



CM Eknath Shinde calls" G20 Summit a Historic golden day for

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## G20 summit - Foreign Media irked over denying access to cover Modi - Biden meeting

AV Team

Since 2014, Narendra Modi as Prime Minister of India has never held a press conference, press-meet was never on his agenda and in the recent past when there was a press conference in the white house an American journalist asked an embarrassing question to Modi that created a lot of unrest on social media. Maybe to avoid such kind of awkward situations Modi avoids press-meet. He just obliges his mouthpieces by going to their studios for an over-hyped interview. This time foreign reporters accompanying US President Joe Biden on his visit to India for the G20 summit were also given the same treatment.

Since taking over as the Prime Minister of India in 2014, Modi has been criticised nationally and internationally for avoiding press conferences. So far, he has not held a single press conference. The only time in the nine years that he took questions from the press was during the joint press conference with Biden during his state visit in June which brought him in a bad light.

Biden headed into a confidential meeting with Modi on September 8, soon after arriving in India. As Biden and Modi met at the prime minister's residence the US press outfits were confiscated in a van, out of eyesight of the two leaders - an unusual situation for the reporters and photographers who follow the U.S. president at home and around the world to witness and record his public appearances.

The Joe Biden administration requested repeatedly for increased media access for the bilateral meeting between President Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit on Friday, but the Government of India rejected those requests, according to the White House's tweet.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 04



The press is a part of democracy and if there is no press conference in G20 Summit it means government is trying to hide something. It also seems government is scared that some secrets might get revealed which creates bad impact on the country

Advocate **Abha Singh**



It was seen by everyone in India that ever since PM Modi has come into power there was no press conference held in the last 9 years. It is strange that there huge event of G20 Summit happening in India but still government did not keep any press conference and this government only talks about 'Mann ki Baat' there no talks of people's issues

NCP MP **Dr Fouzia Khan**



It is correct that there is huge event of G20 summit happening where top leaders of other countries visited India and we also want that press conference should happen in India which is not only limited to PM Modi but other leaders a well like Sonia Gandhi, Arun Patnaik, Mayawati

Senior Journalist **Rajdeep Sardesai**

## Malnutrition in children on rise and worst mid-day meal adds to poor health

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Malnutrition among under-five children is an important concern for the health authorities in India. To counter this problem, a Mid-day meal scheme was launched across the schools. There was discussion in assembly about the good hygienic meals that have to be provided to children under the mandate of the law and the constitution. Many children would not have fallen ill as a direct result, and not because they didn't get breakfast in the morning. It's unfortunate that the system is not bothered about what they are serving as food to the children. The system for providing meals is not fit for human consumption and in a years' time, we passed the

buck from the government to parents.

After a viral video showed just rice mixed with salt given as a meal to students at a government school in Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya district, the principal has been suspended. The District Magistrate said action is based on apparent evidence and a detailed inquiry will follow. But these authorities never bothered to check what all is happening in the name of Mid-day meal. The school principal is not a contracture or authority. He may not be having any say in states like Uttar Pradesh.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

# Editoritis

# Malnutrition in children on rise and worst mid-day meal adds to poor health

▶▶▶ PAGE 1

*Hope Yogi baba (Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath) tours schools in Uttar Pradesh, because his PM candidate came to power with the slogan of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao.*

*The concept of mid-day meal scheme is not new in India as its roots can be traced back to the pre-independence era when the British administration initiated a Mid Day Meal Programme for disadvantaged children in Madras Municipal Corporation in 1925.*

*Tamil Nadu became the first state in India to introduce a noon meal programme in primary schools.*

The two-minute video shot by a student's parent at the primary school shows children seated on the floor and eating the rice-and-salt served under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. The teacher refuses to take responsibility, and the pradhan (village head) also refuses. The video shows the children are eating rice and salt. Who would want to send their children to such a school? Hope Yogi baba (Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath) tours schools in Uttar Pradesh, because his PM candidate came to power with the slogan of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao.

The camera then pans to show a wall painted with the Mid Day Meal menu - milk, rotis, dal, vegetables and rice are listed. The last time such a video went viral in Uttar Pradesh, the whistleblower faced action instead. The concept of mid-day meal scheme is not new in India as its roots can be traced back to the pre-independence era when the British administration initiated a Mid Day Meal Programme for disadvantaged children in Madras Municipal Corporation in 1925. Like this many such programmes were initiated in different states.

In 1953, the Government of Uttar Pradesh started another such scheme. Tamil Nadu became the first state in India to introduce a noon meal programme in primary schools. In 1984 this scheme was introduced in Gujarat. From time to time the meal scheme was taken up by different states and later on it was taken up as a national scheme. As per Mid-day Meal Scheme all the children studying in primary and upper primary classes in Government school will get free lunch during working days. As per Government, this scheme is the world's largest school feeding programme.

As said earlier, the objective of initiating was very good. First and the foremost was to wipe out the ever increasing malnutrition and chronic hunger in India then was to increase the enrolment in the schools, to encourage social mixing of kids at schools, to generate employment for women as cooks and organizers. But lack of close monitoring and quality guidelines are creating hurdles.

There are certain critical issues that need to be tackled such as irregularity in serving meals, abnormality in supply of food grains to schools, caste based discrimination in serving of food, poor quality of food, poor coverage under School Health Programme, poor infrastructure especially of kitchen sheds, poor hygiene and poor community participation. Mid-day meal related scams and other such issues further weaken the entire scheme. That is why 42.5% of children under 5 are still underweight. Rate of child malnutrition is higher than most of the other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.



Government must take steps to find out why the mid-day meal schemes are in such a shape even after allocating a huge budget to these schemes.

Proper attention, cleanliness and hygiene should be given priority while preparing and serving the food to kids. Over 33 lakh children in India are malnourished and more than half of them fall in the severely malnourished category with Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and Gujarat topping the list. Child malnutrition is a chronic problem and a longstanding challenge for the public administration of India. India launched the POSHAN Abhiyaan, a flagship national nutrition mission to improve nutrition among children, pregnant women and lactating mothers in 2017. With the aim of meeting the second United Nations-mandated Sustainable Development Goal (SDG): Ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition. But the scheme remained in the files only.

*Vaidehi Tamam*

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

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# Voices



## Letters to the Editor

### One nation, one election

Narendra Modi's government has revived the concept of 'one nation, one election' and established a high-level committee to explore its feasibility. While the idea appears promising, implementation remains a complex challenge. Questions arise regarding the fate of coalition governments, the handling of states under President's rule, the election of the President, and the functioning of the Rajya Sabha. Achieving synchronization across India's diverse political landscape is a formidable task. Despite the conceptual appeal, the road to unified elections seems fraught with hurdles.

**Jahangir Shaikh**

### Adieu master cartoonist

The demise of master cartoonist Ajit Ninan no doubt has created a void in the world of cartoons that can never be filled because he was a master on his own, a cartoonist who was a class apart.

His funnies and cartoons be it 'Centrestage', 'Ninan's World', 'Just like that', 'Like that only', 'CEO cartoons', 'Wits end' and so many others not only made the viewers laugh out loud but made them think and act responsibly.

An inspiration for many of the younger generation cartoonists Ninan did not show any political inclination to any one party. He in fact did not spare any politician- be it the ruling or the opposition. When it comes to social issues one could see an 'R K Laxman touch' in his creations-gentle but striking pictures powdered with satire and humour that taught everyone a lesson!

We the teens of the 1980s can never forget his celebrated comic strip, 'Detective Moochhwalla and his dog Pooch' which featured in the famous detective comic series published in the Target magazine of 1980's.

His works stand unique as they had the ability to effortlessly transform complex issues into easy thought-provoking visuals with a sharp sense of humor.

In a career spanning 40 years his works enlightened the readers through various publications like The Bombay Chronicle, Shankar's Weekly, Blitz, Tribune, The Outlook, The Guardian, The Indian Express, Target, India Today and Times of India.

The proud recipient of the Barton Lifetime Achievement Award and so many others Ninan's creations will always remain everlasting, inspiring generations, teaching them that cartoons are not just for fun but powerful medicines to treat the sick-individual and the society.

**M Pradyu**

### Expectations from the G-20

A study on Biodiversity and Technology in Indian Agriculture has been presented at the US G-20 Summit. In the 2021 report of the US, the Indian government has mentioned that the Indian government is not approving GM crops. Due to this, the country's agricultural income has suffered a huge loss. In the upcoming conference, the US President has been urged to announce his opinion on Indian agriculture and biotechnology on behalf of the farmers' organization. For research and development. Companies are not ready for research due to huge expenditure. Supreme Court had declared moratorium on genetically modified crops for 10 years from 2009. Even after the moratorium, no GM crops have been approved. It is said that no decision has been taken yet on genetic engineering or genetically modified organism crops. GM crops should be considered to meet the growing population's appetite or to maintain the supply and demand ratio. It is to be hoped that something will come out for the farmers on the occasion of the G20 summit.

**Dattaprasad Shirodkar**

# Faking Freebies for a Favour

Freebies are allurements only but nothing concrete. Wasteful use of electricity, defective, erratic, substandard supply of material and service and plunder of government public money by unscrupulous cheaters of all kinds and exploitation of the general masses. Need is to provide employment and enable people to lead a dignified life as espoused by the Hon'ble Supreme Court by creating assets as an architect of a modern welfare state with better health, education, housing, and roads etc. etc. We come across glaring examples in Tamil Nadu. Gold for Thali (Mangal Sutra) Similarly waiver of gold loans. Why should taxpayers' money be frittered away? Only one thing is clear: most of them vote for symbols which do not mean anything to them.

The free color Television set given in Tamil Nadu was seen in the flats of Vashi Navi Mumbai. The focus should be on the Electoral Bonds and how it can be reversed. Two, the source of money spent on elections by the candidates as well as the party. Three, scrutiny of "income" and "assets" declared by contestants to the Assembly and the Parliament in a tenure of five years. Because the incomes of the ministers of the ruling dispensation increases many fold, when he gives his declaration the next time. As well the increase in the assets of children of those in power or close to those in power. If funds meant for the public don't line the pockets of ministers and babus, then there would be no need for freebies.

But today, the media is also a big beneficiary of freebies, hence there is no investigative journalism nor any exposure of government deals!! What about the freebies to the crony capitalists in the name of tax waivers, duty waivers? Parliamentarians too enjoy freebies. Why leave them out?



And the freebies on a daily basis lining the pockets of a policeman, a clerk in the municipality, in the tehsil while making registration of land deeds/ sale deeds, court clerks! All hotbeds of corruption.

When we talk of freebies, there are two aspects to it. Essential and non-essential items. Food grains fall under the essential items category and there is no doubt that it has improved the lot of the common man through distribution of such items. Can one say the same about non-essential items? In TN, where freebies play a major role during elections, fans, grinders, TVs and many such items have been distributed as part of the freebie culture. More of than not, the quality of the items are very poor and become worthless scraps within a very short time.

Girl students are given free cycles to encourage girl education and in many cases these cycles are either used by the father or the brother, and in some cases even sold, defeating the very purpose of the freebie. Next comes the beneficiaries of the freebies. And, of course, the less said about our 'free' power culture, the better. Rich farmers enjoy free power, do not pay any taxes, are against any agrarian reforms and the politicians only go after the Adanis and the Ambanis and never against the rich farmers for political reasons.

While one surely appreciates the need for free distribution of food grains to the really poor, the distribution system needs a complete overhaul to ensure that the fairly well off do not benefit from the same. Politicians, especially at the State level, will never bell the cat for fear of losing votes. Distribution of non-essential items as freebies must be banned, especially as a sop during elections. No doubt it is important to ascertain what the court meant by freebies. If it refers to the uncoordinated actions of some State Governments which distribute private goods before elections in the name of welfare, the remedy is coordination of policy and action in the manner envisaged in Article 263.

It is time to reconsider the freebies fiasco in a broader outlook as taxpayers money is given as freebies just to win elections. Instead of just blowing the whistle out of proportion, let us think of winning the hearts of voters in a service oriented society and run the show without any added attraction.

**- 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.)

## CM Eknath Shinde calls "G20 Summit a Historic golden day for Bharat"



**L**auding the G20 Summit headed by India this year, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Sunday said that it is a historic golden day for Bharat adding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi won the world with deep respect and love.

"Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi won the world with deep respect and love.

A Historic Golden Day for Bharat. It was a golden day as the Heads of various countries of the world descended on the capital, Delhi, this Saturday on the occa-

sion of the G-20 summit," Shinde posted on 'X'. He also praised the tireless work of PM Modi and said that the Prime Minister spread the fame of Bharat all over the world. "Hon'ble Prime Minister of the country Shri. Narendra Modi has spread the fame of Bharat all over the world, he is working tirelessly to make the country a superpower. Heads of many powerful nations including America, Britain, Japan, Germany, France, Canada, UAE, etc came to Delhi. On this historic occasion, the Hon'ble Prime Minister promised to work together for a more prosperous and harmonious future with 'one accord and one spirit," he said". ANI

## Three held for entering into a restricted zone of Mumbai Port Trust

**T**hree persons were arrested after they allegedly entered a restricted zone of the Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT) here. The police also recovered 20 cartridges belonging to a CISF officer, which fell inside the vehicle when he intercepted it, an official said on Sunday.

The police on Saturday arrested Mahim residents Gaurav Wagal (27), Shreyas Churi (25) and Abhishek Mangaonkar (24), all of whom are students, the official from Yellow Gate police station said.

The trio had gone to south Mumbai in their car for dinner on the intervening night of Friday and Saturday, after which they allegedly entered the restricted zone of the MbPT, he said. The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel tried to intercept the vehicle, but it sped away.

However, a CISF official managed to stop the car when the accused were taking a reverse, he said.

The CISF officer pointed a gun at the driver, but the car sped away and the magazine of his gun accidentally fell inside the vehicle, he said. The CISF officials lodged a complaint at Yellow Gate police station, the official said. The police collected the CCTV footage of the car and zeroed in on it with the help of the state transport department, he said, adding that 20 cartridges belonging to the CISF officer were recovered from the car. The accused have been arrested under sections 447 (criminal trespass), 403 (dishonest misappropriation of property) and other relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code, the official said. PTI

## DRI seizes 371 tons of Areca Nuts worth more than Rs 32 crore in Raigad

**I**n one of the biggest seizures, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has seized 371 tons of Areca Nuts worth more than Rs 32 crore from 14 containers at Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Maharashtra's Raigad district, an official said on Sunday.

Based on reliable information, the containers were stopped at JNPT on August 31 before they could be transhipped to dry port Talegaon on suspicion that the cargo could be pilfered or replaced en route, he said.

As per the import manifest details and the declaration, the containers were carrying calcium nitrate. However, the examination revealed that it was a case

of brazen misdeclaration and all the 14 containers had areca nuts which were being smuggled into India, the official said. The government has put a tariff value of 10,379/ USD per metric ton on areca nuts brought into the country from outside. Hence, the entire consignment of 3,71,090 kg (371 MT) of areca nuts, valued at Rs 32.31 crore has been seized, a release said.

The areca nuts in split form attract an effective Customs duty rate of 110 per cent of the value. Hence, the attempted duty evasion in this case by way of misdeclaration is around Rs 36 crore. Further investigation is underway, the official added. PTI



Students in Mumbai are spreading message of peace to "Stop Russia - Ukraine war" amid tensions seen between the two countries through their paintings while ongoing G20 Summit in Delhi.

## G20 summit - Foreign Media irked over denying access .....

▶▶▶ PAGE 1

The press pool spray refers to the access of a pool of reporters to the two leaders at the venue right before the meeting with camera and microphones. The purpose of the pool spray is to grant the leaders publicity with opening remarks and also grant the media the opportunity to ask questions. The leaders are at the liberty to take questions of their choice since it is an informal press interaction and not a formal press conference. Such press pool sprays frequently happen at the White House's Oval Office where the President of the United States often hosts foreign leaders. But in India this opportunity was denied. Biden will not address the press in Delhi, but will hold a press conference in Vietnam where he will go after Delhi.

Besides the meeting with Modi, Biden is not expected to have any other bilateral meeting. The White House has said that there could be informal interactions with leaders on the margins or pull-aside kind of conversations, but the schedule is not expected to allow for a proper bilateral sit-down

when we spoke to some journalists, leaders and activist they gave their opinion and mentioned, NCP MP **Dr Fouzia Khan** told Afternoon Voice, "It was seen by everyone in India that ever since PM Modi has come into power there was no press conference held in the last 9 years. It is strange that their huge event of G20 Summit happening in India but still government did not keep any press conference and this government only talks about 'Mann ki Baat' there no talks of people's issues".

Senior Journalist **Rajdeep Sardesai** told said, "It is correct that there is huge event of G20 summit happening where top leaders of other countries visited India and we also want that press conference should happen in India which is not only limited to

PM Modi but other leaders a well like Sonia Gandhi, Arun Patnaik, Mayawati".



Senior Journalist **Paranjay Guha Thakurta** said, "It is extremely unfortunate that government of India has prevailed over the government of US to not allow American journalist who have come to India to ask questions of the President of America Joe Biden. This is most unfortunate and they will be asking questions to the president when he reaches Vietnam. I also believe that entire G20 event has been done with the aim of impressing the electoral of India".



Senior Journalist **Anil Thatte** said, "It might be possibility press conference was not kept to maintain security of the world top leader and also we don't have many journalists in the industry who actually does their homework for the interview, anybody walking in with the press card can ask question which might not be an important one also every media does not follow journalism ethics or the discipline of sending one right person for these events".



Journalist **Sandhya Shrivastav** said, "According to me to maintain the press freedom in India press conference should be there because if wanted to ask any questions to the dignitaries related to any issue that can be addressed to media through press conference".



Advocate **Abha Singh** said, "The press is a part of democracy and if there is no press conference in G20 Summit it means government is trying to hide something. It also seems government is scared that some secrets might get revealed which creates bad impact on the country".



# Nation

## Congres leader shares pictures on social media of waterlogging at Bharat Mandapam, says 'hollow development' exposed



The Congress on Sunday shared on X a video of waterlogging at the newly constructed Bharat Mandapam, the venue for the G20 Summit, and said it has exposed the "hollow development" under the Modi government. In the video, people

are seen walking in a waterlogged corridor. "Hollow development exposed. Bharat Mandapam was prepared for G20. Rs 2,700 crore was spent. It was lost in one rain...", the Congress said in its post.

Party spokesperson Supriya Shrinete spoke in the same vein.

"Efforts are underway to remove water with machines. Rains are also part of international anti-national conspiracy," she said while sharing the video on X. "Who are these corrupt people who stole so much money and did such shoddy work," she asked. Addressing a rally in Niwai in poll-bound Rajasthan's Tonk district, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra took a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the waterlogging. "Perhaps what the people of our country are not able to say due to fear, God has said: Reduce your ego, this country has made you a leader, put it first and make the people supreme," she said. PTI

## Multi-crore corruption case: Several people are supporting TDP chief and calling his arrest illegal



In the wake of TDP chief and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu's arrest in an alleged multi-crore corruption case, several voices, including some from abroad extended support to him, calling his arrest illegal. Global technology company Zoho's chief executive Sridhar Vembu

on Sunday expressed shock over Naidu's arrest. "I was shocked to read that Chandrababu Naidu-ji was arrested yesterday. I know him and he worked so hard to bring so many companies, including Zoho, to Andhra Pradesh. I hope justice prevails," said Vembu in a post on X (formerly Twitter). PTI

## Himachal Pradesh: State govt says, "Solar power projects to be set up in 24 'Green Panchayats'"



The Himachal Pradesh government Sunday said it would develop two Gram Panchayats each in all 12 districts of the state as 'Green Panchayats' on a pilot basis by setting up solar power projects. The government's comprehensive plan to redevelop the panchayats includes setting up solar power projects with a capacity of 500 kilowatts to one megawatt in each of these panchayats, a statement issued here said. A provision of Rs 50 crore has been made for setting up these projects under the Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Development Programme. Himurja, a state government undertaking, is in the process of identifying gram panchayats for setting up solar projects, the statement said. PTI

## Rajasthan: IMD forecasts of rains for 2-3 days

Heavy to very heavy rainfall occurred at some places, including Dholpur and Banswara, in Rajasthan, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Sunday. Dholpur received a maximum of 23 cm of rainfall followed by Banswara where 15 cm rain occurred since Saturday till this morning, the weather office said.

"Heavy to very heavy rainfall has been recorded at some places in Dholpur and Banswara districts in the last 24 hours. Maximum rainfall of 23 cm has been recorded in Dholpur. Apart from this, light to moderate rain has been recorded in several parts of Bharatpur, Jaipur, Kota, Udaipur and Ajmer divisions," the Met department said. PTI

## G20 Summit: World leaders pay homage to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat; Sign on 'peace wall'



G20 leaders, including US President Joe Biden, UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at his memorial Rajghat here on Sunday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi received the lead-

ers at rain-drenched Rajghat. He welcomed the dignitaries with an 'angvastram' or stole having in the background an image of Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram in Gujarat, which was his home from 1917 to 1930 and served as one of the main centres of India's freedom struggle. PTI

## G20 Summit: British PM Rishi Sunak departs from India

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak concluded his two-day long visit to India as he departed on Sunday after attending a successful G20 Leaders Summit in New Delhi.

"As UK Prime minister departs from India. Congratulations to the G20 presidency, the G20 summit, which has been ambitious, inclusive, determined and action-oriented. A huge thank you to all of those involved. To our Indian hosts, who once again have shown atiti Devo Bhava,"

British High Commissioner to India, Alex Ellis said today.

Sunak who arrived in the national capital on Friday, accompanied by wife Akshata Murty earlier today offered prayers at the BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham temple before paying his respects to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat. Earlier on Friday, Sunak had in an interaction with ANI called himself "a proud Hindu" and said he wished to visit the Mandir during his stay in the capital. ANI

## PM Modi meets Canadian PM Justin Trudeau, discusses on India-Canada ties



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday met his Canadian counterpart Justin Trudeau on the sidelines of the G20 Summit and discussed full range of India-Canada ties across different sectors. In a post on X, Modi said, "Met PM @Justin-

Trudeau on the sidelines of the G20 Summit. We discussed the full range of India-Canada ties across different sectors." Modi has held several bilateral meetings over the last three days as world leaders gathered for the G20 Summit that concluded on Sunday. PTI



World

## African Union chairperson Assoumani says, "India is a superpower in terms of 'inhabitation' and 'ahead of China now'"



President of the Union of Comoros and chairperson of the African Union (AU), Azali Assoumani, on Sunday said India is a superpower in terms of "inhabitation" and "ahead of China now". Assoumani said as the fifth superpower in the world, there was enough room for India in Africa.

"India is the 5th superpower in the world so there is enough room for India in Africa. We also know that India is so powerful that it went to space. So we just need to coordinate... India is a superpower in terms of inhabitation, India is ahead of China now," the AU chairperson said. He also praised India

for advancements in space research. Opening up on the moment when Prime Minister Narendra Modi hugged him after formally inducting the African Union into the G20 family, the AU Chairperson said it was an emotional one for him.

He added that he thought there would be a debate before a decision is arrived at but the African Union was announced as part of the G20 family at the very outset of the two-day summit on Sunday. "I was about to cry. It was a great emotion for me. Because actually, we thought that there was going to be a debate and then a decision would be taken but at the very beginning of the Summit it was announced that we were a member," he said. ANI

## G20 Summit: African leaders were welcomed at the summit



Several African leaders have welcomed the unanimous decision by the G20 countries at a summit hosted by India to admit the African Union (AU) as its 21st member. "Honoured to welcome the African Union as a permanent member of the G20 Family. This will strengthen the G20 and also strengthen the voice of the Global South," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday as he embraced Comoros Presi-

dent Azali Assoumani, who is also the Chairperson of the African Union, and invited him to join the proceedings at the summit in New Delhi. African leaders affirmed Modi's view in their reactions to how the inclusion of the Africa as the 21st member of the G20, which the AU had been requesting for several years now, would boost the continent's efforts to have a more effective voice in addressing global challenges. PTI

## Canada PM Justin Trudeau said, "We are always there to prevent violence, push back against hatred" over issues of Khalistan extremism

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said that he had many conversations with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue of Khalistan extremism and "foreign interference", and Ottawa will always defend freedom of expression, and at the same time will always be there to prevent violence. He further emphasized that the "actions of the few" do not represent the entire community or Canada.

When asked about if the issues of Khalistan extremism and



"foreign interference" did come up during discussions with PM Modi during the G20 Summit, he said, "Both the issues came up. Over the years, with PM Modi, we have had many conversations on both of those issues. Canada will always defend freedom of

expression, freedom of conscience, and freedom of peaceful protest and it is extremely important to us. At the same time, we are always there to prevent violence and to push back against hatred". "I think on the issue of the community, it is important to remember that the actions of the few do not represent the entire community or Canada. The flip side of it, we also highlighted the importance of respecting the rule of law and we did talk about foreign interference," he added. ANI

## Sri Lankan President announces probe into british channel's allegations over 2019 Easter attacks

Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Sunday announced that he will appoint a probe panel to investigate the allegations made by a British channel on the 2019 Easter suicide attacks that killed 270 people, including 11 Indians. UK's Channel



4 television station on Tuesday aired a documentary titled 'Sri Lanka's Easter Bombings - Dispatches' alleging the involve-

ment and complicity of certain government officials, including intelligence service chief Major General Suresh Sallay, in orchestrating the 2019 Easter suicide bombings. It called the attacks a "crafted act" aimed at forcing a political change in favour of the Rajapaksa brothers. PTI

## G20 Summit: A "coup" for PM Modi but but stops short of condemning Ukraine war, says world media



The G20 declaration, which hit snags on the language to describe the Ukraine war, amounted to a "coup" for host Prime Minister Narendra Modi though the final compromise statement reflected a stand far softer than those the US and its Western allies have adopted on Russia, the world media said on Sunday. India managed to hammer out an unexpected consensus among the G20 countries on the contentious issue of Ukraine through a series of hectic nego-

tiations with emerging economies such as Brazil, South Africa and Indonesia playing a leading role in reaching the breakthrough on the first day itself. Leaders gathered for the two-day annual Group of 20 Summit managed to agree on a 'G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration' laying out shared views on climate change and economic development but showed the fractures within the group by stopping short of explicitly condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine. PTI

## Expression

# G-20 to fetch amazing results for India

## The creation of a new world is possible through the G-20 conference



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Columnist

The entire world, troubled by violence, terror and war, has fixed eyes on the summit of G-20 countries to be held in New Delhi on 9 and 10 September. This summit is special, because India, being the President of G-20 this year, has given new directions and new dimensions to the entire world. The summit is taking place at a time, when the world is hogged by the concerns of insecurity and unrest due to the Russia-Ukraine war, China-Taiwan tension and North Korea's missile testing programs. Although the G-20 is a forum for economic issues, and not security related issues, the path to economic progress opens up only through security, peace and a war-free environment. The way security concerns have affected the world economy, it is not possible for the G-20 countries to ignore it completely. G-20 member countries together account for about 85 percent of the world's gross domestic product and 75 percent of international trade. Being the president of this forum, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given the message of peace for economic progress, he says that there is a need to give the message to the world again that 'this is not an era of war'. Decisive framework and directions should also be decided in the conference to curb China's expansionist policies. Obviously, whatever decisions will be taken in the Delhi Summit, it will be important for the entire world and a new world structure will be possible through it.

The entire world does not want war, the brilliance of non-violence and peace is the biggest expectation of world public opinion; now non-violence is not cowardice, but the foundation of an advanced and ideal world structure. Now, if the era of non-violence continues and its brilliance continues, then the next pages of world history will be truly golden, the path of economic progress through G-20 will be like the ears of wheat in the pigeons' mouth. But its biggest obstacle will be to prepare a decision and a decisive outline on China and Russia. Russia's President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping's bilateral meetings with leaders of other countries were all eyes on the Delhi summit, still Putin and Xi Jinping both will not attend the New Delhi Summit. This, however, will not have much effect



on the objectives and possibilities of the Summit. When the heads of big countries like America, Britain, Australia, France, Italy, Germany, South Africa and Indonesia are going to participate in the Conference, then some direction will definitely emerge to deal with the current challenges facing the world. Its possibilities have also increased, because India has also invited nine countries, including—Netherlands, Egypt, Spain, Nigeria, United Arab Emirates and Bangladesh, which are non-members of G-20.

India has assumed the presidency of G-20 considering all Vasudha (earth) as its family. A century ago, Swami Vivekananda had given the idea of Indian spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' and 'Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah' by addressing the delegates present at the Sarvadharm Sammelan in Chicago, USA as 'sisters and brothers', listening to which all the delegates present there were surprised and kept clapping for a long time after being happy with this address. Even today, PM Modi has taken up steps towards making the world one family by making the same 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' mantra as the announcement and logo of G-20; however, ambitious countries like China and Russia are sowing thorns in these paths. Actually, the countries of the world have to understand that at this time both China and Russia want to run the world in their own way. The intention of China and Russia both is to destroy the sovereignty of their neighbouring countries, and at the same time, they also want support from forums like G-20 in their totally unjust and inhuman act. How can you forget that Putin is fighting a war against Ukraine; so China also is constantly keeping a vulture eye on Taiwan

and Indian territories?

Despite this, India, which is continuously getting stronger in world politics, should neither get disheartened, nor should sit down accepting defeat? With the energy that India has got from its tradition, we have to wish and strive for peace, happiness and prosperity in the entire world. History is the witness that our forefathers, who wished for the happiness and peace of all living beings, did not attack anywhere in the world with the aim of attaining political power, or encroaching on any country, or occupied borders of any country. If there was a situation of conflict, the aim was the protection of the good and the destruction of the wicked. Apart from this, wherever Modi went on the strength of his good behavior and knowledge, he hoisted the flag of brotherhood, and Indian culture. PM Modi did not attack anyone for the sake of power. Even today Indian culture remains dignified in the countries of Greater India, which are the proof of this statement. India has its own independent policy vis-a-vis the entire world and its conduct should continue accordingly. Keep in mind, if countries having an adverse attitude towards our progress had acted, then G-20 would never have been organized in India; and again India would not have got the presidency. Whatever India has achieved, it has been achieved by its own efforts, and in future also it will achieve success only by its own sturdy efforts.

The Chinese President alone is responsible for the decline in India-China bilateral relations today. There are multiple examples from which it can be proved that Chinese Premier Li Keqiang is coming to attend the summit to be held in India. It should be expected that there will be

no talks of sabotage from China on the summit platform of integration. Definitely, India has made G-20 a more inclusive platform under its chairmanship, many new countries has been added to this platform. With the efforts of India, the African Union also joined the G-20, while earlier the people of Africa did not have a voice on this platform. When the G-20 was formed in 1999 to overcome the global economic crisis, initially only the finance ministers of the member countries and key bank governors were called to the conference. For the first time, heads of state of about 40 countries and representatives of many global organizations are going to participate in the Delhi conference, definitely this conference will be unique and unique and India has also made grand and unique preparations for its dignity.

For India, this conference is a good opportunity to intensify efforts to find a basis for ending the Russia-Ukraine war with the member countries. Russian President Putin is unable to come up with a reason for war with Ukraine. There is no deep diplomacy behind this. In spite of this, the onlookers will make some sense out of the top leaders of Russia-China not taking the G-20 seriously and their indifference. This will also happen because the G-20 is dominated by peace-loving western countries. Apart from this, it is chaired by the pro-peace and anti-war India, which is the foundation of Panchsheel, about which China is uncomfortable from the beginning. The reason for his uneasiness is the water turning on his expansionist activities and diplomacy. He is isolated in his opposition to India. Experts of diplomacy believe that Xi Jinping did not release the new map of his country at such a time. The new map of China violates the borders of many countries. China has not only shown some areas including Arunachal of India in its new map, but has also shown Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam in its map. India has expressed its objection to this. The truth is that in the long journey of Indian culture and politics, the spirit of world welfare and human welfare has always been active. In the entire literature available under this culture, the spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' and 'Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah' has always been flowing like an inner stream. In this, priority has been given to the whole world along with the country rather than the individual. In the G-20 Delhi conference, only the feeling of world-family will be emphasized.



# Entertainment

## American actress Christie Brinkley's ex-husband Peter Cook ties knot with Alba Jancou



American actor Christie Brinkley's ex-husband, 64-year-old architect Peter Cook and Alba Jancou exchanged vows in Italy on Friday, People reported. The couple got married at the Hotel Luna in Capri, the three towering rock formations jutting out the Mediterranean that have become a symbol of the island's charm.

Jancou told People, "I mean, who doesn't want to get married in Capri!? We both absolutely love Italy; it is our favourite country. We have traveled all over Italy together and the one place that really stood out to us was Capri. We loved everything from the views, the food and the culture. It is so romantic and visually stunning." "We had vacationed there in 2021, and spent the day of our third anniversary taking a boat trip," recalled Cook.

ANI

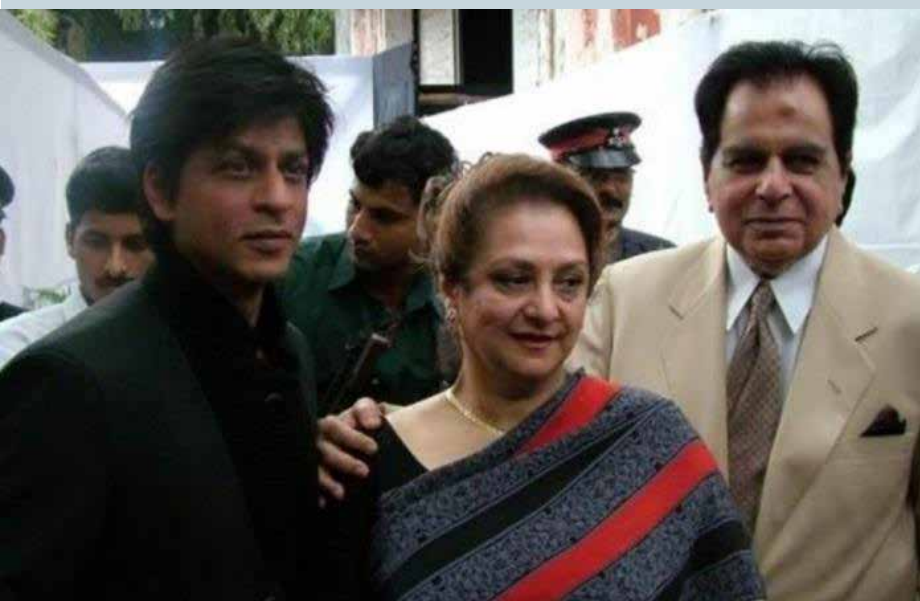
## Morocco Earthquake: Actress Nora Fatehi hails PM Modi's support for people on social media



Actor and dancer Nora Fatehi on Sunday thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi as he expressed grief and offered support to her hometown, Morocco, following the deadly earthquake that struck the country.

Taking to Instagram, Nora shared a picture of PM Modi's tweet on her stories and wrote, "Thank you Prime Minister @narendramodi for this big support! You were one of the first countries to raise awareness and extend a helping hand! The Moroccan people are very thankful and grateful! Jai Hind." ANI

## Actress Saira Banu shares her experience of meeting SRK for the first time



Legendary actors Dilip Kumar and Saira Banu have always had a close affinity with Shah Rukh Khan. The 'Pathaan' actor has always respected them and stood by Banu during Dilip Kumar's illness. Saira wrote about their relationship with SRK in her recent post on her Instagram handle and praised the actor for his marvellous acting skills.

She mentioned, "The first time I saw Shahrukh was when many stars had met for a function...I immediately remarked that he seemed shy and reticent to come forward....and I noticed that he looked so much like my Shahenshah Dilip Sahib....I said if my son had been there he would have been just like him." She recalled a memory with SRK and added, "One vivid memory I have is of a chance encounter with Shahrukh, where he humbly bowed before me, seeking blessings. As I placed my hand on his head and ran my fingers through his hair, I couldn't help but remark how it resembled that of Dilip Sahib. Since that day, whenever Shahrukh and I met, he graciously lowered his head, allowing me to offer him my blessings." "Interestingly, on one occasion, I forgot to run my hand through his hair, and immediately after, Shahrukh lowered his head, saying, "Aaj Aapne Mere Baalon Par Hath Nahin Phera", and without hesitation, I lovingly ran my fingers through his hair, completing our familiar ritual." ANI

Canadian actor Neve Campbell is thankful for the life skills she received as a professional dancer before pursuing a career in Hollywood, reported People. The Canadian actress, best known for her role as horror heroine Sidney Prescott in five 'Scream' films, has dancing roots, having trained at Canada's famous National Ballet School from the age of nine to fourteen.

As per People, she's now in Toronto for the city's International Film Festival to debut the new documentary 'Swan Song', which takes audiences inside the National Ballet of Canada's 2022 production of Swan Lake. Campbell served as an executive producer on the project. "I have very few pictures of myself at the National Ballet School, but JJ [Feild], my partner, said, 'Oh, there's that one photo of you, and you look so determined,'" Campbell, 49, told People while looking back on her early dance days ahead of the festival from her Los Angeles home. "All of the discipline that I have, I take from dance," she continued. "The capacity to be able to listen and take direction, with humility, and an understanding that you're never going to be perfect, and that it takes work and drive to be good, and that no matter how hard you work, you'll never completely get there — that is the journey." ANI



Canadian Actress Neve Campbell opens up of her dancing skills helping to make her career in hollywood