



Sanjay Raut backs UP CM Adityanath on encounters

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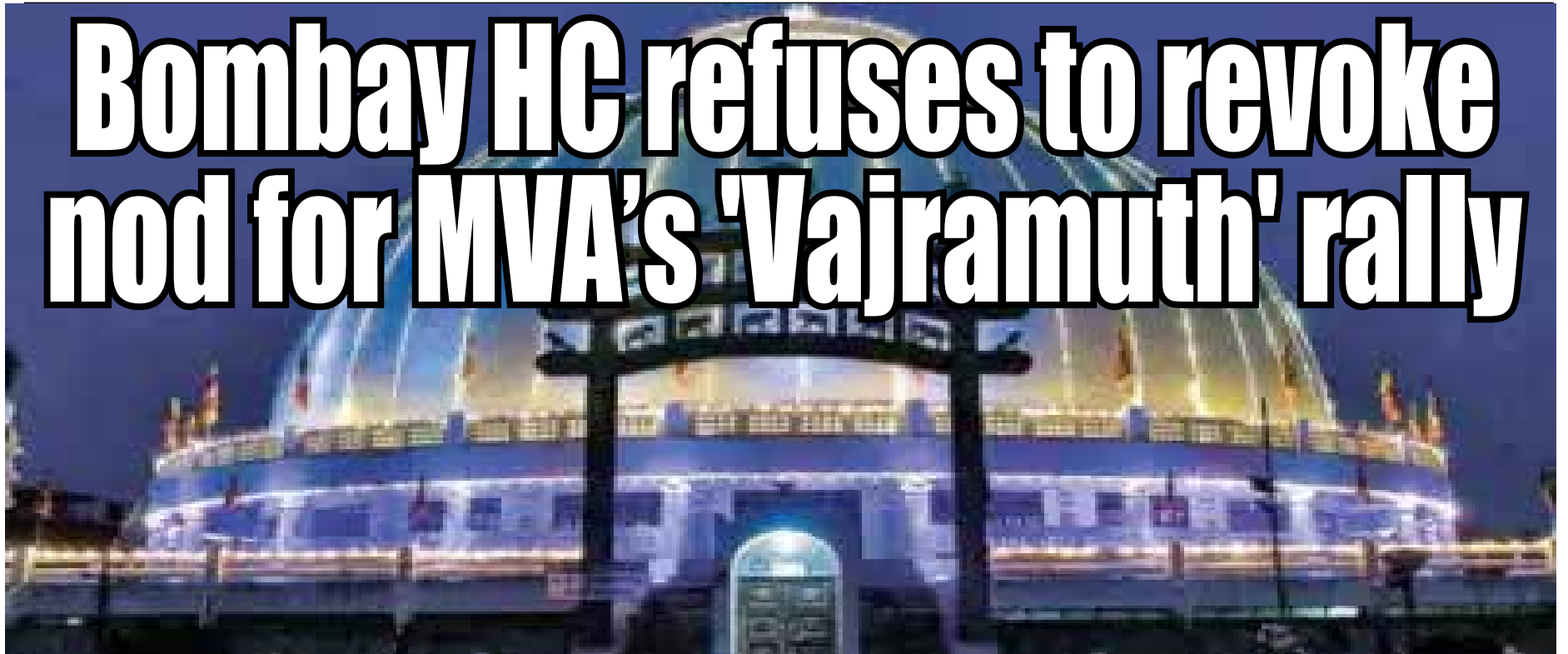
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Bombay HC refuses to revoke nod for MVA's 'Vajramuth' rally



The Nagpur bench of Bombay high court on Thursday refused to revoke permission granted for the 'Vajramuth' rally of Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) organized at the Darshan Colony playground in Nagpur on Sunday. Residents of Darshan Colony had knocked on the judiciary's doors for cancellation of permission granted by the Nagpur Improvement Trust (NIT) for the MVA rally.

Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Raut said his party chief Uddhav Thackeray would be attending the rally in Nagpur and alleged hurdles were being set up by the "government and others" to stop the gathering, which meant the Bharatiya Janata Party was afraid in its stronghold.

"The government and some other people are trying to stop the rally from taking

place, despite it being held with all requisite permissions. If you (BJP) are trying to create hurdles to stop the rally, it means you are afraid on your home turf," Raut said.

The Maha Vikas Aghadi leaders plan to hold meetings in each district of the combined eastern Vidarbha region to prepare for the rally. The meetings that were held in Nashik, Khed, and Sambhajnagar received significant support from the public, he added.

Veteran Congress leader Hussain Dalwai told Afternoon Voice, "Some people think that only BJP can take out the rally and other people do not have democratic rights.

When asked over comments of some BJP leaders which have stated that Maha

Vikas Aghadi has difference of opinion and do not have unity?

"Our alliance is working fine and there no issues in it and Why is BJP looking into MVA's business instead of looking into their party's matter" Dalwai further added.

"When congress was in power at that time we never stopped any oppositions for the rally and talking about the issue of alliance our party respects everyone's opinion but BJP- Shivsena alliance faces problem of speaking as Shinde faction Shivsena is not able to put forward their opinion and only listens to BJP" said, Vice President Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee Charulata Tokas.

UBT shivsena leader Vilas Potnis said, "This is wrong when BJP takes out

any rally we don't stop them and results of the elections would decide which party has strong alliance".

"Taking out rally is the democratic right and when court has given its decision then BJP should not involve in this matter" said, NCP leader, Advocate Majeed Memon.

NCP leader Pradip Jadhav said, "The court has taken its decision and now BJP might be scared of loosing the polls or BJP might be scared of maximum people supporting MVA and not BJP.

When asked over allegations made by the BJP leaders over opposition's does not have unity in their party to which BJP leader Bhalchandra Shirsat said, "It is some person's personal opinion and if law and order situation is maintained during the rally then there is no issue".

Why does India always lack a "Happiness Index"?

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

India is a country with a lot of complications and criticisms; the biggest democracy is under a silent dictatorship. People are divided on religious beliefs and political ideologies. How can we expect happiness across nations? World Happiness Report that has been presented by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network for the past decade. 2022 saw the 10th edition of this report crown Finland as the happiest nation in the world. Interestingly, Finland has been leading the list for the fifth time; however, India has ranked much lower on this list at 136. Nepal ranks at 84, Bangladesh at 94 and Pakistan ranking at 121. Sri Lanka has bagged number 127 and all these

nations have ranked above India, while the only South Asian country to rank lower than India is Taliban-ruled Afghanistan that bagged the last spot among 146 countries. India's ranking has improved from previous years

These are the people who depends upon government to help them out from their melancholy, they depends upon government for basic needs, they don't give dam to environment or population all they need is 3 times meals and a roof to live under but it's shameful even after more than 75yrs of independence we are not able to even achieve that.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

Editoritis

Why does India always lack a "Happiness Index"?

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We have ration shops which are supposed to give ration to people for minimal charges but in actual they give up the major portion of it to other grocery stores and keep very low adulterated amounts for people.

People get killed in the name of religion, caste creed and most of the time due to political vendettas. Think tanks are put behind bars, journalists are under attack, and whistle-blowers are killed in broad daylight. There is no education policy in place, no jobs and no resources.

The burden on society is so much that they basically start adjusting our lives and start sacrificing their desires which eventually leads to extreme unhappiness.

We have ration shops which are supposed to give ration to people for minimal charges but in actual they give up the major portion of it to other grocery stores and keep very low adulterated amounts for people. Child abuse and rapes have rampant, woman is not safe and even animal are getting molested in the recent past. There are people who slog for an entire day but hardly manage their daily meals. Hunger index is worrisome.

There is another class of people who are always in a dilemma whether to live in India or to move out, they are the one who always pay taxes. These are the people who travel for hours in day time to reach work and back home. These are the people where divorce rates are increasing day by day; this is the class of people where children are depressed and divested. They spend their entire life saving on illnesses.

People get killed in the name of religion, caste creed and most of the time due to political vendettas. Think tanks are put behind bars, journalists are under attack, and whistle-blowers are killed in broad daylight. There is no education policy in place, no jobs and no resources. The societies where rich become richer and poor remain poorer. There is huge social and economic inequality. And then there is gender inequality, growing prostitution, drug addiction and dubious activities. An average of hundreds of people get duped every day by one or the other reason.

We live for others not for ourselves- This is one of the most important factors why we are unhappy. Our Parents spend more than they can afford on a wedding because they think their social reputation is at stake. People are doing everything to prove something to other people but not to themselves. The burden on society is so much that they basically start adjusting our lives and start sacrificing their desires which eventually leads to extreme unhappiness.

Right from going to the office daily and learning for academics, the enormous queue. Commute and everything

is a problem and this leads to cut throat competition in every sphere. This is again due to the huge population and lack of willingness of respective governments, administration and public hospitals.

To a certain extent, too many languages, too many cases, too many differences and still trying to get accommodated is very tough, though we say unity in diversity and all that...even for necessities like water/dams there are fights between various states and the legislation system is very weak. Biased judiciary and time taking justice system is another issue. Over-crowded jails and thousands of under-trials languished in it. Legal system is so important and it is very weak in India. Justice, sorting of issues, duration of cases, property/corruption and scam management has to improve so that the general public are happy. The importance of this department is paramount and unfortunately its effectiveness is very less here in India. Father of all other problems is corruption. Unless there is clean governance by all parties and a happier resolve for getting issues sorted without corruption we have a long struggle. India has huge talent, Human resources, manpower, technology and quite efficient know-how then... where else lies the problem? Implementation!

Hope one day we overcome all odds and see our country at the peak of the happiness index.

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Voices



Letters to the Editor

Thirsty birds!

It is hot summer days now. In the afternoon, the intensity of the heat is felt more. Not only humankind but birds also feel thirsty due to heat. Birds such as crows, sparrows, pigeons, parrots are found in more or less quantity in the city even today. We all people should provide some water for birds in places like window, terrace, balcony of our house. So, in search of water, birds will come there to quench their thirst. By drinking the water birds will quench their thirst. Showing mercy to every living being is humanity.

Sudhir Kangutkar

Adoption is the answer to loneliness!

The High Court has rightly slammed the civil court & pointing out that it is medieval mindset to believe that divorced working woman can't adopt. Adoption is a noble deed & needs to be encouraged on all fronts as it provides shelter & security to an orphaned child. Single mothers I believe are in a better position to take care of an orphaned kid & they are infact grooming a child to look after them in their old age is testimony of the love they would impart & care to the child in their upbringing.

The tribe of single mothers is on the rise for whatever reasons & adoption is answer to fill the vacuum in one's life & same holds good for single parent as well. Today the elderly & sick have to live in Old age homes because they have no one to look after them. Adoption is the answer to loneliness & certainly needs to be encouraged as it solves an social issue as well!

S.N.Kabra

The End of Era

The demise of Islamic scholar, President of AIMPLB Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadvi is a great and irreparable loss for the nation. He grew and brought up under the supervision of his great uncle Maulana Abul Hasan Ali Nadvi (r.a). His distinctive contribution to Arabic language is undeniable and He received a Presidential award for it. He was the author of thirty books. He was frequently named one of the world's 500 Most Influential Muslims. He served twenty years as the Custodian and President of AIMPLB. He was last among the golden chain of sub-continent scholars. May Allah grant him highest place in paradise.

Muzakkir Khan

Manja string still being used extensively

Even though National Green Tribunal has imposed a ban on the "manja" string it is still widely and boldly being used in many states. Because "manja" is coated with glass, metal, and other sharp materials, these strings act as good conductors of electricity, making it more likely that a cut manja cord will snag on power lines, keep kite flying and passersby away. Manja maims and kills thousands of pigeons, crows, owls, endangered vultures and other birds each year, tearing their wings and sometimes cutting off their legs. Humans are not safe from deathcode either. Many people have had their throats cut while walking, riding a motorcycle or scooter, or getting into a car with their head stuck out the window. Also, when one of his power lines is cut by Manja, it can affect thousands of people. According to reports, it's hard to believe the authorities are still allowing manja in the country. Without laws banning their production, sale, and use, no one is safe from deadly sharp lines.

Vijaykumar H K

Malayalis Spirit on the Vishu Day

Vishu is one of the most popular South Indian festivals

Vishu is one of the most popular South Indian festivals and it is widely celebrated in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It is the traditional New Year for the residents of these states. The people living in this region speak Malayalam language, it is also known as the Malayalam New Year.

In Kerala, the start of the Zodiac New Year, when the sun enters into Sidereal Aries, Ashwini nakshatra—is celebrated as Vishu. It is said that what one sees when one first opens one's eyes on Vishu morning is an indication of what one can expect in the year to come. Thus in Vishu, effort is made to assure one opens one's eyes before an auspicious image—the Vishukkani. While the festival is called "Vishu" only in Kerala, across India festivals sharing the same spirit such as Ugadhi in Andhra Pradesh and in Karnataka, Gudi Padwa in Maharashtra, Bihu in Assam and Baisakhi in Punjab are celebrated around the same time of year. The Malayalam word kani literally means that which is seen first, so Vishukkani means that which is seen first on Vishu day.

Like most parts of India, festivals in Kerala are an integral part of the social and cultural structure of the state and festival time is the best time to plan one's travel to Kerala. In Kerala, every community, every religion has something to celebrate about all throughout the year. Vishu is one of the important festivals of Kerala. It comes in the month of April, usually on the 14th. According to the traditional Malayalam calendar, it is the 1st day of the first month of Medam (March-April) of the New Year. Traditional rituals are followed to bring in another year of prosperity. Vishu is one of the most popular festivals of Kerala. Since it is considered propitious to view good things on this day for year round good fortune, Vishu morning is an important time.

The heart of this festival of Kerala is the preparation of the kani, the lucky sight or gift. The custom of preparing the kani has

been followed for generations. The women take a large dish made of bell-metal called uruli, arrange in it a grantha that is palm-leaf manuscript, a gold ornament, a new cloth, some flowers from the Konna Tree, some coins in a silver cup, a split coconut, a cucumber, some mangoes and a jack-fruit. On either side of the dish are placed two burning lamps with a chair facing it. Family members are taken blindfolded and then their blindfolds are removed and they view the Vishu Kani. As in other Indian festivals, a great feast at home is the high point of celebrating Vishu in Kerala.

After visiting the family. Feast is arranged with all the Kerala delicacies, Kootu, Kari, Avial, Olan, Payasam etc etc. Thus the 'Vishukkani' has over the years become a ritual arrangement of auspicious articles like raw rice, fresh linen, golden cucumber, betel leaves, arecanut, metal mirror, the yellow flowers konna, and a holy text and coins, in a bell metal vessel called 'uruli'. A lighted bell metal lamp called nilavilakku is also placed alongside. As Vishu ushers in a New Year dawn, people wake up to behold the ritualistic arrangement. Giving off hands to the younger members of the family is part of the celebrations.

Arranged in the family puja room the night before by the mother in the family, the Vishukkani is a panorama of auspicious items, including images of Lord Vishnu, flowers, fruits and vegetables, clothes and gold coins. The Vishukkani will also be laden with gold-coloured fruits and vegetables, such as bananas, jackfruit, golden cucumber, etc. The akshatam, as it is full of turmeric, also is gold in colour and the reflection can be seen in the mirror. Last but not least, a spiritual book, such as the Bhagavad-Gita, should be made part of the arrangement.

The grandmother or mother who arranges the Vishukkani will sleep in the puja room after she is finished and then, waking during the auspicious hour of the Brahma muhurta between 4:00 to

6:00 a.m., she will light the oil-lamp wicks and take in the auspicious sight. She will then walk to the rooms where the rest of the family is sleeping and wake them. Covering their eyes, she will then lead them to the puja room, where she will allow them to take in the auspicious sight. The auspicious start of the year, which has come to us due to the grace of beginning it with a divine vision, is not for us alone. It is up to us to spread this love, happiness and hope to the rest of society. All South Indian Festivals end with a big feast and Vishu is not an exception to this way of celebrations.

Vishu, the festival of Malayalee community is being celebrated on 14-4-2021 in a colourful way. The colourful and picture festival represents the spirit of the Malayalees in India in general and all over the world in particular. 31 types of dishes were served in plantain leaves to the members. The menu includes Thayir Pachadi, inchi kari, Achar Naranga, Achar Manga, Dal, Nei, inchi puli, moru, Kondattam, Molaku, Ishtu, Elisseri, Chakara upperi, Varuta Kaya upperi, Pazham, Uppu, Nadan, Choru, Cheriya Choru, Mathan Puli pachadi, Kootu Kari, Kalan, Olan, Aviyal, Thoran made of Kabaj, mix thoran, Sambhar, Rasam, giant size Papadam and small one as well. All's well that ends well. A positive ending can overshadow any problems that may have preceded it. Although this phrase is the title of a Shakespeare play, it likely predates it. Vishu reveals the real Malayalis spirit and the feast on that day is really a special one. Festivities are for enjoyment and Vishu festival is not an exception to this.

- C K Subramaniam

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.)

Sanjay Raut backs UP CM Adityanath on encounters



Backing Yogi Adityanath over the encounter of gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmad's son Asad, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Friday said if the Uttar Pradesh chief minister wants to end mafia raj then there should be no question of caste and religion.

Criminals and terrorists have no caste or religion, he said, adding that those who have suspicions on such police action can

always approach courts for remedial measures.

As per UP police, Asad and his associate Ghulam, both accused in the February 24 murder of Umesh Pal, a key witness in the 2005 killing of then BSP MLA Raju Pal, were shot dead after they opened fire at a Special Task Force team that had encircled them in Jhansi on Thursday.

The murder of Umesh Pal and the brazen manner in which

it was carried out had cast a shadow on Adityanath's assertions that law and order had vastly improved in UP under Bharatiya Janata Party rule, leading to him swearing in the Assembly there that he would wipe out the mafia.

"Yogi ji (Adityanath) has said since the beginning that he will end mafia raj in Uttar Pradesh. If the CM has said he wants to end mafia raj then there should be no question of caste and religion," Raut told reporters.

"Criminals and terrorists have no religion or caste. But if anyone is killing extra-constitutionally or brutally then the doors of the courts are open," the Shiv Sena (UBT) Rajya Sabha MP added.

He, however, also taunted the Adityanath government by claiming the people of Uttar Pradesh as well as those in power there were of the opinion that mafia raj prevails in the northern state.

Maha records 1,152 COVID cases, 4 deaths



Maharashtra on Friday reported 1,152 COVID-19 cases, a rise from the addition to the tally a day earlier, and four deaths, a health official said. It took the tally to 81,54,529 and the toll to 1,48,475, he added.

He pointed out that 1,086 cases and one death were reported on Thursday. Mumbai accounted for 284 cases, followed by 83 in Thane, 79 in Nagpur, 74 in Pune, and 66 in Navi Mumbai.

Nagpur reported two deaths, while Mumbai and Sindhudurg

saw one death each, the health official said.

The recovery count increased by 920 in the last 24 hours to touch 80,00,126, leaving the state with an active caseload of 5,928, he said.

As per state health department data, the recovery rate is 98.11 per cent, while 8,67,72,006 coronavirus tests have been conducted so far, including 15,849 in the last 24 hours.

Maharashtra coronavirus figures for the day: Fresh cases: 1,152; Fatality: 4; Active cases: 5,928; Tests: 15,849.

Cop killed after BEST bus hits his motorcycle in Mumbai; driver held

A 43-year-old police inspector died on Friday after his motorcycle was dashed from the rear by a speeding BEST bus in Vakola in the western part of Mumbai, an official said.

Inspector Pravin Ashok Dinkar of Marine Drive police station was on his way to work from his official quarters in Kole Kalyan in Santacruz East when the accident took place at 9am near New Modern School on Nehru Road, he said.

"He sustained serious injuries and died after being admitted in VN Desai Hospital. The process of registering a case is underway. Senior officials, including Joint Commissioner (Law and Order) Satya Narayan, visited the hospital," the Vakola police station official said.

The 35-year-old driver of the bus, which was going from Pratiksha Nagar in Sion to Marol in Andheri, has been arrested, the Vakola police station official added.

Night showers break city's 49-yr rainiest April record

Mumbai: The unseasonal hour-long rain activity, coupled with thunder and lightning, on Thursday post-midnight brought some respite to Mumbaiers from the hot and humid

weather and broke the city's 49-year record for wettest April. The intense rain spell was concentrated in parts of the western suburbs — Borivli, Charkop, Goregaon, Jogeshwari, Vile Parle and Juhu.

Maha CM Governor pay tributes to Dr Ambedkar on his birth anniversary

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and other political leaders in the state paid tributes to Dr B R Ambedkar on his 132nd birth anniversary on Friday.

CM Shinde garlanded the portrait of Dr Ambedkar at "Varsha", his official residence in south Mumbai, and paid floral tributes. He greeted the people of the state on the occasion.

The chief minister later visited Chaitya Bhoomi, the memorial of the chief architect of India's Constitution at Dadar in central Mumbai, and paid tributes.

Governor Ramesh Bais tweeted, "Respectful tributes to the Architect of Indian Constitution Bharat Ratna Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar on the occasion of his



birth anniversary."

Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis said in a tweet, "My pranams to the great social reformer and father of the Indian constitution Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar on his birth anniversary."

Nationalist Congress Presi-

dent (NCP) president and former Union minister Sharad Pawar said on the micro-blogging platform that Dr Ambedkar brought people out of the mental slavery of caste discrimination and worked hard to establish equality and social justice in the society.

Fire at eatery in south Mumbai, nobody injured

A fire broke out at an eatery in Kala Ghoda area of south Mumbai early on Friday, officials said. The blaze erupted in some scrap material kept at the cafe located

on the ground floor of a three-storey building around 3.45 am, they said. Nobody was injured in the fire and it was doused within 15-20 minutes, a civic official said.

The fire was confined to the electric wiring, chimney, furniture and scrap material of the eatery, according to a fire brigade official. The cause of the fire is being ascertained, he added.

Nation

Congress leader Sonia Gandhi alleged that the regime in power is "misusing and subverting"



Launching a scathing attack on the government on B R Ambedkar's birth anniversary, former Congress chief Sonia Gandhi on Friday alleged that the regime in power is "misusing and subverting" the institutions of the Constitution, and the people must act to defend the Constitution from this "systematic assault". Penning an article in The Telegraph on the 132nd birth anniversary of Ambedkar,

the architect of India's Constitution, Gandhi said today the real "anti-nationals" are those who are misusing their power to divide Indians against each other on the grounds of religion, language, caste and gender. "

As we honour Babasaheb's legacy today, we must remember his prescient warning that the success of the Constitution depends on the conduct of the people entrusted with the duty

to govern," the Congress parliamentary party president said.

She alleged that today, the regime in power is misusing and subverting the institutions of the Constitution, and weakening its foundations of liberty, equality, fraternity and justice. Gandhi alleged that liberty is "threatened" by misusing the law to harass people rather than to protect their rights and equality is "assaulted" by "favoured treatment to chosen friends" in every sphere, even as the vast majority of Indians suffer economically. "Fraternity is eroded by deliberately manufacturing an atmosphere of hatred and polarising Indians against each other. The resultant injustice is amplified by pressuring the judiciary through a sustained campaign," Gandhi said.

At this junction in our nation's history, people must act to defend the Constitution from this "systematic assault", she said. PTI

Pfizer Bivalent vaccine reduces Covid related death risk by 68 Pc in older people: Study

Vulnerable people aged 65 years and over receiving the Pfizer bivalent mRNA vaccine booster dose showed 72 per cent lower risk of Covid-related hospitalisation and 68 per cent lower risk of Covid-related death, according to a new study published in the journal The Lancet Infectious Diseases.

Bivalent mRNA vaccines, containing elements from both the original wild type COVID strain and an updated component from the omicron strain, were designed to help improve vaccine-induced immunity against the omicron variant and subsequent subvariants. These vaccines started replacing the older style monovalent boosters in the USA, Israel, and other countries since September, 2022.

"Our findings highlight the



importance of new types of vaccines containing different variants of SARS-CoV-2, which are likely to induce broader immune responses and provide enhanced protection against severe outcomes," explained study co-author Ronen Arbel, Community Medical Services Division, Clalit Health Services, Tel Aviv, Israel. PTI

Shashi Tharoor says, "What a disgrace" over Maulana Azad references removed from NCERT



Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Friday slammed the government over the removal of references to India's first education minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad in the new NCERT class 11 political science textbook, calling it a "disgrace".

References to freedom fighter and India's first education minister Azad have been removed from the new class 11 political science textbook by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

Tagging a media report on it, Tharoor, a former minister of state for human resource development, tweeted, "What a disgrace. I have no objection to adding neglected figures to the historical narrative, but deleting people, especially for the wrong reasons, is unwor-

thy of our diverse democracy and its storied history." As part of its "syllabus rationalisation" exercise last year, the NCERT, citing "overlapping" and "irrelevant" as reasons, dropped certain portions from the course including lessons on Gujarat riots, Mughal courts, Emergency, Cold War, Naxalite movement, among others from its textbooks.

The rationalisation note had no mention of any changes in class 11 political science textbook. The NCERT has, however, claimed that no curriculum trimming has taken place this year and the syllabus was rationalised in June last year. "Certain changes not finding mention of in the rationalised content book could be an 'oversight'," NCERT Director Dinesh Saklani reiterated. PTI

ED is "misleading" the court with false evidence says, CM Arvind Kejriwal

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday accused the Enforcement Directorate of "misleading" the court with false evidence in the excise policy case. He was talking to reporters after attending the Ambedkar Jayanti celebrations at the Delhi Assembly. "The ED is taking false statements by torturing people and pressuring them. Even in the case of Sanjay Singh, it has come to the fore that the accused gave a different statement and the ED has written something else in the charge sheet," Kejriwal said, replying to a question about

the ED's charge that his former deputy Manish Sisodia destroyed his mobile phones.

The chief minister said that the ED has claimed that Sisodia has broken his phones but many of those phones are in agency's custody. "The ED is misleading the court with false evidence, torturing people, taking false statements. There is nothing in this whole matter, the whole matter is fabricated and is based on false evidence. This is not a good thing," he said.

Kejriwal also said his government was following the footsteps

of B R Ambedkar by giving utmost importance to education. "Today is the birthday of Babasaheb Ambedkar, the biggest shining star in the history of India, who got higher education after a lot of struggle and finally wrote the Constitution of India," he said. "Babasaheb gave the biggest message in his life that everyone should get good education. And following his path, we too are giving utmost importance to education. Whether it is the child of the poor or the child of the rich, everyone should get good education," he added. PTI

Delhi Court orders to frame charges against Gopal Ansal for cheating, forgery, criminal conspiracy

The Patiala House Court of Delhi ordered the framing of charges against real estate businessman Gopal Ansal for offences including cheating, forgery and criminal conspiracy with a private company and its promoters. Metropolitan Magistrate Yashdeep Chahal of Delhi's Patiala House Court has put Gopal Ansal on trial under a section of the Indian penal code related

to cheating, forgery and criminal conspiracy in a matter pertaining to allegedly defrauding a private company and its promoters in the name of investment in a building at Connaught Place here in 1991.

"I find it a fit case to frame charges against accused Gopal Ansal for the commission of offences punishable under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471, 201, 120B IPC", said MM Yashdeep

Chahal while passing an order last week. However, the same Court discharged Sushil Ansal, elder brother of Gopal Ansal noted that the material on record is grossly insufficient. "Apart from a bare statement that the fraud was not possible without the involvement of all the directors, there is nothing on record to implicate him," said the court in order.

World

China removes references to Marx, Lenin from State Guidelines, leaves only Jinping thought

The newest version of the "Working Procedures for the State Council", a document that guides the highest state body in China, no longer contains references to concepts such as democracy, rule of law, or openness, or even Marxism-Leninism, the ideology of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), Vision Times reported. Published on official regime websites on March 18, the Procedures also lack any mention of past CCP leaders, from Mao Zedong to Hu Jintao, or their ideological contributions to the regime.



The rulebook only refers to the doctrines of Xi Jinping, informing State Council officials that they must heed his directives as the "core" of the Communist Party's Central Committee.

Xi's official contributions to CCP ideology are casually called "Xi Jinping Thought." While the

previous version of the Procedures contained 64 articles, the newest one was shortened to 43.

The document accompanies incoming Chinese premier Li Qiang, a handpicked ally of Xi. The State Council, also known as the Central People's Govern-

ment, serves as the top executive branch of the Chinese state.

As with all government bodies, it is practically subordinate to the CCP leadership. The State Council is traditionally headed by the premier, who manages the day-to-day functions of government, Vision Times reported.

In addition to retaining only the article about following Xi's leadership, the Working Procedures also include a new item requiring the State Council to "report any major decisions, major events and important situations" to the Central Committee "in a timely manner." Such extensive

changes to the State Council's guidelines point not just to the Communist Party's tighter

grasp over the Chinese government, but also to Xi Jinping's effort to place himself above the regime, former leaders, and its ideology,

Vision Times reported. Zhang Guangzhong, a Chinese current affairs commentator residing in Australia, told Radio Free Asia (RFA) that the shortened Working Procedures reflect a bid by the CCP to "take back control of the State Council" by heavily subordinating it to the Party's Central Committee.

Nepal approves investment proposal from India's SJVN for 669 MW Lower Arun hydropower project



The Investment Board of Nepal has approved the investment proposal from India's Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) to build a 669 Mega Watt Lower Arun Hydro project in Nepal.

The investment proposal from SJVN worth 92.68 billion Nepali Rupees was given approval in the 53rd meeting of the Investment Board chaired by Nepal's Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal on Thursday.

As per the statement from the Investment Board of Nepal, the board of directors have decided to form a "project development agreement negotiation committee" led by the board's chief executive officer, directing it to submit the document of consensus to the board. This is the third project undertaken, all through negotiation windows, on the Arun River after the 900 MW Arun-III and 695 MW Arun-IV hydroelectricity projects.

The three projects will generate nearly 2,300 MW of electricity from the river in the Sankhuwasabha district.

Earlier, the Investment Board of Nepal and India's SJVN signed an agreement for the development of the Arun-III hydropower project in November 2014 according to which Nepal will receive Rs 348 billion over 25 years.

In addition, the project developer will also provide 21.9 per cent of energy generated free of cost, which is worth 155 billion Nepali Rupees and another 107 billion Nepali Rupees in royalties.

In May last year, the Managing Director of Nepal Electricity Authority- Kulman Ghising and Nandalal Sharma, chairman of the SJVN, signed the agreement in Lumbini for the development of Arun-IV on behalf of their respective governments.

Donald Trump returns to NY, gets questioned under oath in Fraud lawsuit

Former US President Donald Trump returned to New York on Thursday where he was being questioned under oath in a fraud lawsuit by New York Attorney General Letitia James, reported The New York Times.

Attorney General Letitia James has filed a lawsuit against Donald Trump and three of his children, calling them "staggering" fraudsters.

Notably, a separate 34-count criminal charge against the former president was revealed last week.

Trump, his family business, and three of his children were charged with a "staggering" fraud in James' civil action, which was filed in September and is scheduled to go to trial later this year. James claimed that the former president's assets were overval-

ued by billions of dollars, The New York Times reported.

Apparently, the lawsuit seeks USD 250 million that it contends they reaped through those deceptions, made in Trump's annual financial statements.

However, on Thursday, Alina Habba, one of Trump's lawyers, issued a statement strongly suggesting that he would answer questions.

Yemen prisoner swap begins as first plane departs



The release and swap of nearly 900 detainees by the two sides in Yemen's conflict began on Friday, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Taking to Twitter, ICRC Yemen said, "A plane chartered by the ICRC took off from #Sanaa to #Aden, carrying 125 former detainees. An ICRC plane took off from #Sanaa to #Adele, carrying 35 former detainees. A number of ICRC staff are on board the two planes, and they receive support from @YemenCrescent and @mediasrcaen."

Earlier on Thursday, ICRC, in a statement, said, "The ICRC's role is to ensure that humanitarian principles are respected and that detainees are treated with humanity throughout the release and transfer process. ICRC teams have assessed the health of the

detainees and confirmed that they are fit to travel. They will also accompany them during their journey and tend to any medical needs along the way. The ICRC will use its planes to fly detainees into and out of multiple cities in Yemen and Saudi Arabia."

"The Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) and the Saudi Red Crescent Authority (SRCA) will also play vital roles in assisting the detainees. Their medical staff and volunteers will help detainees with disabilities on and off the planes and provide first aid and ambulance services where needed," it added.

The release operation is the result of talks concluded on March 20, 2023 in Bern, Switzerland, where the parties to the conflict in Yemen finalized the plan for the release.

Education

Special Education for Children with Intellectual Disability-II



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Educational Challenges

Being parents you can have doubts about education and the long-term future of your child. Teachers can definitely see that giving education to students having intellectual disabilities associated with many challenges. However, the fact is that they will study but they will take longer time. Clearly, intellectual disability produces a lot of educational challenges which must be defeated. These include:

- Difficulty in completing difficult tasks
- Improper behaviour
- Limited vocabulary
- The problem in understanding new thoughts
- Tips for Parents and Teachers

Educating people who are suffering from intellectual disabilities needs patience and awareness. Awareness engages a serious effort of choosing words and activities wisely. For example, if a student shows artistic talent, support him or her through offering assignments related to the skill. Parents can aid by suggesting associated activities which their children may use as hobbies. Additionally, carefully choosing your words can reduce possible problems sourced by students' restricted vocabularies.

Patience is an essential part of addressing the above mentioned educational tests. You will probably need to check lessons or fix student's improper behaviour many times. Another way of making the repetition more efficient is to convey verbal instructions with extra cues; for instance, show pictures for repeating spoken directions.

To fight difficulty in completing compound tasks, NICHCY recommends dividing these jobs into smaller steps. This organization also suggests providing instant feedback for helping a child to learn while he or she performs a step properly.

One last advice does not inevitably correspond to some particular academic barrier however rather attends to the educational focus, at least with higher school level. Examine student's skills to choose how to carry on with the transitioning to maturity. For example, do the students having the capabilities which will allow the students to survive on their own? If yes, the later years of school need to concentrate on enhancing the



ability which will let them live without help.

Effective Teaching Techniques for People Having Intellectual Disabilities

Individuals having intellectual disabilities advantage from same teaching techniques used for teaching people with the other learning disputes. It includes studying disabilities, autism, and hyperactivity disorder.

One such technique is breaking the learning jobs in smaller steps. Every learning job is introduced, with one step with one time. It avoids overwhelming the students. When the student masters one step, then the next step is initiated. That is a step-wise, progressive, and learning approach. This is an attribute of several learning models. Only one difference is size and number of chronological steps.

The second technique is to transform the approach of teaching. Extensive verbal directions and theoretical lectures are useless teaching techniques for most of the audiences. Majority of people are kinesthetic students. It means they study best when doing an assignment "hands-on." It is contrary to thinking about doing it in the abstract. The hands-on tactic is particularly useful for students suffering from Intellectual Disability. They study best while information is real and observed. For instance, there are many ways of teaching the gravity concept. Teachers may talk about gravity theoretically. They can explain the force for the gravitational pull. Secondly, teachers might show how the gravity works through dropping something. Thirdly, teachers may ask the students directly about the gravity by doing an exercise. Students might also be told to jump or drop the pen. Majority of students keep more details from experiencing the gravity firsthand. The concrete gravity experience is much easier to recognize than theoretical explanations.

Third, people having Intellectual Disability do best with learning environments where visual support is used. It might consist of pictures, charts, and graphs. The visual tools are valuable in helping the students to recognize what actions are projected of them. For example, using the charts of mapping students' development is extremely effective. Charts may also be used as the means of offering positive support for suitable and on-task performance.

A fourth teaching technique is to offer direct and urgent feedback. Individuals having Intellectual Disability need instant feedback. It allows them to create a connection between their activities and the teacher's response. Delay in offering feedback makes that hard to make a connection between the source and effect. Therefore, the knowledge point can be missed.

While we teach children having intellectual disabilities, we should remember many factors. Initially, we should set goals which are most significant for the children. Learning names of planets cannot be as significant as learning on how the plants grow. Then we should make the materials as well as set the environment in order that it supports a child's learning. In conclusion, we should use a few teaching methods for teaching and motivating the children to learn. Let's explore some efficient teaching methods for students having intellectual disabilities.

Baby Steps: Children suffering from intellectual disabilities should be learnt using baby steps. Each skill, task, or activity should be crashed into smaller baby steps. The children are taught one step at one time. Gradually, they learn to merge the baby steps for learning a better concept. For instance, we won't teach the concept of the red colour within one day, so initially, we will teach sorting of red and then matching of

red, after that identifying the red, and then naming the red and lastly generalizing the red. Using that way try to break all skills into smaller baby steps.

Chaining: Chaining is a procedure of breaking the task into smaller steps and teaches them in a chronological way. This is generally used for teaching everyday living skills. For instance, we initially teach a child for holding the pant with both hands, and we teach him to grip it and take it down on his legs. Subsequently, we teach to hold that, bring that down to the legs, as well as put a leg inside. The procedure is named forward chaining. In backward chaining, you teach children last steps first. We complete the activity for the child as well as allow the children to do last steps on their own. After that, we do this movement until the second last step. In that way, a child does some activities and we do less till child can do the entire activity to his own.

Group Learning: Group learning is among the most efficient teaching methods for students having intellectual disabilities. That is when you bring the children together with the group of teaching different skills. Children usually do better while they are within the group. Behavioural difficulties are fewer and children encourage each other. One difficulty of the group learning is you need sufficient hands for helping children learn mutually.

Hands-on Learning: Hands-on learning is the procedure of user actions and on the tasks of teaching skills. All the children particularly children having intellectual impairments study best using this procedure. An example might be to do science experiments and discover science concepts. One more idea is using play dough plus making letter shapes and learn letters. Hands-on learning is an enormous way of learning math.

Play-Based Learning: Play-based learning is while we use play activities for teaching cognitive skills. For instance, if a child is playing with cars, we can just sit there and play too. During our play, we use statements like "Can you give that to me? May I play with a red car?" In that way, we help children to learn skills while they are playing.

Positive Reinforcement: Positive reinforcement is reinforcing the children positively when they learn new skills or practice or do known skills. It is an enormous way of motivating children having intellectual disabilities. Employ reinforcements which are suitable for the children.

These are only a few efficient teaching tactics for students having intellectual disabilities. The finest way to teach is understanding the child, understanding his capabilities and his requirements.

Entertainment

No 'One Direction' reunion anytime soon...



Waiting for 'One Direction' reunion on James Corden show? Unfortunately, it's not happening. The show's makers shut down reports that claimed One Direction boys will reunite for the show's final episode, Variety reported. "Nobody loves the boys more than us... but this story just isn't true," the show's official account tweeted. "What is true is we've got an absolutely brilliant 2 hour finale planned to celebrate 8 years of #LateLateShow at 10pm on April 27th," the tweet further read.

The British musical group, consisting of Harry Styles, Niall Horan, Liam Payne, Louis Tomlinson and Zayn Malik, officially called it quits in 2016 after skyrocketing to worldwide fame in the 2010s. Since then, all members have gone on to pursue solo careers -- with Styles' especially taking off.

Most recently, Horan sparked hope last week when he revealed in an interview with Esquire that he still sends his unreleased music to his former bandmates for advice. "This time I sent it to Louis [Tomlinson], and he gave me his honest opinion on it, which is always handy," Horan said. "We've released enough songs over the years, so we know what's decent and what's not... All the 1D boys and artists alike, I'll always try and send it around and get everybody's opinion." One Direction appeared on the Late Late Show in May 2015, marking their first television interview since Zayn left the band in March of that year. Corden, who succeeded Craig Ferguson as host of The Late Late Show in 2015, announced in April 2022 that he would be stepping down from his role to pursue other projects. Seeing One Direction boys in a single frame seems to be a distant dream for fans. ANI

On Ranbir-Alia's first wedding anniversary, moms Neetu Kapoor, Soni Razdan drop loved-up posts



Actors Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt are celebrating their first wedding anniversary today, and have been receiving best wishes from fans and family members ever since the clock struck twelve. Ranbir's mother and veteran actor Neetu Kapoor put up a special message for the lovebirds on her Instagram Story. "Happy anniversary my beautiful people. My heartbeats. Love and blessings," she wrote, adding a beautiful picture from the couple's intimate wedding ceremony.

In the image, we can see Alia and Ranbir busy doing pooja. One can also spot the late Rishi Kapoor's photo frame being placed on a table kept next to Ranbir. Alia's mom Soni Razdan also wished the couple in an adorable way.

Sharing a string of images of Ranbir and Alia from their D-Day, she wrote, "On this day last year my sweet's promised to be with each other through thick and thin and through good times and all kinds of times. Happy Anniversary you two. Wishing you both a joyous journey onwards." ANI



Arjun Kapoor shares adorable picture with girlfriend Malaika Arora

Actor Arjun Kapoor and model Malaika Arora are one of the elegant pairs in B-town. Arjun never misses a chance of sharing beautiful updates of their relationship with his fans. As fans don't have to wait for another update about the couple, Arjun dropped an adorable picture of the duo.

Arjun took to his Instagram on Friday to post a picture with Malaika from the lift. He wrote a creative caption that read, "Lift Kara De" which is clearly a funny take on the image which the couple took in the lift itself. Malaika can be seen dressed in a completely white outfit. She posed in a white blazer, high neck and boots. On the other hand, the "Ki & Ka" actor wore a leather black jacket paired with black jeans and a white shirt. The actor also added a beanie cap and black shades to add up to the look.

Adding up to the aww moment Malaika also shared the same photograph on her Insta story and wrote "liftie" with a red heart emoji. She also mentioned Berlin, Germany as the location that refers to the place couple is travelling currently.

Malaika and Arjun have been dating for quite some time now. However, it was not until a couple of years ago that both decided to make their relationship public. Even after all the trolling because of the 12-year age gap between them, Malaika and Arjun never fail to shower on each other on social media. ANI