



Afternoon

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ALL IS NOT WELL IN SHINDE CAMP?

Rebel MLAs may return to Uddhav Thackeray, Shiv Sena hopes for Cabinet Expansion

Afternoon Voice Bureau
afternoon_voice

The Shiv Sena led by Uddhav Thackeray is still hopeful that everything is going to be well. They feel that after the upcoming cabinet expansion of the Eknath Shinde government, the rebel MLAs who miss the ministerial post will come back to Thackeray. Shiv Sena has 40 MLAs in Shinde camp and around 10 MLAs from other smaller parties and independents. Many of these MLAs are hopeful that they will find a place in the cabinet of Eknath Shinde and Devendra

Fadnavis. In the meantime, high-profile Shiv Sena rebel Abdul Sattar is the first MLA beneficiary of the new government led by Eknath Shinde. As per an order uploaded on the state government's website, the state on July 13 has sanctioned Rs 15.17 crores for Sillod-based National Cooperative Spinning Mill promoted by Sattar and led by his son Samir. The funds will be considered the state's share capital for the Rs 80 crore project. Sattar has set up the cooperative spinning mill and his son Samir is leading the unit. He said it will help with development in the Aurangabad area. The Uddhav Thackeray-led

Shiv Sena has sacked former minister Vijay Shivtare for "anti-party activities". The sacking of Shivtare, who had represented the Purandar constituency in the Pune district, was announced in the Sena mouthpiece 'Saamana'. Talking to reporters in Pune after his expulsion, Shivtare said the faction led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde is the "real" Shiv Sena. "No one in Shiv Sena was happy over the decision to join hands with Congress in 2019 (after polls when Maha Vikas Aghadi was formed). The party upholding Balasaheb Thackeray's

Hindutva was the real Shiv Sena," said Shivtare, who had served as a minister in the erstwhile Devendra Fadnavis-led government (2014-19). He cited the example of the Kolhapur north assembly bypoll held earlier this year to claim that Shiv Sena's voter base was affected as the Congress candidate won by defeating the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) by a margin of over 18,000 votes. The Congress candidate was fielded by the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) of which the Sena is the main constituent. In that bypoll, the Congress candidate bagged 96,000 votes, 5,000 more than the votes polled in the 2019

Assembly elections. In 2019, Congress had polled 91,000 votes while Shiv Sena had about 45,000. Shivtare blamed Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut for "pushing" the party towards the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP). "A simple arithmetic is that when two regional parties come together, one of them will suffer. Raut doesn't seem to know even this basic math of votes. It is not known whether his (Raut's) loyalty is for Pawar or Thackeray," he said. Shivtare also said he would welcome the reunion in the event of the factions led by Shinde and Thackeray coming together.

If Aurangabad becomes Sambhaji Nagar, will the fate of the common man change?

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Before stepping out of the government, then the Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray had officially changed the name of Aurangabad to Sambhaji Nagar in honour of Maratha King Chhatrapati Sambhaji Shivaji Maharaj who was tortured to death in the cruellest way by Mughal Muslim ruler Aurangzeb, the son of Shah Jahan and the brother of Dara Shikov. Several centuries ago, the city had been named Aurangabad after Mughal emperor Aurangzeb, whose mortal remains are buried in the city. Aurangabad was renamed (before that city was called Fatehpur & before that Kharki) and developed into a key city of the Mughal Empire by Aurangzeb. On other hand, Shiv Sena chief Bal Thackeray had started referring the city as Sambhajnagar since 1988 - and all party men followed suit.

The Sena-BJP alliance has been ruling the AMC since 1988. A resolution to rename this historic city Aurangabad as Sambhajnagar was approved twice by the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) in 1995 & 2011. But this had to be sanctioned by the state and central governments before it was implemented. And that was not happening either when NDA or UPA was in power. Appeasement was one of the great concerns and moreover name changing of the city and places was not much in fashion as it is now. That's why the city still is known as Aurangabad. This is because when Shivsena was looking for their political expansion outside Mumbai in

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Editoritis

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the 1980s, they found Aurangabad as the most fertile ground for their political agenda. So during the public rally in 1988, late Balasaheb Thackerji first time pronounced the name of the city as 'Sambhaji Nagar' and from that time onward it became Shiv Sena's agenda to rename the city. Obviously, INC, NCP and MIM were opposing it since it doesn't suit their ideology. And in all these years, Shiv Sena or BJP never bothered to change the name of the city by showing political will.

Since municipal elections are ahead, BJP wants to show that Shiv Sena has given up on Hindutva. INC, NCP want to show how secular they are and BJP want to grab the AMC with majority. Nobody is talking about development which the city badly needs. In all this political dominance they have lost sight for public welfare and name changing has become their priority. These days everything is ransacked including the democracy in the name of pseudo Hindutva.

The Eknath Shinde-Devendra Fadnavis-led government in Maharashtra gave a cabinet approval to rename Aurangabad and Osmanabad cities as Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar and Dharashiv respectively. The cabinet also approved the decision to name the proposed Navi Mumbai International Airport as 'Loknete DB Patil Navi Mumbai Airport.' The

decision to rename these cities was taken in the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government's last cabinet meeting chaired by the then chief minister Uddhav Thackeray on June 29, just before he resigned.

However, Shinde said that their move was meant to prevent any legal challenges to the decision as the Thackeray regime was in a minority when the decision was taken. The decision was taken when the government was in a minority. Whether changing the name really matters or not depends on the society, geography and most importantly on the history of a particular region.

In the case of Aurangabad, I feel that giving the name of Sambhaji Maharaj to Aurangabad is kind of insulting this great Maratha king. Aurangzeb was greatest enemy and brutal murderer of Sambhaji Maharaj. In his childhood, Sambhaji Maharaj had to work as Mansabdar at Aurangabad, where Aurangzeb planned to kill him but couldn't execute as Shivaji Maharaj timely got the information about this sinister plan and thus could rescue him. This certainly shows that Shambhaji Maharaj did not have good memories about Aurangabad. I strongly feel that if Sambhaji Maharaj was alive today, he would have felt very angry and outraged if somebody had proposed his name to this city. Just imagine that if you have some bad memories

about a certain place which you have left long back and suddenly someone forces you to associate your name with that place; how would one feel?

Culture of naming the cities comes from the Sultanate/Mughal culture. (Rajputs, who under influence of Mughals, named their cities by their kings) In that era, kings were always presented as larger than life figures. The boot lickers of the Mughal king, to make him happy or if the king considered himself as someone great, cities were named after them. By calling Aurangabad as Sambhaji Nagar, then Sivsena and now BJP is behaving like Mughals because it's more of an ego battle.

Aurangabad is capital of Marathwada region and major tourist and industrial destination. If name change is required, the new name must reflect the culture, history and contribution of Marathwada to Maharashtra. Marathwada has a history of more than 2000 years old. It's not just a political history, its history of Marathi language and culture. Two great Marathi empires, Satavahans and Yadavas had their capital in current Aurangabad district (Paithan town and Devagiri fort). Satavahans were the 1st kings who used Marathi as their court language. 1st Marathi emperor Shalivahan Gautamiputra Satkarni ruled from the current Paithan town. The Second Maratha Empire was Yadavas of Devagiri. In the Yadava era, Marathi language and culture was at its zenith.

Volumes of Marathi literature were written in this period. Maharashtra saw the 1st social reformist movement in this era when saints from all the castes brought people from all castes together under the Varkari sect. The foundation laid in this era helped Maharashtra to fight against Islamic invaders for next 700 years. The majestic Devgiri fort lies just on the outskirts of Aurangabad still standing tall and with all its glory. Now the main question, will it really matter to the government?

By engaging the city in Aurangabad versus Sambhaji Nagar politics, politicians are purposefully putting hurdles in the development of the city. If this issue is kept burning automatically investment will decrease followed by unemployment. This will obviously create social unrest which could be beneficial for the political motives ahead.

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Voices

Letter's to the
Editor**The writing was on the wall & Kohli's omission does not come as a surprise!**

The writing was on the wall & Kohli's omission from the team to West Indies does not come as a surprise. He will in all probability not be a part of Team India for the T-20 World Cup in Australia later this year & Kohli should retire from shorter version of the game & concentrate on Test Matches. Kohli is extremely talented but a series of low scores meant selectors were left with no option but to drop him. You need your men in form to play against the best in a world cup tournament & we need to give the younger players more opportunities in T-20 games which not just require talent & form but physical agility as well.

It is a boon in disguise for Kohli as well as he can now concentrate on Test Match cricket to get back to form as a game of 5 days gives more opportunities for mental balance & regaining lost touch. We have certainly not heard the last about Kohli's great achievements & he will surely come up with more milestones in future!

- S.N.Kabra

India specific waiver

The US House of Representatives approved legislation that recommends an India-specific waiver under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA), thus deepening defence ties between both the democracies and help deter aggressors such as China. The House approved the measure, offered by Democratic Representative Congressman Ro Khanna, an Indian-American Congressman and a member of the House Armed Services Act, as an amendment to the annual National Defense Authorisation Act (NDAA) by 330 to 99. It emphasized that the United States should take additional steps to encourage India to accelerate its transition off Russian-built weapons and defense systems while strongly supporting India's immediate defense needs. This amendment is of the utmost importance, and we are benefited to see it pass the House on a bipartisan basis.

- C.K. Ramanathan

Gavaskar, the best School Cricketer

The one and only Gavaskar, the best school cricketer at the age of 17 years, who spent his 16 year career as opening batsman in the Indian Cricket Team. He was mostly known as Gavaskar in the International cricket arena and by his nickname sunny. He was the first Indian Cricketer who had scored double centuries against the West Indies, the team considered as the greatest team of cricket ruling the cricket world with their bunch of first bowlers like Malcom Marshall. He always remained focused in media coverage, though Vivian Richards was the then ruling West Indian batsman. Played 125 test matches scoring 10,122 runs with an average of 51.12 and in one day cricket 108 matches scoring 3092 runs with an average of 35.14.

He was named as one of the Wisdon Cricketers in 1980. Gavaskar was a technically sound batsman in his career but was rebuked for his bad patches that every cricketer has to suffer. He was captain, think tank and skipper of the Indian Cricket team for eight years and most of the test matches were drawn due to his defensive strategies. Remarkable win in test series was 2-0 win against Pakistan in counterpart country, under his captaincy nine wins and eight losses were the record for ever. Gavaskar was a safe hand slip fielder. He was the first cricketer who have reached the milestone of 10,000 runs in test cricket., clinched highest number of 34 test centuries, scored highest run as debutant and most runs against West Indies(774), the only cricketer to score centuries with 18 different players, first Indian cricketer who holds the record of 100 catches in Test Cricket, was also the first cricketer to play 100 test matches.

Gavaskar appeared in Marathi and Hindi films as an Actor also. The Hindi film Malamaal was with Naseruddin and Satish Shah, also given lip in a Marathi song.

He received Padma Bhushan award, sworn in as Bombay Sheriff, has instituted as co-honour of Border-Gavaskar Trophy. Gavaskar has launched his lifetime memory book, 'Sunny Days.'

Now Gavaskar is enjoying the role of commentary in his third innings. This Great cricketer and resource person has a great sense of humour birthday gone on 10th July aged 73 years.

- Rathin Kumar Chanda

Let's thank the emojis to save us from typing a lengthy text



World Emoji Day has been celebrated on July 17 every year since 2014. In the digital age, using emoji makes us more effective communicators. Teenagers and young adults worldwide are enamoured by the 'emoji' phenomenon. An emoji is a small image or icon which is used electronically, usually depicting emotions or common objects.

Those iconic little Japanese images are more popular than ever before. Emoji originated from smiley, which first evolved into emoticons, followed by emoji and stickers in recent years. Smiley first appeared in the 1960s and is regarded as the first expression symbols. Smiley is a yellow face with two dots for eyes and a wide grin which is printed on buttons, brooches, and t-shirts.

Emoji are used more and more frequently in network communication, and the way they are used is becoming more and more diversified as well.

Today, over 90 percent of the world's 3.5 billion internet users use emojis, and it is not limited to millennials and younger users. They not only have unique semantic and emotional features, but are also closely related to

marketing, law, health care and many other areas. All emoji are made with Unicode, but they all look different on different platforms, from Apple and Android to Facebook and Twitter.

Emoji has been adopted the world over meaning you can communicate with the same icons to someone on the other side of the planet. Sending little photos can make communication across languages much easier. A smiley face provides a quick shortcut to expressing a universal emotion. Facebook recently improved the Like button by providing new emotions such as Happiness, Laughter, Anger, Sadness, and Love. Emojis are meant to be fun, light-hearted, and convey a broad range of emotions efficiently and in a way that words sometimes cannot.

According to oft-cited data from digital communications startup Swyft Media, the world's approximately two billion smartphone users send out six billion of the symbols each day. In 2015, the Oxford Dictionaries even named the "face with tears of joy" icon its Word of the Year.

Emojis were originally invented with the intention to keep up with the pace of

technology by conveying messages with a flick. Today, they can be seen as a means of expression, in our day to day life as well as many advertising and social media campaigns. Besides, the use of emoji is associated with psychological differences. Some researchers in the field of psychology have also focused on emoji usage to search for the relationship between user's behavior and personality traits.

The adoption of emojis by social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp have led to them becoming what they are today. Emojis are essential to communicate emotion, something that words cannot portray.

There is no doubt that the role of an emoji is central to what drives effective communication and inducing an empathetic response.

**- Vinod C Dixit**

Writer and Columnist

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No postal letters will be entertained

(The views expressed are authors' own.)

City

Two killed in accident as truck hits motorcycle on Mumbai-Nashik highway

Two friends riding a motorcycle were killed after a speeding truck hit their two-wheeler on the Mumbai-Nashik highway in Maharashtra, police said on Sunday. The accident took place around 8.30 pm on Saturday near the Kharigaon toll bridge in Thane district.

The two persons on the motorcycle were heading towards Govandi in neighbouring Mumbai when the truck hit their vehicle from behind, an official from Narpoli police station said. Both of them fell and died on the spot. The deceased have been identified as Muzammil Bharkatullah Shaikh (25) and

his friend Naushad Alam Nizamuddin Ansari (25). The bodies were sent for postmortem. The police have registered a case against the truck driver, who is yet to be arrested, under provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Motor Vehicles Act, the official said.

- PTI

Senior BJP leaders will decide on Maharashtra Cabinet formation: BJP leader Pravin Darekar

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Pravin Darekar has said that senior leaders of the party will decide on the Cabinet formation in Maharashtra. Darekar had a meeting with Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday, regarding the presidential elections. "There were discussions regarding the upcoming Presidential elections. We also



discussed how they are working for the development of the state and the senior leaders of the party will decide on Cabinet formation," Darekar said. The voting for the presidential election will take place on July 18 and the counting of votes will take place on July 21. NDA presidential candidate Droupadi Murmu is also backed by the YSR Congress Party, Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and Akali Dal.

- ANI

Smart phone stealing racket exposed by Mumbai Crime branch

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Crime branch of Mumbai Police arrested two people and recovered 490 Smart Phones, 9.59 KGs of Ganja 174 bottles of liquor and two swords from Mankhurd said the police on Friday.

According to police, the accused arrested used to allegedly buy stolen phones and sell them in other states of the country.

In June 2022, Crime Branch Unit 6 constable Sambhaji Kolekar received a tip-off that a person staying in Maharashtra Nagar buys stolen or lost smartphones.

Passing this information to his superiors Inspector Ravindra Salunkhe, Incharge of Unit 6 of Mumbai crime branch formed a team to verify the tip off and



understand the modus operandi of the person.

On July 15, the team raided a house and recovered smartphones including 41 iPhones, 174 bottles of country made and foreign liquor, a laptop and 2 swords, the total value of the seized property amounts to Rs 74.78 Lakh.

The officials have also arrested two accused, who were identified as Mehboob Khan (37) and Fiyaz Akbar Sheikh (31), said the police.

102 lives lost in Maharashtra due to rain since 1st June

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According to Maharashtra State Disaster Situation Report Index state that total of 102 lives were lost since June 1 due to rain in flood related incident.

Since last 24 hours total of 2 people were died and 68 injured during torrential downpour in the states.

In several areas total of 3 State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and 13 National Disaster Response Force are posted in several parts of the state.

As per the SMDM, total of 189 animals were died so far. 11,836 persons have been evacuated and 73 are in relief camps.

Red alert is issued by IMD in Palghar Maharashtra. Vaitarna, Tansa river are flowing above the danger mark. IMD has predicated heavy rainfalls (64.5 to 115.5 mm) isolated place at Madhya over Maharashtra.

Several parts of Maharashtra have been witnessing heavy rainfall over the past few days amidst the wet spell on the state since the onset of a torrential monsoon.

Minor held for putting explosive device in courier parcel for claiming insurance

A boy has been detained here for allegedly assembling a low-intensity explosive device and packing it in a courier parcel for claiming insurance money, police said on Saturday.

The parcel caught fire at a courier firm's office earlier this week, causing panic, but no one was injured in the incident, a police official said.

After the courier company alerted police, the boy who had allegedly shipped it was tracked down and detained on Friday,

he said. As per the police, the boy came across an online advertisement of insurance policy for the goods damaged during transportation, and hatched a plan to get easy money.

He allegedly assembled an electric circuit using firecrackers, an electronic battery and a mobile phone by using information obtained on the Internet. The mobile phone's alarm was to act as a trigger.

- ANI

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Nation

Judiciary has to be more sensitive, must ensure protection of fundamental rights, says Kapil Sibal



Senior lawmaker and advocate Kapil Sibal feels that the judiciary must be more sensitive to people's concerns over "violation of fundamental rights" and ensure that central agencies are not misused for political reasons.

Sibal, who had quit the Congress a few months back and is presently an Independent Rajya Sabha MP, said the courts must proactively protect people's fundamental rights and the institutions from being misused.

He said certain judgements of the courts reflect the state of the judiciary in the country.

"I think the judiciary should be more sensitive to these concerns (violation of fundamental rights) and take up the causes. There are only two institutions that can protect the fundamental rights of our citizens: the media by bringing to the fore grave issues of violations that are taking place, and the court. I have seen in the past that in some cases, that has not happened," Sibal told PTI in an interview.

When asked whether the Opposition has failed to protect the rights of the people, he said it is the duty of the courts.

"If there is an onslaught on the institutions of this country, if those institutions are being misused for political gains, if people are being incarcerated, who must protect them? The Opposition? No.

- PTI

ICSE class 10 results declared, 4 students topped

The Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) announced class 10 results on Sunday, with four students sharing the top rank with a score of 99.8 per cent.

The four toppers are — Hargun Kaur Matharu (Pune), Anika Gupta (Kanpur), Pushkar Tripathi (Balrampur) and Kanishka Mittal (Lucknow).

The second rank has been shared by 34 students with a score of 99.6 per cent, while 72 are on the third spot with 99.4 per cent mark.

The pass percentage for girls (99.98) is marginally higher than that for boys (99.97).

The overall pass percentage was 99.97.

- PTI

Margaret Alva Opposition's candidate for Vice-Presidential poll

Senior Congress leader and former Union minister Margaret Alva is the opposition's joint candidate for the August 6 vice presidential election. "Opposition's candidate for the post of Vice President of India is to be Margaret Alva," said NCP chief Sharad Pawar.

The announcement came a

day after the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate said West Bengal governor Jagdeep Dhankhar will be its candidate for the Vice-Presidential election. "We tried to contact West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee but she was busy in some conference. We also tried to contact Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal.

Ex-Union minister Margaret Alva Opposition's candidate for Vice-Presidential poll

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The announcement came a day after the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate said West Bengal governor Jagdeep Dhankhar will be its candidate for the Vice Presidential election. "We tried to contact West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee but she was busy in some conference. We also tried to contact Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal. He announced support (for Yashwant Sinha) a

few days ago & will announce his support (for Margaret Alva) soon," Pawar added.

The opposition leaders finalised her name after a meeting held at the residence of NCP chief Sharad Pawar which was attended by all major opposition parties including the Congress, TMC, CPIM, RJD, SP, and others. She has earlier served as the governor of Rajasthan.

Margaret Alva was made Central Minister at the age of 42, which in those days was a rarity. Alva was born in Mangalore in 1942, grew up in different parts of the former Madras Presidency, and imbibed the culture of the state, parts of which now belong to Andhra, Telangana, Tamil Nadu,

Baby girl tests negative for monkeypox in AP

A two-year-old girl was suspected to have contracted monkeypox in Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh but a blood test at the National Institute of Virology in Pune confirmed it to be negative.

State Director of Health J Nivas said the two-year-old child returned to Vijayawada from Dubai and found to have developed blisters on her hands.

She was admitted to the Government General Hospital and kept in isolation as a precaution, along with her family members on Sunday.

"We sent the baby's blood sample by flight to NIV-Pune for analysis and it turned negative for monkeypox," Nivas said in a release. The baby's family did not come into contact with anyone else, he added.



"There are no cases of monkeypox in AP. There is nothing to worry," Nivas said.

The country reported its first case of monkeypox on July 14 with a Keralite who returned from the UAE testing positive for the virus.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), monkeypox is a viral zoonosis (a virus transmitted to humans from animals) with symptoms similar to those seen in the past in smallpox patients, although it is clinically less severe.

- ANI

Assam CM launches Chief Minister's Institutional Plantation Programm

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Sunday launched the Chief Minister's Institutional Plantation Programme at Janata Bhawan in Guwahati on Sunday.

On the mark of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Assam government plans to plant saplings in 80,000 government offices premises from

July 17 to August 15.

The Assam Chief Minister appeals to all government employees to plant 75 Amrit Briksha in each government office premise.

He also said that the state forest department must commission Drone surveys in all reserve forest areas every six months.

- ANI

Heavy rainfall in Uttarakhand's Chamoli damages NH-7

Due to the heavy rainfall in Chamoli district, the road at National Highway-07 has been extensively damaged.

Traffic with caution has also been restored in two severely damaged locations of Km. 398+500(Karanprayag) and Km. 419+900(Pursari) and the contractor is in the process of restoring the road in full width.

Recent media reports have

alleged that the government has engaged a blacklisted company for the execution of the prestigious Chardham Project.

National Highways and Infrastructure Development (NHIDCL) hereby clarifies that no blacklisted contractor is engaged on any of its projects and the selection of contractors for its projects are made after a prescribed due diligent process.

The companies engaged are

executing a number of Central and State Government infrastructure projects.

The roads are being constructed on EPC mode in which the contractor is responsible for the restoration of defects for four years even after construction. NHIDCL is committed to building high-quality highway infrastructure in the country.

- ANI

Opinion

GO GREEN MEASURES GETTING A BOOST

As well as his other achievements, Ashoka has to be credited as developing arboriculture in India, he was the first, and possibly only, person to devise and implement an empire-wide roadside tree planting policy. And the exemplar who has made officialdom take a relook at its choppy - happy ways is none other than fabled Mauryan Emperor Ashoka.

Emperor Ashoka was one of the earliest Indian monarchs who planted shady trees on roads and in public places. The Moghuls, too, realized the necessity of shade on the roads which they constructed. But there was no conscious planning; and the Peepal, banyan and Pakur trees were indiscriminately mixed with Neems tamarinds and Mahuas. It was only in Kashmir that they showed some preference for planning and planted magnificent avenues of chinara along the banks of the river Jhelum, which can be seen at their best at Gandharbel and Matarf on the way to Pahalgam.

A plantation plan for our national, state and district highways is urgently needed. At present our roads are planted by the P.W.D. engineers who are ignorant of trees. Ultimately, the planting of trees and replacement of dead trees is left to gardeners alone who plant any tree which comes handy. The result has been unfortunate and our roadside avenues have become a mixture of odd trees.

It is true that urban populations are increasing and we need to ensure safety and visibility, both for commuting traffic and pedestrians alike. But attention to roadside trees can be indicated by environment-friendly material and in a more aesthetic manner, with due respect to the ecosystem services such greenery provides. The criteria for solution design must



address high-speed and rural roads while dealing sensitively with urban areas. When new roads need to contend with existing trees in public spaces and lack of space prevent further plantation of trees.

Our streets are not just routes for motor vehicles. They serve as public spaces where people walk, shop, meet, and participate in activities of living. This means that the trees that line our roadsides must matter to all citizens across professions, ages and income groups. While urban foresters, designers, and planners encourage tree planting to enhance the livability of urban streets, conventional guidelines for transportation safety regard trees as roadside fixed-objects that constitute driving hazards. We need a sensitive balance of

thought processes. World-over, accepted standards directing the management of roadside greenery include guidelines around the preferred species or shapes of trees grown. These primarily refer to the design of space created and managed by humans. When it comes to an already mature ecosystem of trees or a green patch that is integral to its surrounding natural landscape, these standards are understandably more stringent in their sensitivity to preserving existing environs. The question arises – how are we addressing this in the gracious city of Navi Mumbai.

Over the last 15 years, Mumbai has seen an indiscriminate felling of mature trees, little to no health supervision of our greenery as

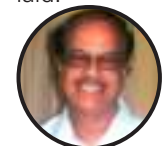
well as rampant tree abuse, including nailing boards onto tree trunks and winding cables and lights around them – this, even as NGOs working in tree conservation have been reiterating that the city needs a periodic tree census and a continued health management system for mature trees.

We have been watching with growing horror as workers paint large and beautiful old trees in garish shades of alternating green and yellow bands which cover a large part of the trees' height.

To add insult to injury, even those trees which are almost toppling at their base due to ill health or neglect – trees that need serious attention – still remain uncared for but brightly painted! An official confirms that 'it is only to care and protect the trees' that such work is undertaken and that a contract has been awarded only recently. What 'care' or 'protection' means for our trees – especially the greenery in our urban areas – needs to be standardised.

Meanwhile, members of the State Green Committee and the District Green Committee are unaware of the whys and wherefores of this 'caring' move. Since it is generally believed that trees constitute the main 'green' criteria for the Green Committee, the rest are all left quite perplexed. It is of utmost importance to pay heed to the fact that the planting of trees must be inculcated to the younger generations so that the foundation of planting trees periodically is well and truly laid.

A plantation plan for our national, state and district highways is urgently needed. At present our roads are planted by the P.W.D. engineers who are ignorant of trees.



- C K Subramaniam
Columnist and Writer

Career

Language proficiency is essential for a career as a **Stenographer** and beneficial for the job



Every year, in order to climb the ladder of success, students take admission in various courses in schools, colleges, universities and institutes according to their interest. These courses are related to different fields, in which the trainees continue to make continuous efforts in government and private institutions to get employment.

After studying or taking a course, some trainees start training at their own level in private institutes, viz Along with this, their employment also continues and their service in the field of education also continues. The course is conducted in many institutions Talking about vocational courses, one course is Stenography.

This is the art of writing, in which there is no scope for rest or rest. Stenography is called 'Signet-Lipi' in Punjabi because it represents the letters or vowels of any language through special signs/symbols. Punjabi Stenography course is conducted in many educational institutions of Punjab And every year

thousands of trainees get a job by getting training in this subject.

A few trainees start giving Stenography training in private institutes at their level. Sign script is a script based on phonetic system. William Tiffin was the first to use the phonetic system in the world. Pay attention to the necessary equipment In addition to seating, special attention should be paid to the equipment required for learning stenography. The first piece of equipment needed is a sign-writer Copy, pencil, sharpener and any expert stenographer's book to learn sign-script etc. should be with you.

A special copy for learning sign-script comes with a line width greater than the line width of normal copies and is similar in size to a notepad copy. When you want to write on the copy, keep the bottom edge of the copy folded. If you write with your right hand, keep the page turned slightly from the bottom left corner of the copy and if you write with your left hand, keep the page of the copy Keep the right corner slightly bent. By

doing this, it does not take much time to turn the page when writing at high speed. Do five-seven hours of daily practice Be it the study of any subject or the training of any course, as long as the learner does not acquire complete mastery in the respective subject, he cannot succeed in achieving success.

Similarly, if we want to get employment in the field of stenography, then we have to acquire special expertise in the subject of stenography. Enrolling the same learner in this course Should have deep knowledge of the relevant language of the course and its grammatical rules and strong grasp of linguistic vocabulary. Trainees pursuing a stenography course should practice at least five-seven hours per day. Only a learner possessing qualities such as concentration, self-control, daily practice, good knowledge of the language, adequate knowledge of punctuation marks, mastery in the art of writing, etc. can acquire special expertise in the course of stenography. If we talk about learning the sign-script of the Punjabi language

here, then the first quality in the learner is There must be a thorough knowledge of the respective language because whatever is spoken by the practicing speaker is written in sign language and later transcribed into the respective language. Mind and brain should be harmonious Any task undertaken with concentration can be successfully carried out.

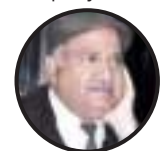
As sign writing is a work done by hand, it should have harmony of mind and spirit so that the tone of the writer is directly connected with the speaker. Also when learning sign-script And while practicing this consistently we need to pay special attention to our sitting postures as well. Always use a chair or stool to sit on. The difference between the chair and the stool should be such that you do not face any problem while sitting while writing dictation.

Apart from this, keep in mind that when you write the dictation, there is no noise around you and do the dictation usually early in the morning, because at that time the environment is

conducive and pleasant from all sides. different Practice the subjects While taking the Stenography course, every student should dictate magazines, newspapers, articles and debates related to various subjects. The more diverse subjects the learner dictates, the wider and deeper his word knowledge will be. Also practice dictation of articles related to political, technical, agricultural, scientific etc. topics as such topics contain different and scientific vocabulary from our common usage.

The effort of the learner should always be that every Use all forms of words and all vowels, but this is not possible in abbreviations and punctuation. Apart from this, some learners who practice continuously begin to understand voiceless lines well. This is possible only when you continuously practice different subjects for a long time. In the beginning, do the dictation at a normal speed for five minutes and after that gradually increase the number of words and the speed.

While doing dictation, correct the wrongly written outline Instead of getting into the habit of doing this, keep the resolution that no wrong word should be written by your hand. If you rush to learn sign-script, you will not achieve mastery. Therefore, in order to become a successful stenographer and proficient stenography teacher, one should strictly observe all the rules related to the subject of stenography. By mastering it, you can also get good employment.



- Vijay GarG

Retired Principal Malout Punjab

Entertainment

After Sushmita Sen, Lalit Modi shuts down trolls; says 'Magic can happen if chemistry and timing is right'

After Sushmita Sen slammed the trolls and people who have been labelling her a 'Gold Digger', Lalit Modi has also posted a long note on his Instagram, hitting out at those questioning the relationship between both of them. Lalit Modi took to his Instagram and shared a photo of himself and Sushmita and wrote, "Why is the media so obsessed abt trolling me apparently 4 wrongly tagging. Can someone explain - I only did 2 pics on insta- & Tag is correct. I GUESS We R still



living in the Middle Ages when 2 people can't be friends & then if chemistry is right & timing is good - Magic can happen." Lalit Modi further responded to several other allegations surrounding his personal and professional life. Addressing rumours regarding his late wife, he wrote, "And if u don't know let me Enlighten u All-departed love of my life #minalmodi was MY BEST FRIEND for 12 years whilst she was married. She was not my mothers friend. That gossip was spread by vested interests.

It's about time to get out of this #crabmentality - hope u know what that means. Enjoy when someone prospers." Talking about his professional life, Lalit Modi even targeted those who call him a 'fugitive'. He wrote, "THOU U CALL ME A 'fugitive' - pray & tell me which court has "EVER CONVICTED" me. I will tell u none. TELL ME JUST 1 other person in our beautiful NATION THAT has CREATED WHAT I HAVE. AND GIFTED IT TO THE NATION."

- ANI

Janhvi, Varun drop pictures from 'Bawaal' shoot in Poland

Bawaal' co-actors Janhvi Kapoor and Varun Dhawan treated fans with fun

pictures after wrapping up their film shoot in Poland. Taking to their respective Instagram handles both Janhvi and Varun dropped pictures of the duo enjoying their time in Poland.

"Instagram vs reality" captioned Janhvi, contrasting two pictures in two slides.

In the first picture, Janhvi struck an alluring pose, resting one hand on Varun's shoulder as she faced the camera while Varun seemed to be lost in his own thoughts, staring up at the blue Poland sky. While Janhvi wore a pink-sleeved, graphic top with white printed shorts, Varun had a simple navy-blue vest on him with a pair of matching grey trousers. According to Janhvi, the first image was the Instagram version of

their friendship.

However, fans soon got to see the 'reality' of the duo in the next slide where Varun, was seated on the bonnet of a car as Janhvi was behind him, seemingly trying to call her co-star to help her get up as well. Instead, Varun appeared to be nonchalant, looking forward, enjoying the view, and giving a deaf ear to Janhvi's pleas.

- ANI



Cuteness Alert: KJo's kids shut him up as he tries singing Kesariya

Right after the much-awaited love track from Brahmastra, 'Kesariya' was released, Karan Johar tried to hone his singing talent! On Sunday, Karan took to his Instagram to share an adorable video of his kids Yash and Roohi. In the video, KJo can be heard singing the new track 'Kesariya'. His kids, in the most adorable way, disapproved of his singing skills and asked him to stop numerous times. Roohi even said "You are ruining the song. It is very new" as Karan cracked into laughter while singing the song. Karan attached a 'savage' caption with the video and wrote, "My attempts have met with a very objectionable response! Also don't miss the last savage like I had to listen to... #kesariya #roohiyashjohar."

As soon as Karan dropped



the video, fans and friends flooded his comment section with laughing emojis and love for the toddlers. Alia Bhatt wrote, "Hahahahaha", while Kajol wrote, "You two

toddlers are the cutest things on earth! (heart emojis)". Maneish Paul and Shweta Bachchan dropped a string of laughing and heart emoticons.

- ANI

Priyanka Chopra turns a year older



Priyanka Chopra is one of the biggest stars in the country. Over the past few years, she has represented India on the global platform and has carved her own place in Hollywood.

Many say what Priyanka has done for the representation of Asian actors in Hollywood, only a few could've achieved!

- ANI