



Maratha Violence: Activist Manoj Jarange says, "Ready to end fast,"

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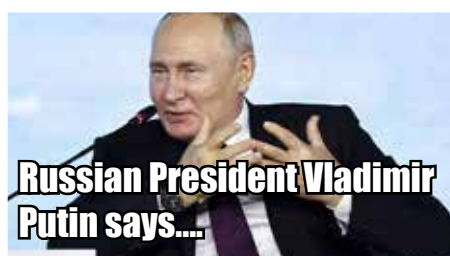
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'Sanatan Dharma' remark controversy FIR has been filed in Mumbai against minister Udhayanidhi Stalin

An FIR has been registered against DMK leader and Tamil Nadu Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin over his 'Sanatan Dharma' remark. Mumbai's Mira Road police have registered the case under sections 153 A and 295 A of IPC.

A BJP delegation in Tamil Nadu on Tuesday handed over a memorandum to the state police demanding registration of an FIR against Udhayanidhi Stalin for his remarks against 'Sanatana Dharma'.

Speaking at a conference earlier in Chennai, Udhayanidhi, the minister for Sports and Youth Affairs in the Tamil Nadu government, railed against Sanatan Dharma, equating it with "dengue, malaria, fever, and corona". He added that Sanatan Dharma shouldn't be merely opposed but eradicated.

Earlier this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, chairing a meeting of the Council of Ministers, weighed in on the

furor around Udhayanidhi's remarks, and according to sources, asked his ministers to aggressively counter the attack on Sanatan Dharma. He advised his ministers to counter the Opposition's narrative on the Sanatan Dharma with facts.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin said that it was unfair for Prime Minister Narendra Modi to "make comments without knowing what Udhayanidhi spoke" on the 'Sanatana Dharma'. The storm created

by "Sanatana Dharma" created a political slugfest in the country. The political rival NDA and INDIA alliance are taking a pot-shot at each other after the DMK leader equated 'Sanatana Dharma' with "mosquitoes, dengue, malaria, fever and corona". The Congress, Trinamool Congress, Shiv Sena (UBT) and Aam Aadmi Party, which are part of the Opposition INDIA bloc, distanced themselves from the DMK leader. ANI

Maratha Reservation- Maratha community cannot be declared as educationally and socially backward

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

The Maratha reservation issue was more of a politically motivated agenda than the actual issue of source of facility. The Maratha reservation of 12 and 13 per cent in education and jobs had amplified the overall reservation ceiling to 64 per cent and 65 per cent, respectively.

Disadvantage of reservation including Maratha quota, the total reservation in the Maharashtra caste wise is restored to 52 per cent — Scheduled Castes 13%, Scheduled Tribes 7%, OBC 19%, Special Backward Category 2%, Vimukta Jati 3%, Nomadic Tribes B 2.5%, Nomadic Tribes C Dhangar 3.5%, Nomadic tribe D Vanjari 2%.

Nevertheless, the politics, the question which is being debated is why did the apex court not uphold SEBC, created as a separate category to ac-

commodate Marathas with unanimous consent from the state and legislative assemblies. The legal and constitutional challenges to Maratha reservation will not go unrecognized.

In November 2018, the Maratha community was given the reservation under the Maharashtra State Socially and Educational Backward Act. The special act was endorsed by Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission and approved in both the assembly and council. The prominence of legislation was to give reservation under SEBC, a legal and constitutional cogency. The legislation proposed by the then BJP-Sena government got undisputed support from then opposition parties Congress and NCP.

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Editoritis

Maratha Reservation- Maratha community cannot be declared as educationally and socially backward

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On August 9, 2016 Marathas under the banner of Maratha Kranti Morcha came together at Aurangabad to protest the rape and killing of a 15-year-old girl in Kopardi village

Apart from it the organisation demanded justice for the Kopardi girl and sternest punishment to perpetrators of the crime and loan waiver for farmers among other things.

Maratha reservation is a serious issue and its needs to be addressed in time. If we want Marathi people and culture to survive and thrive then it is important that Maratha survive.

The Supreme Court's decision Wednesday to strike down Maratha reservation puts the Maha Vikas Aghadi government in a tough spot as the Opposition BJP is sure to project this as the ruling coalition's fiasco to protect legislation passed in the state Assembly and council.

On August 9, 2016 Marathas under the banner of Maratha Kranti Morcha came together at Aurangabad to protest the rape and killing of a 15-year-old girl in Kopardi village of Ahmednagar district in Maharashtra. Although Kopardi was the trigger, the Maratha alliance, leading to 58 silent, but massive, rallies across the state between 2016-17, was centred on reservation for the community in government jobs and educational institutions.

Apart from it the organisation demanded justice for the Kopardi girl and sternest punishment to perpetrators of the crime and loan waiver for farmers among other things. The massive public turnout at the apolitical rallies made inroads from cities to villages to taluka levels across Maharashtra. At the end of every rally, a ten-point charter of demands was presented to the district collector.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLCs formed a rumpus and walked out of the Legislative Council on the issue of Maratha reservation forcing the adjournment of the House. Maratha students were protesting at Azad Maidan, and BJP wanted to raise the question in the House but there were heavy counter arguments and finally they walked out in protest.

BJP leaders held a protest outside the state Assembly on the second of the winter session, over various issues including women's safety and Maratha reservation. Pravin Darekar alleged that the state government is running away from discussions and is facing strong opposition. The two-day winter session of the state legislature began in Mumbai from December 14 2020.

Since then, the opposition was hell bent on twisting this entire issue to their advantage. Maratha reservation is a serious issue and its needs to be addressed in time. If we want Marathi people and culture to survive and thrive then it is important that Maratha survive. Nowhere in India a single caste makes up more than 30% of the state population.

Still not many outside Maharashtra knew (until this agitation) that this caste exists. For outsiders Maratha is the same as Marathi, Maratha=Marathi. Yadav's with just a single digit population have been dominant in UP and Bihar. But despite such a huge population of Marathas, casteism is not dominant here like UP and Bihar because of the tolerant nature of people.

Maratha for namesake is one community. But it is made of so

many social layers from ultra-rich political families to dirt poor laborers who just earn for the day. 52 percent is reserved which leaves 48% open and it is crowded with progressive people like Brahmins, business class who can afford tuition, outsiders who are mostly educated people, leaving very little space for Marathas.

The systems of reservation of India are a form of positive discrimination. It follows from the concept of equality of opportunity as enshrined in the Constitution of India. Reservation is the result of laws, guidelines, and administrative action by the different levels of governments in India, and includes reserved or exclusive access to seats in the different legislatures, to government jobs, and to enrolment in higher educational institutions.

The target groups are identified based on criteria such as gender, caste, tribe, and linguistic minority status. It is the process of facilitating a person in education, scholarship, jobs, and in promotion who has category certificates. Reservation is a form of quota-based affirmative action. Reservation is governed by constitutional laws, statutory laws, and local rules and regulations. Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Other Backward Classes (OBC), and in some states Backward Classes among Muslims under a category called BC(M), are the primary beneficiaries of the reservation policies under the Constitution – with the object of ensuring a level playing field.

When BJP came to power in 2015, they accused Maratha leaders in the Congress and NCP of orchestrating protests to derail its government's investigation into several scams, now when BJP is in opposition, they are using the same issue to their advantage and trying to create unrest for Maha Vikas Aghadi. Maratha reservation has become a tool to counter each other in political corridors but no one wants to find a solution.

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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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Daily Drinking Water a Fundamental Right

- C.K. Subramaniam
Columnist

Water is connected to every form of life on earth. As a criteria, an adequate, reliable, clean, accessible, acceptable and safe drinking water supply has to be available for various users. The United Nation (UN) and other countries declared access to safe drinking water as a fundamental human right, and an essential step towards improving living standards. Access to water was one of the main goals of the Millennium Development Goals.

Despite getting a fair quota of monsoon rains Maharashtra could not provide water to everyone and the HC raps authorities for the plight of villagers, who get water twice a month. The Bombay High Court said supply of regular drinking water was a fundamental right and it was unfortunate that people had to knock on the court's doors to get water even after 75 years of independence. Water has to be supplied daily for at least a few hours.

This is their fundamental right. The observations were made by a Bench of Justices while hearing a petition by residents of Kambe village in Thane district, Maharashtra seeking supply of drinking water on a daily basis. The demand for water has also increased since the last few years due to an increase in population hence there is a requirement to upgrade the system, Drink-



ing water is fundamental right: Bombay High Court on water supply failure in Thane village. It is indeed a sorry state of affairs.

Water remains the basic need of humanity. This need has transformed itself into one of the essential common freedoms in India. Notwithstanding

the endless estimation of water, the advancement of the option to water is by all accounts slow in India. In India water law involves different components worldwide and public echelons. There are different government arrangements that require genuine re-thought and inquiries of its authorization, regularly raised with no appropriate arrangements being given. In this light the need for providing daily drinking water has assumed greater importance.

Water is the most significant need for humankind without which mankind can't endure. Additionally, it stays a typical legacy and a benefit that must be delighted in by all in a developing India. Even though water is overflowing into the sea during floods Union-State and inter-state relations is the need of the hour. Nationalising rivers can solve the problem permanently. Water is the solution of life not just for people, however for all living creatures that require it in the unadulterated structure.

Letters to the Editor

Teachers not to be engaged in other activities

Teachers of State-run schools in Bihar on Saturday staged demonstrations in front of block offices across districts, demanding employee status for all contractual educators who have been working for several years in such educational institutes. Similarly, teachers have been employing for a long time in low salary, expecting to get government employee status but govt is displaying unawareness instead of providing government employee status with them. Moreover, teachers are engaged in other activities, including election related works, hence they could not focus on teaching. Therefore, the educational development should immediately stop engaging school teachers in other governmental activities because they have already started offering their resignations in those areas where they are being engaged in non-teaching activities.

Mohammad Taukir

Modi govt couldn't conduct census

Congress on Friday called the Modi government "inept and incompetent" for not conducting the Census 2021, leading to "denying" 14 crore Indians their food security, while reminding that nearly every other G20 country has managed to carry out the exercise despite Covid-19. "Since the Modi government failed to conduct the Census in 2021, it only offers NFSA coverage to 81 crore people based on the 2011 Census, whereas 95 crore Indians are entitled to the NFSA coverage, going by current estimates of the population," Congress General Secretary (Communications) Jairam Ramesh said.

"In each and every case, the Modi Government is covering up its own failures to provide employment, stop mob lynching, deliver income growth, ensure dignity to migrant workers and Covid-19 warriors, or increase farmer incomes," he added.

Mohd Faisal

NEF Railways' IDS avoids elephant-train collision

The North East Frontier Railways installation of Intrusion Detection System (IDS) using AI introduced in 11 elephant corridors in its

region has turned highly fruitful as trains colliding with the pachyderms has lessened after initiating this project some months ago. As the Northeast Frontier Railway is now getting ready to introduce it across the zone it is high time the Indian Railways introduce this in the other rail zones too where elephant-train collision is very high. According to Government data an average of 20-25 elephants die due to train collisions in the country every year.

This hitech system powered by AI generates an alert to the train controller, station master, train drivers and other stakeholders when elephants step onto the tracks. That is, the device, fitted in the OFC network, captures the vibration when an elephant comes on the track and sends out a real-time alert to the division control room from where alert signals are passed immediately to avoid collisions. It has to be noted that the IDS System for saving elephant lives earned the Northeast Frontier Railway the PMI South Asia Award for Micro Project of the Year recently.

M Pradyu

Kudos to King Kohli for becoming the fastest player in the world to score 13K ODI runs!

King Kohli is on top of the moon as he scores his 47th ODI ton in style against arch

rivals Pakistan & also becomes the fastest to score 13K ODI runs in 267 innings. This is incredible milestone from Virat Kohli as Tendulkar's 13K ODI runs came in 321 innings while Ricky Ponting took 341 innings for the same. Virat Kohli makes batting look so easy as he plunders runs against the best of bowling attacks in the world with ease. He is extremely fit for his age & looks good to overtake Tendulkar's world record of 49 ODI tons. Kohli still has a lot of cricket left in his career & can easily muster 75 ODI Tons before he hangs his boots & 50 Tons in Test Matches which could take his tally to 125 international hundreds that will be difficult for anybody to emulate in future.

Kohli will have to fire at the top if India has to win the ODI World Cup later this year. Home conditions & local crowds should cheer Kohli who looks good to help India win the title!

S.N.Kabra

Readers are requested to mail Letters to the Editor only at

afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com

No postal letters will be entertained

(The views expressed are authors' own)

2016 demonetisation policy: HC dismisses plea of probe, says "Courts should refrain from delving into RBI's monetary regulatory framework"



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) plays an important role in shaping the country's economy, and courts should refrain from delving into the monetary regulatory framework, the Bombay High Court said while dismissing a petition alleging wrongdoing by RBI officials during the 2016 demonetisation policy.

A division bench of Justices A S Gadkari and Sharmila

Deshmukh on September 8 dismissed the petition filed by Manoranjan Roy, who claimed to be a tax volunteer, seeking an independent investigation to inquire into alleged wrongful activity and action by certain RBI officials during the demonetisation of Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 currency notes.

The bench, in its order, noted that the petition was nothing but a fishing inquiry into what the

petitioner perceived to be a scam based on half-baked information. "The act of RBI in issuing the legal tender is a statutory function backed by expert committees and cannot be called in question on frivolous grounds," the high court said.

The demonetisation notification issued in 2016 was a "policy decision", it said. It is trite that there is a presumption that the policy decision, which was made, is bonafide and in the interests of the public unless found otherwise, the court said. "It cannot be disputed that the RBI plays an important role in shaping the economy of our country and the courts should refrain from delving into the monetary regulatory framework unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the Court that there is a need for an investigation by an independent agency," the bench said. **PTI**

Defamation case: Magistrate court cancels non-bailable warrant against NCP leader Nawab Malik



A magistrate court here on Tuesday cancelled a non-bailable warrant (NBW) issued against NCP leader and former Maharashtra minister Nawab Malik in a defamation complaint filed against him by BJP worker Mohit Bharatiya in 2021.

The matter has been adjourned to October 25 for recording of evidence. Additional Metropolitan Magistrate S B Kale (Mazgaon court) last month issued the NBW against Malik for

failing to appear before the court. The NBW was cancelled after the former state minister marked his presence before the court on Tuesday.

In October 2021, Bharatiya filed a complaint against Malik for allegedly making "baseless comments" in connection with the Narcotics Control Bureau's (NCB) cruise drug seizure case, in which Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan was arrested. **PTI**

Traffic police arrested for demanding bribe from a driver in Navi Mumbai

Two traffic constables of Navi Mumbai police have been arrested for allegedly demanding a bribe of Rs 5,000 from an autorickshaw driver, an official from the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) said on Tuesday.

An offence under the Prevention of Corruption Act has been registered against traffic constables Pravin Rathod (33) and Namdeo Gadhekar (35), who are attached to the Mahape traffic

division, deputy superintendent of police (Navi Mumbai ACB) Shivraj Mehetre said.

The accused constables had caught an autorickshaw driver for traffic violations, seized his vehicle, and allegedly demanded Rs 5,000 for releasing it, he said. Following negotiations, the duo settled for Rs 2,000 and were caught by the ACB while accepting the bribe amount on Monday. **PTI**

Double-decker buses: Commuters request BEST to preserve two for display at museum

Mumbai's iconic red double-decker buses, which have been an integral part of the city's public transport system for more than eight decades, will go off the streets this week, an official from the Brihanmumbai Electricity Supply and Transport (BEST) Undertaking said on Tuesday. The open-deck double-decker buses, which have served as sightseeing buses for

tourists since the 1990s, will also disappear from the city streets in the first week of October, he said. As these buses are going off the roads forever, commuter groups and bus enthusiasts have urged BEST to preserve at least two of these iconic vehicles at its Anik depot-based museum and have written to the Maharashtra chief minister, tourism minister and the BEST administration. **PTI**

Maratha Violence: Activist Manoj Jarange says, "Ready to end fast, but won't leave protest site till govt issues caste certificate"

Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange on Tuesday said he is ready to withdraw his indefinite hunger strike, but will not leave the protest site until the state government starts issuing Kunbi caste certificates to the Maratha community from the Marathwada region.

He also said that he is giving one month's time to the Maharashtra government so that the state-appointed committee prepares its report over the Maratha reservation.

Jarange, aged around 40, has been on an indefinite hunger strike since August 29 at Antarwali Sarati village in Jalna district of central Maharashtra, more than 400 kms from here, demanding reservation in jobs and education under the Other Backward Classes (OBC) category for the Maratha community. The state government has set up



a five-member panel headed by Judge Sandeep Shinde (retired) to determine the Standard Operating Procedures, including legal and administrative framework, for giving caste certificates to Maratha community members referred to as Kunbis (part of OBCs now) in Nizam-era documents. This will allow Marathas from the Marathwada region to avail quota benefits under the OBC category.

Marathwada region comprises eight districts – Aurangabad, Beed, Hingoli, Jalna, Latur, Nanded, Osmanabad and

Parbhani. Addressing a gathering at the protest site on Tuesday afternoon, Jarange said, "I am ready to give the state government one month's time so that the committee prepares a report. I have made it clear to the state government that whether its report is positive or negative, it will have to start issuing Kunbi caste certificates to the Maratha community." "I am walking two steps backwards so that the defamation of my community stops. I am ready to withdraw my fast, but I will not vacate this place," he said. **PTI**

Nation

SC adjourns Umar Khalid's bail plea for 4 weeks in a UAPA case related to 2020 Delhi riots



The Supreme Court on Tuesday adjourned for four weeks the hearing of the bail plea filed by former Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) student Umar Khalid in a UAPA case related to the alleged conspiracy behind the North-East Delhi riots in February 2020. A bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela Trivedi adjourned the hearing saying the

matter requires a detailed hearing and asked senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Khalid, to file documents in the case.

The bench told Sibal, "List the case after four weeks... In this matter, we will have to go document-by-document. You have to show us what evidence is available and how it does not match with the charges against you."

Sibal said certain provisions

of the UAPA, including provisions concerning terrorism, raising funds for terrorist act and conspiracy did not apply in the case. Khalid had approached the top court challenging an October 2022 Delhi High Court verdict that had denied bail to him.

Khalid, arrested by Delhi Police in September 2020, in the High Court had sought bail on grounds that he neither had any "criminal role" in the violence in the city's North-East area nor any "conspiratorial connect" with any other accused in the case. The Delhi police had opposed the bail plea of Khalid. He had approached the High Court challenging the dismissal of his bail application by the trial court in March 2022. He was charged with criminal conspiracy, rioting, unlawful assembly as well as several sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). ANI

Uttar Pradesh: Dog bite cases have increased in Ghaziabad



The terror of dog bites is continuously increasing in Ghaziabad, as new cases are being reported daily, according to figures. According to government statistics, 70 to 80 new cases of dog bites are being reported every day, and more than 150 to 180 injections are being given daily.

Ghaziabad Chief Medical Officer Bhavtosh Shankhadhar said, "We are appealing to the people that if someone is bitten by a dog, you can immediately come to the hospital and get rabies injection because once rabies infects, it is impossible for the person to survive."

"Therefore, do not hide it but come and get treatment at the

right time. Rabies injections are being administered at all health centres and arrangements have also been made in government hospitals", he further said. Earlier, a 14-year-old boy, who hid a dog bite for over a month from his parents out of fear, died of rabies in Ghaziabad.

The uncle of the deceased told ANI that the stray dogs frequently attack people as they are not leashed and that this is not the first incident. "The dogs are not leashed and they attack anyone and this is not the first incident. We have registered a complaint and the police are looking into the matter," the deceased's relative said. ANI

Land for Job Scam: Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court sanctions against Lalu Prasad Yadav obtained, submits CBI



The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Tuesday informed Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court that the sanctions against former Union Railway Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav have been obtained from the Home Ministry in relation to fresh chargesheet in the alleged Land for Job Scam case. The CBI through Special Public Prosecutor Advocate DP Singh informed Special Judge Geetanjali Goel that the sanctions against Lalu Prasad have been obtained from the Home Ministry but the sanctions against the three former railway officials are yet to be received.

CBI further submitted that the remaining sanctions are expected to be received within a week. Noting the submissions, the Court listed the matter for further hearing on September 21. On the last date of the hearing, CBI had sought time to obtain the sanction from the competent authorities to prosecute the former Railway Minister and three former Railways officials in the alleged Land for Job scam case.

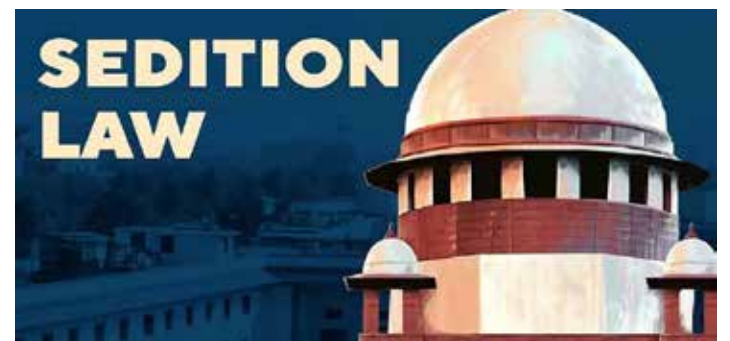
Recently, the CBI has filed a chargesheet in Land for Job alleged scam case against Lalu Prasad including Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav and others. ANI

SC refers pleas to a constitution bench of at least five judges challenging validity of sedition law

The Supreme Court on Tuesday referred to a Constitution bench of at least five judges a batch of pleas challenging the constitutional validity of the IPC provision on sedition, a month after the Centre introduced in Parliament bills to replace the colonial-era penal statutes IPC, CrPC and the Evidence Act, proposing among other things the repeal of the sedition law.

A bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud declined the Centre's request to defer the issue of reference to a larger bench as Parliament is in the process of re-enacting the provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the Bill has now been placed before a standing committee.

"We are not inclined to accept the request for deferring the consideration of the constitutional challenge in these batch of matters for more than one reason,"



said the bench, also comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra. The bench observed that section 124A (sedition) of the IPC continues to remain on the statute book, and even if the new Bill becomes a law, there is a presumption that any new law in the penal statute will have prospective and not retrospective effect. "Consequently, the validity of the prosecution which would be launched so long as section 124A continues to remain in the statute, will have to be assessed on that

basis," it said.

The court noted the constitutional validity of section 124A of the IPC was tested by the apex court on the basis of a challenge that it was ultra vires Article 19(1) (a) of the Constitution in the 1962 judgement of Kedar Nath Singh versus State of Bihar. Article 19(1) (a) relates to the right to freedom of speech and expression. The 1962 judgement had upheld the constitutionality of Section 124A and held it was in harmony with Article 19(1)(a). ANI

World

Russian President Vladimir Putin says, "Cases against Trump shows US political system is 'rotten'"



Russian President Vladimir Putin asserted Tuesday that the criminal cases against former US President Donald Trump are political revenge that show the fundamental corruption of the United States.

"As for the prosecution of Trump, for us what is happening in today's conditions, in my opinion, is good because it shows the rottenness of the American political system, which cannot pretend

to teach others democracy," Putin said at an Eastern Economic Forum gathering in Russia's Pacific Coast city of Vladivostok.

"Everything that is happening with Trump is the persecution of a political rival for political reasons. That's what it is. And this is being done in front of the public of the United States and the whole world," he said.

"Everything that is happening with Trump is the persecution

of a political rival for political reasons. That's what it is. And this is being done in front of the public of the United States and the whole world," he said. Opinion polls indicate that Trump is by far the strongest contender to become the Republican Party's candidate in the 2024 presidential election. During his four years in the White House, Trump repeatedly touted having good relations with Putin, while critics alleged he was submissive to the Russian leader. Trump has claimed he could resolve the conflict in Ukraine in a matter of days, if he regains the presidency. He has not provided details of his potential approach. "We hear that Mr. Trump says that he will solve pressing problems in a few days, including the Ukrainian crisis. Well, this cannot but bring happiness. This is good," Putin said. **PTI**

India and US leaders lauds "settlement of last outstanding WTO dispute between two nations" over agri products

The joint statement released by India and the US after the meeting between the two leaders said, "The leaders lauded the settlement of the seventh and last outstanding World Trade Organisation (WTO) dispute between India and the United States." Notably, the six disputes in WTO were resolved during PM Narendra Modi's State visit to the US in June.

Vilsack said, "Under the

Biden-Harris Administration, USDA and USTR have focused on rebuilding trust and strengthening relationships with our global trading partners, including India, and working through the World Trade Organization and other venues to ensure that those partners live up to their obligations so that US agriculture has full and fair access to key export markets," according to US Trade Representative Office's press release.

Congressman Rick Larsen called India's move to reduce tariffs on frozen blueberries "good news" for Washington state. Larsen thanked Katherine Tai for their continued work to ensure that Washington blueberry farmers can "compete on level terms with other blueberry exporting countries and feed the world," according to the US Trade Representative Office's press release. **ANI**

Pakistan International Airlines takes risk of grounding 15 planes amid dues issues

Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) is at risk of grounding 15 planes as it is yet to clear dues worth up to Rs 20 billion, Geo News reported. Moreover, over 30 flights are likely to be suspended if the planes are grounded, according to the sources.

Delay in timely payment of the dues pertaining to fuel, Fed-

eral Excise Duty (FED) and lease payments, might lead to 15 planes being grounded. The Ministry of Aviation said that overhauling the PIA is a "complicated" process and will take a year. However, during this time it is imperative to keep the national carrier operational, reported Geo News.

Last week, the national carrier announced the "easing" of

its financial challenges following the release of critical funds by the banks as a result of the Pakistan government's support. "The funds shall be used to clear long-standing dues of Aircraft and engine leases, spare support and handling payments at foreign stations. Restructuring is also on track," Pakistan International Airlines said. **ANI**

Afghanistan's central bank is about to ban use of Pakistani currency soon



The Central Bank of Afghanistan has initiated the promotion of the Afghani currency in the country's southwestern region since last week and is likely to ban the use of Pakistani currency soon, reported Khaama Press. The Central Bank has further instructed the residents of the country's southwestern provinces to cease their commercial transactions using the Pakistani currency and have been given a deadline.

The residents have been given two and a half months to conduct their commercial transactions using the Afghani currency and are further advised to avoid dealing with foreign currencies.

Moreover, the announcement specifically warned the residents of Kandahar, Uruzgan, Helmand, Zabul and Dykundi provinces and asked them to make trade transactions through national

currency only, reported Khaama Press. According to the Central Bank's announcement, after the specified date, all transactions with other currencies will be termed illegal, and legal action will be taken against violators.

Meanwhile, the country has been dealing with protests over the closure of the Torkham crossing as the clashes continued for the fifth continuous day.

According to the protesters, Pakistan has regularly closed the Torkham border under various pretexts during the fruit and vegetable season. They urged Afghan and Pakistani officials to resolve their political differences through diplomatic channels, reported TOLO News. "When the season of fruits and vegetables arrives, you (Pakistan) close the path, make problems. You attack our checkpoints. Why?" said Wahidullah, a trader, according to TOLOnews. **ANI**

UK: Indian-origin police has been dismissed for use of 'unreasonable force'

An Indian-origin police officer has been dismissed from Scotland Yard after a misconduct hearing found she had used "unreasonable force" on duty while arresting a man in north London two years ago. Police Constable (PC) Mandeep Dharni, attached to the Metropolitan Police's North West Basic Command Unit (BCU) in the

UK capital, appeared at a misconduct hearing last week related to the incident which occurred in September 2021 in a car park in Barnet. It was alleged that PC Dharni failed to use the appropriate force and failed to act with authority, respect and courtesy when restraining a man, who was later charged with criminal damage and public order offences. **PTI**

Expression

Importance of Educating School-Age Children about Sustainable Development



Muzamil Arif

Columnist

INTRODUCTION:-

The idea of sustainable development has become increasingly important in today's society because it focuses on addressing present demands without compromising the capacity of future generations to address their own needs. It is crucial to teach school-age children about sustainable development as we confront serious global issues like climate change, resource depletion, and environmental degradation. We enable students to become responsible global citizens capable of building a better and more sustainable future by arming them with information and attitudes focused on sustainability.

(A)-REALISING HOW

INTERRELATED THE WORLD IS:-

Children who attend school benefit from learning about sustainable development because it helps them understand the complex web of relationships that exists within the global ecosystem. They discover the close interdependence of environmental, social, and economic elements as well as the potential impact of our current behaviours. Children can develop a holistic viewpoint and make thoughtful decisions to minimise adverse effects on the environment by recognising these links. environmental responsibility As the planet's inheritors, it is imperative to instill in children a sense of responsibility for its preservation. They are made aware of the value of protecting biodiversity, preserving natural resources, and reducing climate change through education about sustainable development. Children may actively participate in sustainable practises including recycling, energy conservation, and sustainable consumption patterns by developing an environmental stewardship mind-set.

(B)-STRENGTHENING ANALYTICAL



AND PROBLEM SOLVING ABILITIES:-

Children are encouraged to think critically and analyse complicated situations from a variety of angles through sustainable development education. They gain the ability to weigh the effects of their decisions on the environment, society, and the economy. Children who work on sustainable development-related problems gain the creativity, adaptability, and resilience necessary to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century.

(C)-GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:-

Sustainable development includes social fairness and economic well-being in addition to environmental preservation. They learn the value of fairness and justice in creating sustainable societies through being taught social responsibility, empathy, and inclusivity. They recognise that sustainable development is an international endeavour and that cooperation, respect, and awareness of many cultures and viewpoints are essential.

(D)-PREPARING FOR FUTURE CAREERS:-

There is a rising need for experts in sustainable development as the globe moves towards a more sustainable future. We give youngsters the information and abilities required for the developing green economy by exposing them to sustainability principles at a young age. They can work in industries like sustainable

agriculture, renewable energy, environmental management, and urban planning, improving the world while securing their own future employment.

(E)-ENCOURAGING SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES:-

Educating school-going youngsters about sustainable development also involves advocating sustainable lives. By teaching kids about the ecological footprint and the consequences of individual choices, children become aware of their consumption patterns and the resources required to support them. They learn about options such as sustainable transportation, organic food, and responsible waste management. Encouraging sustainable habits from an early age creates the groundwork for a generation that emphasises aware and sustainable choices, resulting to reduced environmental degradation and greater general well-being.

(F)-PROMOTING ADAPTABILITY AND RESILIENCE:-

Children who receive education on sustainable development will be better prepared to cope with the world's rapid changes. They gain knowledge of the effects of environmental problems such as natural catastrophes, climate change, and others. Children who are aware of these risks can become resilient and adaptable, coming up with creative ways to manage and overcome such difficulties. They help create more resilient communities by becoming better equipped to deal with

future difficulties.

(G)-CONNECTING CLASSROOM EDUCATION WITH PRACTICAL PROBLEMS:-

Sustainable development education goes beyond textbooks and classrooms. It emphasises experiential learning and interaction with real-world situations. Field visits, outdoor activities, and community initiatives allow youngsters to observe and comprehend the actual implications of sustainable development ideas. By connecting academic knowledge to concrete experiences, children gain a better regard for the natural world and an understanding of the need for sustainable practices.

(H) :-SECURING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE:-

In the end, educating school-age children about sustainable development is an investment in ensuring a sustainable future for future generations. By equipping kids with information, beliefs, and skills that are in line with sustainability, we create a generation that is able to take on the difficult problems of our day. These young people will go on to become scientists, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and community leaders, helping to create a world where social, economic, and environmental well-being coexist.

For the future to be sustainable, school-age children must be taught about sustainable development. We give kids the skills they need to take an active role in creating a better world by promoting sustainable lifestyles, encouraging resilience and adaptability, imparting optimism and empowerment, and connecting classroom lessons to real-world challenges.

In order for children to participate in a future that is environmentally friendly, socially just, and economically productive, it is our duty as educators, parents, and society at large to make sure they receive a complete education that incorporates sustainable development principles.

Entertainment

Actor Ethan Hawke takes a tour into bus to attend premiere of his film 'Wildcat'

Actor Ethan Hawke refused to miss the premiere of his latest film, 'Wildcat', reported People. The People talked exclusively with the 'Strange Ways of Life' star, 52, as he walked the red carpet with his daughter, actress Maya Hawke, at the Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto, Canada.

When asked if it was true that her father had to take a Greyhound bus to attend the annual event, the 'Stranger Things' star said, "He did! Everyone's talking about it!" "He had to take the bus here 'cause all the flights got cancelled," she added as her proud papa smiled beside her. "Three flights cancelled, then I was like, 'I'm not gonna miss this because of some airport,'" Ethan said.

The Emmy Award winner added, "So, I went to port authority and hopped the bus." Ethan assured People that he wasn't alone while travelling, adding that his wife and producing partner were along for the ride. When questioned if he was recognised by any of the other passengers onboard or at the station, he didn't seem to think his celebrity mattered to his fellow travellers, who were probably more concerned with getting to their destinations. "Man, nobody cares about anybody else on the bus," Ethan said while noting that "nobody's comfortable" when resorting to that particular mode of transportation. He reiterated that "Nobody cares at all," before sharing how he spent his time on the journey, according to People. **ANI**



'Mukhbir: The Story of a Spy' actor Elisha Mayor, who will be seen playing the role of Aaloka in the upcoming investigative crime thriller series, 'Kaala', opened up about her role and its significance in the storyline of the show.

She said, "In a show that digs into the dark world of crime and black money, Aaloka's innocence brings an emotional aspect to the fast-paced thriller. She is still coming of age and life hasn't happened to her yet, but her wild spirit and fearlessness to go after what she thinks is right in any situation is inspiring. Even when her world crumbles, her spirit pushes her to seek answers and fight back."

Elisha further spoke about her working experience with the filmmaker Bejoy Nambiar and the entire cast, "It can be disarming for a newcomer to be surrounded by a team of actors that they admire and respect but being authentic and honest – both as Aaloka on camera and Elisha off camera – made this an enjoyable and memorable experience for me that I am extremely grateful for," she added. **ANI**



Actor Elisha Mayor open's up about playing a fearless character in the upcoming series

Actress Genelia Deshmukh wrote a note for her brother on his birthday

On the occasion of her brother Nigel D'Souza's birthday, actor Genelia Deshmukh penned a sweet note on Instagram. Along with a photo of the brother-sister duo, she wrote, "Happy girls are the prettiest, is what they say.. I don't know about the prettiest part but I know for a fact, that I'm the happiest sister in the world because I have the best brother ever..."

She added, "Nigu Pigu you are a star, a friend, a man of his word, a man who is extremely compassionate and knows how to treat a lady and most importantly you are someone that we all depend on and love very very much. Happy Birthday @nigeldsouza12. Have a super special day."

Both can be seen in the photo smiling for the selfie Nigel was taking. Genelia was dressed in a yellow gown, while he was dressed in a black suit. To this, Nigel replied, "Thanks Gens for supporting me. And guiding me in my weak moments. Though I am your baby brother, I can do anything and take on anyone for you. Love you, Gens."

ANI



Actor-singer Diljit Dosanjh collaborates with Sonam Bajwa and Shehnaaz Gill for upcoming project

Actor-singer Diljit Dosanjh is set to collaborate with his "Honsla Rakh" co-stars Sonam Bajwa and Shehnaaz Gill in the upcoming Punjabi film "Ranna Ch Dhanna", the makers announced Tuesday. The movie will be directed by Amarjit Singh Saron, who also helmed the 2021 romantic-comedy "Honsla Rakh". Dosanjh said he is thrilled to reteam with Bajwa and Gill on "Ranna Ch Dhanna", which he said is more entertaining than their last outing. **PTI**