



**Bilkis Bano case: SC issues notice on Bano's plea against pre-mature**

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# Afternoon

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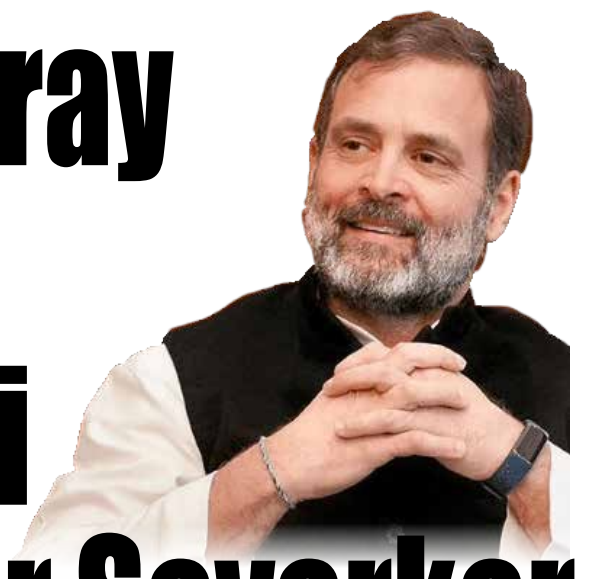


## Uddhav Thackeray

**warns**

## Rahul Gandhi

# to mind his tongue over Savarkar



**U**ddhav Thackeray warned if the Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to stop insulting Veer Savarkar. Upset by Rahul Gandhi's "My name is not Savarkar, won't apologise" comment after his disqualification as an MP. The Congress and Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena, along with the NCP, have been in an alliance since they formed a coalition government in Maharashtra in 2019. They stayed in the alliance even after a coup in the Shiv Sena brought down Uddhav Thackeray's government and rebel Eknath Shinde took power in an alliance with the BJP.

"I want to tell Rahul Gandhi that we have come together, that's right, we have come together to save democracy and constitution in this country. But do not make any statements that will create fis-

tures. They (BJP) are trying to provoke you, if we miss this timing, then our country will surely go towards autocracy," Uddhav Thackeray said.

Rahul Gandhi's criticism of Hindu ideologue Vinayak "Veer" Savarkar during his Bharat Jodo Yatra last year had sparked a rift between the Congress and Uddhav Thackeray's party. The allies had smoothed over differences at the time, with Mr Thackeray's top aide Sanjay Raut joining Rahul Gandhi's march.

On Saturday, when Rahul Gandhi was asked about his refusal to apologise for his comments on democracy in the UK or for the "Modi surname" remark that led to his conviction in a court, he said: "My name is not Savarkar. My name is Gandhi and Gandhi doesn't apologise." In a sharp reaction, Uddhav

Thackeray said he considered Savarkar his idol and the Congress leader should refrain from insulting him.

"Savarkar suffered unimaginable torture in the Andaman cellular jail for 14 years. We can only read the sufferings. It is a form of sacrifice. We will not tolerate the insult of Savarkar," Uddhav Thackeray said.

"I want to tell Rahul Gandhi that you walked from Kanyakumari to Kashmir, Sanjay Raut walked with you, we are with you. But I want to tell Rahul Gandhi openly that this fight is for saving democracy. I want to tell Rahul Gandhi that Savarkar is our God, we won't tolerate his insult. We will not tolerate this at all." An editorial in the Shiv Sena mouthpiece Saamna doubled down on his condemnation of Rahul Gandhi's remarks.

"What happened with Rahul Gandhi in defamation case is injustice, but by insulting Savarkar, he can't win the battle of truth. Gandhi is born into a family who sacrificed their lives for the country and that is the truth, but even Savarkar and his family has worked for the country. Insulting Savarkar will reduce sympathy for Rahul Gandhi," the editorial said.

Rahul Gandhi was disqualified as an MP after a Surat court sentenced him to two years in jail in a criminal defamation case over his "Modi surname" remark. Uddhav Thackeray urged Rahul Gandhi to "not get provoked and to come together to save India's democracy". "Modi is not India. Did our freedom fighters lay down their lives for this? Questioning Modi is not about insulting India," he said.

## EX-Muslim population on rise in India?

**Editoritis**



*Dr. Vaidehi*

**T**he modern Muslims of 21st century are waking up to the fact that they have been misled for centuries, not allowed to think freely, not allowed to talk freely, not allowed to do anything in utmost freedom. There are many Muslims who disown their religion and living as Ex-Muslims in India, especially there is constant rise in such population in South India and north India. This community is vocal on social media; they are openly discussing their disagreements with their religion. Ex-Muslims are those people who were raised as Muslims or converted to Islam and later renounced

the Islamic religion.

Leaving Islam is an absolute individual choice. These people who denounced Islam are now creating awareness about the history of Islam, Islamic culture and jurisprudence, and—depending upon the context—the local culture, which leads to ex-Muslims. This is the first time in India; the organisation called Ex-Muslim provides a platform to those who want to share their previous experience and betrayals as a Muslim.

**| CONTINUED ON PAGE 02**

## Editoritis

*Moreover, considering India's religious history, the ex-Muslims' movement of Kerala can be viewed as an exceptional chronological development. Since 2014, many scholars also denounced Islam and they became Hindu.*

*Many rationalist Muslims were hacked to death by Islamists for criticising Islam. They are called Kafirs if they utter a single word about their religion or its people. In spite of all this pressure the Muslims are choosing to leave their religion.*

*If Ex-Muslim movement has to be believed then we can say the young Muslims find many contradictions, unscientific and illogical statements, discriminatory verses and calls to violence, which are helping them realise that the Quran is not God's word, but that of allegedly a human.*

# EX-Muslim population on rise in India?

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Primarily, Islam has come together to form 'Ex-Muslims of Kerala' and also decided to observe January 9 as 'Kerala Ex-Muslim Day'. Moreover, considering India's religious history, the ex-Muslims' movement of Kerala can be viewed as an exceptional chronological development. Since 2014, many scholars also denounced Islam and they became Hindu.

I spoke to some of the Muslims and tried to understand what is exactly bothering them. In India, Islamic clerics use various kinds of bullying tactics to intimidate those who renounce religion or criticise its tenets. Often these intimidation tactics violate the basic human rights of individuals. Eviction, ex-communication of families, family ex-communicating a member, forcing the spouse of an apostate to seek divorce, not allowing an apostate to contact their children, no share in inheritance, obstructing marriages etc. are some of the usual tactics. Families who refuse to follow the diktat of the Islamic clergy are threatened with social banishment.

Many rationalist Muslims were hacked to death by Islamists for criticising Islam. They are called Kafirs if they utter a single word about their religion or its people. In spite of all this pressure the Muslims are choosing to leave their religion. The Internet has a lot of literature on the Quran and Hadiths; Present-day generation is modern and inquisitive, they are able to do their own research. If Ex-Muslim movement has to be believed then we can say the young Muslims find many contradictions, unscientific and illogical statements, discriminatory verses and calls to violence, which are helping them realise that the Quran is not God's word, but that of allegedly a human.

Again through the internet and increased access to news and world events, Muslims are seeing the brutality of Islam

and are repulsed by it. The more there are incidents of brutality, the more people leave it. The murder of Mahsa Amini and many others after her in Iran has created a huge surge in people rebelling against Islam. For a long time Muslims just listened to their scholars. But those scholars were not giving logical explanations.

The majority of people just blindly believe that whatever Ulema says is true just because he got Jannath E Rasool. Ex-Muslims are not disobeyers, they were most devoted people who read the Quran daily and tried to understand it verse to verse, word to word. As they kept reading, their questions started to increase. Frankly speaking, more and more people will leave Islam as they get an education and they start raising doubts.

True spiritual path never restricts anyone from exploring, never commands its believers, never threatens its people by throwing them into hell and most important of all never forces you to blindly follow. Spirituality is the freedom to seek truth the way you like. No religion equates to no faith. People can have faith in humanity or any other values instead of a certain belief system. From YouTube to many other social media channels Ex-Muslim movement is spreading hugely. Many also believe that the campaign is politically motivated to malign Muslims and Islam. Whatever might be the reason it is unfortunate to see Muslims talking against Islam by exposing its beliefs.

Vaidehi

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## Letters to the Editor

### Women power at its very best!

Kudos to Nitu Ghanghas & Saweety Boora for being crowned World Champions in their respective categories at the D Jadhav Indoor Hall of the I G stadium. It was history in the making & a dream come true for the two women who brought glory to a nation of 1.3 billion people who had never heard of such an achievement before. It was women power at its very best as the 'Golden Girls' unfurled the tricolor to bring a smile on the face of every Indian. Boxing may not be an lucrative sport & these performances inspite of financial hurdles is what makes such achievements all the more glorious.

Nitu & Saweety must be given all help & assistance by way of top coaching facilities by the govt of India so that they can replicate these performances at the Olympics. Well done girls. Keep up the good work & all the very best for a bright future!

S.N. Kabra

### Carry on and Manage Plastics

Small steps can bring big changes. The Uttarakhand government has chosen the Char Dham yatra route that includes temples at Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, and Yamunotri to implement a unique waste-disposal system in the Himalayas, Uttarakhand tourism secretary Sachin Kurve has confirmed. Hemkund Sahib and the Valley of Flowers will also see the implementation of a QR-code-based system that will streamline collection of waste and reduction of garbage along the route.

Visitors will scan a QR code on each plastic bottle and multi-layer plastic bag (of chips or biscuits) and pay a deposit over the maximum retail price (MRP). They can claim this amount back as a refund when they deposit the waste at a point at the end of the yatra. Up to 45 lakh QR codes are expected to be printed this year.

C.K.R. Nathan

### Don't be careless

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was the first to set up defenses on the sea after foreseeing that foreign invasions could take place from the sea. History is not assimilated with us, it is only read. Even after terrorist attacks like 26/11, our sea is not safe. Although Raj Thackeray has commented on Mahim Samudri Dargah, there is no need to create a political controversy over it. Thus, if there is anything unauthorized there, action must be taken against it. Finally, the question of law and order is also important.

Uday Waghvankar

### Let Churchgate be

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has passed a resolution to rename the iconic Churchgate railway station to Chintamanrao Deshmukh station. Churchgate railway station is an integral part of the city's history and culture for over 150 years. Mumbaikars have fond memories of Churchgate. Changing the name of the railway station without any public consultation is a disregard to our city's heritage and history. The CM should think twice before doing anything.

Jubel D'Cruz

# De-clutter, define a new home

We've all spent money on items we acquired as impulsive buys, or thought it would solve a problem, or looked cute and we needed it, or a friend had it and we want to be seen with it too... The extra yoga mat you never used, the boots you never worn or the books you never read...

"You own the thing; then the thing owns you!" So true! We have got too much stuff in us, on us and around us. There is no place for anything and nothing is in its place! Can't you find your car keys? Are you unable to locate phones, remotes, letters ...and are you willing to swear on the Bible (if you find them) that they were in your hands just a few moments before? Cool, you are one of those clutter bugs.

So, what to keep and what to get rid of? Do papers still accumulate like snowdrifts and clothes pile up like a tangled mess of noodles? Have you ever tidied madly only to find that all too soon your home is muddled again? How to reclaim your life from the suffocating burden of clutter?

Tackle categories, not rooms

Being messy is not hereditary, nor related to lack of time, but more to do with mistaken notions about tidying, such as, "it's best to tackle one room at a time", or "it's better to do a little each day". Begin with clothing, since it is the least emotionally loaded of one's things, next comes books, old photographs... Tidy category, else they will continue to creep from room to room, though periodical purging feels good.

Decide what to keep, not necessarily what to throw away. Books come in by the dozen, and then never leave.

Shelves groan. You have wanted to read it when you bought it, but if you haven't read it by now, the book's purpose is to teach you that you didn't need it. When you explain that you intend to read "someday", donate or recycle that book. Only by discarding it, will you be able to test how passionate you are about that subject.

Keep emotions aside

Though we live in a digital world, it's amazing how much paper still consumes us. Tax records, and even health records are saved electronically now. Feel at peace in your space and focus what you really need to be doing with yourself and where your goals should be really going now that you are not distracted by rummages around you. The magic of de-cluttering involves a degree of psychology. Nostalgia is not your friend.

Rediscover your style

Does nature like junk? Or is it in the eye of the beholder? And where does one draw boundaries? What you want to own is actually the question of how you want to live your life. Treating your things with respect makes them look better. "Tidying" as a hobby is not a bad idea. The less you buy, the more money you have, the less you have to clean, maintain and store. When you come across something that you cannot part with, think carefully about its true purpose in life. You will be surprised at how many of the things you possess have already fulfilled their role.

The expression "you never know when you might need it", drilled into our heads from birth, and made our lives a living night mare. The emotional struggle to give up even the smallest item cause so

much stress and frustration and cluttered our brains.

Before you tidy up, decide what kind of life you'd like to live there, then plan de-cluttering around that. For example, with sentimental type clutter, separate the memory from the item. Thus, if you have an overabundance of mementoes, divorce the memory from the items. Pick a few that you want to represent the memory and truly honour them by displaying in your home (rather than storing them in boxes), and discard (or digitally scan and then discard) the rest.

Just as there are rules when it comes to tossing mascara, there are also expiry dates for many things in your home. Purge the stale food from the fridge. Keep minimum kitchen tools, be it knives or peelers. Scan the unread recipe pages, and give the books away. Toss (Recycle, sell or give away) what you haven't used in the past year. Avoid storing loose objects under the bed. Keep items on bedside table to the minimal, like table-lamp and water bottle at night, so that you don't wake up in a clutter. Keep coffee table clear, with only a few coasters. Read/recycle magazines within a week. Instead of keeping them just for an article or two, digitalise/store them in a "To read" folder.

When the house is in order, you can truly enjoy the ambience and your life.

C S Krishnamurthy

Columnist

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

## Amruta Fadnavis threat case: court sends 'bookie' Anil Jaisinghani in 14-day judicial custody



A court here on Monday remanded suspected bookie Anil Jaisinghani to 14-day judicial custody in a case pertaining to allegedly trying to blackmail and bribe Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra

Fadnavis' wife Amruta.

He was arrested last week from Gujarat, along with his cousin Nirmal Jaisinghani.

The duo was produced before additional sessions judge, D D Almale, at the end of their

remand on Monday.

Special public prosecutor Ajay Misar sought an extension of the custody of the duo for five more days, but the court remanded them in judicial custody. Anil Jaisinghani's daughter Aniksha Jaisinghani is also an accused in the case. She too is in judicial custody.

Based on a complaint filed by the deputy chief minister's wife police had registered a case against the father-daughter duo under IPC sections for conspiracy and extortion and provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

According to police, 17 cases are pending against Anil Jaisinghani

## MNS leader gets death threats online



Thane police have registered a complaint after a senior MNS leader allegedly received death threats from an unknown person following his demand against illegal shrines constructed along the Parsik Mumbradevi hill slopes, officials informed on Sunday. As per the complaint filed with the Naupada police, Avinash Jadhav, the

newly anointed leader and Thane-Palghar MNS president received death threats on social media from an unknown number while working from his party headquarters in Vishnunagar recently. Following the incident, Thane MNS functionary Raviendra More approached cops saying that two videos issuing threats were circulated online.

## Majority of Covid patients admitted at SevenHills



A majority of Covid patients are admitted at the civic-run SevenHills Hospital. Dr Maharudra Kumbhar, officer on special duty, said there are 30 patients, of which five are in the intensive care unit. "Those in the ICU are mostly elderly with underlying conditions, and some have been transferred from private hospitals," he said. Dr Kumbhar added that wards have been kept ready and if the need arises, they can be made operational in a span of hours. Covid patients are also being admitted to Kasturba Hospital. At Bombay Hospital, Dr Gautam Bhansali said a 10-bed ward has been prepped to admit Covid patients. Although the physicians have seen a rise in number of pa-

tients coming positive for Covid, nobody has required admission till now. "A 72-year-old came close to requiring hospitalisation, but we could treat her at home," said Bhansali, adding that they do anticipate some requirement for beds if cases continue to rise.

On Sunday, Maharashtra reported 397 new cases of Covid-19, a marginal drop from Saturday's tally of 437 cases. However, active cases in the state went past 2,000 for the first time since October. Mumbai reported 123 new cases, but importantly, saw 17 new admissions across hospitals, a marked increase in several months. The city currently has 43 patients admitted due to Covid-19 of which 21 are on oxygen support.

## Fire breaks out at electronic goods store in Andheri East, Two dead

Two men were killed in a fire that broke out in a hardware shop at Sakinaka in Mumbai in the wee hours on Monday, officials said.

The blaze broke out at around 2 AM in the shop located near the Sakinaka metro station. Initially, it was feared that some persons got trapped inside the shop, the official said, adding that teams of Fire Brigade and police rushed to the spot and launched a search and rescue operation.

"During the search, fire officials found a 22-year-old man with serious burn injuries. He was rushed to a hospital where he was declared brought dead," he said.

Another man, aged 23, who has been missing, was also found



inside the shop by Fire Brigade personnel. He was taken to a civic-run hospital in suburban Ghatkopar where he was declared brought dead, the official said.

The fire was doused after more than 8 hours at around 10:45 AM, he added. The blaze was confined to the shop, which

has two lofts, and gutted electric wiring, electric installations and other materials, the official said.

He said the loft inside the shop has collapsed posing difficulty to enter the structure following which the front portion of the structure was removed with the help of an excavator.

## Youth from Rajasthan held for threat mail to Salman Khan

A week after actor Salman Khan's assistant received an email threat purportedly sent on the behalf of gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, Mumbai police detained a 21-year-old man from Jodhpur for the threat. Police said Dhakad Ram Bishnoi sent the mail impersonating as



Lawrence's aide after the gang-

ster relayed an interview from jail that his goal was to "kill Salman". Minutes after Mumbai cops took Dhakad's custody, a Punjab police team reached the place as he had allegedly sent a threat mail to slain Punjabi rapper Sidhu Moose Wala's father using Lawrence's name.

## Nation

## Bilkis Bano case: SC issues notice on Bano's plea against pre-mature release of 11 convicts



The Supreme Court on Monday issued notice to the Centre, Gujarat government and all the convicts on a plea filed by Bilkis Bano challenging the pre-mature release of 11 convicts who had gang-raped her and murdered her family members during the 2002 Godhra riots. A bench of Justices KM Joseph and BV Nagarathna posted the matter for hearing on April 18.

It asked the Union and Gujarat governments to be ready with the relevant files granting remis-

sion to the convicts on the next date of hearing. The top court also directed that the pleadings in the case to be completed by the next date of hearing. The apex court said there is a gamut of issues involved and it needs to hear the matter in detail.

During the hearing, Justice Joseph asked, "We have before us many murder cases where convicts are languishing in jails for remission without years. Is this a case where standards have been applied uniformly as in other

cases too?"

Earlier, a bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and Bela M Trivedi had ordered that the matter be listed before a bench of which Justice Trivedi is not a part as she had recused herself from hearing the case.

Besides filing a petition against the pre-mature release of convicts, Bano had also filed a review petition seeking a review of its earlier order by which it had asked the Gujarat government to consider the plea for the remission of one of the convicts.

The review petition was dismissed. Some PILs were filed seeking directions to revoke the remission granted to 11 convicts.

The pleas were filed by the National Federation of Indian Women, whose General Secretary is Annie Raja, Member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) Subhashini Ali, journalist Revati Laul, social activist and professor Roop Rekha Verma and TMC MP Mahua Moitra.

## Punjab: CM Mann announces hikes in crop loss compensation

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann held a meeting with the officials and discussed the matter of compensation for the farmers in the wake of crop loss due to bad weather.

Heavy damage to crops was reported due to the bad weather in North India. Crops of the farmers from many districts in Punjab were destroyed, after which farmers were demanding compensation.

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann personally visited the crop fields to assess the damage to crops along with several officials. After the assessment of crops, he held a meeting with the officials.

Taking it to Twitter CM Bhagwant Mann released a video on his personal account and told that, "We have changed the way of compensation of the previous government and now unlike the previous government, we will not only announce compensation but also give it".

We will not distribute cheques of Rs 54 or Rs 111, but timely



compensation will be given to the farmers in a transparent manner, he added.

CM Bhagwant Mann told that earlier Rs 12,000 was given for a 75 per cent to 100 per cent loss, but now Rs 15,000 will be given for a 75 per cent to 100 per cent loss. In the previous government, Rs 5400 was given for 33 per cent to 50 per cent loss, but now Rs 6750 will be given.

Taking it to CMO Punjab Twitter he said, "The labourers will get 10 per cent as compensation adding that Rs 95,100 will be paid as compensation to full house damage whereas Rs 5,200 will be given for minor damage to houses. The state government will soon introduce a crop insurance scheme for the farmers".

## Hathras case: SC dismisses UP govt's plea against HC order to provide job to victim's family member

The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a petition filed by the Uttar Pradesh government challenging the Allahabad High Court's order to consider giving a job to a family member of the Hathras victim and to relocate the family from Hathras.

A bench of Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud and Justices PS Narasimha and JB Pardiwala expressed surprise at the Uttar Pradesh government com-

ing in an appeal against the High Court's order.

"These are facilities provided to the family. We should not interfere. The state should not come up in these matters," CJI Chandrachud told the State government's counsel.

"Whether the elder married brother could be regarded as a dependent of the victim was a question of law to be considered," the state government told the top court.

## Oppn stage protest against Centre over Adani issue, Rahul Gandhi disqualification

In an attempt to show unity, the opposition parties protested against the Centre over the Adani Group issue wearing black attire and marched from the Parliament complex towards Vijay Chowk in the national capital on Monday.

The opposition MPs raised slogans against the government at the Gandhi statue in the complex and demanded the constitution of a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) over the Adani issue.

Congress president Rajya Sabha LoP Mallikarjun Kharge and UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi

also joined the protest. During the march, Kharge was seen holding the hands of other MPs and marching. A banner of Satyameva Jayate was also seen. Other opposition MPs were seen holding placards.

The MPs chanted slogans against the Centre and Prime Minister Narendra Modi linking him with Adani. The march comes after both the Houses of the Parliament were adjourned within minutes of their commencement.

Rajya Sabha was adjourned till 2 pm and Lok Sabha till 4 pm on Monday. The opposition MPs were sloganeering over the Adani

Group issue and Rahul Gandhi's disqualification.

Earlier on Monday, the opposition MPs held a meeting at the chamber of LoP Rajya Sabha and Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge in the Parliament building on Monday to formulate the strategy for the day.

The opposition parties which participated in the meeting include DMK, Samajwadi Party, JD(U), Bharat Rashtra Samithi, CPI(M), RJD, Nationalist Congress Party, CPI, IUML, MDMK, Kerala Congress, TMC, RSP, AAP, J-K NC and Shiv Sena (Uddhav faction).

## Lok Sabha Housing Committee gives notice to Rahul Gandhi to vacate govt bungalow

Days after his disqualification as MP following a Surat court's verdict in a criminal defamation case, Housing Committee of Lok Sabha has sent Congress leader Rahul Gandhi a notice to vacate government bungalow allotted to him,

sources said.

They said Rahul Gandhi has been asked to vacate 12, Tughlaq Lane in the national capital.

Rahul Gandhi has been given a period of 30 days to vacate the premises to avoid eviction, the sources said.

## IIT Guwahati ranked among world's top universities

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati has been named as one of the world's top universities for the study of 14 subjects, according to the latest edition of the world's most-consulted university ranking.

The 2023 edition of the QS World University Rankings by Subject, released by global higher education analyst QS Quac-



quarelli Symonds, named the world's best universities for the study of 54 academic disciplines.

IIT Guwahati has performed best in Petroleum Engineering, in which it ranks 51-100 globally and 2nd in India.

Compared to the previous year, the institution is ranked in two additional subjects. For IIT Guwahati, six of its programmes improved in rank.

## World

# Israel PM Netanyahu expected to freeze judicial reform legislation



Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is expected to announce that he's freezing legislation on judicial reform in a statement on Monday after President Isaac Herzog called on the coalition to stop the legislation of the judicial reform on Monday morning after a night of major protests, The Jerusalem Post reported.

"Tonight we saw some very difficult scenes. I'm turning to the prime minister, the government and the members of the coalition. The emotions are difficult and painful. Deep anxiety is en-

gulfing the people. The security, the economy, the society - everything is threatened. The eyes of all the people of Israel are turned to you," President Isaac Herzog said

"For the sake of the unity of the people of Israel, for the sake of responsibility, I am calling on you (PM Benjamin Netanyahu) to stop legislation immediately. I turn to all the party leaders in the Knesset, coalition and opposition as one, put the citizens of the nation above all else and behave responsibly and bravely without further delay," he added.

The Religious Zionist party said in a statement, "After a lot of debate, our position is that we must not stop the legislation in any way. Stopping the legislation is a surrender to violence, anarchy, refusing orders and tyranny of the minority. We were willing to talk, compromise and agree the whole time but not under threat of a revolution on Israeli democracy."

National Security Minister and Otmza Yehudit leader MK Itamar Ben-Gvir threatened on Monday to quit the government if the judicial reform legislation freezes, according to reports by KAN and Channel 12 News, The Jerusalem Post reported.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with coalition party leaders on Monday morning in order to decide whether or not to push forwards with the controversial bill to remake the Judicial Appointments Committee, which passed in the Knesset Constitution Committee on Monday morning and is now ready to be brought to the Knesset plenum for its second and third reading, The Jerusalem Post reported.

# Protesters take to streets in Israel after Netanyahu fires Defence Minister



Protesters gathered on streets in Israel's capital Tel Aviv after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu fired his Defence Minister Yoav Gallant for challenging his judicial overhaul plan, Al Jazeera reported on Monday.

Following the decision, tens of thousands of protesters blocked a motorway in Tel Aviv, while police clashed with crowds in front of Netanyahu's residence in Jerusalem

The unrest exacerbated a months-long crisis over Netanyahu's plan to overhaul the country's court system, which has given rise to mass protests, and

alarmed the US and other close allies.

The White House in a statement released on Monday expressed concern over the firing of Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant and has said that there is an "urgent need for compromise".

The White House released a statement saying, "We are deeply concerned by the developments out of Israel, which further underscore the urgent need for compromise. As the President (Joe Biden) recently discussed with Prime Minister Netanyahu, democratic values have always been and must remain, a hallmark of the US-Israel relationship."

# Newly elected Nepal PM struggles to divide ministries amid competing demands



A week after securing the confidence of the House for the second time, Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal is still struggling to expand his Cabinet. And it may take a few more days for the prime minister to appoint the ministers if the statements of key leaders of the coalition partners are to be believed, Kathmandu Post reported.

As Dahal has been overseeing 16 ministries on his own, it shows the complexity of pow-

er-sharing among the coalition partners.

"First we will finalise the Common Minimum Programme (CMP) of the coalition. And then we will discuss ministerial allocations," CPN (Unified Socialist) chair Madhav Kumar Nepal told journalists on the Parliament premises on Sunday, Kathmandu Post reported.

Nepal's statement clearly hints that the Cabinet will not get full shape within a few days as claimed by the prime minister.

# Six killed in blast near Afghanistan's foreign ministry in Kabul

At least six civilians were killed and several others, including three Taliban security force personnel, were wounded in a suicide attack near a security checkpoint leading to the foreign ministry in Kabul on Monday, reported Tolo News.

The blast occurred near a security checkpoint in Malik Azghar Square in Kabul, a spokesman for the Kabul security

department, Khalid Zadran said.

Monday's incident took place around lunchtime when the city is especially crowded as government office staff leave early for the day during the Islamic holy month of Ramzan.

According to the Khaama Press, the blast happened when the Ministry of foreign affairs employees left their offices. "In Malik Azghar Square ... a suicide attacker before reaching the

target was identified at a checkpoint and killed, but his explosives detonated," said Kabul police spokesperson Khalid Zadran.

He said several people were injured, including three Taliban security force members.

The Taliban administration has said it is focused on securing the country and that it has carried out several raids against suspected Islamic State members in recent weeks.

# North Korea fires 2 short-range ballistic missiles towards East Sea: South Korea

Moments before a US aircraft carrier staged joint drills with South Korea in waters south of Jeju Island, Pyongyang fired two short-range ballistic missiles (SRBMs) toward the East Sea on Monday, Yonhap News Agency reported.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JSC) said it detected the launches between 7:47 a.m. and 8 a.m. (local time) from the Chunghwa County area in North Hwanghae Province.



The missiles flew 370 kilometres before crashing into the sea, Yonhap News Agency stated in its report.

Pyongyang's latest provocation came as South Korea and the US began the Ssangyong (dual dragon) amphibious land-

ing exercise last week. It is set to conclude next Monday.

The USS Nimitz aircraft carrier strike group also trained together with the South's major warships in waters south of the peninsula Monday, Yonhap reported citing the South Korean Navy.

# How to Study Effectively?



**Vijay Garg**

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Effective learning skills or stated as effective study skills are what decides a student's success or his failure at the college or high school or in a competitive exam, determining his admission into university or some job post. Most of the students or learners have difficulty sitting down to study and concentrating on the topics at hand and being fully equipped with the knowledge for an exam much in advance. Studying effectively is a process, not an event that leads to the success of the learner. Success or failure depends heavily upon how well one is prepared, how efficiently the person has utilized the time available, retaining the power of the person and how much has been retained at the end of all studying effort put in by the person.

Students struggle with many issues in their lives during their learning stage, and because of all of the issues competing for things for the attention of the student, it becomes really hard for the student to concentrate effectively on studying. Day by day increasing competition and the addition of more and more technology into the life of the young generation has created a lot of confusion and fuss in their lives. Having their head into so many things create a lot of mental imbalance and lack of interest in studying and concentration as well. The key to effective studying isn't cramming or studying longer, but studying smarter. Effective study demands the focus of the learner. It's hard to make an impact in any learning process without a particular quality. It is the quality that will get you some extra marks in your exams, and for those extra marks, there is a need for effective study.

## Tips for Effective Studying

Everyone wants to pass their examinations with some flying colours, although not most of them succeed in this. It is not all about studying very hard, but with this hard work, you also need to put in a good technique to make it an effective study effort. Managing your time and organizing are the main components of your student life and one who learns to manage these can never fail in any test of life, no matter how hard the test is. There is no replacement for hard work, but hard work only pays if concentrate in the right direction. Without an effective study plan, hard work also gets wasted. To really achieve something big, you need to put in some endurance and determination. Pushing yourself through the tough times towards your goal achievement is the key to unlocking the door of success. There can be some effective steps for effective studying:

**Set your Goals:** The first step towards effective study is to set your goals well in advance. Jot down all your short-term and long-term clearly. Define it to yourself that what you

want to achieve this year or want to do in your life academically. It is really important to dream big, in order to achieve big. To constantly motivate yourself towards your goals stick it up on the wall, on your study table or in your workplace. That way, whenever you feel discouraged or dishearten your goals will motivate you to in a positive manner to work hard in order to achieve them.

**Planning:** For an effective utilization of your time it is important to plan your activities well in advance for a better time utilization. Plan a definite time for studying every day and also try your best to follow your time plan. Planning your activities well in advance will discourage procrastination and prevent a huge pile-up of work that may often lead to a lack of interest towards your studying if there in huge piles. Studying every day, even for a short period of time, keeps you on track with your studies and also keep you well in touch with topics of your course. It is also advised to prioritize your list and begin completing the most difficult material with priority before you move on to some easy or less important ones.

**Know your Topic Well:** When you have a clear understanding of the facts of what you study and why you study, it creates an added interest of your brain towards the topic that you are being taught. It is better to know the purpose of every topic and understand each assignment before leaving class. If you have a clear understanding of what to do and how you will do it, your study time will be shortened and also you're in a good understanding of the topic that you study according to your time plan. Keep a record of all assignments in a special section of your notebook or on a separate calendar.

**Take Notes:** Taking proper notes during your class is yet another way of effectively doing your class work that would really help you during your self-study time at your home. Summarize what the teacher is saying. Try to write down every important point that your teacher tells you during the class related to the topic, rather than the unnecessary information which may create a hell of notes that may lead to you getting bored when you sit down to study. Don't pay much attention to spelling and grammar when taking down notes during the class, as you may miss some important point while you try to concentrate on these things. This is just a rough draft of your summary, but do remember, that what you write should be neat enough for you to understand. Otherwise, there is no use of such notes, if you can't understand what you wrote during your class.

**Do your Homework:** A revision of the topic that you studied during your class is very important for proper understanding and retaining important facts and formulas. Homework usually revisits the essential concepts taught during the class that must be learned. Try making homework time fun, since it is not your classroom so you can add up a lot of fun

activities along with your homework, crank up the music and throw in some yummy snacks as you do your homework along. Involving a close friend along can be fun too only if your friend is also serious about studying. Just don't start chatting, instead of working, though you may take some short breaks when you can chit-chat a little to freshen up the atmosphere. Do not copy your friend's answers, if you need help you can ask them to help you out, but copying will not help. You will not learn by copying.

**Revision:** Revision of the topics that you studied is very important for you to retain the things that you studied and also to know whether you understand your topics well or not. Every time you study, spend at least ten minutes reviewing the material from your previous study session and if any doubt appears to make sure you deal with it in a right way rather than ignoring it. These "refresher shots" are part of the secret for long-term retention of important topics. This habit of frequent review also results in less time needed for studying prior to a major exam, when you have quite a bundle of preparations to be done.

## Effective Study Habits

**Choose a Proper Place:** Selecting the right place for studying is a very important part of studying. Many people have a habit of studying in a peaceful and calm atmosphere, where you tend to have the best learning of your topics. A lot of students make the mistake of studying in a place that really isn't conducive to concentrating and end up with a lack of concentration and understanding of the topics. A place with a lot of distractions makes for a poor study area. If you try and study in your bedroom then you may find the bed, computer, TV, or a roommate more interesting than the study material you're trying to learn, hence you would not be able to concentrate well on your topics. The library, student lounge or study hall, or a quiet park can be good places to check out, but make sure to choose the quiet areas in these places, not the loud, central gathering areas. Investigate multiple places on-campus and off-campus. Finding an ideal study place is important because it's one you can reliably count on for the next few years.

**Your Approach:** Your approach towards any particular thing is of great importance, as it determines the kind of energy that you put in to do particular work. Also, the thing that you accomplish with your interest had better results than the one you did under pressure or unwillingly. Many students look at studying as a necessary task and not an enjoyment or as an opportunity to learn. But many researchers have found that how a person approaches something matters almost as much as what they do. Being in the right mindset while you study is important in order to study smarter and have a good understanding of your topics. Studying is something you can't force on yourself or someone else on you, to study well one needs to be in the right mindset. If you are not in the

right mindset you should simply avoid studying for your own goodwill. If you're distracted by an ongoing game or finishing an important project, or something going on in your friend-circle then studying is just going to be an exercise in frustration and you won't benefit anything out of it. It is advised to come back to it when you're not focused on something else going on in your life and are able to concentrate fully on your study topics.

**Study in Small Chunks Lasting 25 to 35 Minutes:** It is advised to take appropriate breaks while you study for an effective learning. Your memory and concentration will work better if you study in short bursts but often and you would be able to retain more. Also get a comfortable seating place for you so that you won't get tired easily because of incorrect posture. Avoiding back problems is important and that can only be achieved by the right posture. Drink plenty of water during the revision periods and also have some little snacks during the break. Get good, regular sleep and rest for efficient working of your system. Avoid intake of any stimulants such as caffeine during your breaks while you study.

**Effective Resources:** It is of due importance to have authentic and reliable resources to get your study material from. Make a list of resources available for help and study. This means noting the places from where you can get a good study material such as libraries, teachers, friends, siblings and people you can turn to for help when you get stuck. These could be your classmates, family or most importantly, your teacher. Make your learning Interactive and involve as many helpful people you can, because everyone has something or the other to contribute. Don't hesitate to ask about the things you don't understand during the class, as in the long term learning honesty always pays off... Explaining and discussing your work with fellow students and others also help.

**Schedule Yourself:** If you really want to achieve something in your life, then time management is very important. Too many people treat studying as the thing to do when you get around to it or have some spare time which is not the right way. You really need to schedule your study time just as your class time is scheduled and you'll find it becomes much less of a hassle for you and also you tend to cover much more in short intervals. Instead of last-minute cramming sessions just before the exams, you'll be better prepared for your exam well in advance. Just scheduling 2-3 hours for study during a normal day would help you a lot in effective preparation of topics. Some people study every day, others put it off to once or twice a week or later when exams are just on the verge. The frequency is not as important as actually studying on a regular basis as scheduled by you. Even if you just crack open a book once a week for a class, it's better than waiting until the first exam in a massive cram session. Hence try to make your effective study session and follow it whole round the year.

## Entertainment

# Twitter user asked her to 'date someone'; Samantha reacted

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu is an active social media user. She often takes time out of her hectic work schedule to interact with her fans on social media. She tries her best to answer her fans' queries whenever possible. She recently responded to a fan who requested her to date someone.

Taking to Twitter, the fan recently posted an edited clip of Samantha talking on a show. "I know it's not my place to say, but plz date someone @Samanthaprabhu2," the fan captioned the post. Samantha took notice of the tweet and responded to the user in an adorable way.

"Who will love me like you do (heart hands emoji)," she replied.

Samantha was previously married to actor Naga Chaitanya. They announced their separation on social media in a joint statement in October 2021. In it, they asked for privacy and support during these difficult times. Samantha and Chaitanya maintained that they will always 'hold a special bond' between them.

"After much deliberation and thought, Sam and I have decided to part ways as husband and wife to pursue our own paths. We are fortunate to have a friendship of over a decade that was the very core of our relationship which we believe will always hold a special bond between us. We request our fans, well-wishers and the media to support us during this difficult time and give us the privacy we need to move on. Thanking you for your support," Naga Chaitanya's post read.

The two tied the knot on October 7, 2017.

# Jennifer Aniston on wearing Manish Malhotra's dress in 'Murder Mystery 2': It was beautiful

Hollywood star Jennifer Aniston says she had a gala time gorging on Indian food and donning a "beautiful" lehenga by Indian fashion designer Manish Malhotra for her upcoming film "Murder Mystery 2".

Aniston, who enjoys a huge fan following in India courtesy her hit 1990s sitcom "Friends", wore an ivory-coloured chikankari lehenga designed by Malhotra for an Indian wedding sequence in the Netflix movie.

Renowned Hollywood costume designer Debra McGuire had picked the ensemble for the actor. Aniston, 54, described the dress, which took approximately three months to create, as a "beautiful" attire which was surprisingly heavy.

Actress Shilpa Shetty Kundra never takes her health for granted. From eating healthy to working out regularly, her fitness regime is definitely something one can look forward to.

On Monday, Shilpa once again inspired everyone with her workout video. She chose to burn calories by indulging in aerobic dance.

Take a look at her video In the caption, Shilpa talked about the benefits of aerobics dance. She wrote, "Some good music and lot of dancing - one of the best ways to start my week. Aerobics Dance is a cardiovascular exercise, which is a lot of fun as well. It conditions your heart & lungs, and burns fat when performed for 20 minutes and more. This type of aerobic activity burns fat efficiently as you have to move your arms and legs in coordination, for which the brain has to work too... More muscles involved means more calories burnt. Sharing a snippet, just 2 steps out of the entire routine, with all of you."

Dressed in a printed bralette and black tights, Shilpa looked comfortably stylish during her dance workout routine.

Shilpa Shetty  
lists down  
benefits of  
aerobics



# Legal notice sent to Netflix for 'Big Bang Theory' episode on Madhuri Dixit

A political analyst has sent a legal notice to streaming giant Netflix over an episode of "Big Bang Theory" that he claims uses a "derogatory term" against actor Madhuri Dixit.

In the legal notice, Mithun Vijay Kumar, a political analyst, has asked the streamer to remove the first episode of season two where the character of Raj Koothrapalli, played by Kunal Nayyar, and Jim Parsons who plays Sheldon Cooper compare Aishwarya Rai and Madhuri Dixit.

In the legal notice, Kumar points out that the remarks made by the character are not only offensive but also defamatory.

He has asked the streamer to remove the episode in question or face legal action for promoting discrimination against women.

