U.S. Government and

contractor representative technical and logistical support; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

The total estimated program cost is USD 120 million," the US Defence Security Cooperation Agency said in a statement. This proposed sale serves US national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to maintain a credible defensive capability.

The recipient will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment and the proposed sale will not alter the basic military balance in the region, the statement said.

- ANI



A Ukrainian serviceman walks in a destroyed grain silos near the town of Soledar amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine

Business

PSEs will have to scale up, build capacities to survive in a competitive market: Sitharaman



Image Courtesy : Freepress

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday said the Public Sector Enterprises (PSE) in the strategic core sector need to scale up their performances and if required should enter into a

partnership with the private sector to survive.

She was in Gandhinagar to inaugurate the 'Nation Building and CPSE's Exhibition'.

Addressing the event, she said, "In the competitive world, even Public Sector Enterprises (PSE) in the strategic core sector have to scale up their skills, capacities, competence, efficiency and if required should enter into partnership with the private sector to survive.

"In 2021, the Central government decided to minimise the public sector role in nation-building. So many

sectors were opened to the private sector. Those that are still reserved for PSE, even in these sectors the role is going to reduce soon."

She added, "It is high time for the PSEs to prove their strength and competency. If it is not expanded at the right time, it will be difficult for them to survive, or their presence may go unnoticed."

The finance minister also recommended looking out for diversification, expansion, and exploring new opportunities that can keep them afloat in the market.

Cryptocurrencies yet to pass the test of fiat currency: CEA



Image Courtesy : Business today

Sounding a note of caution, Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran said on Thursday that the cryptocurrencies have yet to pass the test to become fiat currency and at the same

time it would be difficult to regulate them.

He further said that, unlike fiat money, cryptocurrencies cannot satisfy basic requirements such as having store value, widespread acceptability, and unit of account.

Referring to decentralized finance (Defi), he said: "In my opinion, while it is considered innovation, I would reserve my judgment whether it is truly innovative or truly disruptive in a positive sense or is it something that we will come to regret."

Rupee hits intra-day record low of 77.81 against US dollar

The rupee slipped 13 paise to hit its intra-day record low of 77.81 against the US dollar on Thursday, weighed down by elevated crude oil prices and persistent foreign capital outflows.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 77.74 against the American dollar, then fell further and touched its intra-day record low of 77.81, registering a fall of 13 paise from the last close.

On Wednesday, the rupee



recovered from its record low to close 10 paise higher at 77.68 against the American currency.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday raised the key interest rate by 50 basis

points, the second increase in five weeks, to rein in the rise in prices that it saw continuing to hurt consumers in the near term.

The rate hike comes on the back of a 40 bps increase by the RBI at an unscheduled meeting on May 4.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures fell 0.12 per cent to USD 123.43 per barrel.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six

currencies, was trading 0.01 per cent higher at 102.55.

On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share Sensex was trading 10.05 points or 0.02 per cent higher at 54,902.54, while the broader NSE Nifty advanced 5.65 points or 0.03 per cent to 16,361.90.

Foreign institutional investors were net sellers in the capital market on Wednesday as they offloaded shares worth Rs 2,484.25 crore, as per stock exchange data.

Use of 10% ethanol-blended petrol saved over Rs 41K cr forex



Use of 10 per cent ethanol-blended petrol has led to a saving of over Rs 41,000 crore in the foreign exchange for the country, minister of state for environment, forest and climate change Ashwini Kumar Choubey said.

Speaking at an online event of auto industry body SIAM on sustainable mobility, the minister said the government is working in multiple ways to encourage sustainable mobility.

"India recently achieved 10 per cent ethanol blending target 5 months in advance, saving over Rs 41,000 crore worth of fuel imports for the nation," Choubey noted. The initiative has led to sizeable benefits for farmers, he added.

"Our next target is to achieve 20 per cent ethanol blending and it is projected to be completed by 2025-26," Choubey noted.

London shares extend losses ahead of ECB meet; energy stocks shine

UK's FTSE 100 slipped for a third straight session on Thursday, as cautious investors braced for the impact of more interest rate hikes ahead of a key European Central Bank meeting later in the day. The blue-chip index and the midcap FTSE 250 index were down 0.6% each.

The ECB in a decision due at 11:45 a.m. GMT is likely to announce it is pulling the plug on years of stimulus and signal a string of

rate rises to fight surging inflation. "Although no action is expected with regards to interest rates, participants may be on the lookout for hints over how the bank plans to move in months to come," said Charalambos Pissouros, head of research at JFD Brokers.

Investors have ramped up bets of rate hikes by the ECB and the Federal Reserve in recent days, which is negative for equities, Pissouros added.

IMF asks cash strapped Pak to renegotiate CPEC energy deals prior to making payments

The IMF has asked cash-strapped Pakistan's government to renegotiate the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) energy deals before making payments of around Rs 300 billion (USD 1,49,71,55,400) to the Chinese power plants, putting Islamabad in a tight spot, a media report said on Thursday.

As of now, Pakistan has repeatedly been seeking international aid to support its failing economy.

The talks with the International Monetary Fund are being held in the Qatari capital Doha.



Image Courtesy : Indian express

The global lender has asked the government to treat the Chinese CPEC power plants at par with the power plants established under the 1994 and 2002 power policies, The Express Tribune reported in a detailed report.

BSE Sensex
55320.28
(0.78%) ▲

Currency exchange

Nifty **NSE**
National Stock Exchange of India Ltd
16,478.10 (0.74%) ▲

1 USD 78.6050 (INR)
1 GBP 97.8925 (INR)
1 EUR 83.5575 (INR)

Top Gainers

Scrip Name	Price	%Gain
Dr Reddys Labs	4,322.90	2.95
BPCL	332.85	2.76
Reliance	2,798.75	2.74
Eicher Motors	2,716.00	2.52
SBI Life Insura	1,163.70	2.43

Top Losers

Scrip Name	Price	%Loss
Tata Steel	1,044.85	-3.86
Shree Cements	19,198.00	-1.97
Tata Motors	428.50	-1.64
Grasim	1,309.10	-1.48
NTPC	155.15	-1.21

Sports

Maharashtra rule athletics with 8 gold

Maharashtra reaffirmed their primacy in athletics, clinching three out of four sprint titles here on Thursday to throw open the race for the Khelo India Youth Games championship. Their impressive haul of eight gold, three silver and a bronze medal in track and field has narrowed the gap at the top of the table, with their 29 gold just one short of Haryana's 30 after the day's morning session.

Sudeshna Shivankar led from start to finish to clock 24.29 seconds to clinch the Girls 200m gold in style, well ahead of state-mate Avantika Narale to complete a hat-trick of sprint titles. She had run away with two gold earlier, first in the Girls 100m and then in the 4x100m relay to underline her supremacy. Aryan Kadam (21.82 seconds) bagged the Boy's 200m title while the quartet of Riya Patil, Pranjali Patil, Vaishnavi Kature and Shivechha Patil sped away to the 4x400m gold. They clocked 4:02.76 and trumped second-placed Punjab by over 50 metres. Madhya Pradesh's Arjun Waskale also completed a double, annexing the Boys



3000m title in 8:37.62 after his exploits in the 1500m on the opening day of the competition.

Supriti Kachhap of Jharkhand also registered a new mark, clocking 9:46.14, in the Girls 3000m version. The previous mark was held by Seema M (9:50.54). Elsewhere, Punjab set up a summit clash with Uttar Pradesh in the Boy's hockey final. Punjab hammered

Jharkhand 3-0 in the first semifinal while Uttar Pradesh got the better of Odisha 3-2 in a close encounter. UP captain Sharda Nand Tiwari scored the winner three minutes from time with a drag-flick after Odisha had fought back to level the scores four minutes into the start of the second half. Arun Sahani had scored a brace to put UP ahead by the 17th minute.

- ANI



PV Sindhu storms into QFs after win over Gregoria Mariska

Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu on Thursday stormed into the quarter-finals of the ongoing Indonesia Masters 2022 in Jakarta.

Playing at Court 2, the Indian shuttler defeat

Indonesia's Gregoria Mariska Tunjung 23-21, 20-22, 21-11, in a match that lasted for 71 minutes. Earlier in the day, world No. 9 Lakshya Sen stormed into the quarterfinals of the Indonesia Masters 2022 after defeating Denmark's Rasmus Gemke 21-18, 21-15. Later, Ashwini Ponnappa-Sumeeth Reddy will take on second-seeds Zheng Si Wei and Huang Ya Qiong of China for a place in the last eight.

- ANI

Josep Gombau returns as head coach of Odisha FC

Odisha FC and Josep Gombau have reached an agreement for the latter to take over as head coach of the men's senior team on a two-year deal. This marks Gombau's return to the Juggernauts after a brief spell of two seasons. The Spaniard was in charge of the Juggernauts in the Indian Super League (ISL) 2019-20 season where he tasted a lot of success and became a fan favourite based on his style of play. Born in Amposta, Catalonia, Gombau was a goalkeeper but switched to coaching at the age of 16. After coaching youth teams in CF Amposta and RCD Espanyol, he was signed by FC Barcelona in 2003 as a youth academy coach. In 2008, he became the technical director of FCB Escola, a Barcelona youth football academy



opened at the Raffles International School in Jumeirah, Dubai.

Kitchee won the league the following two seasons, and in 2011-12 they did the domestic treble of the league, the FA Cup, and the League Cup. Like anybody with a strong

Barcelona influence, Gombau wants to entertain people with his brand of football. "If I tell a young player not to take risks and just play long balls, this is the easier option for him.

You need to measure how you send a message to a young player. You can say, 'Under pressure, if you need to kick one or two balls [long], do it.' I want them to take responsibility, and sometimes we concede goals because we take a risk. But maybe this will bring you knowledge that you won't make a mistake in the next 10 games," said Gombau.

- ANI

AIFF to reconduct online refresher courses

The All India Football Federation successfully conducted the first online refresher course for Pro and A Diploma coaches from June 1 to 3, 2022 in association with MBP School of Coaches, Spain.

The course was attended by 100 coaches, including a mix of Pro and A diploma holders from across the country. The

refresher course covered topics such as Man Management, Game Plan and Set-Pieces. However, it has come to our attention that many coaches missed out on registering for the refresher course and hence, we have scheduled another course from June 28 to 30, 2022. The registration will be open from June 9, via the Coach Education portal. The

courses will be delivered online via video conferencing and the MBP e-learning platform. The webinars will be conducted for a total of six hours over three days with the sessions taking place between 7 PM to 9 PM IST every day. Coaches that attend the courses will be awarded 4 CPD points upon their successful completion.

- ANI

Maria Lasitskene call IOC to lift sanctions against Russian athletes

Olympic champion high jumper Maria Lasitskene on Thursday called on the head of the International Olympic Committee to lift the sanctions imposed against Russian athletes over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. The IOC issued guidance to sports governing bodies in February to remove Russians and Belarusians from competition

after Russia sent troops into Ukraine. Most international federations followed the recommendation. She lashed out at Bach for saying last month that the rights of those who do not support Russia's war in Ukraine should be respected and that "there should be no sanction for holding a passport."

"My main colleagues in the high jump sector are

Ukrainian girls. And I still don't know what to say them or how to look into their eyes," she wrote. "They and their friends and relatives are experiencing what no human being should ever have to feel. I am sure that nothing of this never should have happened." She added that Bach was not interested in Russian athletes' thoughts about the conflict.

Opinion



They're bound to books!

Part II

Continuation from last Article...

Apoorva Prashant (30)

Customer Marketing Specialist, Honeywell; Blogger; Indian folk and tribal art enthusiast

My take

Book is an experience waiting, a place I could go for improving my vocabulary. I love science fiction, self-help, philosophy, Indian mythology... authors include Dan Brown, Sydney Sheldon, Brian Weiss.

Ideally, I would like to ask Brian Weiss, what he would ask himself under hypnosis. His "Many Lives, Many Masters", changed my perspective about life, death, loss, grief, and relationships. I never skip a single word, even when I re-read.

Not a fan of kindle edition, my penchant for hard copies is prompted by the colour, quality and texture of the paper, the rustle while turning pages rather than the on-screen tap. I love to

stand in front of my book-shelf, stare at the books, my fingers always know which one to reach out for depending on my mood.

There is a book for everyone. Reading helps discover the real you... magical. Hang out with other book lovers who will create a mutual inspiration to read more. Also, writing is a vital skill, which requires regular reading.

Pithy picks

- Appreciating the book cover like it's the only piece of art you've seen
- Staying up the whole night to finish those crucial last few pages of a gripping thriller
- Just one more chapter, but end up reading six more
- That feeling of guilt when you've a book you've started reading but never finished, and feel guilty every time you walk past your book-rack
- Buying another title as soon as you finish reading one
- Getting angry when you

are disturbed while reading

- Possessive about your books, and do not like anyone toying with them
- Lending books with a heavy heart and a constant worry for it
- Wanting hardcover, but settling for e-books/used copies
- Any book you've not read is a new book
- Feeling one-up among peers
- Sleeping with your books
- Getting curious when you see a stranger reading a new book
- Your order history in Amazon shows only books in the past couple of years
- Falling in love with story characters
- Spending more time in fictional world than in reality
- Reader's dilemma: The reliability of book review, "Many books, less time"; book blurbs – are they misleading than helpful?

Leaders are readers

Renowned leaders make time for reading in their busy schedules. American billionaire Warren Buffet reads about six hours a day. As Harry S Truman said, "...not all readers are

leaders, but all leaders are readers".

Steve Siebold, author of "How Rich People Think", after interviewing 1,200 wealthy people about their habits, arrived at one commonality: They were all regular readers. Books present new thoughts, give them an edge.

Bookwise

Isn't it that books are something we can repeatedly return to nurture an idea? There are four modes of education: the classroom, the newspapers and journals, conversation of intelligent friends, and books! Reading the right books puts us in the company of people more intelligent than ourselves. Interestingly, when you read a book, in a way, you're engaging with the author.

There's absolute unanimity about getting emotional to some books. I re-read "The Last Lecture" by Randy Pausch. Both the occasions, tears welled up. Also, when parents read to their children, it revives good childhood memories, and forges a strong familial bond. A Yale University study,

involving 3,000 retirees, submits that people who read books lived for an average of almost two years longer than those who didn't.

The shelf-awareness

Books are scattered, found in the drawing room, dining table, kitchen, even in toilets! But in some homes, thanks to their shelf-indulgence, they're lodged with a space of their own – a reading room, a library, a book shelf... even when they are closed, they usually engage us. After all, books have shaped our lives.

The emotional tie is certain. Though acquiring and reading books is somewhat reclusive, it's a good way to connect with others. Liking the same genres, authors, titles is akin to liking the same music. It's incredible how when you're reading a book in a train, a stranger next to you says, "Hey, I love that book, too".

Last word

Without a reader, a book is a pile of printed papers bound in glue. Only when a reader holds the book, heralds his mind and heart to the title, that book gets something prodigious.

Personally, I like engaging with my books and treating it like a conversation. I write thoughts in the margins and underline key points, for future readers, or future versions of myself.

With a book, you can imagine yourself differently, the limit is your imagination. No one believes a whole book could ever come from something as simple as, say, a honeybee, whose lifespan is hardly six weeks. But on paper, things are eternal. On paper, a honeybee never dies!

Books are forever! Who knows, reading might be your gamechanger! Read, you won't regret it!



C. S. Krishnamurthy

Columnist and Writer

Travel

Why Rainy Season Is The Best Time To Travel

Content Source : thewayfaress.com

It's good to get a sense of climate before booking a flight, you might be missing out if you only travel places during their peak seasons. In fact, when visiting countries with rainy seasons. From the best landscapes to finding the lowest prices, here's why rainy season is the best time to travel, and some tips to make it work.

Avoid the crowds

Nothing will damper a beautiful moment quite like having to share it with giant crowds of pushy, selfie-stick-wielding tourists. So, even if the weather is perfect during peak season, it may not necessarily mean a better experience overall. In Bali, the difference may be swimming in a waterfall with seven people rather than 70; in Myanmar, the difference may be enjoying a sunset from a temple rooftop alone rather than having to fight for good views or a proper photo. You'll have a more intimate and peaceful experience at some of the world's most famous landmarks, which is a pretty good tradeoff for warmer weather.

Save money

Many hotels, tours, and activities will have different rates for high and low seasons. If you travel during peak tourist season, expect to pay a premium for most things along the way. But low seasons mean low demand, so you'll easily get the lowest rates, from accommodations to flights and everything in

between! As an extreme example, when I trekked during rainy season in Nepal, almost all my accommodations were discounted 100% (yes, meaning they were free) so long as I agreed to purchase meals.

Prettiest landscapes.

Many governments around the world are making an attempt to "re-brand" their rainy seasons as "green season." And for good reason. Seasons of rain bring out the the most beautiful scenery: trees are greener, more flowers are in bloom, lakes and waterfalls are most alive. From my experience, rainy season is the best time to travel if you're looking for the most breathtaking displays of tropical scenery. Even if there's a little rain or mist, I find that that only adds to the magic and really brings out the colors of nature.

The weather report lies

After booking my flight to Costa Rica in August, I looked at the weather report and panicked: rain all day every day?! To make matters worse, the weather report even said its predictions were 100% certain. But ultimately, it rained once while I was in Costa Rica, and only for a couple of hours. Often you'll find that during wet seasons, it'll only rain for a few hours in the morning or at night, and be clear most (or all) of the rest of the day.

Great lighting for photos

Although your first instinct might be to think a blue and sunny skies make for the best photos, this often isn't the case. In fact, as I mentioned before, you might get a lot more sunny days than you expect. But even if you don't, this can work in your favor.

Bright sunlight can lead to overexposed and blown out photos with harsh shadows. Often these conditions can distract from the beauty of a landscape or the details in impressive architecture. Rather, shooting with cloudy skies makes lighting more even and soothing, improves the appearance of skin complexion, and brings out the vibrant colors and intricate details that get lost under the bright sun.



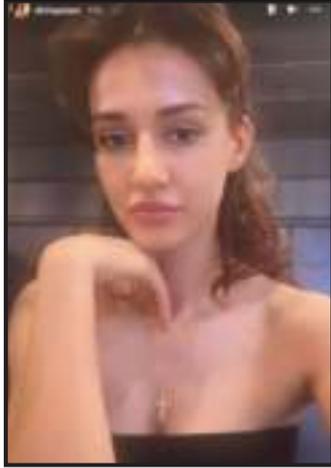
Bollywood

Actor Disha Patani shares her sleep deprived look

Bollywood diva Disha Patani has spoken about her "lack of sleep" through a selfie she posted on her social media. The 'Malang' actor captioned her Instagram story as "When lack of sleep hits you."

In the picture, Disha can be seen in a black tube top accessorised with a minimalistic cross pendant.

Disha kept her hair in a messy ponytail and sported a nude lipstick shade, which complimented her flawless look further. Disha's Instagram stories indicated that she was on a trip somewhere. The actor seems to love taking



pictures of the sky. In her recent posts, she shared some stunning images of the sky displaying changing colours from scarlet to purple and indigo.

Apart from her acting skills, Disha is also known for her intense workout regimes which she often uploads on her social media account. Disha has inspired fans to stay fit and healthy as well. Meanwhile, Disha is the latest addition to

upcoming film 'Project K', which also features Amitabh Bachchan, Deepika Padukone, and Prabhas. 'Project K' is touted as a mega-budget sci-fi thriller.

- ANI

Nayanthara-Vignesh Shivan marriage: First pictures out

Nayanthara and Vignesh Shivan are now wife and husband. On Thursday, the couple got married in Chennai in an intimate ceremony. After performing all the rituals, Vignesh took to Instagram and dropped a string of images from his big day. Stories by Joseph Radhik have taken the responsibility to capture the beautiful moments from the couple's special day. The two look graceful in their wedding outfits. Nayanthara chose to wear a vermilion red, custom-designed saree by Monica Shah of Jade. On the other hand, Vignesh opted for a veshti, kurta and shawl - all handcrafted by the master craftsmen of JADE atelier. Also, the attires were personalised with the couple's names. Vignesh also penned a heartfelt note on social media. He wrote, "On a scale of 10 ...She's Nayan & am the one. By God's Grace.. jus married."

In one of the images, Vignesh is seen tying the sacred 'Thali' around Nayanthara's neck.

In another picture, he is seen sealing the special moment by giving a kiss on Nayanthara's forehead. He also dropped a solo picture of Nayanthara and captioned it, "From Nayan mam ... to Kadambari ... to #Thangamey to my baby and then my Uyir ... and also my Kanmani and now ... MY WIFE." Actor Pooja Hegde called Nayanthara the 'most stunning bride' as she congratulated the newlyweds on Instagram Stories. Sharing Vignesh's wedding post, she wrote, "Congratulations to you two." Ajith, Vijay, Shah Rukh Khan, Boney Kapoor and Rajinikanth were present at the wedding.

- ANI



Trolled over micro bladed eyebrows, Ramona

The Real Housewives of New York City' star, Ramona Singer is being brutally mocked, after the 65-year posted a video on her social media flaunting her micro bladed eyebrows. According to Page Six, Ramona shared a video of her micro bladed eyebrows on her Instagram handle on Tuesday. She called her licensed esthetician a 'wonderful woman' Karin and thanked her for the results. "I just got my eyebrows



micro bladed from this wonderful woman. Now I only have to do it once a year, so I'm ready for summer. You definitely have to use Karin. She's the best." said Ramona in the video clip. Ramona Singer is an American television personality. She is well-known for her role in the drama series 'The Real Housewives of New York City' which narrates the lives of several Manhattan women as they deal with life in the big city.

- ANI

Kamal Haasan, to 'contest in next elections of Tamil Nadu

Kamal hasan, actor and President of Makkal Needhi Maiyam, attended a press meeting in Chennai regarding the success of his new film, 'Vikram'. The actor has confirmed that he will 'contest in next election' of Tamil Nadu. In terms of working with South Indian actor Rajinikanth, Kamalahassan



asserted, "I am ready always to act with Rajinikanth. On the part of the direction, it's should be discussed with Lokesh and Rajinikanth and then let you all know." The actor boasted that his party Makkal Needhi Maiyam has completed five years and expressed that it has "grown well" over the years. The actor is willing to contest in the next Tamil Nadu elections as

well. Meanwhile, Kamalahasan is having a taste of success after his latest film 'Vikram' received much appreciation, having an IMDB rating of 9 out of 10. The action-thriller is helmed by Lokesh Kanagaraj and also features Vijay Sethupathi and Fahadh Faasil in prominent roles. Shivani Narayanan, Kalidas Jayaram, Narain, Antony Varghese and Arjun Das also star in the film in supporting roles.

- ANI

Bhumi Pednekar can't control excitement of 'Raksha Bandhan' release

Tollywood actor Bhumi Pednekar who will again collaborate with superstar Akshay Kumar for their upcoming flix 'Raksha Bandhan', is quite eager for the release of the movie and she expressed her excitement for the same, earlier yesterday, on Wednesday, on her social media account.

The 'Badhaai Do' actor took it to her Instagram handle, and in the stories section of Instagram dropped a song tagging Akshay Kumar wherein, she wrote, "@akshaykumar sir TEPK was (a heart emoticon)...And now waiting for #RakshaBandhan :)"

- ANI

