



Mallikarjun Kharge slams Centre over  
Rahul Gandhi to vacate bungalow

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# Afternoon

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## 3.81 crore spent on claim against car shed of Mumbai Metro 3

The planned Colaba-Bandre-Seepz Metro-3 project, which would relieve Mumbaikars from traffic jams, has not been started yet due to various reasons. Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Limited has informed RTI activist Anil Galgali that 3.81 crores have been spent on the court litigation of Mumbai Metro 3 Specially against the Aarey Colony car shed. The highest amount has been given to former Advocate General of

Maharashtra Ed Ashutosh Kumbhakoni.

RTI activist Anil Galgali had sought various information dated November 21, 2022 from the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Limited regarding the expenditure incurred on the Mumbai Metro 3 lawsuit. Anil Galgali filed the first appeal on January 24, 2023 after refusing to provide that information. Anil Galgali has been given the information available for the last 7 years after the first appellate officer R Ra-

mantha has ordered.

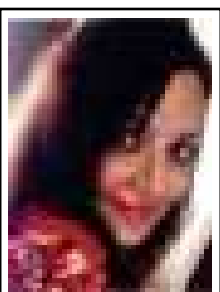
In 7 years from December 30, 2015 to January 9, 2023, Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Limited has spent a total of Rs 3 crore 81 lakh 92 thousand 613 on court claims. Then Advocate General of Maharashtra Ad Ashutosh Kumbhakoni 1.13 crores, Ad Aspi Chinoy 83.19 lakhs, Ad Kiran Bhaglia 77.33 lakhs, Ad Tushar Mehta 26.40 lakhs, Ad Maninder Singh 21.23 lakhs, As Rukmini Bobde 7 lakhs, Chitale

and Chitale 6.99 lakhs 5.81 lakh to Ad Shardul Singh, 3.30 lakh to Ad Atul Chitale, 1.77 lakh to Ad GW Mattos for fees paid against the bill raised by Advocates from the year 2015 to 2023 towards Metro Car Shed legal services is being provided.

According to Anil Galgali, the court expenses are expected but it is necessary to inquire whether the additional fees paid especially to the lawyers are justified or not.

## Atique Ahmed, a gangster turned politician now become VIP in jail

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Mainstream media went bizarre when Atique Ahmed was shifted from one jail to another. In the race of tele-casting the breaking news some TV channels showed him taking a break to urinate live on their channels. Several clips from Aaj Tak's live reporting of the 'event' went viral on social media platforms. Though the particular segment has been removed from the reports on Aaj Tak's YouTube channel, the clips are already viral and are making the rounds on social media. This news questioned the credible journalism of Aaj Tak and at the same time it brought the gangster turned politician to limelight.

After passing through different states, Atique Ahmed's cavalcade entered Uttar Pradesh on Monday morning and stopped at Jhansi police lines. The convoy is being followed by media teams, Ahmed's sister and lawyers. Earlier this month, Atiq Ahmed moved the Supreme Court for protection, claiming that he and his family had been falsely implicated in the Umesh Pal murder case in Prayagraj and he may be killed in a fake encounter by the UP Police. The Uttar Pradesh police chose a road route that passes through Madhya Pradesh's Shivpuri and Uttar Pradesh's Jhansi to bring back the gangster.

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## Editoritis

# Atique Ahmed, a gangster turned politician now become VIP in jail

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*Gangster Atiq Ahmed and two others were held guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment by a local court in the 2006 Umesh Pal kidnapping case.*

*Earlier, Atiq Ahmed's car almost overturned after hitting a cow on the road. Sadly, the cow died in the accident. Before getting onto the van for the journey, Ahmed had expressed fear that he will be killed by the UP police team.*

*In Uttar Pradesh Elections 2012, Ahmed contested under the Apna Dal banner from the Allahabad (West) constituency. He filed his nomination from jail. He appealed for bail in Allahabad High Court but 10 judges refused to hear the case.*

Gangster Atiq Ahmed and two others were held guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment by a local court in the 2006 Umesh Pal kidnapping case. Atiq Ahmed was brought to court from a jail in Gujarat in a police van and produced in the court amid tight security.

Earlier, Atiq Ahmed's car almost overturned after hitting a cow on the road. Sadly, the cow died in the accident. Before getting onto the van for the journey, Ahmed had expressed fear that he will be killed by the UP police team. "Hatya, hatya (murder, murder)...Mujhe inka programme maloom hai... Hatya karna chahte hain (I know their programme...They want to murder me)," he was heard saying.

Atique Ahmed a dreaded gangster turned politician is a former member of Indian Parliament and Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from Samajwadi Party. He was elected as a member of the legislative assembly from the Allahabad west seat for 5 consecutive terms which is a record. From 2004-2009, he was elected as a Samajwadi Party candidate for the 14th Lok Sabha from Phulpur in Uttar Pradesh. Between the years 1999-2003, he was the president of the Apna Dal, founded by Sone Lal Patel. He has more than 100 criminal cases registered against him and has been lodged in jail since 2019. Ahmed has fought several elections from jail while being lodged under various charges. In the 2009 General Elections, Atique Ahmad was allowed to run for election (since he was yet to be convicted in any case. However, the Samajwadi Party expelled him in the year 2008, and Mayawati refused him a ticket under BSP. Later, he contested in elections as a candidate from Apna Dal party from Pratapgarh only to lose the election.

In Uttar Pradesh Elections 2012, Ahmed contested under the Apna Dal banner from the Allahabad (West) constituency. He filed his nomination from jail. He appealed for bail in Allahabad High Court but 10 judges refused to hear the case. The 11th judge finally took up the matter and he was released on bail before the Elections. However, the seat went to Raju Pal's widow, Puja Pal. In 2014, he was taken back into the Samajwadi Party and fought the National Elections from the Shrawasti (Lok Sabha constituency). He managed to secure a

quarter of the votes but lost by nearly a lakh votes to Daddan Mishra of the BJP.

Atique Ahmed was shifted to Bareilly jail after being accused of kidnapping and assaulting a businessman Mohit Jaiswal in Deoria Jail. Mohit told the media that Atiq Ahmed's gang was asking him to pay extortion money. He was taken to the Deoria jail later for not paying the extortion money. Mohit was beaten up by the jail police guards and other goons. After the news was spread, the Uttar Pradesh government shifted Atique to Bareilly Jail and suspended the accused jail guards immediately. A call recording was also released in which Atique was threatening Mohit to pay extortion money or else he will be attacked.

Two other businessmen also accused Ahmed of kidnapping and assaulting them in Deoria Jail. Ahmed was shifted from the Prayagraj Central Jail to the Sabarmati Jail in Ahmedabad in June 2019. On 24th February 2023 Umesh Pal, a prime witness in the 2005 murder of Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) MLA Raju Pal was killed. Ahmed is the main accused in the Raju Pal and Umesh Pal murder case. Overnight he came to limelight when Uttar Pradesh Police went to the Sabarmati central jail in Ahmedabad to bring him back to Prayagraj. Atiq Ahmed was shifted to Sabarmati jail following a Supreme Court order in 2019 after he was accused of orchestrating the kidnapping and assault on a real estate businessman, Mohit Jaiswal, while in prison in UP.

Atiq, along with his gangster brother Khalid Azim alias Ashraf, who was brought from a Bareilly jail, and other co-accused, Farhan, were kept in separate barracks of the jail. Atiq's first night in the Prayagraj jail kept officials on their toes as they were tasked with ensuring safety and security.

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

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## Letters to the Editor

### Rahul Gandhi should take a sabbatical break from politics!

Congress is at loss of ideas & disqualification of Rahul Gandhi must be challenged in courts than from the streets of the country. Frustration of Rahul Gandhi is clearly visible & calling Prime Minister of the biggest democracy of the world 'Chor' (thief) is nothing but suicidal. Rahul has fired a bullet on his own foot by also involving 'Savarkar' & now even his alliance partners have decided to distant themselves from him. Rahul Gandhi needs to take a sabbatical break from politics & retrospect about his political journey in the days to come. It would even be a boon in disguise for the Congress who now needs to find a new leader if the longest political party of our country has to survive in future.

Winning elections is the only 'mantra' to come to power & Congress doesn't even have an outside chance to come to power in the current circumstances. Better sense should prevail & Congress should focus to rebuild their party without the Gandhis from scratch. BJP was reduced to 2 seats in Parliament but are today the undisputed party in our political system. Congress should take inspiration from their journey & think long term if they need to regain power in future!

S.N.Kabra.

### Edify SME's to reduce pollution

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME's) play an important role in India's economy About 30% of country's GDP is from SME's. These SME's have been identified as a major source of air and water pollution in many source as per apportionment studies. One of the causes of pollution from these sectors is a lack of regulatory practises such as environmental monitoring, guidelines, and best practices, a comprehensive fuel policy, regulatory enforcement, and poor policy implementation on the ground. As a result of the alarming increase in air and water pollution, it is time for regulators to act as an ombudsman, working on pollution mitigation measures and ensuring effective policy implementation. For better compliance, SME's should be trained by centre and state governments to make understand environmental laws and regulatory strategies. and also to make aware of ambient and stack-based monitoring. These should be trained for pollution load assessment of industrial emission. SME's should be trained for water audit for effective waste water management and also dissemination required for waste management to decrease pollution.

VijayKumar H K

### Leaders have to be sagacious

Even though article 19 of our Constitution promotes freedom of speech nowadays we see the same being misused knowingly and unknowingly by politicians, leaders, factions and parties. Leaders of all parties just ignore or it seems as if they forget that the article also has some restrictions. The words used by some of the politicians, irrespective of all parties, sometimes go beyond the decency limit resulting in verbal and physical conflicts between party workers and ending up in complete chaos. The recent 'caste defamation issue' and its aftermath is a clear example of how expression of words without being prudent can end up in legal problems and lead to utter chaos and conflicts. Leaders of all parties go for a tirade at the drop of a hat ending up in court cases, arrests and conflicts. What leaders forget is that expressing words without being sagacious, can result in counter derogatory remarks finally ending up in court cases and clashes. Leaders got to understand that they have to exercise restraint as the public are watching and listening and can definitely affect them during election. In this matter the famous aphorism by Benjamin Franklin "A slip of the foot you may soon recover, but a slip of the tongue you may never get over" turns out to be cent per cent apt.

M Pradyu

# Grave Glaucoma Distress

Glaucoma is sometimes called the "silent thief of sight" because it slowly damages the eyes and can cause irreparable harm before there is any vision loss. But this disease is stealthy in more ways than one. Glaucoma has been known at least since antiquity, and yet, researchers today still do not know what causes it in most cases. There are treatments to delay vision loss, but no cure, making it a leading cause of blindness all over the world. Glaucoma is a group of diseases that damage the optic nerve, a cable at the back of each eye that connects it to the brain. It affects more than 2.7 million people in the United States and more than 60 million worldwide. There are many forms of the disease, but primary open-angle glaucoma is the most common form and the most mysterious.

Most people do not realize any issue in vision until the damage is quite severe. The process of optic

nerve damage is irreversible and that's why Glaucoma is called the "Silent Thief of Sight". Only regular eye examination can detect the condition. Sometimes acute angle closure Glaucoma can present with severe headache, blurring of vision, severe pain and redness of eyes. How can Glaucoma be prevented? As stated earlier, it is not a preventable condition; buyt, it can be controlled.

Regular eye check-up is the best for people who do not realize any issue in vision until the damage is quite severe. The process of optic nerve damage is irreversible and that's why Glaucoma is called the "Silent Thief of Sight". Only regular eye examination can detect the condition. Sometimes acute angle closure Glaucoma can present with severe headache, blurring of vision, severe pain and redness of eyes. Glaucoma develops when fluids produced by the eyes are unable to flow out through the tra-

becular meshwork located between the cornea and iris, causing the channel to become blocked. This leads to the accumulation of fluid and an increase in intraocular pressure (IOP), which can compress the optic nerve and disrupt the conversion of light into nerve signals. If left untreated, this can result in visual changes or even vision loss.

Glaucoma can be classified into two main types: open-angle and closed-angle (or narrow-angle) glaucoma. Open-angle glaucoma occurs when the eye's fluids are unable to effectively drain from the anterior chamber, even though the angle is unobstructed. This type of glaucoma is often asymptomatic and causes gradual vision loss, earning it the nickname "silent thief of sight."

- Jayanthi Subramaniam

Columnist

# Innocent- the actor who taught life is laughter

Malayalam actor Innocent's death has created a void that can never be filled and his unexpected and shocking demise has caused an irreparable loss in the Malayalam film industry and South Indian film industry in general. He came, he saw and he conquered the hearts of millions of film lovers around the globe with his acting prowess especially comedy in which he carved a niche of his own. His style was inimitable and his witty mannerisms and eloquent dialogue delivery is something that makes him a class apart.

He was known for his timing sense, witty dialogues, sharp punchlines and the ability to teach the masses through humour. Such was his scintillating performance that leading heroes and directors offered Innocent enough screen space to give the movies an extra flavour. In-

nocent is one such comedian who has worked with almost all the superstars of the Malayalam film industry including Prem Nazir, Madhu, Mamooty, Mohanlal, Suresh Gopi, Jayaram, Dilip and the new-gen younger lot .

His roles in films like Ponnuttayidunna Tharavu, Ramji Rao Speaking, Vadakkunokkiyanthram, Mazhavil Kavadi, Kilukkam, No.20 Madras Mail, Sandesam, Devasuram, Godfather, Mithunam, 'Vietnam Colony', 'Nadodikattu', 'Devasuram', 'Ravanaprabhu', 'Manichitrathazhu', 'Kabooliwala', and 'Rasathanthram' are but just a few among the list of innumerable popular movies which catapulted Innocent to fame and placed him the numero uno comedian in Malayalam cinema.

His outstanding performances make him as one among the finest character actors of Malay-

alam and Indian cinema. He was a natural actor and gave life to some of the most loved characters of Malayalam cinema. Innocent acted in about 500 Malayalam films and besides being an actor he was also a producer, author of many books and also served as an MP.

Innocent is truly an ever-green star, an idol irreplaceable and one whom the film world and film lovers will always remember forever and ever.

M Pradyu

Columnist

Readers are requested to mail Letters to the Editor only at

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No postal letters will be entertained

(The views expressed are authors' own.)

City

## Woman dies after consumed poison outside Mantralaya, another serious



A woman who had consumed poison outside Mantralaya, the headquarters of the Maharashtra government here, died in hospital on Tuesday, police said.

The condition of another woman who too had consumed poison along with her was serious, said an official.

The incident had taken place on Monday. Shital Gadekar, a resident of Dhule district in northern Maharashtra, died at the

ICU of the state-run JJ Hospital. Gadekar had come to the Mantralaya in connection with a dispute over a plot of land at Dhule MIDC industrial area. Sangita Davare, a resident of Navi Mumbai, was also visiting Mantralaya to seek justice in a different matter, officials said.

Both arrived at Mantralaya in the same cab on Monday. They were apparently in contact with each other and another person, an 'activist'. When both were

seen consuming some suspected poisonous substance, police deployed on the gates of Mantralaya tried to stop them. They were immediately rushed to the JJ Hospital. Gadekar, who was shifted to the ICU on Tuesday, died during the treatment while Davare's condition was serious, said a police official.

According to Gadekar, a plot owned by her husband was transferred in the name of another person by officials of the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation with the help of bogus and forged documents in 2010. She had been complaining about it at various levels since then, the official said. Recently she had also warned of committing suicide if she did not get justice, he said.

In Davare's case, her husband, a police constable, lost his leg during a surgery, and she was demanding action against the doctor, he said.

## Four killed in collision between two motorcycles and pickup truck in Pune

Maharashtra has come out with a government resolution to set up a panel to offer incentives to prospective buyers of electric vehicles (EV) in the state in the coming months, under Electric Vehicle Policy, 2021. The panel held its first meeting at Mantralaya on Monday. Sources said that the aim is to encourage more registrations of EVs across Maharashtra,



with the population already having 22,000 electric vehicle registrations. touching 2.4 lakh. Mumbai

## Delhi HC issues summons to Uddhav Thackeray, Aditya Thackeray, Sanjay Raut on defamation plea

The Delhi high court on Tuesday summoned former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray, his son Aditya Thackeray and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Raut on a defamation suit filed by MP Rahul Ramesh Shewale for allegedly levelling frivolous corruption allegations against him and the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena faction. Justice Praatek Jalan admitted the defamation



suit and issued summons to Uddhav, Aditya and Raut.

## Renaming of Mumbai Central Terminus; Centre received proposal from Maha govt



The Centre has received a proposal from the Maharashtra government for the renaming of Mumbai Central Terminus after Nana Shankarsheth, but no decision has been taken on it yet, the Lok Sabha was informed.

Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai said the decision in such matters is taken after due consideration of the recommendation of various government agencies and other relevant factors. "...a proposal along with recommendation of the govern-

ment of Maharashtra for renaming of Mumbai Central Terminus as Nana Shankarsheth Mumbai Central Terminus was received. Decision in such matters is taken after due consideration of the recommendation of various government agencies and other relevant factors," he said replying to a written question.

The minister said the central government has not received any representation from the Namdar Jagannath (Nana) Shankarsheth Pratishthan, Mumbai in this regard.

## SIT found 'suicide note' in IIT-Bombay student's hostel room

More than a month after Darshan Solanki, an 18-year-old IIT Bombay student, died by suicide and the probe was transferred to Mumbai crime branch's special investigation team (SIT) over allegations of caste-based discrimination he faced, it has come to light that on March 3 the SIT had stumbled upon a "suicide note" in his hostel room in which he had reportedly named a roommate for pushing him to take the extreme step. At the



time of going to press on Monday, an FIR for abetment to suicide was being registered against Solanki's roommate.

## MU law results blooper: Many run from pillar to post

Several law students of Mumbai University whose semester 5 results were declared on Saturday were in for a rude shock as they were either declared absent or their names were missing from the result sheets. Several principals said, after they contacted the

university about the blooper, they were asked to submit a proforma with the details of the attendance sheets. In turn, they asked their students to collect the attendance sheets from their respective exam centres to attach as proof that they had indeed taken the exam.

## Nation

### BJP alleges AAP govt fails to fulfil its promises and announcements made in the budget



huri charged.

A provision of Rs 250 crore was made for setting up a shopping festival in Delhi, but it did not take place," he said. Not only this, the government forgot the promise of redevelopment of five markets -- Sarojini Nagar, Lajpat Nagar, Kirti Nagar, Khari Baoli, and Kamla Nagar, he said.

The government had promised to open 100 Mahila Mohalla Clinics which has been done again in the budget 2023-24, but only four opened, Bidhuri said. The Delhi government says it is given only Rs 325 crore as its share in central taxes whereas the truth is that the central government spends more than Rs 1.5 lakh crore on various infrastructure projects and schemes, he claimed. PTI

The AAP government makes promises and announcements in its budget every year but forgets to fulfil them, the BJP alleged in the Delhi Assembly on Monday. Addressing the House during a debate on the AAP government's budget 2023-24, Leader of Opposition Ramvir Singh Bid-

huri asked what happened to its schemes announced in Rozgar budget previous year.

"The Arvind Kejriwal government presents the budget but always forgets that budget. Every year, promises are made and then they are forgotten. No implementation is done on the announcements made in the budget," Bid-

### SC asks NCP leader "What is the fundamental right that is violated?" over MP disqualification



leader's right to represent the constituency is being taken away. He said the action is completely arbitrary. The bench asked him why he did not approach the high court. The lawyer replied that the top court is already seized of the matter. The bench then agreed to hear the matter on Wednesday. Earlier, senior advocate A M Singhvi, appearing for the former Lakshadweep MP, had submitted that the person has not been reinstated as an MP despite his conviction and sentence being stayed by the high court. Faizal stood disqualified from the membership of Lok Sabha from January 11, the date of his conviction in an attempt to murder case by a sessions court in Kavaratti, according to a notification issued on January 13 by the Lok Sabha Secretariat. In his petition filed in the apex court through advocate K R Sasiprabhu, Faizal said the Lok Sabha Secretariat failed to withdraw the notification despite the fact that his conviction was stayed by the high court on January 25. PTI

What is the fundamental right that is violated?" the Supreme Court on Tuesday asked NCP leader Mohammed Faizal who has filed a plea against the Lok Sabha Secretariat for not withdrawing a notification disqualifying him as an MP despite his conviction in an attempt-to-murder case being stayed by the Kerala High

Court.

A bench of Justices K M Joseph and B V Nagarathna posed the question to the lawyer appearing for the NCP leader after he mentioned the matter saying it be heard on Wednesday. "What is the fundamental right that is violated?" the bench asked the lawyer.

The counsel said the NCP

### Mallikarjun Kharge slams Centre over Rahul Gandhi to vacate bungalow



Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday slammed the Centre over Rahul Gandhi being asked to vacate his official bungalow, saying that he condemns the government's attitude to "threaten, scare and humiliate" the former party chief. He also said that Gandhi could go and live with his mother Sonia Gandhi at her 10 Janpath residence or he could himself provide a house by vacating one for the Gandhi scion.

"They will do everything to weaken him (Rahul Gandhi). He can go live with his mother or he can come to me, I will vacate one for him. I condemn this attitude of the government to threaten, scare and humiliate," Kharge told reporters before

leaving for Parliament.

"In democracy, several times we have managed without a house for three-four months. I got this bungalow after six months. People do these things to humiliate others. I condemn this attitude," the Congress president said. Gandhi was on Monday asked to vacate the government bungalow allotted to him by April 22 following his disqualification as a member of the Lok Sabha after his conviction in a defamation case last week. The Housing Committee of the Lok Sabha took the decision following which the secretariat of the House wrote to the former Congress president, a Z-plus protectee who has been living in the 12, Tughlaq Lane bungalow since 2005. PTI

### Centre informed SC that students who returned to India from Ukraine will be given single chance to clear MBBS final



The central government on Tuesday informed the Supreme Court that students who returned to India from Ukraine will be offered a single chance to clear the MBBS Final, both Part I and Part II Examinations without enrolling in any existing medical colleges. "The students may be offered a single chance to clear the MBBS Final, both Part I and Part II Examinations (Both Theory and Practical) as per existing NMC Syllabus and guidelines without being enrolled in any of the existing Indian Medical Colleges. They can

give and clear the examination within a period of one year. Part I, followed by Part II, after one year. Part II will be allowed only after Part I is cleared," the centre informed the court.

ASG Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the centre, apprised these facts to the bench of Justices B R Gavai and Vikram Nath. The centre informed SC that students can give and clear the examination within a period of one year. Part I, followed by Part II after one year. Part II will be allowed only after Part I is cleared. ANI

World

## Israel mission to UN takes part in strike action against judicial overhaul



Israeli mission to the UN in Geneva released a statement saying they are taking part in the strike action, Anadolu reported.

Israeli diplomats in Switzerland decided Monday to join a general strike to protest plans by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government to overhaul the judicial system, News Agency Anadolu reported.

"The Permanent Mission of Israel will remain closed until further notice and no consular services will be provided," it said

in a statement.

Histadrut has called on all government employees, including those at Israel's diplomatic missions around the world, to go on strike, Anadolu reported.

In response to a call by the Histadrut, Israel's General Federation of Labour, Israel's embassy in Switzerland has also suspended its services.

"Following general strike instructions from the Israeli Labor union, the embassy's consular services are suspended until further notice. Thank you for your

understanding," the embassy said on Twitter.

Following months-long protests against Israel's judicial overhaul, Netanyahu early Monday announced a delay to the controversial plans for judicial reform.

The reform plans have been decried by the opposition as a "power grab" in favour of the executive authority, Anadolu reported. Embattled Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was forced to back down on controversial plans to overhaul the country's judiciary on Monday, amid unprecedented nationwide strikes including a shutdown of the international airport, CNN reported.

Israel's Histadrut trade union which coordinated the strike said that some government ministries, the country's three biggest cities, banks, ports and many other companies and agencies were on strike on Monday and added that essential services such as hospitals and firefighters were to operate on a Saturday schedule, CNN reported.

## UN Security Council votes against Russian resolution on Nord Stream sabotage



The UN Security Council did not support the Russian-Chinese resolution on the international investigation of the Nord Stream sabotage Monday, Russian news agency TASS reported.

The resolution was supported by 3 countries, with zero votes against and 12 nations abstained. Thus, the resolution failed to receive the nine votes required for

approval.

The resolution was supported by Russia, China and Brazil, with Albania, the UK, Gabon, Ghana, Malta, Mozambique, the UAE, the US, France, Switzerland, Ecuador and Japan abstaining. The resolution was also co-authored by Belarus, Venezuela, DPRK, Nicaragua, Syria and Eritrea.

However, these states are not members of the Security Council

and did not take part in the vote. The UN Security Council on Monday will vote on a Russian-Chinese draft resolution on an international investigation into the sabotage of the Nord Stream 1 and Nord Stream 2 pipelines, Russian news agency TASS reported.

The text of the draft proposed UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres establish an international independent commission to conduct a comprehensive, transparent, and impartial investigation of all aspects of the act of sabotage on the Nord Stream 1 and Nord Stream 2 gas pipelines, including identifying the perpetrators, sponsors, organizers, and their accomplices.

The document encouraged countries conducting their own investigations to fully collaborate with the commission and share information with it. The document urged these nations to share information with other interested parties as well, TASS reported.

## 6.1-magnitude earthquake hits Japan's Hokkaido island

An earthquake of magnitude 6.1 on the Richter scale rocked Hokkaido island in Japan on Tuesday, the National Center for Seismology said.

Hokkaido is the northernmost of Japan's main islands, famous for its volcanoes, natural hot springs (onsen) and ski areas.

The quake hit off Japan's

Hokkaido island at a depth of 50 kilometres at 14:48:29 IST on Tuesday, the National Centre for Seismology said.

The earthquake originated off Aomori's eastern coast at a depth of around 20 kilometres, reported Kyodo News.

No casualties have been reported yet. More details are awaited.

## Afghan Foreign Ministry explosion: IS-K claims responsibility for heinous attack

The heavy blast that killed at least six near Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry in Kabul on Monday was planned and executed by the Islamic State, Reuters News Agency reported.

Taking to its Telegram account, IS-K claimed responsibility for the suicide attack that occurred near a security checkpoint leading to the foreign ministry in Afghanistan's capital, reported Reuters citing the Police.

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

## Kim urges N Korean experts to produce "powerful nuclear weapons"

Kim Jong Un maintains that his development of nuclear weapons is focused on defending North Korea against a hostile US and South Korea.

North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un has called on his country's scientists to expand production of "weapon-grade nuclear materials" and build more powerful weapons, state media reported.

Kim's latest calls, a reiteration of an earlier promise to ramp up nuclear weapons production "exponentially", came ahead of a United States Navy carrier strike group's scheduled arrival in South Korea on Tuesday, Al Jazeera reported.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported on Tuesday that Kim, in a briefing with officials from his nuclear weapons institute, said that North Korea should prepare to use its nuclear weapons "any-

time and anywhere".

"We should never be satisfied with the work to consolidate the thoroughgoing response posture of our nuclear force and should continuously strive to strengthen nuclear force steadily," Kim was quoted as saying by KCNA, according to South Korea's Yonhap News Agency.

Kim called on his officials to "expand on a far-sighted way the production of weapon-grade nuclear materials for thoroughly implementing the plan ... on increasing nuclear arsenals exponentially". He also told his officials to "put spurs to continuing to produce powerful nuclear weapons", KCNA reported.

North Korea last year declared itself an "irreversible" nuclear power and Kim recently called for an "exponential" increase in weapons production, including tactical nuclear weapons, Al Jazeera reported.

## Column

# Use your creativity to shine as an interior designer



**Vijay Garg**

Retired Principal Educational  
Columnist Malout Punjab

**B**eing an interior designer needs a good combination of skills, creativity and vision. It is a field where the students constantly need to brush up on skills and stretch their capacity every time.

People nowadays are becoming more aware of their standard of living and making sure that they lead a luxurious life. They work hard for the same, but with increasing population, inflation, and decreasing resources, it becomes a difficult task to achieve the goal. This is where the role of interior designers comes to the forefront. The best part of being an interior designer is that you are not bounded by any limits. Students can explore as much as they want to have an aesthetic and sustainable interior.

**Following are the five best career options in the field of interior designing:**

### **Creative Interior designer**

As simple as the name suggests, you will be just an interior designer who works on improving the aesthetics of a place. It can be a café, studio or home. By employing their creativity and technical knowledge, students would need to improve the appearance of the particular space once a building is constructed. From fixing the wall textures to illuminating them with good lights to deciding the colour of walls



and adding storage space, everything is their job.

### **Space planner**

This task is quite fun because students would be able to work on articulately managing the space available. They will have an idea of the things that one needs in that space and would need to fix that space in a way so that everything looks luxurious. For instance, if there is a space constraint, the students would need to make it look spacious. This task will bring you challenges, but there is no fun without the challenges.

### **Media production designer**

In our real lives, we are more

thrilled by the reel life. However, being a production or a set designer would allow the students to work with a unit and decide the stage for shooting. Students would have to create sets for theatres, movies, reality shows, and other places. They will directly be working with the movie or ad film directors, to create the perfect setting for each scene according to the script.

### **Exhibition designer**

As exhibition designers, students would have the opportunity to set up a closed space, like an auditorium or a stadium for numerous art exhibitions. They get to work on different themes and ideas based on what the exhibition is all about. If it

is an educational exhibition, they will have to bring out the little Einstein within themselves. If it is an abstract art or fashion exhibition, they will just need to bring out the little artist in themselves.

### **Retail merchandise designer**

As retail merchandise designers, students will need to plan campaigns for the merchandise and goods their clients deal with. They will have to create a marketing strategy as well as advertisement concepts for turning the client's company into a brand. Students can add value to the products and brands that a company is dealing with by actively using their imagination.

# Entertainment

## Actress Priyanka Chopra says, "She was pushed to corner in Hindi cinema" over moving to US

After spending almost two decades in Hindi cinema, actor Priyanka Chopra Jonas says she decided to move to Hollywood as filmmakers back home were "not casting" her and she needed a break from the exhausting politics of the industry. "I had beef with people," Priyanka said on the comedy podcast "Armchair Expert" with Hollywood actors Dax Shepard and Monica Padman. When Shepard asked what made her start from scratch in an unknown territory, the popular Indian actor said she had never spoken about the reasons in public before. "I've never said this, so I'm going to say it because you all make me feel safe," she began. The National Award winner said she was in the zone of being a "serious actor" and not doing "mega movies" when she got a call from her current manager Anjula Acharia while on the Coorg set of Vishal Bhardwaj's 2011 movie "7 Khoon Maaf".

"I spoke to this woman. I'd recorded a demo because I just love music. She goes 'I love this demo. Would you be open to music?' I was like 'What does that even mean?' I've never been in the studio for real. She flew down. I was like 'I'll be a rockstar if I think I can.' I was being pushed into a corner in the (Hindi film) industry. I had people not casting me for reasons, I had beef with people, am not good at playing that game so kind of was tired of the politics and I said I needed a break," Priyanka, who started her career in Los Angeles as a singer in 2012, told Shepard and Padman. ANI



On Monday, actor Varun Dhawan shared a cool picture of him flaunting his body. Taking to Instagram, Varun dropped the image in which he is seen flexing muscles while taking a dip in swimming pool. He is also seen wearing pink pool glasses.

"Summertime," Varun captioned the post.

However, more than Varun's body it was actress Janhvi Kapoor's comment that caught everyone's attention.

Teasing Varun, Janhvi commented, "I think those goggles might be a bitttt too small for u."

In no time, Varun replied back and quipped, "stole them from a child."

Varun and Janhvi's fun banter left everyone in splits. "Oh my God you both are so funny," a social media user commented. "Hahaha hilarious," another one wrote. Varun and Janhvi will be seen sharing screen space in 'Bawaal', which is helmed by Nitesh Tiwari. The film is scheduled to release on October 6. ANI

**Actress Janhvi Kapoor's hilarious comment grabs everyone's attention over Varun Dhawan's picture**

## Actor Farhan Akhtar spills beans over being a filmmaker

Farhan Akhtar who is all set to return to director's chair after over a decade with the upcoming movie 'Jee Le Zaraa' on Tuesday shared his thoughts on being a filmmaker. Taking to Instagram, Farhan shared a picture of himself with a shooting camera along with a note.

He wrote, "Every once in a while I stop and think about how lucky we film makers are .. to think up a story and then connect with likeminded dreamers to bring that story to life... to get to share what once lived just in the mind with the world and hopefully... hopefully... elicit the intended emotional response." He added, "There's no other place I'd rather be. Behind a camera or in front of a camera. Doesn't matter. As long as it's telling stories. See you at the movies." ANI



## Oldest drag queen Darcelle XV passes away at 92

The Guinness World Record holder for oldest drag queen performer, Darcelle XV, passed away on Thursday at the age of 92, due to natural causes. Taking to Instagram, Darcelle XV Showplace announced the news and wrote, "The family of Darcelle XV along with her cast and crew are heartbroken to announce that our beloved Darcelle (Walter W. Cole, Sr.) has died at age 92 from natural causes. We ask for privacy and patience as everyone processes and grieves in their own way and at their own pace. Details of a public memorial will be announced as soon as they are confirmed." Darcelle XV's real name was Walter W. Cole.

According to CNN, Darcelle XV was crowned the oldest drag queen by Guinness World Records in 2016. The Darcelle XV Showplace, which she owned, is "the West Coast's longest-running drag show," as per Guinness. As per the Instagram post, all of the upcoming shows at the cabaret will go on as scheduled.

"All shows at Darcelle XV Showplace will go on as scheduled per Darcelle's wishes. Please join us and celebrate her legacy and memory, thank you in advance for your continued support," the post concluded. Cole was born in 1930 and raised in Portland's Linnton neighbourhood. He served in the US Armed Forces and was discharged in the late 1950s, according to his club's website, which says he used money he received from the military to start his first business. Walter Cole is described as an author, playwright, actor, costume designer, owner and headliner of the Darcelle XV Showplace, the oldest continuously running cabaret in the United States, celebrating its 54th year. ANI

