



US court denies Mumbai terror attacks accused Tahawwur Rana's plea against

PG 04 >>



# Afternoon

VOIC E

IEWS & VISION OF CITY

Volume: 16, Issue: 09

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2023 MUMBAI

08 PAGES, ₹ 2/-

RNI No. MAH

afternoonvoice.com

## Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to contest from Amethi, confirms Uttar Pradesh's party chief in Lok Sabha polls 2024



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who was defeated in the 2019 general election by BJP's Smriti Irani, is all set to contest the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from Amethi in Uttar Pradesh. Newly elected Uttar Pradesh Congress chief Ajay Rai confirmed that Rahul Gandhi will contest the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from Amethi.

"Rahul Gandhi will contest from Amethi in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections," Ajay Rai said. "It is the demand of the Congress

workers and the public there...Congress workers want to work on their shortcomings to make sure Rahul Gandhi wins from Amethi. Congress workers demand that Priyanka Gandhi be established as a strong leader. It is their (Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi) personal decision on where to contest from. We will give our best performance to ensure their win," he said.

"I am standing in front of you. The rest is to the party high command and INDIA

bloc to decide," said Ajay Rai on being asked if he will again contest against PM Modi in the Varanasi constituency. Ajay Rai was the Congress candidate in Varanasi both in 2014 and 2019 and lost to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. On speculations of Priyanka Gandhi contesting in the 2024 election, Rai said that Priyanka Gandhi will contest from wherever she wants to. "If Priyanka Gandhi wishes to contest from Varanasi, every worker would strive to make her win," he added. Meanwhile,

Congress leader Bhakt Charan Das said that Rahul Gandhi has started a revolution.

"Such a spotless character will win. It doesn't matter where he fights the elections. Even if Rahul Gandhi fights from Manipur, he will win," he said. However, Uttar Pradesh minister Dinesh Pratap Singh said that "Currently nobody can break the faith and the trust people have in PM Modi."

He said that Ajay Rai is giving a statement to gain cheap popularity. He has only tried to establish himself in the media. ANI

### Maharashtra is ruled by one Chief Minister and two deputies

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Congress's Nana Patole had stated that both the Deputy Chief Ministers have their eyes on the Chief Minister's chair. There is speculation that Devendra Fadnavis is aspiring to be the CM in 2024. Well, when Nana Patole took dig at DCMs, Devendra gave a very humorous reply to Patole stating that 'Yes, both the Deputy Chief Ministers are keeping an eye on the Chief Minister's chair. But we have an eye to protect that chair.' Devendra Fadnavis has given an indirect warning that if anyone looks at our Chief Minister shadily, two Deputy Chief Ministers will do the job of showing them their place. The opposition often tried to create an atmosphere of confusion by

commenting on Eknath Shinde's chief ministerial position. But every time Fadnavis took the front chair to reply to these attacks. In 2019 when Devendra lost power, he took this issue very seriously. His mission to demolish Maha Vikas Aghadi, began with the contravention of Eknath Shinde. Uddhav Thackrey had to step down from the Chief Minister post on a humiliating note.

After the split in Shiv Sena, Eknath Shinde had formed a government on June 30 with the support of the Bharatiya Janata Party, whose senior leader Devendra Fadnavis was sworn in as deputy CM.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

# Editoritis

# Maharashtra is ruled by one Chief Minister and two deputies

▶▶▶ PAGE 1

*We all have seen the overconfidence among all the political leaders in BJP, their speeches and press conference just showed how easily and casually they took the Election.*

*BJP had become a washing machine; it was like before entering BJP a person was fully Immoral but after entering BJP, same corrupts became clean. Nearly 20 MLA'S were welcomed in BJP from NCP.*

*Lack of Leadership in the state - All the candidates of BJP asked vote only on the name of Narendra Modi but this time the people in the Maharashtra were completely aware*

Recently in a melodramatic turn of events which followed months of speculation that he was cosying up to the ruling BJP, the Nationalist Congress Party leader Ajit Pawar — who is also NCP chief Sharad Pawar's nephew — led a vertical split in his party and joined hands with the National Democratic Alliance. Though he claimed to have the support of all his party's MLAs, his uncle made it clear he did not back the move. Ajit Pawar was sworn in as deputy CM for the fifth time, while eight of his colleagues were inducted as ministers in the Eknath Shinde government. Ajit Pawar took oath as the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra for the fifth time, setting a record for the largest number of appointments to this position since it was created in 1978. He shared the post with Devendra Fadnavis, who also holds a battery of other portfolios, including Home and Finance. Ajit also took the finance ministry from Devendra. BJP might be becoming big but Devendra's position is shrinking.

We all have seen the overconfidence among all the political leaders in BJP, their speeches and press conference just showed how easily and casually they took the Election. Many MLA 'S from other political parties especially NCP were welcomed in BJP and given major portfolios and important Posts, it was that NCP whom BJP used to call the most corrupt party in Maharashtra. The hypocrisy of BJP leaders was seen by the whole Maharashtrians because Modiji used to allege NCP as one of the most corrupt parties. BJP had become a washing machine; it was like before entering BJP a person was fully Immoral but after entering BJP, same corrupts became clean. Nearly 20 MLA'S were welcomed in BJP from NCP.

Lack of Leadership in the state - All the candidates of BJP asked vote only on the name of Narendra Modi but this time the people in the Maharashtra were completely aware and knew that Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha both the election are completely different .Now they had a face for Maharashtra which was their previously elected chief minister Devendra Fadanavis , he is a politician who is very good at his communication skills and knowledgeable person but when

it comes to leadership he had completely failed in last five years . Excluding him there was no other person who was capable for the Chief Minister Candidate nor did they have a team who could lead the state. There was also no vision shown by him as well as the party, there was no infrastructural development done, nor any development in the Agricultural sector nor in the educational sector. In fact, we all have seen that BJP was just busy in adopting new members from other political parties and making their party strong rather than concentrating on the development of Maharashtra.

Misusing Power- BJP has always attacked the freedom of speech and expression. Unfortunately, both of these things had become a problem for the Politicians of other political parties because if they speak anything against Government these leaders were harassed by central agencies. All the people have seen BJP misusing important Government agencies like ED, CBI or any other agency so that they can silence the voice of people who speak against them, by blackmailing them on the name of these agencies. Autocracy had just started building in Maharashtra where people didn't have any right to speak anything against the Government. BJP is in politics to be in power. It will do everything that politics allows to form a government. When the opposition can stoop so low as duping the party, BJP will not sit idle or keep silent. When Shiv Sena, which can use the popularity of BJP and Modi, to win 56 seats and sabotage the alliance, BJP is justified in doing everything to place itself in power. BJP will certainly do so. BJP's moves will always be cautious while moving its pawn. The party thinks several times and safeguards itself before going full hog into it. Hence apparently it may look as if it is not interested in power.

Volume No. 16 | Issue No. 09



Editor

**Dr. Vaidehi**

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

Flat No. 2, J- Wing Ground floor, Sumer Nagar Building 3, S.V. Road, Near Gandhi Motors, Borivali - West, Mumbai - 400 092.

[www.afternoonvoice.com](http://www.afternoonvoice.com) [www.newsmakers.co.in](http://www.newsmakers.co.in)  
[www.beyondthenews.biz](http://www.beyondthenews.biz) [www.nbcaward.com](http://www.nbcaward.com)  
[www.mumbaimanoos.com](http://www.mumbaimanoos.com) [www.hackers5.com](http://www.hackers5.com)

Email- afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com • SMS -9820199881

For any queries regarding the editorial desk, contact - 7506760610

Disclaimer : The views expressed in the edit are solely of the editor. The publication do not necessarily share the opinions expressed. Any litigation against the content or publication will be entertained under the Jurisdiction of Mumbai only.



## Letters to the Editor

### Gender Stereotypes

In a welcome initiative, the Supreme Court has unveiled a handbook that aims to help the judges and members of the legal community identify, understand and counteract harmful stereotypes about women in the legal discourse.

The alternatives are an eye-opener: 'sex worker' instead of 'hooker' or 'prostitute'; 'street sexual harassment' rather than 'eve-teasing'; 'bastard' to be replaced by 'non-marital child' or 'a child whose parents were not married'; and 'homemaker' instead of 'housewife'.

Raising the pitch for gender equality, the handbook cites the Constitution which guarantees equal rights to individuals of all genders to counter the stereotype that women should be submissive or subordinate to men. The Supreme Court must be commended for this thoughtful step, whose importance cannot be over emphasised in our predominantly patriarchal society. At the same time, the SC needs to pay greater attention to gender diversity in the higher judiciary, considering the low proportion of women judges in the Supreme Court and high courts.

**Tauqueer Rahmani**

### Will justice really be achieved by calling punishment as justice?

The famous concept of criminal justice system is-'Nature of crime shows the pathology of society'. Same IPC, same CrPC and same evidence law, but the conviction rate in Kerala is 85.6% while in Bihar it is 6.5% (as per NCRB report). The problem will not be solved by changing the name of India to India or the name of punishment in law. Yes, the parameters of individual liberty expand over time. In the context of new concepts regarding gender equality, physical relations, it is expedient to bring some new laws or remove the old ones and also comply with the order of Cotter. There is no doubt that 160 years ago the socio-ethical values were different and in such a situation the power of the state was more dominant as opposed to civil liberties but in 70 years of democracy its philosophy has changed. Now the names of IPC, CrPC and Evidence Act will also be Indian Judicial Code, Indian Civil Defense Code and Indian Evidence Act respectively. Expressing concern over the reduction in the rate of conviction, the Home Minister asked to increase it to 90% and for this, there has also been talk of arranging for extensive help of forensic science in research. But all this is not as simple as it appears.

**N Ashraf**

### Wishful thinking on part of Pawar to write Modi's political obituary when his own men are supporting BJP!

It is wishful thinking on part of Sharad Pawar when he says that Modi will not be PM after 2024 elections. His own party is in disarray & most of his colleague including nephew are supporting BJP in Maharashtra and want to share power with Modi's party which speaks volumes of Prime Minister's larger than life image in the country. Time for Pawar to write his own political obituary than predicting about Modi's future in politics which looks brighter each passing day.

Sharad Pawar has had a great innings in politics & he was an mass leader though unpredictable at times. Time for him to hang his boots & enjoy this phase of life than worry about politics in an era which today belongs to young leaders. Modiji himself I am sure will call it quits once he is 75-Yrs-Old. The role of Opposition is more important in a democracy to keep the ruling party on their toes & all Opposition parties should keep their flocks together before dreaming of coming to power!

**S.N.Kabra**

# Change according to children's mood



**C**hild psychologist and Behavioral Management.

To all parents and even grandparents, as well as teachers, here are some unbelievably simple parenting ideas that work.

1. Children need a minimum of eight touches during a day to feel connected to a parent. If they're going through a particularly challenging time, it's a minimum of 12 a day. This doesn't have to be a big deal; it could be the straightening of a collar, a pat on the shoulder or a simple hug.
2. Each day, children need one meaningful eye-to-eye conversation with a parent. It is especially important for babies to have that eye contact, but children of all ages need us to slow down

and look them in the eyes.

3. There are nine minutes during the day that have the greatest impact on a child: the first three minutes right after they wake up the three minutes after they come home from school

The last three minutes of the day before they go to bed. We need to make those moments special and help our children feel loved.

These are simple, right? Nothing really earth-shattering here.

Whenever you feel like scolding or beating your child, take a deep breath, or count 1-10 and then act. Let's ask them to study their favorite subject on their own. Send them to one exam without studying at all. Remember what our kids are learning in 5th std is

taught to 7th std abroad. Lets keep our kids out of unwanted competition. 80% of what kids are learning won't be useful to them in future. Our kids can really afford to do whatever they want to do in future.

Higher degrees don't guarantee success and happiness. Not all the highly educated people do well professionally. And not all who do well professionally are the happiest ones. Kids are always in a party mood and don't spoil their childhood. Support and let them be what they want to be.

**- Jayanthi Subramaniam**

Columnist

Readers are requested to mail Letters to the Editor only at

[afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com](mailto:afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com)

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

City

# US court denies Mumbai terror attacks accused Tahawwur Rana's plea against extradition to India

A US court has denied the writ of habeas corpus filed by Pakistani-origin Canadian businessman Tahawwur Rana, paving the way for US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to issue a certification for him to be extradited to India where he is sought for his involvement in the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks. In a major victory for India's fight in bringing the perpetrators of the 26/11 Mumbai attacks to justice, a US court approved 62-year-old Rana's extradition to India in May.

In June this year, Rana, who is currently detained at the Metropolitan Detention Centre in Los Angeles, filed a "writ of habeas corpus" challenging the court order that acceded to the request of the US government that the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks accused



be extradited to India. "The court has denied Tahawwur Rana's petition for writ of habeas corpus

by a separate order," Judge Dale S Fischer, United States District Judge, Central District of California, wrote in his order on August 10.

However, Rana has filed an appeal against the order and sought a stay on his extradition to India till the time his appeal in the Ninth Circuit Court is heard. Rana faces charges for his role in the Mumbai attacks and is known to be associated with Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman Headley, one of the main conspirators of the 26/11 Mumbai attacks. PTI

der that acceded to the request of the US government that the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks accused

be extradited to India. "The court has denied Tahawwur Rana's petition for writ of habeas corpus

## 300 meters long Skywalk for Bandra-Kurla Complex



Mumbai, Kurla records huge influx of floating population daily. However, the roads of Kurla are heavily congested, due to which pedestrians face inconvenience for reaching the station during peak hours. Therefore, a 300-metre-

long skywalk has been proposed to connect Taximen's Colony near Bandra-Kurla Complex in Mumbai's Kurla (west) with the Shree Krishna Chowk, near Kurla station. The skywalk will be 4.25 meters wide and 300 meters long. It will be built using ar-

moured steel and is also expected to have escalators for the convenience of pedestrians. At present, pedestrians reach the station by walking through the Lal Bahadur Shastri (LBS) Marg. For its proximity to BKC, which is a major commercial hub,

The work order for the project was issued in August 2021. However, the construction works are yet to begin. Civic officials said that the work will begin immediately after monsoon this year and it will be completed by June 2024. There are several underground functions that fall in the alignment of the proposed skywalk.

The officials told Afternoon Voice "we are working on all the probabilities and trying to make skywalk open for people".

## ITMS to be functional from October 15 this year

The Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) project being carried out by the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) on the Mumbai-Pune New Expressway is in completion stage and will likely be completed by October 15. "We are planning to make the ITMS functional from October 15 this year,"

said Sanjay Yadav, Joint Managing Director, MSRDC. In fact, in Maharashtra, the ITMS project will be the first of its kind once functional on the Mumbai-Pune New Expressway. MSRDC looks after the expressway. The project aims to enhance the management and safety of the expressway through the use of advanced technologies and intelligent cameras.

## Central Railway installing audio devices in Mumbai local trains to alert motormen about red signal

New safety devices giving audio alerts to motormen about a red signal are being installed in suburban local trains of the Central Railway. New safety devices giving audio alerts to motormen about a red signal are being installed in suburban local trains of the Central Railway (CR),

officials said. These devices would help curb train collisions and derailments caused by human errors, the CR said in a release. The devices have already been installed in the driving cabs of 90 out of 151 suburban trains plying in Mumbai, while the remaining trains will get them by March 2024, it said.

The installation will cost the CR Rs 18,000 per train. The device gives an audio alert, 'Next Signal is red, be careful', after a train passes a Yellow signal, the release said. "The provision of audio alert units will help avoid SPAD (Signal Passing At Danger) and accidents on railway lines," it added. PTI

## Train runs over man pushed off at Sion railway platform, couple held



A 26-year-old man was run over by a train after a couple with whom he had an altercation pushed him off Sion railway station on August 11, said police.

The Dadar railway police on Tuesday arrested the accused couple, based in Mankhurd, for allegedly slapping and pushing

the victim — Dinesh Rathod — on the railway track, leading to his death. Police said that the deceased had initially bumped into the woman accidentally at Sion railway station, following which the couple hit him and he fell on the railway track. Later, he was run over by a speeding train.

Nation

# Fake call centre busted in Gurgaon; 10 held



Ten people, including a woman, were arrested, and cash amounting to Rs 10 lakh recovered in Gurgaon's sector 43 on Wednesday, police said.

According to police, "On the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday, police were informed that a fraudulent call centre was operating from a house in sector 43 which was deceiving

foreign citizens under the pretext of providing customer service.

During the raid, it was found that the operators were allegedly cheating foreign citizens by posing as technical support providers. An FIR under IPC sections 420, 204, 120B IPC and 66, 66D, 75 IT Act were registered.

According to police, the accused on questioning revealed that the call centre has been op-

erating since August last year. They allegedly used virtual TFN numbers, which were used to redirect calls, and incoming calls were monitored by the employees. When customers faced issues related to Amazon, PayPal, eBay, they were directed to these virtual numbers. The callers posed as representatives of these companies, gained the customers' trust, and remotely accessed their systems using applications like Anydesk and TeamViewer, police said. The scammers deceived customers by fabricating various problems and then charged them between USD 100 and 500 to resolve the issues. The scammed amount was transferred to various IDs, and then converted to cash through blockchain, with the scammers receiving incentives based on the fraudulently obtained funds, police added.

Police confiscated three mobile phones, 10 laptops, a modem, and Rs 10 lakh in cash.

# Himachal CM calls for setting up more Automatic Weather Stations



Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister on Thursday directed officials to work on a plan to set up more Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) in the state to obtain real-time data related to weather forecasts.

At present, there are 23 AWS stations in several places in the state including Shimla, Dharamshala, Dalhousie and Kufri.

Presiding over a high-level meeting held here late Wednesday evening, Sukhu directed the concerned departments to take appropriate steps to increase the number of AWS and stressed for setting up a weather observatory centre in the state, a statement issued here on Thursday said.

Effective steps should be taken to fortify the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and updated equipment and technology should be provided to them during emergency situations, he said. PTI

Effective steps should be taken to fortify the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and updated equipment and technology should be provided to them during emergency situations, he said. PTI

# Oppn accuses K'taka govt of releasing Cauvery water to TN to save INDIA bloc ahead of LS polls

Taking strong exception to the Karnataka government's decision to release Cauvery river water to Tamil Nadu, opposition BJP and JD(S) have accused the Congress dispensation of 'betraying' the people of the state and its farmers for the sake of politics and to save its INDIA bloc ahead of the 2014 Lok Sabha polls.

Tamil Nadu's ruling DMK is a major part of the opposition bloc. While BJP leader and former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said

politics seems to have taken priority over the state's interest, another former CM and JD(S) leader H D Kumaraswamy alleged that the Siddaramaiah administration has not taken the people and opposition into confidence on the issue.

Clarifying that he never tried to politicise the Cauvery river water issue, Bommai, targeting Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar for making such allegations against him, said the Congress government was mixing politics. PTI

# Union Home Minister Amit Shah will plant the 4 crore sapling as part of the All India CAPFs Plantation Drive

Traffic restrictions are in place in Delhi, Noida and Greater Noida ahead of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to the CRPF camp in Greater Noida, where he will plant the 4 crore sapling as part of the All India CAPFs Plantation Drive. Traffic movement will be restricted on DSC (Dadri-Surajpur-Chhalera) road from Sector 37 to New Ashok Nagar border and from New Ashok

Nagar border to Sector 37 from 11 am to 3 pm. Traffic will be stopped on Noida-Greater Noida Expressway for a short period in both directions. Traffic police said that the commuters, coming from Delhi, are advised to enter Noida via Kondli and the traffic going towards Delhi have been diverted to Shashi Chowk, Spice Chowk, Stadium Chowk, Jhundurpura Chowk towards its destination via Kondli.

# Rescue operations have helped evacuate over 2,000 people in Himalaya

Over 2,000 people in the last 3 days across Himachal Pradesh, which has been battered by incessant rains, leading to flash floods and landslides. The death toll climbed up to 74 as another body was pulled out of the rubble of a Shiva temple in Shimla and two more people were killed in the Chamba district.

What is the situation now? Rescue operations are still on. Principal Secretary (Revenue), Onkar Chand Sharma, said that the losses in the monsoon season have touched Rs 7,500 crore. As many as 650 roads were blocked in the state and 1,135 transformers and 285 water supply schemes



were disrupted. Since the onset of the monsoon on June 24, 217 persons have died in rain-related incidents in Himachal Pradesh.

How long will it take to rebuild? Chief Minister Sukhvir Singh Sukhu has said that the

state will take a year to rebuild the infrastructure damaged by the heavy rains this monsoon and claimed that the estimated loss in the two devastating spells of heavy rains — this week and in July — is about Rs 10,000 crore.

# Karnataka govt to provide security to writers who received 'threat letters'

Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara on Thursday said a group of writers and intellectuals in the state have written to him saying they have received threats to their life, following which steps are being taken to provide security to them.

Accordingly, directions have

been issued to Director General of Police Alok Mohan and Bengaluru Police Commissioner B Dayananda to provide security to the writers and intellectuals.

According to the information received, over 15 writers and intellectuals from the state have written to Parameshwara, stating that they have been receiving

threat letters for the past one year and sought time to meet him.

They also said that they received letters saying that they will meet the fate of late activists M M Kalburgi and Gauri Lankesh. The two were shot dead by a fringe right wing group during the tenure of previous BJP government. PTI

World

## US intelligence says, 'Ukraine will not be able to meet counteroffensive's key goal'



The US intelligence community believes that Ukraine's counteroffensive won't succeed in reaching the important southeastern city of Melitopol. If this assessment turns out to be accurate, Kyiv won't achieve its main goal of severing Russia's land bridge to Crimea in this year's push, The Washington Post reported. The assessment is based on Russia's brutal proficiency in defending

occupied territory through a phalanx of minefields and trenches, and it's likely to lead to finger-pointing in Kyiv and Western capitals over why a counteroffensive that involved tens of billions of dollars-worth of weapons and military hardware from the West failed to achieve its objectives.

US officials stated that the Ukrainian forces, which are approaching Melitopol from the town of Robotyne, more than 50

miles away, will stay a distance away from the city. In order to discuss classified military activities, The Washington Post interviewed US, Western, and Ukrainian government officials under the condition of anonymity. The US Directorate of National Intelligence declined to make any comments. Since Melitopol is regarded as the entry point to Crimea, it is essential to Ukraine's counteroffensive. Two significant highways, a railway line, and the city's location at their intersection allow Russia to transport military soldiers and equipment from the peninsula to other seized areas in southern Ukraine.

US officials predict that Ukraine's attempt to reclaim Russian-occupied territory would falter before it reaches Melitopol, a crucial city in the southeast. The village of Robotyne is now being pushed south by Ukrainian soldiers. ANI

## Pakistan's caretaker PM Kakar said, "Interim govt won't support 'forces of darkness'"



Pakistan's caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar on Friday said the interim government would not support "the forces of darkness" in the society as he took strong exception to the unprecedented attack on minority Christians in the Muslim-majority country's Punjab province. An enraged mob ransacked and torched 21 churches and 35 homes of Christians on Wednesday over

blasphemy allegations in Jaranwala town of Faisalabad district, 130 km from Lahore, the provincial capital. "The minorities will stay protected in this country. There may be an attempt to harm them from a section of marginalised and peripheral groups of people, but that would be responded to sternly and strictly," Kakar said during his maiden federal Cabinet meeting. PTI

## Activist says, "Baloch is targeting Chinese to protect their land and identity"

Days after a convoy of Chinese engineers was attacked in Pakistan's southwestern province of Balochistan, a prominent Baloch activist justified the incident calling it an attempt by the indigenous people to protect their identity and land. Hakeem Baloch, a journalist and a senior activist of the Baloch National Movement (BNM) based in the UK, told ANI that China has been investing heavily in the region for its own economic and military interests.

He said, "The Chinese investment is not for the Baloch people, it's in reality, not even for the Punjab (a province in Pakistan). What China is looking for is Gwadar Port. China wants to strengthen its military power, China wants to strengthen its military growth in the region by controlling the Gwadar port." "If China controls Gwadar port, they can control the Middle East from there. And with that China will become a regional power. For the people of Balochistan, there is

nothing in these huge projects", he said.

Gwadar, a seaport town in Balochistan is witnessing developmental projects as part of the multi-billion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project. A large number of Chinese engineers are engaged in projects financed by the Chinese government. Hakeem said that these development projects are not benefiting the indigenous Baloch and they are getting poorer. He said, "First thing, one has to be clear is that the Baloch are not against development. They are not against any development be it from any country or any part of the world. But, at this very moment when the Baloch are a slave and Balochistan is under slavery when the lives of people in Balochistan are miserable, when the stories of people of Balochistan is about death, sorrows and brutality, how one can imagine coming to Balochistan and they can live a life which the locals can't imagine". ANI

## Journalist Tucker Carlson mentions that "He's worth listening to" over nomination file by candidate Ramaswamy for 2024 US Presidential Polls

Indian-American lawmaker Vivek Ramaswamy, who is a first-time candidate for the Republican party nomination for the 2024 US Presidential polls, is "worth listening to" according to popular journalist Tucker Carlson. Carlson, in the latest episode of his production, "Tucker on Twitter," interacted with Ramaswamy and the latter stated that America was at a point where the "government and the broader establishment believe that the citizens of the nation cannot be trusted with the truth."

Ramaswamy, a biotech entrepreneur, also spoke about the "void" he is trying to fill in American politics. Carlson termed Ramaswamy as "one of the best-versed voices in policy" he has spoken with. Their first topic of conversation was Ramaswamy's recent comments questioning the official story of 9/11. He said, "I didn't suggest it, I explicitly said the government absolutely lied, the 9/11 Commission lied, the FBI lied.



Is this a core point of my campaign? No. Absolutely not. I went on a comedy show where the guy asked if the moon landing was fake, and I said it was real. Then he asked me if the government told the truth about 9/11 and I said no, they did not."

"What do we know about Hunter Biden's dealings? What do we know about the truth of what happened on January 6? What do we know about that

Nashville shooter manifesto? Yes, we can handle the truth. Just give me the hard truth," Ramaswamy went on to say.

On the heels of Carlson's comment that it feels like the country is on a "cusp of chaos," Ramaswamy said, "there's something going on."

"We're like in a 1775 – spring of 1776 moment," Ramaswamy described the current energy in the country. ANI

## Expression

# The Real Religion: The Path to Happiness and Peace



Lalit Gang  
Columnist

Today religion is being considered as a commodity, it is being sold and marketed. Religion is starting to get away from nature. Because of which we could not trust our brightness. As a result, we are scared and apprehensive all the time. Our love or anger is all becoming artificial. In the desire to get along with others, it is becoming difficult to spend some time with yourself. Despite working day and night, our work does not give happiness. All this is the result of the changing nature of religion.

The birth of Lord Mahavira is true - Dhammo Shuddhas Chittai. Religion resides in the pure soul, and another name for the pure soul is Raman in its nature. This is a revolution of continuous personal development. There is no one else but himself responsible for the success of life, failure, happiness and sorrow and happiness. The important stage of religion is that we think right is right and wrong is wrong. This development of Samyakta vision is a sign of successful and meaningful life, not just liberation. The learning of three monkeys of Gandhiji also gives a meaningful interpretation of religion that 'Do not look bad, do not say bad, and do not listen to bad'.

Today, Dharma is working as a blank sheet. Wear it and get religious. Now it seems that some words, some good deeds are just worthy of being embedded in the golden frame, not the object of grace, but of behavior. Religion is the idea of seeing the world from a holy perspective, a window of pure air and light. Then writer and biochemist Isaac Asimov has said, 'Our thinking is the window that shows the world.

Keep them clean, otherwise the light will not come on.'

Like scientists, the masters of spirituality also discovered eternal laws. Today scientific discoveries are going on, but the door to find rules in the field of religion is closed. This is the root of the problem. The problems of the present are therefore not absorbed by religion. Religion cannot be made effective and executive by disarming it. Be it religion, or object, we look at things in two ways. Sometimes we have glasses of love and sometimes fear. Our entire thinking changes as the lens changes. Fear is giving things a form, so love is a different plane. Writer and speaker Gabriel Bernstein says, "We are not responsible for what our eyes see?" We are responsible for how we adopt it.'

Unless there is a change in the consciousness of the person, it is difficult to change the person and the social system. We should consider all the problems afresh and find solutions. Till the time the remedy is not discovered and we will not understand the demand of the era, let it go as it is going on, till then neither religion will become glorious, nor religious will become glorious, only the trade of words will continue.

We must keep in mind that every seed has its own potential. Some things are out of our control and some are based on our own decisions. Connecting your decisions with your nature and real religion is the way to lasting happiness. For which it is necessary to know oneself. Like this, everyone's work is done. Fat-thin, dark-white, introverted and extroverted, all have their own strengths. But, the problem is that we do not give time to ourselves in our desire to know others and to look into the field of others. Cannot live by himself. Claire Hogson says 'If you are unhappy for most of your life? Stressed in stress and diseases? If it is getting



difficult to spend everyday's life, then look into yourself. Ask what is important for me? How should my life be working by recognizing our natural values never disappoint. But the real identity of life has started to get hampered as religion has become a profession. Because fraud in the commodity market and religion market has increased a lot, there is a need to be cautious in both places. Real-fake identification is needed. When it comes to money between religion and religion, understand that there is a deal. Now it is up to you that you will try to buy religion by considering it as a commodity or try to live it as a conduct? We need to be careful about religion.

The real meaning of religion is the awakening of the inside. Insight awakens only when the person's mind is clear, the senses are introverted, the subject is relaxed. Pragya is awakened only in those who search for truth, religion comes. Such people only know the inner, know the cause of sorrow, sorrow and the remedy of sorrow. That is why happiness and sorrow are not gratified, they are self-centered,

and this realization is received. Nobody knows more than one's own self in the language of spirituality. Wherever we go wrong, the mind will testify to be wrong. Even if we make a hundred lies in the safety of our image, why not make a meaningless attempt to create an impenetrable armor. Religion is the language of the soul when Rumi says, 'It doesn't matter how many languages you know. Knowing the language of the heart makes you priceless.'

Religion is uninterrupted; it is free from all varna, caste, sect and creed. Even though we have divided it into temples, gurudwaras, mosques, churches, it is another unbroken one. Religion never binds to principles, rituals, customs, and traditions. That is why an atheist who does not believe in God also respects moral values in life, has faith in Good and dares to fight against Evils. He also knows that religion cannot be separated from life. Religion is no cloth that we wore only when I wanted to, otherwise I hung it on the peg. Religion runs simultaneously like a breath.

# Entertainment

## Actress Sonam Kapoor says, her father Anil Kapoor is the 'Main Motivator'

Veteran actor Anil Kapoor acts as a constant source of motivation for his daughter Sonam Kapoor. Sharing how her father inspires her every single day, Sonam said, "There is so much to learn from my dad, he is my inspiration, my main motivator. He has been working for almost five decades now and yet, each day he is excited like it is his first day at work! I wish I can always be like him because even I want to work for as long as I can too."

She added, "My father has set the benchmark too high for his children as well as fellow actors in the industry with his dedication to the craft, fitness as well as the desire to entertain people for as long as he can. I also want to work and keep doing interesting and diverse work always! Once an actor, always an actor, they say! Being on set is my happy place. Being in front of the camera is pure joy." Taking inspiration from her father, Sonam can't wait to get back on sets and put her best efforts into her upcoming projects. **ANI**



Banking in the success of his latest release 'Jailer', megastar Rajinikanth on Friday visited the holy Chhinnamasta Temple in Jharkhand. After offering prayers at the temple, the megastar was clicked at the Birsa Munda Airport.

While talking to media he said, "It felt great. I went to Chhinnamasta temple. I was thinking to visit the temple for many years, and this time I went there it felt great. This is the third time I came here and will come every year." Recently, Rajinikanth visited Badrinath Dham to take the blessings of Lord Badri Vishal. He also attended Lord Badri Vishal's evening aarti. Ahead of the release of 'Jailer', the legendary actor went for a spiritual trip to the Himalayas.

Rajinikanth revealed on various occasions that he used to visit the Himalayas often. But the superstar was unable to visit the hills for the past four years due to various reasons, including the corona pandemic. **ANI**

**Jailer Movie: Actor Rajinikanth visits Chhinnamasta Temple post success of his film**

Pop icon Britney Spears and her spouse Sam Asghari have filed for divorce after 14 months of marriage, according to a source who spoke to People. Earlier on Wednesday, a number of sources told People that Spears and Asghari had ended their relationship.

The couple got married in June 2022 after meeting in 2016 while filming Spears' 'Slumber Party' music video. However, sources told PEOPLE in February that Spears' close friends and family had "grown concerned." In March, there were rumours that the pair were having marital issues, but Asghari's agent, Brandon Cohen from BAC Talent, immediately shot them down. Cohen explained to PEOPLE that Asghari took off his ring because he was filming a movie in response to images that showed him and Spears without their wedding bands. Asghari claimed in November that he had been cast in the Taylor Sheridan-produced television series Lioness, albeit it was unclear what movie he was filming at the time.

Before they got married, Asghari assisted the pop sensation in 2019 with her mental health treatment. Asghari stepped up to help Spears more heavily as she battled with her father's health scare after she entered a facility for "all-encompassing wellness treatment" in April 2019. **ANI**



**American Singer Britney Spears and her spouse Sam Asghari calls out for split after 14 months of marriage**