

ILLEGAL HOARDINGS AND BANNERS ACROSS STATE IS AN ALARMING SITUATION - BOMBAY HC

Dr. Vaidehi Taman

@VaidehiTaman

The Bombay High Court Thursday questioned the state government why it cannot adopt a policy to ensure political leaders do not put photographs of their faces on illegal hoardings. The bench reiterated it wanted to see the report on non-compliance of court orders regarding illegal hoardings and banners being put up across the state by political parties. The court questioned the state after its counsel submitted that there were difficulties in monitoring illegal hoardings and the government was trying to find alternative ways instead of a complete ban on hoardings or banners, including specific regularised

We are only using paid spots for hoardings. Also we use alternative ways for promotions like social media or media campaign. We recently also use cards to promote it reduce the cost and do not harm anyone. It is illegal and not fair practice to do such practice. BMC should take actions but BMC is also from BJP. After Eknath Shinde and Devendra Fadnavis become CM and DY CM there any many poster of them. It should not happen.”

- **Dhananjay Shinde** (AAP Leader)

Raj Thakare already are against for hoarding because it is destroying Mumbai beauty. But still everyone is putting the hoardings illegally. Everyone should put the hoardings in designated place with legal permission.”

- **Bala Nandgaonkar** (MNS Leader)

If high court pass to remove all the illegal hording but no one is follows we have seen birthday, Eid and Diwali poster.”

- **Waris Pathan** (Spokesperson of AIMIM)

We should question all the person who is doing this illegally. Everyone should take permission before putting any permission.”

- **Bhai Jagtap** (Congress Mumbai President)

Supreme Court already given the same order and high court is saying same but no one is following. Since our democracy all the party are publishing through this only. “

- **Privanka Chaturvedi** (Shiv Sena MP)

zones for putting them up to curb the menace.

The bench reiterated that it wanted to see the report on non-compliance of court orders regarding illegal hoardings and banners being put up across the state by political parties. Terming it an “alarming situation”, the bench on June 16 had asked the Maharashtra government to give an independent report within six weeks on steps taken against non-compliance of orders on illegal banners, hoardings, posters, arches and advertisements. The court had also asked the state government, civic bodies and petitioners to suggest what deterrent actions can be taken and directions

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Ranjitsinh Disale is in controversy

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Disale is an Indian teacher from Maharashtra who has been acknowledged for his outstanding contribution towards education but locals have objected to his status. He is the winner of the \$1 million annual Global Teacher Prize 2020 which was announced on 3 December 2020. The Global Teacher Prize, which has been referred to by journalists as the Nobel Prize for teaching, highlights and celebrates the profession while giving greater recognition to the work of teachers all over the world. Disale said in his winning speech that he would share with his nine fellow finalists half of the prize money, meaning they would receive \$55,000 each. He also works with the World Bank as Advisor for their educational programs.

Disale is well known for his innovative teaching works, including

demonstrating scientific experiments from the science lab built by him and adding QR codes to primary category books so that his students can get links to audio poems, video lectures, assignments and stories. His idea of incorporating QR codes into textbooks was adopted by the National Council of Educational Research and Training. In his village, he also campaigned to eliminate adolescent marriages and encourage the education of girls.

Disale guruji resigned chance to recover salary to get suspension from solapur zilla parishad school Published 24 hours ago on July 14, 2022. Disale was frustrated and his resignation had lot of repercussions. The case was mentioned in the investigation report that the assistant teacher

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Editoritis

Illegal hoardings and banners across state is an alarming situation -Bombay HC

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passed against members of political parties erecting such structures such that it will “nip the menace of illegal hoardings in its bud”.

A division bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice Makarand S Karnik has been hearing pleas, including a contempt plea initiated by the High Court on its own, claiming non-compliance of its 2017 orders to pull down illegal hoardings and that political parties are flouting the order every day and defacing public places. On Thursday, Additional Government Pleader Bhupesh V Samant for the state sought more time to file a reply, after which the bench sought to know if there was any improvement or positive changes after the last order and how the government proposed to deal with the issue. Samant responded that instead of totally forbidding hoardings, the government can regularise them only in specific areas similar to parking zones.

“Why do not you adopt a policy decision that political leaders do not have to show their faces on banners?” CJ Datta orally remarked. Samant responded that all those who put up hoardings are not from the government or political class and some of them may think that their freedom of speech is being suppressed in a democratic setup.

The court jibed, “Where is the question of right? Is it a right for people to have their faces shown on banners/hoardings? They will not be putting it up without the encouragement of leaders. Let at least one leader say we don’t want these hoardings. How can you allow it? Do you mean to say the government is not ready for effective implementation?”

Ranjitsinh Disale is in controversy

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Ranjitsinh Disley who works at a school in Paritewadi (Ta Madha) of Solapur Zilla Parishad has been continuously absent for three years from 2017 to 2020. Even after 34 months of absence, the salary was taken by deceiving the government.

The Solapur district administration has gotten serious and is going to demand repayment of the full amount. The documents necessary for the leave have not been delivered. In January 2022, Ranjitsinh Disley is going to come to Solapur Zilla Parishad to do her PhD and has requested 6 months leave for that. The then Minister of Education, Varsha Gaikwad, took notice and approved the leave request. But the district administration had requested to submit all doctoral documents for the vacation.

Head of Education Kiran Lohar informed that Global Prize Laureate Ranjitsinh Disley has not submitted any proof of PhD admission so far. Ranjitsinh Disley received the American Fulbright Scholarship. In this regard, not a single solid proof has been given to the education department of Solapur district administration. Disley did not give details to the education department about receiving the global award.

Disley Guruji was appointed Assistant Professor at Solapur Zilla Parishad in 2008. His first post was at Paritewadi. In 2017, he was delegated to DIET at Jamapur in Malshiras. The period of deputation was from 2017 to 2020. However, at that time, he was not appearing in Diet Institute, Gharapur. After receiving an international award in 2020, he was again appointed to Paritewadi. A pupil of Kadam Vasti in Paritewadi used to come to school here. But since no teacher came to this school, the citizens of Kadam Vasti often complained that there was no teacher at the school.

Resigned, but action is inevitable, Disley will receive 34 months salary from Guruji. Disley Guruji, who was appointed to the Zilla Parishad school at Paritewadi in Madha taluka, has once again come under discussion due to his resignation. Global award winning teacher Ranjit Singh Disley has recently given a pre-resignation notice. Education Officer Kiran Lohar has prepared a report after inquiring about Disley Guruji. According to the report, Ranjit Singh Disley gave his resignation notice on July 7 before taking action. His resignation will be approved on August 8 and he will be fired. However, the district administration will take action against Disley Guruji. He has

been absent from work for almost 34 months. All these salaries will be recovered by the Solapur district administration. District Primary Education Officer Kiran Lohar informed about this.

Zilla Parishad’s Primary Education Officer Kiran Lohar informed that the salary raised during this period will be recovered as he was absent for 34 months while on deputation to DIET. What did Ranjit Singh Disley, a sub-teacher working in Solapur Zilla Parishad, do between 2017 and 2020? This has been thoroughly investigated. A file has been created in this regard. The inquiry report has been submitted to the Zilla Parishad CEOs in confidence.

Global teacher Ranjit Singh Disley was awarded a scholarship by the Full Bright Institute of America to do his PhD. Accordingly, in August p. Disley Guruji was going to America to do HD. He had come to the Zilla Parishad in January to seek permission. Chief Executive Officer Dilip Swamy had advised him to meet Education Officer Kiran Lohar. At that time, the education officer Lohar had stated the rules for sanctioning leave.

Apply for leave to the Group Education Officer, from where he will come to me, without going directly to Zilla Parishad Chief Executive Dilip Swamy or coming to me, it is not a rule, he said. It was also said that the university in which the PhD will be done, submit all the information permitted by the American University to do the PhD, then the leave application will be approved. The group education officer was advised to apply for leave with all the documents.

The news that Ranjit Singh Disley was denied leave by the education department had created a stir in the state. The then Education Minister Varsha Gaikwad had ordered the Zilla Parishad administration to grant immediate leave to Disley Guruji. Disley had made serious allegations against his superiors in front of the media. Taking note of this, Zilla Parishad Chief Executive Officer Dilip Swamy had ordered an inquiry.

Doubts were raised about the degree obtained by Disley Guruji after the leave case and the work done while on deputation to the district training institute for the next three years. The then education officer Sanjay Rathore had earlier prepared an inquiry report. After inquiring about it, the present Education Officer Kiran Lohar prepared a report and submitted it to the Zilla Parishad CEO. Giving notice of resignation before taking action will not stop the action; he informed that the government will recover all the salary given to them.

editornbc@gmail.com vaidehitaman vaidehitaman

Vaidehi

Volume No. 13 | Issue No. 280

Afternoon
VOICE

RNI No. MAHENG/2009/29332

VIEWS & VISION OF CITY

Flat no. 2, J- Wing Ground floor, Sumer Nagar Building 3, SV Road, Near Gandhi Motors, Borivali - West, Mumbai - 400 092.

Editor
Dr. Vaidehi

Vaidehi has received several Awards like Icongo-karmavir chakra, Bedal Powell scout and guide awards 2021- best journalist, Newspaper Association of India award- best journalist. She received lot of awards for her contribution towards journalism.

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Email- afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com • SMS -9820199881

For any queries regarding the editorial desk, contact - 7506760610

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Voices



Letter's to the Editor

Extend duration

Central government decision, of giving free Covid-19 booster doses for adults in government hospitals from July 15 seems a welcome move. But the duration of only 75 days seems malapropos by the Ministry of Health, as adulthood is very numerous across the country compared to children and the elderly, the limited duration may create crowds in hospitals and may lead to havoc since the booster doses are free of cost on the occasion of Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

- Vijaykumar H. K.

Whose pits?

The potholes on the roads in Mumbai can be the subject of research all over the world. In the rainy season, these potholes cause undue inconvenience to Mumbaikars. However, the Mumbai Municipal Corporation conveniently ignores them. It is a great tragedy that the Mumbai Municipal Corporation should not be given simple and good roads. Officials are eating millions of crores of malida. But how will anyone know this? Because the fence is eating away at the farm. Therefore, today's bad condition of an international class city like Mumbai is due to this mentality. So unless this mentality changes, no one should dream of making Mumbai Shanghai. They can't do anything. Even the people's representatives have to bear the brunt of the commissioner. This should be the first municipal corporation to make the citizens complain about the potholes on the road. Don't they want to investigate? How can they impose their own work on the citizens? So why should the corporation pay these officers? Who will be responsible for the pits in Mumbai? Who will be responsible for the loss of life and property due to these pits? Many questions like these need to be asked by ordinary Mumbaikars to the Mumbai Municipal Corporation.

- Uday Waghvankar

Condemnable

The BJP expelled its leaders Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar Jindal over their hateful remarks against Prophet Muhammed (pbuh). The decision came after their ignorant and blasphemous remarks upset the Gulf countries and triggered communal tension in several parts of India. Political leaders need to think twice before spewing hate against any community. It is their responsibility to ensure that their words are not hurting the religious sentiments of people.

- Jubel D'Cruz

'No credit card recovery agents can harrass you or your distant relatives'(editoritis)

It gives very important information to all the people regarding recovery from the bank of loan or credit card bills. Generally people are under pressure for the loan they have taken or their credit card installments are due, so even a simple phonecall makes them tingly. Knowing this psyche of defaulters recovery agents give trouble to them. All the people need to know that none bank can torture them physically or mentally for recovery, if they do one can make vomplaint. But it is always better to be paying all installments within timelimit and if you have some difficulty ,approach the bank and be frank about your problems which will make you free of guilt of not paying installments.

- Maya Hemant Bhatkar

Govts decision to offer free Covid Booster Shots for 75 Days is noteworthy. Vaccinating an population of over 1.3 billion people can be an herculean task & India's Vax programme was the best in the world which is the reason why COVID could be contained successfully on our shores. Full marks to the govt that covid is not being taken lightly & we are now concentrating on the booster dose which should help to keep the virus infection in check even for the future. People had become relaxed after the mandatory 2 doses & the booster shot was being neglected & felt unnecessary. The govt too had lakhs of accumulated doses which could have expired & the move to give covid booster shots free of cost for the coming 75 days one feels was an masterstroke. Doses of COVID can be exhausted faster instead of being wasted & at the same time it will benefit people as vaccines do protect people from the virus.

- S.N.Kabra

AIR TURBULENCE AND A SNAG ON FLIGHT

Spicejet failed to establish safe, efficient and air services and that was evident when a number of flights returned to the base after observing a technical snag in the air. Fall in standard due to poor internal safety oversight and failure to carry out aircraft maintenance.

Moreover, failure to pay vendors on time led to a shortage of spares according to Financial assessment 2021. In implicit warning, the DGCA says airlines to operate commercial flights valid till May 2023.

A review of recent incidents shows airlines either forced to turnback aircraft on many occasions, or continue flight with degraded safety margins. Again, mass casual leave applied by the pilots looking for greener pastures in Air India paralysed regular services and upset passenger movement in a fixed time and as per the schedule. It upset the travel programmes for the business people and other emergency cases.

The leniency shown to any

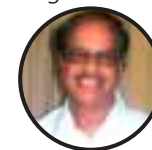


surface vehicle operators for a minor snag or any other deficiency should be altogether different when the authorities deal with the Airways carrying both goods and passengers. The universal regulation is that 100 % airworthiness of the aircraft is to be doubly ascertained and rest assured by one and all, right upto the captain before it leaves the marshaling point to the taxi track and there is absolutely no compromise on such safety measures.

A bonafide passenger boards the plane only under the impression that the flight is

fully airworthy to take the passenger to the intended destination and they are in safe hands. From what's happening in the recent past with the Spice Jet it is indeed quite unfortunate and despicable and every passenger is bound to feel that his precious life is at stake.

Therefore there can be no leniency shown either by DGCA or the ministry towards the flight operators who it may! The authorities should seriously think about the precious lives of the passengers twice over before just admonishing them or fining them to pay an amount of money. It is a matter of disgrace for the paid travellers.



C. K. Subramaniam

Writer and Columnist

Readers are requested to mail Letters to the Editor only at

afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com

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(The views expressed are authors' own.)

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**Shinde govt says on renaming Aurangabad
“The name of Sambhajinagar is already there”**

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Friday said the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government's decision to rename Aurangabad city when it had been reduced to a minority was illegal, and it will be ratified again in the next cabinet meeting.

The Uddhav Thackeray-led MVA government announced the renaming of Aurangabad in central Maharashtra as 'Sambhajinagar' — after Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's elder son Chhatrapati Sambhaji — in its last cabinet meeting on June 29, hours before Thackeray resigned.

Shinde was sworn in as chief minister with the BJP's support the next day, having split the Thackeray-led Shiv Sena.

“The MVA government took the decision to rename Aurangabad as Sambhajinagar in its last cabinet meeting when it had been reduced to a minority government. Holding a cabinet meeting (in such a situation) was illegal,” the chief minister claimed at an event



here.

Sena founder Bal Thackeray had announced that Aurangabad — which derives its name from Mughal emperor Aurangzeb — will be renamed as Sambhajinagar several decades ago, Shinde said. “The name Sambhajinagar is already there, we will ratify it in the next cabinet meeting,” he said, adding that this will make the decision legally safe.

He also said that he rebelled against the Shiv Sena leadership to save the party and its workers. “We got nothing politically despite having our chief minister in the three-party dispensation.

We finished fourth in nagar panchayat elections,” said

Shinde, who was a senior minister in the Sena-NCP-Congress government headed by Thackeray. People of the state accepted his decision to rebel as it was in the party's interests, Shinde claimed. Meanwhile, Sena leader from Aurangabad and former MP Chandrakant Khaire, who has stayed loyal to Thackeray, warned that party workers would launch an agitation if the name of the city was not changed within a month.

The Shinde-led government stayed the renaming which was an insult to Chhatrapati Sambhaji, he said, speaking to PTI. “Why the BJP didn't carry out renaming when it was in power from 2014-19? The BJP-led central government did not even pass the proposal to name the Aurangabad airport (for Chhatrapati Sambhaji),” he said, demanding that the airport too be named within a month. Aurangabad district Shiv Sena chief Ambadas Danve too said that the “staying” of the decision to rename the city was “unacceptable.”

- ANI

Shiv Sena party is not expecting Murmu to visit 'Matoshree' in return while supporting as candidate

The Shiv Sena which has declared support for the National Democratic Alliance's presidential candidate Droupadi Murmu did not expect her to visit Uddhav Thackeray's residence 'Matoshree' here, the party said on Thursday.

Murmu arrived in Mumbai on Thursday evening to meet the MPs and MLAs of the BJP as well as MLAs of the rebel Shiv Sena faction led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

Though Sena chief Thackeray too has declared support for her, she was not slated to meet him. Sena MP Vinayak Raut had said earlier in the day that party MPs and MLAs (from Thackeray's faction) would not be attending a meeting that Murmu was to address.

Asked about this, MP and Thackeray's confidante Sanjay Raut said the party's support of Murmu was not political. “We did not extend our support to her for visiting Matoshree. This is not political support, but it reflects our sentiments towards tribal communities,” he said.



In the past, the Shiv Sena had supported Pratibha Patil and Pranab Mukherjee in the 2007 and 2012 presidential elections even though it was part of the BJP-led NDA then, Raut said. Patil and Mukherjee, both Congress leaders, had visited Matoshree, he said, adding that this time the party broke ranks again (with allies Congress and NCP).

As for the first time a tribal woman leader was set to occupy the highest office in the country, many Sena legislators who have tribal roots or work in tribal areas felt that the party should back Murmu, Raut added. The Opposition has fielded Yashwant Sinha against Murmu for the July 18 election.

- ANI

HC grants bail to 72-year-old alleged Naxal operative accused in 2019 Gadchiroli blast case

The Bombay High Court on Friday granted bail to Sathyanarayana Rani, a 72-year-old alleged Naxal operative, who is accused in the 2019 Gadchiroli blast case.

Fifteen security personnel of the Quick Response Team (QRT) and one civilian were killed in an explosion on May 1, 2019 in Gadchiroli in Maharashtra's Vidarbha region.

A division bench of Justices Revati Mohite Dere and V G



Bisht granted bail to Sathyanarayana. A detailed order with reasons and conditions imposed would be made available later.

Sathyanarayana is currently lodged in the Arthur Road prison in Mumbai. His late wife Niramala Uppuganti was also named as an accused in the case. The duo was arrested in 2019. Uppuganti died of cancer in April this year.

- ANI

Jhanvi Kukreja murder: “Can't be released as circumstances point to his guilt, says HC”

A new year brings a chance to create dreams and is like a chapter waiting to be written, but the new year of 2021 landed a young man into a quagmire, the Bombay High Court noted while refusing bail to Shree Jogdhankar, an accused in the murder of Jhanvi Kukreja, who was found dead in a building in Khar on New Year's Eve last year.

A single bench of Justice Bharati Dangre had on July 7 rejected Jogdhankar's bail plea. A copy of the detailed order assigning reasons was made

available on Friday.

The court in its order said that the circumstances relied upon by the prosecution connects Jogdhankar (23) with the crime and that they “prima facie point to his guilt”.

Kukreja (19) was found dead in the staircase of a residential building in suburban Khar on January 1, 2021. Her friends Jogdhankar and Diya Padalkar were later arrested by the police.

“A new year brings a chance to create dreams; A new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written.

However, the new year of 2021 landed the applicant – Shree Jogdhankar, a young boy of 21 years, into a quagmire,” Justice Dangre said.

“He (Jogdhankar) is accused of murdering his close friend Jhanvi and in this act, it is alleged that he was assisted by another of his close friend Diya,” the judge added.

The court order noted that the three youngsters (Kukreja, Jogdhankar and Padalkar) were to usher the new year with a big bang celebration with their friends.

- ANI

NCP slams CM Shinde over clearances given to Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project

The NCP on Friday criticised Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde over the clearances given to the Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet train project, saying he should focus more on issues concerning the state.

Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis on Thursday said that Shinde had given all

the clearances to expedite the project, which the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi government, of the Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress, had put on the back burner.

The NCP's chief spokesperson Mahesh Tapase said, “The illegal government of Eknath Shinde has expeditiously given clearances to the bullet train project”.



Thane district, which Shinde represents, is the most urbanised district in the state, with the largest number of municipal corporations, he said.

“Shinde should focus more on issues concerning the state and Thane district to resolve the urban problems it faces, instead of bowing before neighbouring Gujarat,” Tapase alleged.

The estimated cost of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project is Rs 1,10,000 crore, of which Rs 88,000 crore are being funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Over 70 per cent land required in Maharashtra for the project has been acquired in Thane and Palghar districts.

- PTI

Nation

Alt news co-founder Zubair has been granted bail by the Delhi court says

“dissent necessary for healthy democracy”

Delhi's Patiala House Court on Friday while granting bail to Alt News co-founder Mohammed Zubair in a case related to an allegedly objectionable tweet, observed that “the voice of dissent is necessary for a healthy democracy.

Therefore, merely for criticism of any political parties, it is not justified to invoke section 153A and 295A of IPC”. Additional Sessions Judge Devender Kumar Jangla said, “Democracy is a government by the people via open discussion.

Democracy can neither work nor prosper unless people go out to share their views. Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India gives freedom of speech and expression to its citizen. Undoubtedly free speech is the proper foundation of a democratic society.

A free exchange of ideas, dissemination of information without restraint, dissemination



of knowledge, airing of differing viewpoints, debating and forming one's own views and expressing them, are the basic indicator of a free society, the judge said. This freedom alone makes it possible for people to formulate their own views and opinions on a proper basis and to exercise their social, economic and political rights in a free society in an informed manner.

The court noted that the present case relates to the tweet of an image along with

two words “Before 2014” and “After 2014”. It is stated by Delhi Police counsel for the state that the image tagged with a tweet has hurt the sentiments of the Hindu community and is sufficient to incite feelings of hatred among people which is punishable under Sections 153A and 295A Indian Penal Code(IPC).

It also noted the Special Additional Public Prosecutor for the state has also pointed out that the word “Before 2014” and “After 2014” is pointing toward the ruling political party to show the state of affairs in a prejudicial manner.

The Hindu religion is one of the oldest religions and most tolerant. The followers of the Hindu religion are also tolerant. Hindu religion is so tolerant its followers proudly name their institution/organization/facilities in the name of their Holy God or Goddess.

- ANI

Man from MP threatened for supporting Nupur Sharma



A man in Madhya Pradesh's Sehore was threatened for allegedly supporting Nupur Sharma who kicked off a controversy after her remarks against Prophet Muhammad. The police have booked five people after receiving the complaint in the matter. Home Minister Narottam Mishra said that the accused persons have

been arrested and directed the police to step up security around the area.

“Nobody will be allowed to disrupt peace in the state. I had directed the SP to take cognizance of the threats being received by a man who shared a post on social media in support of Nupur Sharma in Sehore. The people who threatened have been arrested after the registration of the case. Dial 100 point has been set up near the house of the complainant. Patrolling is also being done,” Mishra said. Five accused have been under sections 294, 506, and 34 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

- ANI

Kerala HC grants bail to actor Sreejith in POCSO case

The Kerala High Court on Friday granted bail to Malayalam actor Sreejith Ravi in a POCSO case against him for alleged indecent conduct towards two minor girls in public.

The bail was granted on the basis of the argument that he is being treated for a personality disorder.

The alleged incident took place on July 4 and Ravi was arrested by the Thrissur West

police on July 7.

According to the police, the actor was sitting in his car and when the two minors (aged 11 and 5) came, he got out and allegedly exhibited his genitals.

The incident took place in the Thrissur district of Kerala. Earlier, the Thrissur Additional Sessions Court had dismissed his bail plea, after which he had approached the Kerala High Court.

- PTI

Monsoon session: KCR speaks to Opposition leaders

Ahead of the commencement of the Parliament's Monsoon Session, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao has stepped up his efforts to up the ante against the ruling BJP and spoke to several Opposition leaders on Friday.

According to the sources, KCR has spoken to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin, and others like RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, NCP chief Sharad Pawar. “A few Opposition leaders

responded positively to CM KCR's stand against the Centre,” said the sources. The Monsoon Session of the Parliament is

slated to commence on July 18. Meanwhile, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has called a meeting of floor leaders of parties in the House on Saturday ahead of the Monsoon session of Parliament beginning July 18. The meeting will discuss ways for smooth functioning of the monsoon session and maximise productivity. Opposition parties are likely to talk about the issues they intend to raise in the House.

Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Trinamool Congress' Sudip Bandyopadhyay, YSRCP's Midhun Reddy, DMK's TR Baalu, NCP's Supriya Sule, AIMIM's Asaduddin Owaisi and Apna Dal leader Anupriya Patel are among leaders who would attend the meeting.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, and MOS Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal are among the leaders likely to represent the government in the meeting. The monsoon session holds significance as the election of the President and Vice President will take place during the session. The Presidential election is scheduled for July 18 and the counting of votes will take place on July 21. The Vice Presidential election is slated for August 6 and the results will be declared on the same day. The Monsoon session will conclude on August 12.

- ANI

India provides disaster relief materials to flood-affected families in Nepal



India provided disaster relief materials to Nepal in view of the onset of monsoon on July 15 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Nepali Home Minister Balkrishna Khand and Indian Ambassador to Nepal Naveen Srivastava were present during the event. The relief materials were provided to flood-affected families.

- ANI

Nadda to meet former Nepali PM under 'Know BJP' campaign

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) national president JP Nadda will hold a meeting with former Nepali Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' in the national capital on Sunday under the 'Know BJP' campaign. The meeting will take place at the party headquarters in the national capital on Saturday in which many senior leaders of the

party will also be present. Notably, the former Nepali PM is on a three-day visit to India. BJP's foreign affairs department in charge Vijay Chauthaiwale said it is an “important” meeting. “This meeting is important and will be under the 'Know BJP' campaign. This is for the first time that the BJP has given an invitation to Nepali Communist Party.” According to the sources,

Prachanda will also meet External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.

The “Know BJP” campaign was started on the party's 42nd Foundation Day on April 6, 2022. Its second phase was held on 16 May 2022 while the third meeting was held on June 4 2022. “Know BJP” campaign is the BJP's initiative to introduce the party's

vision, mission and work culture to different countries of the world. Under this program, Nadda has so far interacted with Nepal Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba, Minister for Foreign Relations of Singapore Vivian Balakrishnan and also envoys of 47 countries. Nadda has so far held talks with diplomats/heads of missions of 47 countries including the European Union. Earlier last month, Nadda

had met the Communist Party of Vietnam Nguyen Van Nen at the BJP Head Office in the national capital. On June 11, Nadda met the envoys of 13 foreign countries and said that is a need for better communication between the political systems and political parties of different countries to understand the vision of each other.

- ANI

Opinion

Draupadi Murmu will Enhance the Decorum of Presidentship

By declaring Draupadi Murmu as its candidate for the country's fifteenth presidential election, the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance has raised the value of the tribal community, especially by bringing tribal life into the mainstream. This decision shows the political acumen and maturity of the BJP. She is a tribal daughter who will be the first tribal to reach the highest constitutional post and the second woman President of the Republic of India, which will give new strength to the democracy of India, along with the world. India is also changing rapidly. A new political vision, a new political environment is taking shape in the all-pervading turmoil, in this era, with Draupadi Murmu becoming the President, not only the dignity of this highest constitutional post will get a new record, but the national existence and identity will also be strengthened. Because her image has been that of a knowledgeable and soft-spoken politician of settled democratic traditions.

It is expected that her presence as the constitutional head of the country will reassure every Indian, especially tribal women, for their peaceful and safe life. Only the tribal can feel the pain of the tribal - that is, the pain of the reality that has been experienced. In my view, it is not surprising if Draupadi Murmu emerges as the biggest female heroine to raise the voice of the tribal and the oppressed in today's world. Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had sent a Muslim APJ Abdul Kalam to Rashtrapati Bhavan and now Narendra Modi first made a Dalit Ramnath Kovind the President and now Draupadi Murmu, a Scheduled Tribe, is being elevated to the highest post of the executive, which is certainly a healthy, ideal and aware democracy & as a sign of auspiciousness.

The credit for the presentation of Draupadi Murmu as a brilliant and historic presidential candidate goes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP

President J.P. Nadda's strategy. Murmu's nomination is only sharpening the edge of lower class politics on which BJP has been working hard for a long time. The neglect of the tribal community across the country has been in the news since independence; Modi has been active since the beginning for the interest and welfare of the tribal's, affecting about 11 percent of the total electorate and about 25 percent of the total voter turnout.

Particularly, the BJP, comprising Narendra Modi, Amit Shah and J.P.Nadda, is giving special attention to the tribal community so that it can bring itself out of the limited identity of the urban party. When the names of presidential candidates were being discussed, I was hoping to get some names from the tribal community itself. Murmu was on top of them. Certainly, having a tribal woman in Rashtrapati Bhavan will enhance the image of BJP among the tribal community, whose direct impact can be seen in states like West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Gujarat.

Narendra Modi has not only stunned and surprised the nation but has been doing miracles with his decisions; the same has been done by announcing the name of Draupadi Murmu. Because many targets have been hit with this one arrow. The BJP has been struggling hard in these states due to the presence of very powerful regional parties like Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress in West Bengal, BJD in Odisha and Jharkhand Mukti Morcha in Jharkhand. Whereas in all these three states the dominance of Congress is negligible. In such a situation, by sending Draupadi Murmu to Rashtrapati Bhavan, BJP will not only be able to ease its fight, but will also be successful in making its place in these states. The elections in Gujarat are in front, there is also a tribal community in abundance, the effect of this decision will be seen there as well. On the other hand, for the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh, its fight against the conversion of a



large number of tribal's on behalf of Christian missionaries may also become easier now.

BJP has been showing efficient and mature politics in these years. Their leadership, showing strategic acumen, made a tribal-Dalit-backward uprising over the years by making a person from a caste-backward background the Prime Minister, a person from a Dalit background as the President and now a tribal woman as the presidential candidate. The meaning has changed. It has been given the name of social harmony, after a tribal politician becomes the President, there will be justice for the tribal and backward class, it is believed. It is wrong to say that the President in India is only an office of symbolic importance.

Coming from a Dalit background, President K.R. Narayanan took a tough stand on the communal violence in Gujarat in 2002, forcing the then state government to change its stand on some matters, while President Giani Zail Singh, who came from a backward background, took many of the intoxicated Rajiv Gandhi government. The issues were sweated. Ramnath Kovind also strengthened the democracy of the country with his decisions taken from time to time. There is every possibility that Draupadi Murmu will be elected as the President and after taking oath

of this office, she will also display the same determination and make her tenure memorable for the country, which is free from terror, free from scams and free from communalism. In which Dalit, Adivasi and backward classes should get an equal and fair lifestyle of living.

Being a candidate from a simple family to the highest office of the country is a testimony to the glory of Indian democracy. Nothing can be better than being Draupadi Murmu's candidate as President and marching towards being elected is an inspiration to crores of people with similar backgrounds. This will not only give more strength to Indian democracy, but will also increase its fame. There is no doubt that Draupadi Murmu has been an ordinary politician, but India has a history that ordinary people have done 'extraordinary' things.

Draupadi Murmu was born on 20 June 1958 in Baidposi village of Mayurbhanj district of Odisha. His father's name is Biranchi Narayan Tudu. They belong to the tribal ethnic group, the Santhals. She graduated from Rama Devi Women's College. After this Draupadi started the job from the state secretariat of Odisha. She is married to Shyam Charan Murmu. In 1997, she became a local councilor for the first time by winning the election of Nagar Panchayat for the first time. Three years later, she got a chance to become an MLA from the same constituency of Rairangpur, first in 2000, and then twice as a minister in the BJP-BJD government. In 2015, she was made the first woman governor of Jharkhand. Former President V.V. Giri was also born in Odisha, but he was originally from Andhra Pradesh.

Murmu's life witnessed many crises and struggles, which shows her vitality. Apart from being a widow in her youth, she didn't feel any mental breakage even with the death of two sons. During this, she continued to encourage the entire family including her only daughter Itishree. Her eyes

moistened when she was being administered oath as the Governor of Jharkhand. She is an ideal and courageous woman of religious rites. They have a special influence on Indian culture and rituals. Two days before the announcement of the name of her presidential candidate, she went to my son Gaurav Garg's in-laws' house in Rairangpur, and while feeding the cows, asked the operators there to pray for me. Perhaps she had some hope and possibility that her name might be announced. Gaumata heard the call of her heart.

Today, the fire of communal hatred is being deliberately fuelled in the country. All kinds of crises are being created, it is a great irony of democracy that heads are counted here, not brains. Our democracy is suffering because of this, it has been suffering. More heads are coming, not the brain. There are more masks of caste, religion and class, less faces of humanity. By deceitful use of intelligence, they create a maze of equations, from which Abhimanyu did not learn to get out. In fact, the people who drive democracy need such training so that a new definition of democracy can be rewritten.

This vision made Draupadi Murmu's role not only important but decisive as well. Therefore, by placing this burden on Draupadi Murmu, the country wants to be sure that the rule of the constitution is from Arunachal Pradesh to the President. It will run uninterrupted till Bengal and the country's borders will be completely safe because the President is the supreme commander of the armies. This will be the first time in the history of India that the dignity of the office will be increased by placing a powerful tribal woman as the President.



- Lalit Garg

Writer, Journalist, Columnist

Tech

Thousands of users back on Twitter following outage



Twitter was hit by a significant outage that lasted for around 40 minutes worldwide on Thursday evening. Many users reported seeing "over capacity" and "this page is unavailable" error messages. Some users are still facing this glitch on the micro-blogging site. However, Twitter support took to their official Twitter handle and stated that they are trying to fix the problem in the interim. They wrote, "Some of you are having issues accessing Twitter and we're working to get it back up and running for everyone. Thanks for sticking with us."

According to Reuters, the outage affected nearly 2,000 users as of 9 am ET, down from the peak of 50,000 incidents an hour earlier. Reuters further mentioned that this data is available on the outage tracking website Downtetector.com. Notably, the incident comes shortly after Twitter requested a Delaware court to force Tesla CEO Elon Musk to complete the purchase of the firm and sued Musk for breaching his agreement to buy the company.

Twitter had suffered another widespread outage in February that it blamed on a software glitch. In the previous year, other social media firms have also experienced outages, with Meta Platforms' WhatsApp, Instagram, and Messenger being unavailable to billions of users for about six hours in October.

- ANI

Apple iPad with OLED screen reportedly set to release in 2024

It is believed that Apple is working on an iPad with OLED screens. The device is expected to launch in 2024, and a recent report suggests that the company has started production of the final prototypes. Furthermore, the report also suggests that the company will be adding the drenching process for the first time to the production of iPads.

In this method, chemical gas is used to remove the unwanted parts and it makes sure that the OLED panels are lighter and thinner; however, it might increase the pricing of the rumoured iPad, reports



Mashable. The Cupertino-based tech giant didn't use the dry etching process to make iPhone models; However, the OLED screen on iPhones is lighter than LCD screens. In addition, the iPhone OLED screens are expected to be supplied by LG and Samsung.

- ANI

Netflix to team up with Microsoft for ad-tier membership

American subscription streaming service and production company Netflix, which has been losing customers lately, to counter the trend is set to launch an even cheaper, ad-supported tier for their membership. According to GSM Arena, this development is confirmed as the streaming platform has revealed Microsoft will be its "global advertising technology and sales partner." In a press release, Greg Peters, COO, and CPO at Netflix revealed that "Microsoft has the proven ability to support all the advertising needs" while working on an ad-supported

offering. Microsoft also offered "the flexibility to innovate over time on both the technology and sales side".

Mikhail Parakhin, President of Web Experiences at Microsoft added that all advertisements on Netflix will be available exclusively through the company's platform. Marketers looking to Microsoft for their advertising needs will have access to the Netflix audience and premium connected TV inventory", continued the statement. As per GSM Arena, both companies revealed the partnership is still in its early days and there's a lot of work to



be done. Both Netflix and Microsoft assured that they are "excited to work together" as they bring the new service to life, but did not reveal any particular timeline.

-ANI

Microsoft now testing new UI changes for Windows 11 taskbar

American tech giant Microsoft has started experimenting with new UI changes to the Windows 11 taskbar, bringing back the familiar search bar from Windows 10, alongside notification badges for the Widgets section in Windows 11. The operating system currently ships with a search button on the taskbar, which can be disabled and only shows the search logo. Microsoft is now testing three different search taskbar visual changes, according to The Verge. One experiment is the usual search icon, while two others include a small or large

Microsoft is looking for feedback on the changes before they're rolled out more broadly, and the tests are part of Microsoft's new experimental

Windows 11 features, which does mean they might not ship, reported The Verge. After bringing back the Weather widget to the taskbar in Windows 11 recently, Microsoft is now testing adding notification badges.

The notifications are designed for content like breaking news and look similar to the badges you'd find in the Action Center on the right-hand side of the taskbar. Apart from that, Windows Insiders in the Dev Channel will also be able to start testing a new Camera app for Windows 11. The design has been updated to match Windows 11, and it now includes QR and barcode scanning support, as per The Verge. (ANI)search bar in the taskbar.

- ANI

New GDDR6 DRAM for GPUs introduced by Samsung

South Korean tech conglomerate Samsung Electronics has revealed that it has started sampling the industry's first 16-gigabit Graphics Double Data Rate 6 DRAM with 24 Gbps processing speeds. According to GSM Arena, it is built on the 10 nm EUV process technology and is expected to boost the performance of laptop and console GPUs. The new DRAM chip will offer universal compatibility so it can have broad market adoption among graphics unit manufacturers. Engineers at Suwon, Samsung HQ, developed an innovative circuit design and a highly advanced insulating material called High-K Metal Gate or HKMG to minimize data leakage. This means the GDDR6 DRAM will provide 30 per cent higher speeds than the predecessor.

The company's new GDDR6 lineup will also offer some low-power options for extended battery life on laptops. It utilizes dynamic voltage switching technology that adapts to the performance requirements. The company will launch versions with 20 Gbps and 16 Gbps processing speeds running at 1.1V instead of the 1.35V industry standard. As per GSM Arena, the company is currently sampling the new platform, meaning it is still being verified in real-life scenarios so it can hit the market in line with GPU platform launches.

- ANI

Realme Pad X set to launch in India soon

The Realme Pad X, which launched in China in May, will soon debut in India as the event page for the tablet has been released on the company's Indian website. As per GSM Arena, the Pad X is sold in three colours in China, with blue being one of them, which is confirmed for the Indian market. Realme will also sell the stylus in India, but it is unclear if it will come bundled with the tablet or will be sold separately. Chances are it will be the latter. Realme has also launched the keyboard



accessory for the Pad X in China, but the company has yet to tease it in India. We expect the Chinese brand to bring this

to its biggest market.

Assuming the Indian model is the same as the one available in China, it will come with the

Snapdragon 695 SoC, 11-inch screen, and an 8,340 mAh battery with 33W charging, as per GSM Arena. For photography, there will be a 13 megapixels rear camera and an 8 megapixels front camera. The Pad X in China runs Realme UI 3.0 and has two storage options: 4G/64GB and 6GB/128GB. It also features a microSD card slot for storage expansion up to 512GB and quad-speaker packages with support for Dolby Atmos and Hi-Res Audio.

- ANI

Entertainment

'Gargi' is a gripping courtroom drama that exposes social ills

Director Gautham Ramachandran's 'Gargi' is a fantastic courtroom drama that shines the light on several important issues plaguing society today, including the often sidelined topic of child sexual abuse and the humiliation that the families of those accused of heinous crimes like rape have to undergo in the society.

A reasonably good understanding of the working of the judicial system in India seems to have enabled director Gautham Ramachandran to come up with a refreshingly fresh script that makes several pertinent points on a number of topics ranging from rape, and child sexual abuse to transgender rights.

Gargi (Sai Pallavi) is a middle-class woman working in a school, who lives with her aged parents and younger sister. With her wedding on the verge of getting fixed, Gargi is concerned about dowry demands being made by the bridegroom's side.

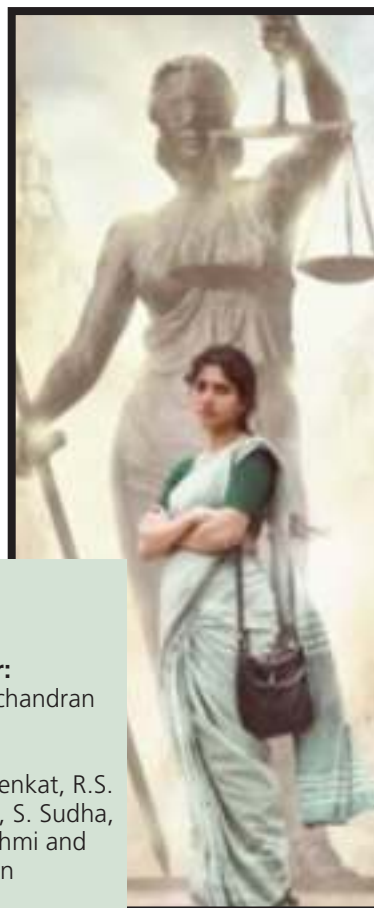
Nevertheless, she is in a happy frame of mind until one-day news breaks out that the cops have arrested a fifth person in a sensational case pertaining to the gang rape of

a girl child. Initially, Gargi pays little or no attention to the news but when her dad doesn't return home that night and she gets to know that he, along with other employees at an apartment complex, has been taken in for questioning by the cops in connection with the gang-rape case, her heart skips a beat.

It doesn't take long for her to be informed that her dad, a watchman at the victim's

apartment complex, is accused of being the fifth rapist.

Gargi begins her fight to prove that her dad is innocent. The odds are stacked against her and adding fuel to fire are media persons, who are constantly on the lookout for breaking news. She has no support other than a junior lawyer called Indrans (Kaali Venkat), who works



Film:
Gargi

Director:
Gautham Ramachandran

Cast:
Sai Pallavi, Kaali Venkat, R.S. Shivaji, Saravanan, S. Sudha, Aishwarya Lekshmi and Livingston

Rating:
★★★★

part-time in a medical shop to make ends meet.

Together, they embark on the

mission of proving Gargi's dad's innocence. Do they manage to prove his innocence? The film gives you the answer...

The film has three powerful performers vying with one another to take the top honours and that invariably lifts the film's class to another level.

Sai Pallavi, who essays the titular role of Gargi, Kaali Venkat, playing her stammering lawyer, and S Sudha, who appears as a transgender judge, are all exceptionally brilliant in the film.

Kaali Venkat as lawyer Indrans, in particular, is simply outstanding. Indrans's character is just admirable. As a man who has never been in the limelight, he is filled with fear at the prospective outcome of taking up a high-profile case like that of Gargi's dad.

But then, he also has the good sense to override his fears and in fact takes on not just his senior, but the entire bar association, to do what he thinks is right. In short, Kaali as Indrans delivers a thumping performance, stammering his way into the hearts of the audience.

Sudha, who plays the judge, is all class from the moment she appears on the screen. She doesn't ask for respect, her

behaviour commands it. The authority with which she delivers her dialogues makes her character stand out.

Sai Pallavi delivers yet another stunning performance in this film.

As a caring daughter, as a dutiful sister, as a woman who will not desert a loved one who is in trouble, and finally as a responsible citizen who is concerned about truth triumphing, Sai Pallavi scores on all counts.

Gautham scores not only because of the story and the hard-hitting dialogues of the film but also because of the visually powerful scenes that strongly communicate the message he is looking to convey.

Take for instance a scene in which Gargi is shown cleaning dung cakes hurled at her home's compound wall. The scene subtly conveys the message that she has managed to wash away some of the dirt that was hurled at the family.

The climax of the film, strangely though, appears forced and reduces the intensity of the story by a considerable margin. Other than that, the film makes for a gripping watch.

'My Dear Bhootham': Prabhu Deva shines in this fantasy tale for children

Director N. Ragavan, who made the highly enjoyable 'Manja Pai', returns this time with a fantasy film for kids. Not only is the film enjoyable, it also has a couple of significant points to make.

'My Dear Bhootham' begins with the story of Karkimuki (Prabhu Deva), the king of spirits who rules the spirit world in a just and fair manner.

The spirits are happy and satisfied with Karkimuki's just rule, but the king himself has an unfulfilled wish. He longs for a child. After a point, his prayers are answered and he is blessed with a son who loves him unconditionally.

Karkimuki is overjoyed and spends time playing with his son. One day, he takes his son to another world to play and it so happens that the son disturbs the penance of a seer who has been meditating for thousands of years.

The seer, angry that the

effort of thousands of years had gone waste, is about to curse the boy when Karkimuki pleads on his son's behalf for the seer's forgiveness.

When the seer is unwilling to forgive, Karkimuki pleads that he be cursed instead of his son. The seer agrees and curses Karkimuki to turn into a statue and be buried in the earth for thousands of years.

The only way Karkimuki can return to the spirit realm and meet his son again is when the person who finds the toy on earth and sets him free, also finds the secret chant hidden in the toy and utters it within a time period of 48 days. Otherwise, he will perish for good.

It is under these circumstances that the toy is found by a young boy called Thirunavukkarasar (Master Ashwanth).

Thirunavukkarasar, the son of a single parent, has a stammering problem and is hated by schoolmates and



Film:
My Dear Bhootham

Director:
N. Ragavan

Cast:
Prabhu Deva, Master Aswanth, Ramya Nambeesan, Samyuktha, Suresh Menon, Imman Annachi and Param Gukanesh

Rating:
★★★★

loathed by teachers. What happens when Karkimuki enters Thirunavukkarasar's life is what the film is all about.

The film gets off to a crisp start with Karkimuki's story being narrated through animation. However, when the focus shifts to Thirunavukkarasar's life, the story begins to lose steam a little.

But it soon picks up pace with the entry of Karkimuki

into Thirunavukkarasar's life. By the time the second half begins, the film has you interested. From that point on to right till the end, the film has your undivided attention.

The credit for keeping the film engaging must go to two people. One, the director for narrating a good, interesting story with a number of valuable takeaways for kids and two, to actor Prabhu Deva, who does a great job as the king of spirits.

Prabhu Deva's antics and his dance moves perfectly fit the role and comes up with a sterling performance to steal the limelight. Young Ashwanth impresses with his brilliant depiction of a child with a stammering problem.

Imman's background score and Senthil Kumar's visuals are added pluses for the film.

Full marks to director Ragavan for making a clean, neat, enjoyable fantasy entertainer that parents can enjoy with their kids.