



Mumbai stalled for pedestrian and vehicular traffic due to Waterlogging

Dr. Vaidehi Taman Akash Nirmal
 @afternoon_voice

Mumbai and its adjoining areas witnessed a heavy downpour on Tuesday morning, and the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted moderate to heavy rain in Mumbai and its suburbs over the next 24 hours, with a possibility of very heavy showers at isolated places. The island city received an average 95.81 mm of rainfall in the 24-hour period ending at 8am on Tuesday, while the eastern and western suburbs recorded 115.09mm and 116.73mm of rainfall, respectively, during the same

period. Jayant Sarkar, IMD said "The situation is favourable. Maharashtra will receive widespread rainfall in the next 5 days. Heavy to very rainfall in scattered areas. Ghat areas are also expected to get good rains. In Mumbai, July 5,7 and 8 will see heavy rainfall. Red alert for Ratnagiri & Raigad."

The chief minister's office in a statement said CM Shinde is in touch with collectors of Thane, Raigad, Palghar, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts. The National Disaster Response Force has also been asked to remain alert.

IMD issues heavy rain alert for Maharashtra, Kundalika river crosses danger mark; CM asks

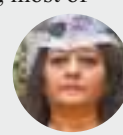
officials to ensure no loss of life

The IMD on Tuesday issued a heavy rainfall alert for Maharashtra over the next four days, following which chief minister Eknath Shinde directed the state administration officials to take precautions and ensure there is no loss of life or property. The Kundalika river in Raigad district, located near Mumbai, has crossed the danger mark, as per an official statement. Mumbai and some of its neighbouring districts witnessed heavy rains and flooding on Tuesday morning.

Nitin Sardesai told to Afternoon voice, " Every year BMC promises of no issues of waterlogging will happen on roads but still there are many

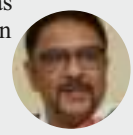
“From the last 30 years we have had the same party in BMC and we have seen they are making money but not doing their work. People in the BMC are not serious towards their job, most of the manholes are uncovered, no cleanliness done in the rivers and gutters due to which it is getting flooded.”

Preeti Sharma Menon
 (AAP Spokesperson)



“All agencies are activated and alert for these situations and Mumbai has always been and worked for its relief”.

Prabhat Rahangdale
 (An Ex Deputy Municipal Commissioner of Disaster Management)



Waterlogging and there is a failure in the working system of BMC”.

Ekta residence of Virar east, "Currently in Virar east there is no waterlogging but I have come to

Virar West there are water logged people who are getting late, stuck and also some people returning to their home because of water logging. BMC is also not working."

Devendra is able leader and balancing act went against him

Editoritis

Dr. Vaidehi

Whatever happened in Maharashtra politics, there is an atmosphere of sadness among some state level BJP leaders. In Maharashtra, the BJP surprised everyone by giving the chief minister's post to rebel Shiv Sena MLA Eknath Shinde and made Devendra Fadnavis deputy chief minister. There are two reasons behind this, as I expected opposition leader Devendra to react on Hindu related issues, which are the agenda of BJP. From the mob lynching of two sadhus and their driver on the night of April 16 last year to the arrest of Marathi actor Ketaki Chitale for a Facebook post that was allegedly derogatory against Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar, Devendra maintained calm, he did not take up these issues as it

was expected to from him. AS opposition leader Devendra tried his best in balancing the situation.

This move of making Devendra a Deputy has come as a setback to Fadnavis and his supporters, but its signal should also be understood by the satraps of different BJP states like Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka and Tripura, especially where assembly elections are going to be held in the coming time. Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's statement of trust vote in the assembly was vivacious. He spoke candidly and attacked his opponents fiercely. The way he gave a befitting reply to all the allegations against him in the assembly after the

Editoritis

Devendra is able leader and balancing act went against him

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Fadnavis' political capital took a further hit after his failed attempt to form a government with the support of a faction of NCP MLAs under Ajit Pawar, and a rushed midnight oath-taking ceremony. The government lasted only for 80 hours as Pawar and others returned to their party camp.

government, led by him, won the trust vote, is commendable.

So now all eyes are on what will be Shinde's next step. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Devendra Fadnavis all are indebted to Chief Minister Eknath Shinde for getting them back to power. While Shinde called Devendra Fadnavis a real artist, he also admitted that the number of MLAs of Shiv Sena is less than BJP. Even after this, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given his blessings. Before taking oath, the Prime Minister had told Eknath that he would help him in all possible ways. Home Minister Amit Shah had said that he would stand like a rock behind him.

I won't be surprised if Shinde continues to be the CM in 2024; multiple occasions that Fadnavis had lost favour with the party leadership for some time after his failure to form a BJP government in Maharashtra after the 2019 election, despite the party emerging as single-largest in the assembly. The reason for BJP's inability to form a government at the time was the Shiv Sena walking out of its alliance with the BJP after the election, alleging that the BJP was reneging on its promise of sharing all posts, including the CM's chair, equally. The Shiv Sena eventually cobbled together an alliance of ideological rivals, Congress and NCP, to keep the BJP out of power.

Fadnavis' political capital took a further hit after his failed attempt to form a government with the support of a faction of NCP MLAs under Ajit Pawar, and a rushed midnight oath-taking ceremony. The government lasted only for 80 hours as Pawar and others returned to their party camp. However, the BJP leader has bounced back since then, helping the party's campaign for major victories in the assembly



elections in Bihar and Goa in 2020 and 2022, and most recently the Rajya Sabha and MLC elections in Maharashtra earlier this month, which kicked off the MVA's turmoil.

According to political observers, Fadnavis has also worked hard to strengthen the party's base in Maharashtra since the formation of the MVA government, extensively traveling through the state during the two waves of the Covid-19 pandemic, and also taking stock on the ground after floods in different parts of Maharashtra last year. Fadnavis also kept the MVA government on its toes with scathing criticism of the MVA's governance, and using his influence within the state's bureaucracy to target the government with official records on issues such as the Aarey Metro car shed, the Sachin Waze case and an alleged IPS transfers and postings racket.

The various probes by central agencies such as the Enforcement Directorate, Income Tax Department and the Central Bureau of Investigation, against more than a dozen MVA leaders further boosted Fadnavis' tireless attacks on the MVA. Fadnavis turned out to be a very successful opposition leader. He constantly had tours,

programmes, and kept the MVA government on the back foot with his criticisms. In the entire duration of the MVA government, he was setting the narrative for the political discourse and constantly tried to expose the rifts between the three parties of the MVA. Fadnavis' clout within the BJP started surging after 2013, when the party appointed him as the state president at a time when senior leaders such as Gopinath Munde and Nitin Gadkari were trying to push their own candidates. Fadnavis was seen as someone who did not belong to any particular camp.

Since then, over the last eight years, Fadnavis has tightened his hold over the Maharashtra BJP, distancing old guards such as Vinod Tawde, Eknath Khadse and Pankaja Munde, who could have potentially challenged his position within the party. A series of decisions by the Bharatiya Janata Party central leadership in recent days has left former chief minister Devendra Fadnavis looking isolated and weakened in a party that once projected him as Maharashtra's fresh-face, savvy, Gen Next Hindutva leader, with potential for elevation to the national stage.

Vaidehi

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Voices



Letter's to the Editor

Eid-ul-Azha

Eid-ul-Azha, also known as Bakra Eid, is a sacred festival of the Muslims. It is celebrated for three days starting from the tenth to the twelfth day in the last month of the Islamic calendar all over the world. On this day, Muslims gather in large numbers in mosques or in an open ground and offer namaz (prayers).

The purpose and philosophy behind this festival is to commemorate the noble act of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham in Christianity). Million of animals are sacrificed worldwide during the festival. During the three-days of the festival, camels, buffaloes, cows, goats or sheep are slaughtered and one-third of the portion of the meat is given to the poor and remaining is kept for self-use.

Eid-ul-Azha is a beautiful festival of the Muslims that involves gathering of old friends and relatives, wearing new clothes, praying and feasting together.

- Jubel D'Cruz

Flip flops on Metro 3 car shed at Aarey is sad & unfortunate!

Flip flop on Metro 3 car shed at Aarey on every change of govt in Maharashtra is unfortunate. It has become an egoistic issue than an matter of environmental concern which is really sad. Politics is a dirty game & metro car shed decision should be left to genuine environmentalist, naturist, citizens than on politicians & other stakeholders who benefit monetarily from the construction.

Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has promised to look into the matter & take concrete decision after speaking to genuine activists & let us all hope that environment is the only criteria that will decide where the metro car shed will see the light of the day. Mumbai has turned into an concrete jungle over the years & every inch of green space is an premium which not just needs to be protected but more trees planted in the days to come!

- S. N. Kabra

Teach the rebels a lesson

Due to Shiv Sena's rebellious MLAs in Maharashtra, the Shiv Sena government fell into the minority, so it naturally fell. Therefore, in the background of this incident, there is a need to make the anti-secession law more effective. Only then will such rebellious MLAs learn a lesson. Such MLAs should not fool the people. They will get the answer in the elections.

- Uday Waghvankar

Express gratitude to the Guru

Gurupournima is being celebrated on 13th July this year. The day to express gratitude to the Guru is unforgettable for a disciple. On the Gurupournima day, everyone has the opportunity to express gratitude to the Guru through maximum sacrifice of the body, mind and wealth. Therefore, spiritually curious people and well-wishers should obtain the benefit of Gurupournima at the spiritual level by participating in the mission of serving Dharma and donating money for this purpose. In the present times, when Dharma is facing lethargy, participating in the mission of propagating Dharma would be the supreme donation. Donating money for this mission, which is being performed by Saints, institutions and organisations, is essential as per the times.

- Ramchandra Lugade

TWO TIER CITIES NEED OF THE HOUR



It is time to expand the radius of these Metro cities beyond and have a twin city concept. We look at Mumbai as an example.

Mumbai is lauded as the commercial capital of India. We praise Mumbai's resilience; it's never say die attitude and the famous Mumbai spirit. A cluster of 7 islands deemed to be throwaway dowry, chosen by East India Company to be developed for logistical reasons, causing hundreds to migrate to the city. First there was the tram, then the famous Mumbai local and BEST buses...now it's the Metro. Judging by all this, Mumbai is on the fast track to becoming the commercial hub of India...right?? Wrong...I may not win many fans here for saying this, but Mumbai is the commercial capital of India, because currently we don't have any other option. A saying goes, "Some are born great, and some have greatness thrust upon them" Mumbai falls in the latter category.

There are many 2 tier cities developing and once these cities take a strong hold, Mumbai will lose its status as the commercial hub. For Mumbai to become the commercial hub, it has to undergo a lot of changes. I enlist some of them here:

Infrastructure: Admit it or not, Mumbai infrastructure is definitely not world class. It may be better compared to ill-connected Delhi or slow

moving Kolkata, but certainly cannot match the class of Tokyo or New York. Why, Mumbai's infrastructure cannot even stand shoulder to shoulder with China's well connected roads and bullet trains. Our trains are overcrowded, late the minute monsoon hits us, and motorists have a tough time trying to locate the road amidst potholes. Throw in some flood and traffic jam, and the perfect Mumbai Monsoon scene is ready for the media to glorify.

Tier-II cities: Mumbai has to be able to compete with the tier two cities now developing. Navi-Mumbai, Mumbai's satellite city, itself, is giving Mumbai a run for its money. The satellite city is home to many IT parks and head offices of various Corporates. Same is true for Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai and more recently Noida and Pune. These second rung cities have the advantage of being better planned and equipped with better infrastructure, lesser population, tax breaks etc. Mumbai, on the other hand is crowded, expensive and polluted.

Cosmopolitan Outlook: Mumbai is, whatever it is due to the contribution of immigrants and localities alike, until Mumbai's politicians admit this fact and accept immigrants as a part of Mumbai, without forcing them

to blend in or lose their individuality, Mumbai will not gain the status of a commercial hub.

Terror Threat: Even though Mumbai's lauded as a business centre, the recent 26/11 terror attacks tells a different story. No commercial capital of a country would be so ill equipped as to not be able to detect and prevent such attacks on time. While some may argue that Manhattan was a victim of 9/11, I point out that Mumbai has been a soft target since times immemorial. Terror has sneaked up on us not once, like our US counterpart, but thrice...1992 riots, 2006 blasts and 2008 attacks; all caught Mumbai unawares.

In short, for Mumbai to truly become India's commercial hub, the quality of life, quality of infrastructure, quality of security and attitude—all need improvement.



- Jayanthi Subramaniam

Writer and Columnist

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No postal letters will be entertained
(The views expressed are authors' own.)

City

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a 'yellow' weather alert

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a 'yellow' weather alert on Monday, indicating very likely chances of heavy to very heavy rainfall in isolated parts of the city and suburbs. An intense spell of rain, heavier than Monday, is expected on Tuesday. According to IMD norms, rainfall between 64.5mm and 115.5mm in 24 hours is considered 'heavy' and between 115.6mm and

204.4mm is 'very heavy'. Localised waterlogging might lead to minor disruptions at chronic water logging areas in Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR). Rainfall accumulation is expected to be higher in Thane and Palghar districts. The first half of the day is expected to get more rainfall than the latter, with showers expected to be moderate-to-heavy in intensity, according to Akshay



Deoras, researcher at University of Reading, Meteorology department. Overcast conditions and moderate to heavy spells of rain returned to Mumbai on Monday after the city's dry and sunny Sunday. The reason for this change in weather and increased rainfall since Monday is because a prevailing offshore trough, in proximity to the Konkan Coast, became stronger on July 4, partly in

response to a low-pressure area which has formed over eastern India, over north Odisha and south Jharkhand, experts said. "As a result, there is an increase in moisture and subsequently rainfall over Mumbai-MMR," said Deoras, who tracks the southwest monsoon in India. The rainfall intensity will then decrease on July 6 and 7, before possibly increasing once again between July 8 and 10.

Heavy rainfall raises water stock, supply sufficient only for 50 days

Due to intermittent rainfall in the catchment areas of seven lakes, the water stock has increased by 61,540 million litres in one week, thereby increasing the water stock by 16 days. The BMC had imposed 10 per cent of water cuts in the city from June 27. When the BMC announced water cuts, the seven lakes that supply water to the city had only 9 per cent of water. Since last Thursday, the city has witnessed heavy rainfall. So, Mumbai now has 13.36 % of the total 14,47,363 million litres of its total capacity. This stock will last for the next



50 days. This stock is not enough for the city but can give slight relief. It needs to rain heavily in catchment areas," said the official from BMC's hydraulic department. Last Monday, the lakes had only 1,31,770 million litres of water stock. Presently,

the lakes have 1,93,310 million litres of water that can last till mid-August. Due to poor rainfall in catchment areas, Mumbai faced water cuts in August 2020. There was no water cut imposed in 2019 owing to good rains. Mumbai suffered from a 10 per cent water cut in 2018, 20 per cent in 2016, and 25 per cent in 2014. The BMC takes stock of the water level in the lakes on October 1 annually. The BMC supplies 3,850 million litres of water from Modak Sagar, Tansa, Vihar, Tulsi, Upper Vaitarna, and Bhatsa lake to the city daily.

Shiv Sena Women's wings Met Uddhav Thackeray



Shiv Sena Women's Organizer and Liaison Head, Women's Section Organizer held a meeting at Shiv Sena Bhavan today. Many women office bearers expressed their sentiments on the occasion and testified

that the Ranaraginis of Shiv Sena will continue to work with Shiv Sena and Uddhav Saheb Thackeray till their last breath. Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Saheb Thackeray also gave guidance on the occasion.

Karnataka's Sini Shetty Miss India 2022 is an alumna of this college in Mumbai



Sini Shetty, from the Southern state of Karnataka, won the coveted Femina Miss India 2022 which was held at JIO World

Convention Centre in Mumbai on Saturday. The 21-year-old Miss India winner, who was born and brought up in Mumbai, did her junior college at KJ Somaiya College in Vidyavihar, Mumbai. Sini also went on to do her bachelor's degree in accounting and finance and is also pursuing a course in CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) programme. She will now represent India at the 71st Miss World 2022 pageant. The Mumbai resident is also a trained dancer in Bharatanatyam.

Thackerays' blue-eyed boy in BMC, Kiran Dighavkar, transferred

The Shiv Sena got another shocker at BMC, with transferring a top civic official who appeared to have the backing of Uddhav Thackeray and his son Aaditya. His style of working was apparently not liked by many politicians. The BMC has shown the transfer of Kiran Dighavkar, who was the assistant commissioner of G-north comprising Dadar and Dharavi, as a routine decision. In an order signed by BMC Commissioner

Iqbal Singh Chahal on Monday, Dighavkar and two more assistant commissioners have been transferred. Dighavkar will now head the E ward that covers Byculla. Dighavkar is also the in-charge of planning where he initiated projects across the city with the help of funds from the district planning committee, which was under the then suburban guardian minister Aaditya Thackeray. Apart from Dighavkar, Prashant Sapkal, assistant

commissioner of K-east ward, has been transferred to G-north ward and Manish Valanju, the assistant commissioner of E ward, has been sent to K-east ward. Sena's blue-eyed boy Dighavkar was posted in M-east ward before being moved to the A ward that has civic jurisdiction over Colaba and Fort. He was transferred to G-north in 2019. Last year, the then CM Uddhav Thackeray released Dighavkar's book The Dharavi Model.

Heavy rain forecast till Friday; 5 NDRF teams deployed

Mumbaikars can expect a very rainy week ahead as the signs were already there on Monday evening. Heavy downpour was witnessed in several areas as low-lying clouds ended up dumping a lot of rain in the



city for a few hours in the evening. Five NDRF teams have been deployed in the city in view of the heavy rain forecast. The IMD in its five-day forecast said heavy to very heavy rain is likely in Mumbai and Thane.

State Cabinet expansion soon: Fadnavis

After the Eknath Shinde-led Maharashtra government won the trust vote in the Assembly, Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said the State Cabinet expansion will be done

soon. Speaking to reporters at the Nagpur airport on July 5, Mr. Fadnavis expressed his determination towards the development of the State's Vidarbha region. "The Cabinet expansion will be done soon," Mr. Fadnavis said.



Nation

Confusion, chaos in Karnataka Congress as leaders battle for CM post



As Karnataka gets ready for the Assembly elections next year, Congress which is hoping to return to power is in a tough spot as the party is facing factionalism with many leaders wanting to be projected as the party's chief ministerial candidate leaving the workers confused.

A senior Congress leader from Karnataka on Tuesday said

that the party needs to adopt a "damage control" ideology to succeed in the upcoming Assembly election. "It is clear in the Karnataka Congress that many faces want to be the 'CM Candidate'.

The two factions in the Karnataka Congress are confusing their own party workers," he added.

"It's not only former CM

Siddaramaiah who lead the Congress government for a complete five years term in Karnataka or DK Shivakumar who's leading Congress in Karnataka after being appointed as president of Pradesh Congress Committee after returning from Tihar Jail, but there are also many seniors on the list," he added.

Though Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar have clarified several times that they are together and there is no confusion.

However, MLAs like Zameer Ahmed Khan and K Raghavendra Hitnal and many others have backed Siddaramaiah as the party's CM candidate. Shivakumar had earlier said, "The party is more important than a person."

- ANI

Vastu expert Chandrashekhar Guruji stabbed to death in Karnataka's Hubballi

Saral Vastu expert Chandrashekhar Angadi popularly known as Chandrashekhar Guruji was stabbed to death by two unidentified people at a hotel in Hubballi on Tuesday morning.

According to Police, Chandrashekhar Guruji was staying at the hotel in Hubballi for

the last four days. On Tuesday two people came to the hotel to meet him and called him to the lobby. Soon after Chandrashekhar Guruji reached the lobby, the assailants stabbed him multiple times and ran away. He was rushed to the KIMS Hospital where he was declared dead.

"Some people called him to

the lobby area of the hotel where he was staying. One person wished him and then suddenly started stabbing him. Due to multiple injuries, by the time he was shifted to the hospital, he was dead. We have registered a case and are searching for the accused," said Police Commissioner Labhu Ram.

Priyanka slams BJP over attacks on Dalits, tribals



Alleging that atrocities on Dalits and tribals have gone up in BJP-ruled states, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Tuesday asked why the ruling party remains "silent" on horrific attacks against them.

She cited instances of a tribal woman being set on fire in Guna district of Madhya Pradesh over a property dispute and a Dalit youth killed in Lucknow district's

Maal area allegedly after an explosion under the cot. A Dalit youth was blown up in Uttar Pradesh and a tribal woman was set ablaze in Madhya Pradesh, Gandhi said in a tweet in Hindi.

"Why has the BJP, which is using the names of Dalits-Adivasis for elections, keep silent about these horrific incidents of attacks on Dalits-Adivasis," the Congress general secretary asked.

- ANI

Ex-Haryana CM OP Chautala moves Delhi HC challenging conviction, sentencing by trial court

Former Haryana Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala has moved to the Delhi High Court challenging the order of a trial court which sent him to four years of imprisonment in a disproportionate assets (DA) case. Advocate Harsh Sharma on Tuesday confirmed that the appeal has been moved to the High Court challenging a trial court order of conviction and order of sentence against Chautala.

On May 27, 2022, the Rouse Avenue Court of Delhi ordered four years of imprisonment to Chautala. The Court had also ordered to confiscate four properties of him and also imposed a fine of Rs 50 lakh.

While passing the order, CBI Judge Vikas Dhull had also ordered to send Chautala in the custody of Tihar Jail. During the argument, Chautala physically appeared and remained present in the courtroom.

Appearing for Chautala, Advocate Harsh Sharma cited medical grounds for less punishment and submitted that "I, (OP Chautala), have been infected with polio since birth and I am partially disabled." CBI's Special Public Prosecutor Ajay Gupta had opposed the submissions of Chautala's lawyer for a grant of concession



on the grounds of ill-health and age.

CBI had urged the court that "maximum punishment shall be given as it would send a message to the society." "The person, in this case, is a public figure and giving minimum punishment would send a wrong message. He is not having clean antecedents. It is the second case, in which he has been convicted," CBI said.

Special Judge (PC Act) Vikas Dhull on May 21, convicted Chautala and said the accused had failed to satisfactorily account for such disproportionality by proving his source of income or means by way of which, he acquired assets during this period.

"Hence, accused Om Prakash Chautala is convicted for the offence under Section 13(1)(e) read with 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. Put up May 26, 2022 at 10.00 AM for arguments on the point of sentence," said the court.

- ANI

Eight More Sri Lankans Reach Rameswaram, Tally Crosses 100



Eight Sri Lankan nationals including an 18-month-old baby arrived at Rameswaram on Tuesday amid the worst economic crisis in the island nation. With the migration of eight other Sri Lankans, the total number of migrants from the island nation crossed the 100-mark.

According to a report on Hindu, the eight members who reached Rameswaram belonged

to three different families in Jaffna. They had paid Rs 5 lakh to a fiber boat operator for reaching Tamil Nadu coasts.

Upon their arrival, the Coastal Security Group police took them into custody. The eight members were identified as Kamalarani, Selvaraja, Vijayakanth, lynkaren, Nilani, Sasikala, Lavendern and Kathir.

Talking about the ordeal, Sasikala

said, the common man was put to suffer due to the unavailability of food, medicine and other essential items. She said that a kg of rice cost Rs 400 and they were given only 2 liters of kerosene per family after a six-day wait.

People owning boats could not even go fishing due to low fuel stock. Even government hospitals do not have essential drugs, she said.

On the journey to Rameswaram, she said that they were taken to an unidentified island in Sri Lanka and from there they were made to trek through the thorny jungle and then take the boat.

Meanwhile, an elderly woman from Sri Lanka who was found unconscious in Rameswaram died at Government Rajaji Hospital in Madurai on July 2.

Opinion



Institutions Need to Take to Improve Student Success

The steps that institutions need to enhance student success are not a secret. The broad access campuses that have moved the needle on retention and graduation rates have advanced along similar paths. Here are the eight pillars of student success.

1. Enhanced onboarding

The advice you received as a child is correct: First impressions are lasting impressions. How first-time and transfer students are introduced to a campus has a lasting impact on their subsequent success. Successful institutions introduce students to a dedicated advisor. They inform students about campus services and opportunities. They emphasize the institution's commitment to providing students with the support and services they need to succeed. And they offer pre-enrollment bridge programs and boot camps to ensure that students succeed in their first-year classes.

2. A robust first-year experience

If students are to succeed, they need to get off to a positive start. Meta Majors – an integrated first-year experience built around clusters of classes with a common focus – offer new students a supportive community, close relationships with instructors and classmates, dedicated advisors, and a host of engaging high impact experiences. The strongest Meta Majors provide training in time management and study skills and help students explore possible majors and careers.

3. Data-informed proactive advising

A campus' use of data need not be overly complex. Early alerts notify advisors when students are in trouble, prompted, for example, by low scores on early assignments, or enrollment in an unusually small number of courses. The students can be nudged to take advantage of learning centers, tutoring, study groups, and supplemental instruction.

4. Early exposure to career planning

Most students come to college to enter a fulfilling career. Institutions need to provide students, early in their college experience, with relevant labor market data, including job sectors that are growing, starting salaries, high demand skills, and educational requirements for particular jobs. Schools also need to inform students about the career opportunities associated with each major and introduce them to alumni who graduated with particular majors. In addition, schools might offer skills workshops to help students develop high demand skills and provide pre-professional advising and activities to better prepare them for advanced education or the job market.

5. Expanded access to experiential learning activities

There is no doubt that the best way to build students' credentials or to help them make an informed choice about a future career is to increase their opportunities to take part in experiential learning opportunities. Internships, mentored research, practicums and field-based learning experiences, service learning, and study abroad all help students clarify their educational and career goals and build their skills.

6. Enhanced student support services

Most students drop out not for academic reasons, but because of life challenges. To help students meet these challenges, successful campuses offer emergency financial aid and assistance with housing, transportation, food, and childcare.

7. Fostering a success-oriented mindset and sense of belonging

Students who drop out often feel unwelcome on campus and incapable of meeting a campus' academic expectations. In contrast, successful students have a sense of connection to faculty,

classmates, and advisors, and a positive mindset about their ability to achieve their goals. There are simple steps that successful institutions take. They encourage students to take part in campus activities and to join student interest groups. These schools foster stronger student-faculty ties, often by instituting "take your professor to lunch" programs or integrating co-curricular activities (like visits to a museum or a performance) into courses.

8. Removing institutional obstacles to success

Excessively complicated and seemingly irrelevant degree requirements, roadblock courses, and unavailable or inconvenient classes can serve as serious hurdles to student success. Majors with steep barriers to entry can demoralize students. So, too, can a refusal to accept credits from feeder institutions. Sometimes, these obstacles make sense on pedagogical grounds. But when they don't, change needs to take place. The most successful institutions have expanded course availability, often through online courses. They have simplified degree requirements and taken steps to address curricular roadblocks. They have created a campus culture geared toward success, both academic and career success.

To be sure, we must not minimize other factors that can promote or hinder student success. The classroom experience is, of course, especially important. Students who succeed feel that their classes are relevant and engaging and that their professors genuinely care about their learning and their success. Active learning is valuable not only because it can contribute significantly to improved skills development and better command of the material, but because it engages students in their own learning.



- Vijay GarG

Former Principal Malout Punjab

Column

Would Speaker, ECI and SCI destroy party system by allowing advantage of wrong (Constitutionally impermissible defection)

The Legislative Assembly of Maharashtra elected Rahul Narvekar as its Speaker with the support of 39 Shiv Sena MLAs who voted against the whip issued by Shiv Sena whip, Sunil Prabhu to 55 Shiv Sena MLAs as reported at

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/maharashtra-assembly-speaker-election-voting-july-3-2022-101656827663350.html> . In

order to avoid disqualification the Chief Minister Eknath Shinde had only one option left with him namely to merge his rebel block of 39 MLAs of Shiv Sena with some political party of Maharashtra Assembly which he didn't avail of and instead is insisting that he represents / leads the genuine & original political party Shiv Sena hence his whip is to be accepted / recognized.

Anyone can read the anti-defection laws as mentioned in the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution of India (the relevant part as given below) where a clear distinction has been made between 'Legislative Party' on one side and 'original political party' / 'Political Party' on the other side:-

1. Interpretation.—In this Schedule, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(b) "legislature party", in relation to a member of a House belonging to any political party in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 or paragraph 4, means the group consisting of all the members of that House for the time being belonging to that political party in accordance with the said provisions;

(c) "original political party", in relation to a member of a House, means the political party to which he belongs for



the purposes of subparagraph (1) of paragraph 2;

2. Disqualification on ground of defection.—

(1) Subject to the provisions of 3 [paragraphs 4 and 5], a member of a House belonging to any political party shall be disqualified for being a member of the House

(a) if he has voluntarily given up his membership of such political party; or

(b) if he votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by the political party to which he belongs or by any person or authority authorized by it in this behalf

Explanation.—For the purposes of this subparagraph,— (a) an elected member of a House shall be deemed to belong to the political party, if any, by which he was set up as a candidate for election as such member]"

3. Disqualification on ground of defection not to apply in case of merger.—

(1) A member of a House shall not be disqualified under subparagraph (1) of paragraph 2 where his original political party merges with another political party and he claims that he and any other members of his original political party—

(a) have become members of such other political party or, as the case may be, of a new political party formed by such merger; or

(b) have not accepted the merger and opted to function as a separate group, and from the time of such merger, such other political party or new political party or group, as the case may be, shall be deemed to be the political party to which he belongs for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 2 and to be his original political party for the purposes of this subparagraph.

(2) For the purposes of subparagraph (1) of this paragraph, the merger of the original political party of a member of a House shall be deemed to have taken place if, and only if, not less than two-thirds of the members of the legislature party concerned have agreed to such merger]" .

As per this Tenth Schedule of the Constitution Shinde is the leader of the 'Legislative Party' of Shiv Sena whereas Uddhav Thackeray remains the leader of political party / original political party (which issues Form A&B to the candidates for election for Parliament. Legislative Assemblies etc) . Hence the whip appointed by Uddhav

Thackeray is relevant as far as anti-defection laws are concerned.

Shinde faction of Shiv Sena didn't avail of the remedy of merger before vote in assembly for electing the Speaker hence as per Tenth Schedule of the Constitution these 39 MLAs of Shiv Sena stand disqualified. Whether their votes are counted in Speaker's election of July 3 or in confidence motion of July 4 is a matter to be decided by Speaker, Election Commission of India (ECI) and the Supreme Court of India (SCI) who will be called upon to decide whether these 39 MLAs should be allowed to take advantage of their wrong (the defection, impermissible as per the Constitution).

The matter pending in the SCI (next date July 11) about disqualification of 14 MLAs of Shiv Sena is regarding 2 (1) (a) which reads as -"[a member of a House belonging to any political party shall be disqualified for being a member of the House (a) if he has voluntarily given up his membership of such political party]" which will be difficult for Uddhav Thackeray to prove in the SCI. But the matter of 39 MLAs voting against the whip of Shiv Sena in the speaker's election or during confidence vote (for

Shinde's government) is regarding 2 (1) (b) which reads as "[a member of a House belonging to any political party shall be disqualified for being a member of the House (b) if he votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by the political party to which he belongs or by any person or authority authorized by it in this behalf]" which will be very easy with documentary proves (of whip) by Uddhav Thackeray with the Speaker, ECI and SCI.

"[Here it is pertinent to add that presently Uddhav Thackeray is the Head of political a party Shiv Sena but in the proceeding at the ECI it will matter a lot if the bearing of Shiv Sainiks and their officer bearers from rest of India is raised either by Uddhav Thackeray as mentioned at <https://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/exclusive-reports-details/222> or by Eknath Shinde as mentioned at <https://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/opinion-details/4031>

Whatever may be the outcome of the fight between Thackeray and Shinde factions of Shiv Sena but one thing is clear that (after voting by 39 rebel MLAs of Shiv Sena on July 3 during election for Speaker against the whip of Shiv Sena), the incumbent office of the Speaker (Rahul Narvekar) and of the Chief Minister (Eknath Shinde) of Maharashtra are against the letter and the spirit of the Tenth schedule of the Constitution of India.



- Hemraj Jain

Author of 'Betrayal of Americanism'

Gossip

Kartik Aaryan takes his team for one-week Europe vacation



Kartik Aaryan is currently riding high on the super success of his latest film, *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2*. Post the film's success, the actor has planned a quick getaway with his entire team to Europe. As a treat for all their hard work and efforts, Kartik is taking his team on a one-week-long vacation. The team includes the managers, stylists, his spot boy, and security who have all been with him for years now.

Suniel Shetty to play 'Thalaiva' in debut series 'Dharavi Bank'

Bollywood actor Suniel Shetty is all set to mark his OTT debut with MX Player's upcoming web series 'Dharavi Bank'. The realistic crime thriller series also has Vivek Oberoi and Sonali Kulkarni in prominent roles. Taking to Instagram, the 'Hera Pheri' actor unveiled the first look of his character from the series, which he captioned, "A new avatar, a new medium, a new journey...Presenting the first look of #Thalaiva, from #DharaviBank, my first step into the world of OTTs".

In the picture, the veteran actor shared a monochromatic and coloured, intense close-up look of his character with a heavy beard. Vivek, on the other hand, sharing the first look characters on his Instagram, wrote, "Ready, set, adventure time! Here's the first look from

#DharaviBank coming on @mxplayer soon! Are you ready to be a part of this journey with me and @suniel.shetty"



Actress Aindrita Ray missing from Judaa Hoke Bhi Promotions What's Brewing?

KSera Sera and Vikram Bhatt's Virtual World production *Judaa Hoke Bhi* is all set for a July 15 release, but the promotions of the film are currently missing out on one big thing – the actress herself! But there's no stary tantrum here. The South Star is undergoing a terrible personal crisis.

It is learnt that Aindrita's husband, Diganth who's also a huge Kannada star went through a terrible car accident recently and the dotting wife, is tending to him making sure he's alright. Talking about missing out from action back in Mumbai for the promotions of *Judaa Hoke Bhi*, Aindrita says, "I feel a bit disheartened that I couldn't be there to physically promote *Judaa Hoke Bhi*. But sometimes circumstances are

Taapsee Pannu sizzles in thigh-high slit dress

Actor Taapsee Pannu, on Tuesday, dropped her new look from the promotions of her upcoming sports biopic film 'Shabaash Mithu'. The 'Thappad' actor took to her Instagram, and shared a string of pictures, which she captioned, "For the #WomenInBlue #ShabaashMithu" The 'Saand Ki Aankh' actor donned a full-sleeve mini thigh-high slit blue bodycon dress with a white corset overlay, asymmetrical hemline and plunging neckline. She accessorized her look with bling hoop earrings and nude heels.

In the first picture, the 'Badla' actor struck a hot pose, standing behind glass, looking down at the ground, she can be seen flaunting her legs, while she takes the support of the wall to stand.

In another picture, she posed inside a washroom, sitting on the bathtub, while flaunting her left leg tattoo the actor gives a side look to the camera.

The 'Judwaa 2' actor in the third picture stands inside the bathroom with crossed legs and her hand behind her back, looking straight into the camera.



not in our hands. I really can't wait for the day the film opens for the audience though. We've all put in so much hard work to make this."

This happens to be Aindrita's debut in Bollywood and for her there couldn't have been a better start than with Bhatt camp. "I was extremely excited to work with the Bhatt camp. I remember the first day being extremely challenging for both Akshay (Oberoi) and I. We started with a very tough scene, there was a lot of emotion and anger. Mahesh Bhatt Sir was also on set and while he was explaining how he wanted the scene to play out, we had Vikram Sir who was very particular too. We motored through our scenes and delivered to expectations. Overall, it was such an enriching experience!" says Aindrita.

Judaa Hoke Bhi happens to

be India's first virtual film and shooting for this was nothing less than an experience for Aindrita. "It was my first time working in a virtual format and though it required a lot of patience, it was very satisfactory in the end. Vikram Sir is an extremely fun loving person so he was the perfect antidote to all the difficult scenes we had to shoot. He kept the atmosphere on the sets so light that we all had a great time shooting for the film," says Ray.

While the trailer of the film is garnering traction, even the music is making room in the heart of music lovers. "Music is surely the highlight of the *Judaa Hoke Bhi*," says Aindrita while adding, "Vikram Sir has great taste in music and each and every song is literally music to ears!"

- PR Agency