



If the screening of the film 'Ajmer Kand' is not allowed, we will release it on YouTube!



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Gautam Korde

The Lok Sabha was adjourned several times amid sloganeering by the Opposition party members demanding a discussion on Manipur violence. The standoff over the crisis in Manipur continued between the Centre and Opposition since the session began this morning. While the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has said it's ready for a short duration discussion on Manipur and Union Home Minister Amit Shah will make a statement, the Opposition has demanded a statement from the PM. Opposition leaders continued their protest on Parliament premises reiterating calls for debate on the Manipur crisis. Members of the newly named INDIA have sought a statement from Prime Minister Narendra Modi as well as the suspension of regular proceedings to discuss the ethnic clashes. The agitators have also opposed the suspension of Rajya Sabha MP and AAP leader Sanjay Singh on Monday afternoon.

Not only in India but foreign nations also taking contingency of Manipur horror. UK PM Rishi Sunak's special envoy raised Manipur violence in the House of Commons. British MP Fiona Bruce said that the Manipur violence is 'premeditated and systematic'. Bruce claimed that hundreds of churches in Manipur have been destroyed. The British MP asserted that not much reporting has taken place on the issue. This comes after a video of women being paraded in the state went viral. The state has been rocked by strife between Kuki and Meitei communities since May.

Neha Bhagat Joint General Secretary Best Worker Services told Afternoon Voice "What has happened in Manipur in the last three to four months has not only affected Manipur but the entire society of India. It is necessary to take concrete action as soon as possible, otherwise North East India will be separated from India forever. Watching the video of Manipur, it was not just a woman's naked burden but the entire system. In fact, the Hindu government should have immediately removed the responsibility of those who did this act and hanged them in Bhar Chowk. Why is justice not done as quickly as we have the process of fining? The fourth pillar of democracy has been undermined. In the current politics, the leaders are busy only in splitting the party."

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PROTESTING PARLIAMENTARIANS DEMAND DISCUSSION ON MANIPUR VIOLENCE

The northeastern Indian may call for civil war

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

North-Eastern states are like any other states in the rest of India, yet they are different from the rest of the Indians in many aspects. There is a huge disconnect and the government never gave them that sense of belonging. Assamese is the only Indo-Aryan language in the north east while the rest are Tibeto-Burman and Khasi is the lone Austro-Asiatic language. Since there has not been much interaction between the mainlanders or south Asian descent with the north easterners for many centuries differences will be there and this is highly noticeable in terms of traditions, customs, food and beliefs. Each of the northeastern states has different tribes.

Terrorist organizations exploit this and hence multiple terrorist groups have been formed on the basis of the tribal livings. For

example, Assam has Bodo (demanding Bodoland) and Karbi tribes, Meghalaya has Garo tribes (demanding Garo land) each wanting some kind of autonomy and even separation. Huge security presence which is necessary to contain the insurgency, no concrete efforts from government to develop the regions and bring economic prosperity which has led to discontent among the people, and kept the tensions simmering. There have been many accusations of human rights violation by the armed forces too. Somewhere there is a lack of attention towards these states, there is always unrest. Recent Manipur horror has dragged worldwide attention towards north east India.

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Editoritis

The northeastern Indian may call for civil war

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The government should continue to engage with these groups in peaceful dialogue and offer them a chance to participate in the democratic process.

The government should invest in infrastructure development to support economic growth and improve the quality of life for residents.

Total land area of Manipur is approx. 22,000 sq. km where the 10% of valley area is surrounded by 90% hills from all sides. Manipur is inhabited by 4 major groups - The Meiteis, Nagas, Kukis & Meitei Pangals.

There is an urgent need for dialogue amongst the responsible representatives of the communities where the government presides unbiased. The state has been affected by insurgent groups for several decades, leading to violence, unrest, and loss of life. The government should continue to engage with these groups in peaceful dialogue and offer them a chance to participate in the democratic process. The state's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and public transport, is inadequate and requires significant improvement. The government should invest in infrastructure development to support economic growth and improve the quality of life for residents.

The state has a high unemployment rate, which contributes to poverty and social unrest. The government should encourage investment in industries that can create jobs and provide vocational training to improve the employability of the workforce. Manipur's environment has been significantly impacted by deforestation, pollution, and climate change. The government should promote sustainable practices and enforce laws to protect the environment. The literacy rate in Manipur is below the national average, and many children do not have access to quality education. The government should prioritize education and increase funding for schools, especially in rural areas.

Total land area of Manipur is approx. 22,000 sq. km where the 10% of valley area is surrounded by 90% hills from all sides. Manipur is inhabited by 4 major groups - The Meiteis, Nagas, Kukis & Meitei Pangals. The valley Meiteis are Hindus while the hill people Naga & Kuki are Christians & the Meitei Pangals are Muslims. After Independence the Meiteis were classified as Generals & the hill people as Scheduled Tribes. Manipur is a state in northeastern India that has faced several challenges in recent years. Manipur is a land of both hill and valley. The Meitei mostly live in the valley and the tribals of Manipur mostly live in the hills yet some of them live together in the valley with other communities. The tribal communities are grouped into two sections, the Naga and the Kuki. As Manipur is a land of diverse states, a state which is far away from the central India, which was also a once Princely state, merged into India. The merger uprooted the seeds of both armed and unarmed revolutionary activists as the perspective of the vision was different from the then Indian government and the activists of Manipur.

Unfortunately, there has been a political crisis in the neighbouring country Myanmar which shares the border with Manipur for a very long distance. This impacted Manipur so much in terms of demographically as well as politically. Suddenly, in these few years there

is a huge surge in illegal poppy plantation and drug trafficking in the peripheral sites of the state. The poppy plantation is more in the hills where the Kuki are in majority. Some Myanmar peoples were illegally immigrated to some of these areas of Manipur where the main epicentre point is in the Churachandpur District. These people share common religion, caste, and community unfortunately with most of the tribals of Churachandpur district which gives a hard hand to the authority.

These illegal migrants are largely practicing deforestation for poppy plantations. So, the Biren Singh government has initiated the War against drugs, which is resulting in destroying these poppy plantations on a large scale. These migrants are going jobless and living in poverty. Most of the hills where the Kukis are living, they've poppy plantations & recently the govt has been destroying poppy plantations and the tribals are angry because its their livelihood.

The 90% land of the hills are protected by MLR & LR Act & article 371c (something similar to article 370) as the hill people are Scheduled Tribes & no one can buy land & settle in tribal land. So the population is sparsely populated in the hills. Rest in the 10% valley land, the land of the indigenous Meiteis, where Meiteis settled since time immemorial & has more than 2,000 yrs chronicled history, since they are general category, everyone comes & settles for business, work, buying land & permanent settlement. The 90% land of the hills are protected by MLR & LR Act & article 371c (something similar to article 370) as the hill people are Scheduled Tribes & no one can buy land & settle in tribal land. Swelling Unemployment in Manipur added fuel to the fire of this violence. People are completely frustrated due to increasing unemployment.

People are not happy, corruption, lack of development, livelihood challenges, territorial issues and fight of pride and existence is another big issue. And fake news factories gave fuel to these mindless and jobless youth to commit horror.



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Voices



Letters to the Editor

Democratic process in the city has gone for a toss!

Democratic process in the city has gone for a toss as the city is without elected 'corporators' whose term ended 26 months back. Political infighting has delayed civic elections endlessly & this has badly resulted in the city going from bad to worse with no authority in power to take key decisions for the betterment of the city. Civic elections are more important than even legislative body as the day to day maintenance of Mumbai falls into their jurisdiction. Urgent civic elections are the need of the hour so that city doesn't suffer due to lack of decision making authority!

S.N. Kabra

Hope for Manipur

Many people from Manipur work in Maharashtra. Some are pilots, air hostesses, some women are working in beauty parlors and some are in other businesses. In recent days I have talked to many of them to understand the conditions there. All those people say that this is not a political matter. It is a battle for supremacy between the two communities Meitei and Kuki. This battle should be seen in this context as Northeast India has a long history of fierce warfare between tribes. In this new era of development, such animosity between communities in democratic India that women of other communities are paraded naked, gangraped, ambulances burnt in which newborns also get burnt, houses burnt! All this is not only very painful, it is also a danger bell for the country. In one sentence, the life of Manipur has been looted. The playgrounds of Manipur, who gave the country Mary Kom, Mirabai Chanu, Sarita Devi, Sanjita Chanu and don't know how many players, are deserted because Holi of blood is being played there. My hands are trembling and my heart is sinking while thinking and writing about all of them. Oh God! Restore peace to the beautiful valleys.

Ibne Ali

Significant changes in cricket

The International Cricket Council (ICC) recently announced equal pay for female players in global competitions as well as for men. The BCCI has already announced equal pay for male and female players. The decisions of BCCI and ICC will further encourage female cricketers. This is an important step in terms of gender equality. Economic equality will lead to real empowerment for women, says Neet David, former Indian player and now the chairperson of the BCCI women's cricket selection committee. Decisions on prize money for all competitions were to be implemented at the annual meeting of the ICC held in Durban, South Africa, from 2030, but given the passion of girls around the world to move forward, they have been implemented from now on. This will definitely change the world of cricket.

Ashraf Nawaz

Let the Parliament Function

It has been five days since the Monsoon session of the parliament commenced, but not a single work has been done yet. The government and the opposition both are accusing each other to not letting the parliament function. There are many issues including Manipur violence, inflation, and heavy rainfall, which is leading to deteriorating the situation in different areas of the country, to be discussed. But neither the government nor the opposition are paying attention to these matters. The parliamentarians must focus on public welfare and their safety issues, instead of maligning and fighting each other in the temple of democracy.

H.K. Isha'ati

Why Do We Need To Learn New Skills? - 1

Skill means the ability to do a particular work with perfection. Learning new skills gives you fulfillment in your work life. Job skills permit a person to work properly. This makes you more confident and individualistic.

New skills give you new chances. You can switch to any other work with your new skills. It gives you a sense of accomplishment. Some common yet essential skills you need to learn are- Communication, Time management, Decision making, Leadership, Adaptability, etc.

Why is it important to learn new skills?

The world is always changing and developing henceforth there are discoveries almost every day in industries and the way people are living. Without conversion, employees or professionals can be left behind.

For instance, the impact the virtual life and social media have had on communication in recent years. Sending letters from one place to another is not in trend. This type of ultimate change can greatly impact how its customers and workers view a business.

Following are the importance of learning new skills

1. Sense of achievement:

When you are learning new skills, you can adapt yourself to any situation. This gives you a sense of accomplishment. Along with you, know your worth and the works you can do.

Your new opportunities are created, it makes you feel important, it motivates you.

2. Growth:

Not only in professional life but also as a human being, you can grow by adopting new skills. You can improve yourself for the better. It also gives you access to new and different chances. You can develop yourself, and that is growth.

3. Financial gain:

Learning new skills means you can do more work or can invest in many works. Henceforth this benefits you in earning more than you would. This helps with

your income in your workplace.

4. Learning speed increases:

When you learn one new skill, you will feel much more accomplished. And you feel interested in learning other new skills as you know, learning new skills benefits you a lot.

5. Gives creative ideas:

Skills give you advancement. Through learning new skills, you get creative and new ideas. You can solve any laborious work with your creative ideas.

6. Achieving new goals:

You can achieve new goals and also can make new goals. Learning new skills gives you a sense of newness. You can invest in any unknown thing with your new skills.

7. Attracts others:

Let's be real when you see something new you want to know more about that. The same happens in our professional or work life. When your co-workers, boss sees a change in your skill, they will prioritize you, or even you as a boss, clients, and proposals will be sent to you.

For example- If you are a professional photographer, but you don't know how to edit on condition that you can learn a new skill of editing, which will attract others.

For the above reasons, you need to learn new skills. Learning skills make you a new person in every other way. If you fail in any work, try to adopt some skills that are related to that work, it will give you an advantage.

Why is it important to learn new skills at work?

Life is all about learning new things. In addition to that, professional life's success also depends on learning new skills. Adapting new skills in professional life gives you a sense of accomplishment. Along with you, know your worth and the works you can do.

Your new opportunities are created, it makes you feel important, it motivates you.

You can improve yourself for the better. It also gives you access to new and different chances. You can develop yourself, and that is growth.

Importance of learning new skills at work:

1.) New experience:

Experiences come along when you try new things. Sticking to the same thing won't bring you new experiences. Henceforth, it is necessary to learn new skills at work to get new experiences.

2.) Administration's trust:

When it is known to everyone in your workplace that you are gaining new skills in addition to that, the administration will trust you and will give you new works to try.

3.) Co-workers interest:

As you are adapting new skills, you are on everyone's priority list. They will also want to adopt new skills. They will discuss your skills and process of adapting skills. Along with that, they will show interest in your work.

4.) Promotion:

For many people, it is so hard to get a promotion in their work. You can give it a try by adapting new skills. Definitely, your boss or administration will be impressed by this. Along with that, you can invest more now. Consequently, you will get a promotion.

5.) The gain in brainstorming topics:

It is a situation where a team of people meets to introduce new ideas and solutions around a specific concern or interest by reducing inhibitions. All the ideas and thoughts are marked down, and those ideas are not criticized, and after brainstorming sessions, the ideas are appraised. In your brainstorming sessions, you will be able to give you the best. And there you will be praised by others too.

6.) Presenting ideas:

People will hear your ideas with more concern, and with that, you will be able to expand your connections and.

- Vijay Garg

Educational Columnist

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

City

Ahead of Uddhav Thackeray's birthday, posters declaring him next PM candidate come up



Ahead of Uddhav Thackeray's birthday on July 27, his supporters have put up posters declaring him the next Prime Ministerial candidate. The huge banner outside Matoshree in Bandra (East) has Uddhav's photo at centre. It says:

"Uddhav Thackeray a leader who is sober, patient. The next PM of India." Earlier, deputy CM Ajit Pawar's followers in NCP had come up with posters hailing him as next CM of Maharashtra on his birthday on July 22.

'Maybe Sena UBT leaders need to change the way they look at things': Neelam Gorhe

A light moment was witnessed in the Vidhan Parishad today after Sena UBT leader Anil Parab found that the spectacles on his desk do not belong to him. After another opposition leader claimed that even his spectacles have been changed, Parab tells Deputy Chairperson Neelam Gorhe there should be an enquiry about who is the magician changing spectacles of leaders in the House.



Gorhe says that her spectacles are intact and that maybe this is an indication that the Sena UBT leaders need to change the way they look at things leading to laughter in the house.

Orange alert in city, landslide hits Andheri East close to residential society

Maharashtra Rain News Live Updates: After a break in the wet spell on Monday, the rain is expected back on Tuesday, with the IMD issuing an orange alert for Mumbai and Thane, indicating heavy

to very heavy rainfall at isolated places. Heavy showers continued through the weekend, with the suburbs again recording triple-digit rainfall from Sunday to Monday morning. Meanwhile, a landslide was reported near a

residential society in Chakala area in Mumbai's Andheri East on Tuesday at around 2am. Four fire engines and Mumbai Police personnel are present on the spot. Further details awaited, said Mumbai fire department.

Mumbai: Tree falls on AC double-decker e-bus; none hurt



A tree fell on a new air-conditioned double-decker electric bus of the Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) fleet in south Mumbai on Tuesday and no pas-

sengers were injured, an official said. The incident took place near Azad Maidan around 3 pm when the bus was heading towards Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Ter-

minus (CSMT), he said. According to BEST, the upper deck of the leased bus suffered a dent, but all passengers were safe. The bus was sent to CSMT after the tree branches were removed, a BEST staffer said. The BEST has inducted 12 air-conditioned double-decker e-buses in its fleet on wet lease model, in which the private contractor takes care of the fuel, maintenance and driver cost. PTI

Landslide near residential society in Andheri; road cave-in affects traffic along infinity road in Goregoan



A landslide was reported at Ram Baugh cooperative housing society in Mumbai's Andheri east around 2 am on Tuesday. The soil and stones from the hilly area located behind the building fell on the ground-plus seven-story

structure. There are 168 rooms in the building all of which have been vacated. In another incident, a wall collapsed on the first floor of the People Welfare School in Jogeshwari East. No person was injured in this incident.

Over 100 trees collapse in a week; NGO says BMC paid little heed to NGT order

Mumbai has lost a significant portion of its green cover, as more than 100 trees collapsed in the city during the past one week as torrential rain lashed the city continuously. The city reeled under relentless heavy rain in the past one week, with rain figures touching the three digit mark thrice. The city recorded the highest rainfall of this season between July 21 and 22. According to figures recorded by Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), a total of 113 trees collapsed in the



island city and suburbs between July 18 and 23, with 56 cases reported between July 19 and 20 alone. The civic body's data also states that of the 113 trees that collapsed, 50 were from western suburbs, 32 from eastern suburbs, and 31 were from island city.

Protesting Parliamentarians demand discussion

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Politician and activist Medha Patkar said "Many incidents have happened in Manipur in the last few days, women are being targeted, women of this society should stop. We are protesting against the government and accordingly a letter has been given to the president saying that there should not have been such atrocities. We are constantly telling the government that such riots should not have happened." Agatha Kongkal Sangma is an Indian politician serving as a Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha representing the Tura constituency of Meghalaya, told Afternoon Voice "whenever there are riots in countries, women are the most targeted, it is not necessarily what caste a woman is, but the manner in which women are stripped naked and tortured should be stopped. The state government should take strict action on this. We are with the women of Manipur and

we are providing medical treatment and support to those who have been rioted and injured in Manipur." Dr. Sureshni Khanderao (Katale) condemn the dehumanizing act that has happened in Manipur in last few days. She said "Every time only women are victim still not one woman is safe in India? A woman who fulfils all the roles of a mother, sister, wife. If she is seen as a lower caste person, the entire country of India will feel insulted. I am also a scheduled cast woman so am I not safe too? I mean nothing is achieved by just getting education, a person has to have morals which are not from small or big castes... I have a question for the Prime Minister of the country that until all this happens, why will no police officer go and stop it? Why this matter came to people's knowledge through media because she was a scheduled caste woman...that means that scheduled caste women have no respect in this country.

Nation

If the screening of the film 'Ajmer Kand' is not allowed, we will release it on YouTube! - Sachin Kadam, Director

Chishti's descendants and Farooq, Nafis and Anwar Chishti of the Youth Congress were behind the Ajmer rape case. We are trying to release the film 'Ajmer Kand' in September 2023 based on this incident. The Censor Board has raised objections to the posters, banners and dialogues of the film. My film actors and me are also being threatened. Why is there opposition to narration of the truth? It is the secular Hindus who are opposing us. The writer and director of the film 'Ajmer Kand' Mr Sachin Kadam warned that if the censor board does not let us release the film about 'Ajmer rape case', we will release it on YouTube. He was speaking in a special dialogue organised on behalf of the Hindu Janajagruti Samiti on the topic 'Ajmer Rape



Case: Consequences of Muslim appeasement?' Recently the movie 'Ajmer 92' has been released across the country. After that, the film 'Ajmer Kand' is on its way to release.

On this occasion Mani Mittal, Advocate of the Supreme Court of Delhi said that it is difficult to give a specific number of 100, 200 or 250 as to how many

Hindu girls and young women were gang-raped in the Ajmer rape case. After the torture, these minor girls were photographed and blackmailed. After this many girls committed suicide. In sensitive cases like rape, the role of the Police is generally positive; but in this particular case Police role has been negative. After films like 'Kashmir Files', 'The Kerala

Story', now the film 'Ajmer 92' has been released. That time the Ajmer rape case took place in a big way; but even today it is happening in small form in many places. Today, Hindus should wake up and create awareness among their sons and daughters without resorting to blind imitation of the western culture.

At this time the Editor of

newspaper Sadguru and web portal in Rajasthan Mr Vijay Singh said that despite the torture of over 200 Hindu girls in the Ajmer rape case, many of the accused were acquitted. What ultimately happened to this, was not known at that time and is still not known to the public. The limited number of newspapers at that time carried news about it, so the subject at least came into the limelight. After the release of the movie 'Ajmer 92', the coming generation will also know how Hindu girls were oppressed. Those associated with Ajmer Dargah are considered Holy; however there are the same people who have committed these crime of 'Ajmer Rape Incident'. Many Hindus are still going to Ajmer Dargah today with faith. It is upto Hindus to decide what to do?

Lok Sabha passes The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, before getting adjourned till 5 pm

The Lok Sabha passed the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, before getting adjourned till 5 pm on Tuesday, news agency PTI reported.

The Bill was introduced in Parliament on December 16, 2021 by Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav. The bill would amend the Biological

Diversity Act, 2002.

Earlier, it was moved to a joint committee on December 20, 2021 due to concerns that the amendments favoured industry and contradicted the spirit of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), according to the report.

Submitting its report in Parliament on August 2, 2022, the joint committee suggested that

the Bill may be passed after the inclusion of their recommendations.

Ministers spoke on the advantages of the amendments to the bill and said its benefit includes aligning bio-diversity with the Companies Act. Yadav said the bill is significant as the world is facing triple crisis of climate change, desertification and ecological imbalance. (PTI)

Mallikarjun Kharge joins Oppn protest against suspension of RS MP Sanjay Singh



Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha and Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge Tuesday joined the protests organised by Opposition parties against the suspension of Aam Aadmi Party Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, news agency ANI reported.

Singh was suspended from Rajya Sabha for the rest of the Monsoon session on Monday for repeatedly 'violating' the directives of the Chair while protesting on the Manipur issue.

Opposition parties condemned the action against Singh and accused the government of trying to throttle their voice.

Sharad Pawar joins Oppn protest against suspension of AAP leader Sanjay Singh

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) supremo Sharad Pawar Tuesday joined other Opposition party leaders who are protesting against the suspension of AAP's Sanjay Singh from Rajya Sabha for the remainder of the Monsoon session, news agency PTI reported.

After the Rajya Sabha was adjourned earlier today, Pawar went to the protest site to express solidarity with Singh, who was suspended for repeatedly "violating" the directives of the Chair after he rushed to the well of the House and pointed at the Chair during the Opposition's protest over Manipur violence issue. (PTI)

Mandatory for OTT platforms to display anti-tobacco warnings on screen: MoS Baghel



The government has made it mandatory for Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms to display an anti-tobacco health warning as a prominent static message at the bottom of the screen during the period of a tobacco product being displayed or used in a programme, the Rajya Sabha was told on Tuesday, news agency PTI reported.

According to the report, the government notified the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Rules, 2023 on May 31, Minister of State for Health SP Singh Baghel said in a written reply. They have to display anti-tobacco health warning as a prominent static message at the bottom of the screen during the period of display of the tobacco products

or their use in the programme, and also display an audio-visual disclaimer on the ill-effects of tobacco for a minimum 20 seconds each in the beginning and middle of the programme, Baghel said in his written reply.

According to the amended rules, every publisher of online curated contents displaying tobacco products or their use has to display anti-tobacco health spots, for a minimum 30 seconds each at the beginning and middle of the programme, the report said.

Moreover, all compliance is ensured as per Rule (6) of the Amendment Rules, 2023 through an inter-ministerial committee consisting of representatives from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. (PTI)

World

Enormous military exercise in Australia shifts focus on PLA

Large wargames between the USA, Australia and eleven partner nations kicked off on July 21, the largest ever in the history of Exercise Talisman Sabre. It was little surprise that the People's Liberation Army (PLA) was not invited to participate, but China nonetheless played a central role in the exercise. Colonel Ben McLennan, Commander of the Australian Army's Combat Training Centre based in Townsville, told reporters, "This activity that's occurring here is just the richest, most immersive and most realistic, no-consequence training environment that we can possibly create. We're calling it the Olympics of wargames because it's the

biggest, most ambitious Talisman Sabre ever."

The exercise's land component centred near Townsville involves 10,000 soldiers, whereas the whole exercise enlists more than 30,000 troops. Col McLennan said one key objective of the exercise was to act as a "demonstration". "I mean, I don't know how more tangible you need to get of manifesting resolve amongst like-minded nations, or willingness to work together ... This activity is a demonstration of our combined commitment to a peaceful, prosperous region, globe. And that demonstration will resonate in Australia, throughout our region and across the world. So that's what

this activity is about." Without directly naming China as the audience for this military exercise, he reaffirmed that it is a "demonstrative activity". In the scenario, Australia, the USA and allies were "fighting against a doctrinal enemy that has comprehensive overmatch" in areas such as electronic warfare, cyberwarfare and long-range fires. In other words, the red force was using the tactics of a powerful unnamed nation.

Apart from the key Australian and American partners, forces from Canada, Fiji, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Tonga and the UK were participating. In addition, personnel from India, the Phil-



ippines, Singapore and Thailand attended as observers. China was clearly interested in the exercise, for the PLA Navy (PLAN) sent a Type 815 spy ship to monitor these advanced war games taking place on land, in the air and in

waters around Australia. China is well within its rights to send spy ships. Indeed, it does so every two years to monitor Talisman Sabre, just as it does at the multinational RIMPAC naval exercise in Hawaii. ANI

US imposes sanctions on Mali officials over alleged ties with Wagner Group



The United States has imposed sanctions on three Malian government and military officials, including Defence Minister, for "facilitating the deployment and expansion" of Russia's Wagner Group's activities in Mali. In a statement on Monday, the US Department of

the Treasury said that it has imposed sanctions on three Malian transition government and military officials -- Colonel Sadio Camara (Defence Minister of Mali), Colonel Alou Boi Diarra (Mali's Chief of Staff of the Air Force) and Lieutenant Colonel Adama Bagayoko (Malian Air Force

Deputy Chief of Staff)-- for facilitating the deployment and expansion of the Wagner Group's activities in Mali.

It further stated that this development is based on evidence showing that these Malian officials have contributed to the Wagner Group's malicious activities in Mali. "Today's action exposes the principal Malian officials who have been instrumental in facilitating the Wagner Group's entrenchment in Mali over the past two years," said Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Brian E Nelson. ANI

Pakistan: Report reveals drug abuse, exploitation at Islamia University in Punjab

An official from the Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB) was detained by Punjab Police in Pakistan on suspicion of drug abuse. The chief of security at the university was held the day before the arrest for reportedly having crystal meth and offensive recordings and pictures of IUB students and employees, according to a Dawn report.

A special report by police claimed that a "group of teachers" at the university was involved in the sale of drugs and sexual exploitation of female students and teachers, according to Dawn.



City Circle police detained the IUB transport in charge and allegedly recovered eight grams of meth from his possession, the report stated quoting an FIR.

Police said they have registered a case under Section 9(2)1 of the Control of Narcotic Substances Act 1997 and an investigation is underway, Dawn reported. ANI

Afghanistan: Five members of family die due to floods in Paghman

Heavy flooding in the Paghman district of Kabul left five members of a family dead, according to TOLO News. The relatives of the victims of floods in the Arghandi area of Paghman district said that during the floods, they were missing and they kept on searching for them and when found, they were dead.

"The floods took five people. They were missing and we were searching for them and we were finally able to find a woman in the

evening and bury her," said Haikal, a relative of the victim. Haikal's family was living alongside three other families in a house consisting of 12 rooms, reported TOLO News. According to the residents, the flood occurred on Saturday around 2 AM. Barialai, a local resident said, "The flood came at 2 AM and we were all here and there were 30 people. The flood destroyed these rooms." However, people affected by the floods urged the humanitarian organization for assistance. ANI

Taiwan tracks 25 Chinese military planes, 4 naval ships around country

Chinese military aircraft and four naval vessels were tracked by Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence (MND) between Monday and Tuesday, according to Taiwan News. The Chinese military aircraft and naval vessels were tracked from 6 am on Monday, July 24 to 6 am on Tuesday, July 25.

"25 PLA aircraft and 4 PLAN vessels around Taiwan were detected by 6 a.m.(UTC+8) today.

R.O.C. Armed Forces have monitored the situation and tasked CAP aircraft, Navy vessels, and land-based missile systems to respond these activities," the MND said on Tuesday. Of the 25 People's Liberation Army (PLA) aircraft, 10 were tracked in Taiwan's air defence identification zone (ADIZ), including one TB-001 reconnaissance drone that crossed the Taiwan Strait median line and flew along the southern portion of the ADIZ, according to

the MND.

Meanwhile, four Shenyang J-16 combat jets, two Shenyang J-11 fighter jets, one KJ-500 airborne early warning and control plane, one Shaanxi Y-8 reconnaissance aircraft, and one CH-4 reconnaissance drone were tracked in the southwest corner of the identification zone. In response, Taiwan sent aircraft, and naval ships, and used land-based missile systems to monitor PLA activity. ANI

Expression

Worrying Factor About Water



C.K. Subramaniam

Water is precious and water is part and parcel of our life. Three fourths of earth's surface is covered by water and only one fourth is land mass as per geographical survey. Most people know it and it is time to keep an eye on the water position available at our disposal. What many of us do not know is that 97.5% of the water available on earth is salt water and unworthy of drinking and bathing. Only 2.5% of earth's water is sweet water of which roughly 68% is held as ice in the Arctic and Antarctic region. Of the remaining 32% of 2.5% most quantities are stored underground and in various kinds of organic and inorganic matters. It is only a minuscule part, precisely 0.26% of entire water of the world which is in all the rivers, lakes, ponds and other water bodies which are the only sources of sweet surface water available to living beings and the need to preserve and protect is of our utmost importance. So preserving water and not polluting it is of paramount importance and each and every one of us in a thickly populated country like India should realize this and control usage of water to the optimum level.

It is reliably learnt that levels of live water storage across drought hit Maharashtra are at 7.7%, the lowest in the decade for this time of the year and that is alarming. In Marathwada, it is down to 0.7%. Add to the water shortage, a severe heatwave continued to sweep India's northern plains as 10 places in the region figured on the list of 15 hottest places in the world. Rajasthan's Churu and Sri Ganganagar, where the mercury shot up to 48.9 and 48.6 degree Celsius, were the hottest places in the world followed by Jacobabad (48 degree Celsius) in Pakistan, according to El Dorado Weather website. Uttar Pradesh's Banda (47.4 degree Celsius) and Narnaul (47.2 degree Celsius) in Haryana also featured on the list. The water level will come down drastically in these areas following the heatwave.



In a reality check we observe on World Water Day that the source of ground water is drying up in this country and the alarming worry about water levels continues. Many of the proposed smart cities in India lack basic infrastructure and the decision to include them is defeated with the drawbacks particularly lack of drinking water and usable water. Thus we are in troubled water and India's largest state UP tops the list. Wells and borewells serve the purpose when there is water shortage.

As water levels go down considerably we should plan for Rain Water Harvesting as in Tamil Nadu and other neighbouring states. All through our childhood and growing up years, whenever we had an opportunity to play in water or leave the tap open with water flowing down the drains, as elders always used to reprimand us for stating that with every drop of water, wasted it was money that was getting wasted. Never did we realise the consequences or the connection between water and money, but now with the sorts of situation that we are heading towards and placed on the brink of a catastrophe and buying water with ground water drying up, remember the golden words. It is time for retrospection at this crucial juncture as the water shortage threat throughout the world is catching up thick and fast.

We believe, in India we have not

taken the issue of water on top priority. Still there are no proper and concrete guidelines to restrict the malpractices of misutilisation of water. There is no segregation of water in India. Drinking water is used for washing clothes, gardening, cleaning cars, roads and the most important usage is huge and bulk by the housing sector. No policy for industrial water and the wastage continued in every field without anybody bothering about water. The worrying factor about water is the main concern all over the world and India with the highest population may find the way tough.

There is no policy of restricting the usage of drinking water for multi-purpose requirements. It is a matter of great regret that we pay water tax and impure water is supplied at doorstep which is then purified by various processes to obtain drinkable water. Despite the fact that water is supplied by Government Agencies, we talk big and hardly believe in doing minimum. Adjust your daily habits to save litres of clean fresh water every day.

While brushing your teeth, use a glass of water instead of a running tap for wetting the brush and rinsing. A running tap can waste about 16 litres of water each minute. When taking a bath shower instead of a bath and limit your showers to a maximum of four minutes. For shaving use a cup, sink or container of warm water to clean the shaver in rather than a

warm running tap. Never shave in the shower. Clearing dishes after the meal require more water and so scrape and compost your food waste instead of rinsing it off plates and dishes. At the time of washing dishes, rinse dishes in a bucket and use the water on the garden afterwards. In the dishwasher do not rinse dishes before putting them in the dishwasher. It is time to save water or we will have to face acute water shortage if monsoon rains fail miserably this time.

Ensure you only do full loads of washing, if possible using cold water and adjusting water levels to suit the size of loads. Instead of waiting for the warm water to arrive, try and capture the water that flows out of the shower or tap prior to it being the right temperature and put it in the garden. Fix dripping taps and toilets quickly. They can waste up to 13 litres of water a day.

Fresh water is the life blood of nature. Without it, we would not have clean air, food, drink and many aesthetic and recreational benefits. Therefore, we need to ensure we use water in a sustainable way – we need to share it with all life on the planet and respect and value this 'life blood'. The consequences of doing otherwise can be seen in the spreading deserts across the world and the resulting drought and famine that can soon follow.

Entertainment

Sonam Kapoor shares adorable video with husband Anand Ahuja



That actor Sonam Kapoor simply adores her husband, Anand Ahuja, is no secret, as she seldom passes up on a chance to express her love for him. The actor recently took to her Instagram stories to share an adorable video with hubby. Sonam captioned it, "@anandpahuja."

In the video, Sonam and Anand are seen donning matching black outfits. Sonam can be seen shooting the video from her camera while Anand plants a kiss on her cheeks. ANI

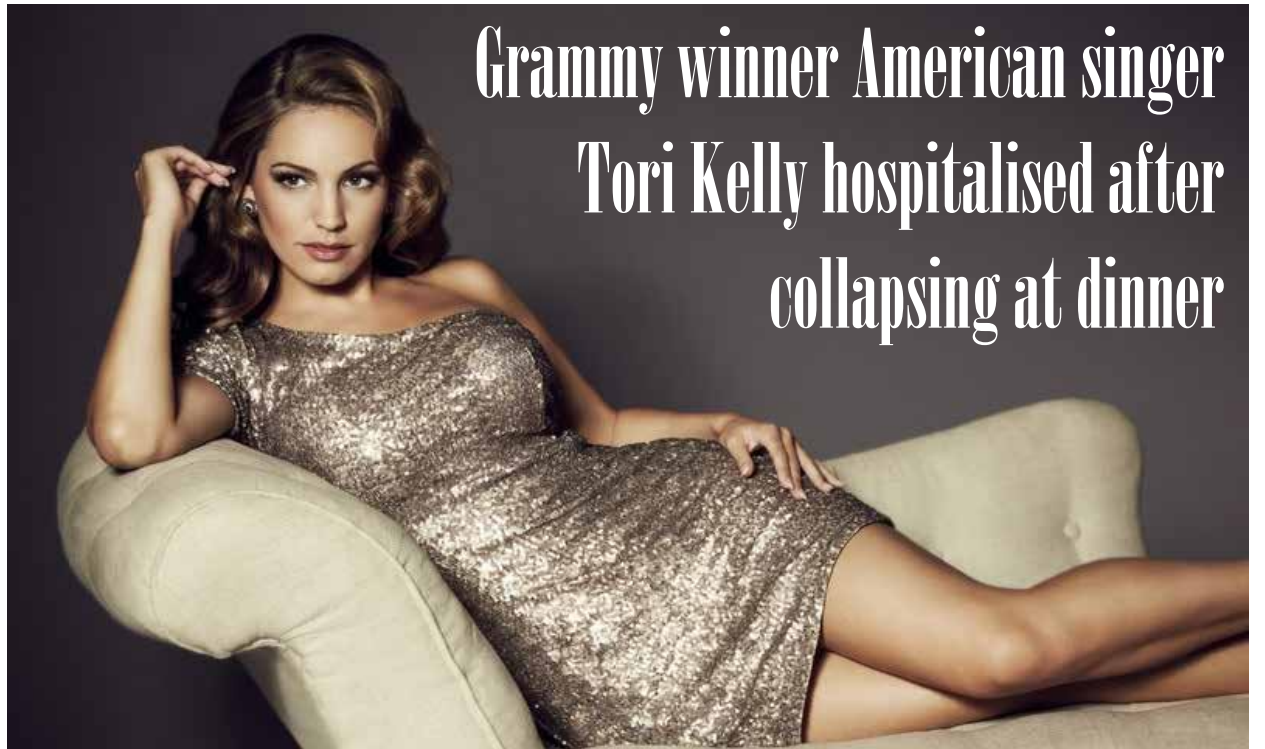


Twitter can't get enough of Jaya Bachchan's stern expressions in 'Dhindora Baje Re'

Veteran actor Jaya Bachchan's stern expressions in 'Dhindora Baje' from Karan Johar's upcoming romantic comedy 'Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani' have drawn a lot of attention from the netizens. In the song, Jaya Bachchan can be seen with a very grim face throughout.

Twitter users have reacted with amusing comments and memes to her portrayal. Have a look. "Jaya Bachchan is being her own self throughout this entire song," one person said. Another person commented, "I think the climax of Rocky Rani would be Jaya Bachchan finally smiling." ANI

Grammy winner American singer Tori Kelly hospitalised after collapsing at dinner



Grammy-Winning American singer Tori Kelly is in the hospital receiving treatment for blood clots around her essential organs, a source confirmed TMZ adding that the condition was really serious.

According to sources close to the Grammy-winning artist, she was out to dinner with friends in downtown Los Angeles on Sunday night when her heart began to race. Tori reportedly passed out and was out for a while.

According to TMZ, Tori's pals wanted to make sure she wasn't sent to a hospital downtown, but rather to Cedars-Sinai, one of the country's top hospitals, so they took her outside, loaded her into a vehicle, and rushed to the hospital instead of calling an ambulance. Doctors detected clots in Tori's legs and lungs and are still attempting to identify if any clots are near her heart, according to a source in the ICU. Throughout her hospitalisation, the singer has been in and out of consciousness. ANI



Tom Brady, Irina Shayk spark dating rumours after spending time together at his house

Russian supermodel Irina Shayk and Tom Brady have sparked dating rumours after they are spending a lot of time together, TMZ reported. The rumours started spreading after Irina slept over at the former footballer's residence.

TMZ has learned from reliable sources that Tom Brady and Irina Shayk are in a relationship. They met in May during the wedding of wealthy art heir Joe Nahmad and model Madison Headrick in Sardinia, according to reports.

According to TMZ sources, "A number of models were hitting on Tom, and Irina was one of them," however her representative disputes this. According to insiders, Gisele Bundchen is not happy at all about Tom's relationship with Irina. The news broke just a few days after Gisele's birthday. Tom and Irina are said to have spent the entire weekend together. ANI