

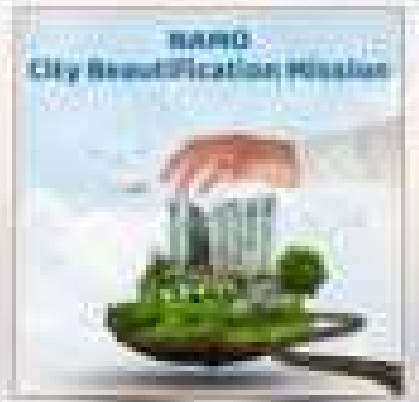
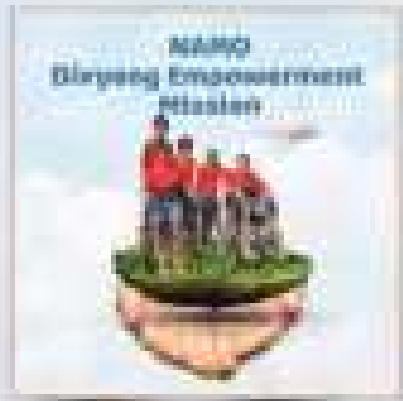


Shri. Narendra Modi
Hon. Prime Minister



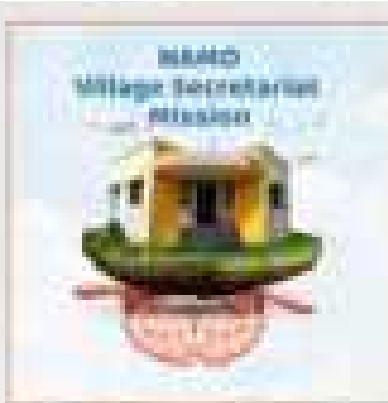
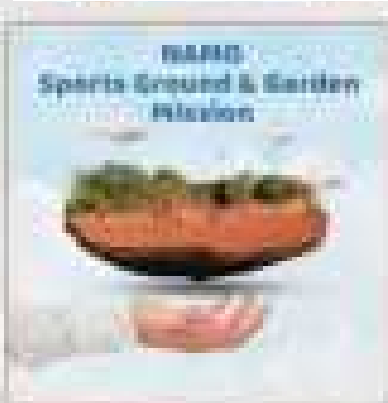
Shri. Eknath Shinde
Hon. Chief Minister

**People-oriented Development Campaign initiated on
the 73rd Birthday of Our Beloved, Strong, Dynamic, Visionary Leader
Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi**



प्रगतिमान भवः

NAMO 11-point Programme Campaign





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अमृत महोत्सव

G20
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नरेंद्र मोदी
प्रधानमंत्री



एकनाथ शिंदे
मुख्यमंत्री

स्वराज्याच्या भूमित, अस्मितेचा जागर...

गाव, तालुका, उपविभाग, जिल्हा आजपासून

छत्रपती संभाजीनगर आणि **धाराशिव**

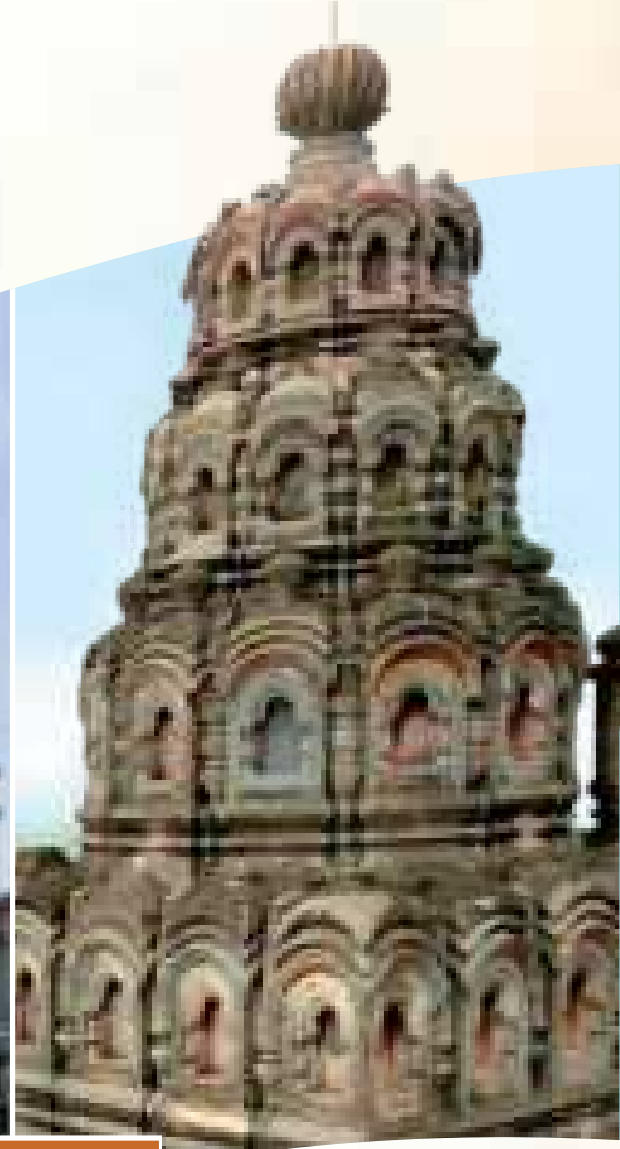
वारसा जाज्वल्य स्वाभिमानाचा!



छत्रपती संभाजीनगर



धाराशिव



औरंगाबादचे नामकरण छत्रपती संभाजीनगर आणि उस्मानाबादचे नामकरण धाराशिव करण्याचा महत्त्वपूर्ण आणि ऐतिहासिक निर्णय महाराष्ट्र शासनाने घेतला आहे. तसेच छत्रपती संभाजीनगर आणि धाराशिव जिल्हा, उप-विभाग, तालुका व गाव अशी नामकरणाची अंतिम अधिसूचना महसूल व वन विभागाच्या माध्यमातून राजपत्रात प्रसिध्द करण्यात आली आहे.

**महत्त्वपूर्ण आणि
ऐतिहासिक निर्णय!**



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मुख्यमंत्री

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माहिती व जनसंपर्क महासंचालनालय, महाराष्ट्र शासन



Marathwada Liberation Day: CM Shinde says, "Hope central govt

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Ganesh Chaturthi celebration: People are opting

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CJI Chandrachud says, "Integrity is the

Page 04



Indian student death case: Community

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'The Great Indian Family'

Page 08



PM Modi launches 'Vishwakarma Yojana' for traditional artisans, craftsmen; oppn terms it 'jumla' ahead of elections

AV Team

The first phase of the state-of-the-art India International Convention and Expo Centre (IICC)—Yashobhoomi—at Dwarka, which cost Rs 5,400 crore, was officially opened by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The PM Vishwakarma Yojana (scheme) for traditional artisans and craftsmen is worth Rs 13,000 crore.

The goal of the Vishwakarma scheme is to enhance the accessibility and quality of products and services offered by traditional artisans and craftsmen.

Under the PM Vishwakarma scheme,

artisans and craftspeople will be provided recognition through a PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card and credit support up to Rs 1 lakh (the first tranche) and Rs 2 lakh (the second tranche) with a concessional interest rate of 5 per cent.

A concessional rate of interest of 5 per cent will be charged to the beneficiary, with an interest subvention cap of 8 per cent to be paid by the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises. The credit guarantee fees will be borne by the central government.

With a total project area of over 8.9 lakh square metres and built-up area of more than 1.8 lakh square metres, 'Yashobhoomi'

will find its place among the world's largest MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) facilities.

Opposition terms it another 'jumla'

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the people "won't be fooled again" and it is time for "Prime Minister Modi's retirement".

Ramesh further said, "Demonetisation and a flawed GST followed by a sudden lockdown during COVID-19 have been the biggest destroyers of micro and small enterprises in India." He said a majority of these small businesses are run by people who work with their hands—in textiles, leather, metalwork, woodwork, and other crafts.

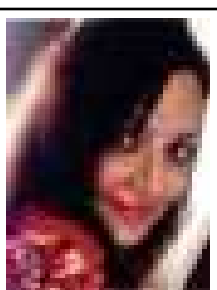
Which craftsmen are covered by this scheme?

Artisans or craftsmen working with hands and tools and engaged in one of the 18 family-based traditional trades are eligible to avail themselves of the benefits of the scheme.

These trades include carpenter; boat maker; armourer; blacksmith; hammer and toolkit maker; locksmith; goldsmith; potter; sculptor (moortikar, stone carver), stone breaker; cobbler; mason; basket/mat/broom maker/coir weaver; doll & toy maker (traditional); barber; garland maker; washermen; tailor; and fishing net maker.

Tell me who is proud of this culture?

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

From the Vedas to the Puranas, from Manuscript to Chanakya it has been mentioned that the Lying, harshness, deceit, stupidity, greed, impurity and cruelty are the natural vices of women. Now tell me, if a woman is seen and understood from this point of view, who will give her the basic respect?

Male dominance, adjective to women and substandard behavior towards her has given natal to Rapes in our country's culture. Both religion and culture have created a rapist mentality. The woman whom you are abusing has also created you, your mother, sister and daughter are also the same.

Even today most of the population of India lives in villages, where the lifestyle includes ghosts, vampires, pirs, mazars, gunia, exorcists, tantriks

and scavengers, snakes, scorpion poisoners, curing jaundice by sweeping, physical and mental diseases like hysteria and epilepsy. There is no dearth of those who consider it to be a divine calamity and the handiwork of ghosts. All this is seen not only in the villages but also in the cities and many people are running their business from it.

To protect against evil spirits, advertisements of threads and amulets are also seen in newspapers. Instruments and rings for luck are also sold by giving big advertisements in the newspapers. Thugs like Nirmal Baba give you grace only by feeding them samosas. Is this not superstition?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

Editoritis

In our country corrupt politicians don't face any serious consequences for their corrupt behaviour.

Take the examples of most corrupt leaders of Maharashtra's Shiv Sena, they all now joined BJP and the ED and IT turned mute on them.

There are many politicians who got caught with cash and scams but hardly anyone is severely punished. Maximum they get one o

Tell me who is proud of this culture?

▶▶▶ PAGE 1

Isn't religion and faith at the root of all this? And all the people who believe in all this nonsense are not only illiterate but also very educated and I know many such people personally. The New York Times says that 1 lakh women are burnt to death every year in India for dowry and 1.25 lakh women are injured and die in violence. Most of the incidents are not even reported as murder. Domestic violence is traditionally accepted in India, according to a 2005 government survey 54% of married women said that their husbands justified beating them.

Every day we read in the newspapers that girls and minors of 2 or 3 years old are raped, most of them get injured and die. Most of the rapists are acquaintances, relatives, teachers and neighbors. Because of being born in a particular caste, a person is considered an untouchable, but when those women are raped to show their status, then they do not remain untouchable.

In the last ten years, 60 lakh girls were killed in the womb in this country. We all know very well how much discrimination is done in the upbringing of girls in our culture. Religious teachings do not want women to ever be equal to men, and religion has an impact on culture. This picture of our country and culture all over the world has been made by international media. Are you proud of this culture and such a disgusting society?

Things like animal sacrifice, sneezing and cutting the path by a cat is superstition, then remember that even the worship or rituals performed for the purpose of success in any work is nothing but superstition. When the scientists of ISRO also worship the missile for its success before testing it, then they are definitely superstitious, no matter how much science they have studied.

There is no room for reform in religion, If we look at the history, there is a long list of many religious reformers or social reformers to remove the evils prevalent in religion! can be taken. Great men from Buddha, Nanak to Dayanand Saraswathi raised their voice against the evils prevalent in religion and tried to remove them! But what was the outcome? as a result of these reformist efforts, new religions were established in the form of Buddhist, Sikh and Arya Samaj and in them all the same evils and superstitions which they were envisaged after suffering! Whether you believe it or not, people like Mohan Bhagwat, the head of organizations like RSS of the



present day and his followers also keep themselves in the category of religious reformers and social reformers.

That is why I firmly believe that no matter what the religion is, there is no scope for improvement in it. Those who tried to reform, in fact they created a new religion, sect or a new sect with all the same evils! It is in such a way that the merge kept on increasing as the medicine was used! That is why I say it is necessary to destroy religion completely in the interest of humanity. Some diseases are such that their treatment is not possible with medicines, but they may be suppressed once under the influence of medicines, but they keep destroying the body inside and their treatment is only surgery, to get rid of the disease. They have to be thrown out! Religion is not a small disease but it is like cancer, it is cancer for society. I always say I hate sin but not sinners, I hate religion, not religious people!

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

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How Willpower Works: How to Avoid Bad Decisions



- Jaswinder Pal Sharma
Columnist

Willpower is like a mental muscle that can be trained and strengthened over time. It plays a critical role in helping us make good decisions and resist the temptation of bad ones. Understanding how willpower works and learning strategies to enhance it can significantly improve our ability to avoid bad decisions and lead a more disciplined and fulfilling life. The Science of Willpower Willpower is a complex interplay of cognitive processes and emotions. It involves the prefrontal cortex, a part of the brain responsible for decision-making and self-control. Research has shown that willpower is a finite resource that can become depleted with use. This is often referred to as "ego depletion."

When we exert self-control or make difficult decisions, our willpower reserves are reduced, making it more challenging to make good decisions later on. However, the good news is that willpower can also be strengthened and replenished. It's like a muscle that becomes stronger with exercise and adequate rest. So, how can we harness the power of willpower to avoid bad decisions?

Understanding Triggers and Temptations to avoid bad decisions, it's essential to recognize the triggers and temptations that lead us astray. Triggers are external cues or situations that prompt us to make impulsive choices. Temptations are the specific desires or urges that arise in response to these triggers. For example, stress (trigger) might lead to the temptation of overindulging in unhealthy comfort food.

Identify Your Personal Triggers and Weaknesses start by identifying your personal triggers and weaknesses. Reflect on the situations or emotions that tend to lead you towards bad decisions. Common triggers include stress, boredom, peer pressure, and fatigue. Once you're aware of these triggers, you can take proactive steps to avoid or manage them.

Develop Self-awareness Self-awareness is key to improving willpower. It allows you to monitor your thoughts, emotions, and

impulses. When you're aware of a temptation arising, you can pause and evaluate whether it aligns with your long-term goals and values. This moment of reflection gives you the chance to make a conscious decision rather than acting on impulse.

Set Clear Goals and Priorities having clear goals and priorities provides a strong foundation for willpower. When you know what you want to achieve and why it matters to you, it becomes easier to resist short-term temptations that conflict with your long-term objectives. Write down your goals and remind yourself of them regularly.

Practice Self-control Techniques there are various techniques to boost self-control and strengthen willpower:

Mindfulness meditation: This practice can help you become more aware of your thoughts and emotions, making it easier to resist impulsive decisions.

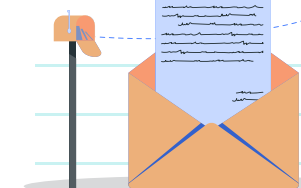
Delay gratification: When faced with a temptation, try delaying your response. The longer you wait, the more likely you are to make a rational choice.

Positive self-talk: Replace negative thoughts and excuses with positive affirmations that reinforce your self-control.

Create a supportive environment: Surround yourself with people and situations that encourage good decisions and discourage bad ones.

Reward yourself: Celebrate your successes, no matter how small, as it can boost your motivation to make better choices. Conclusion Willpower is a crucial mental tool that can help us avoid bad decisions and lead a more purposeful life. By understanding the science behind it, recognizing personal triggers, and implementing self-control techniques, we can strengthen our willpower and make choices that align with our long-term goals and values. Remember that improving willpower is an ongoing process, and with dedication and practice, you can make wiser decisions and achieve greater success in various aspects of your life.

Letters to the Editor



Memorable double-decker bus!

BEST's double-decker bus retired from service. This bus served Mumbai with pleasure and satisfaction for almost eight decades. Double-decker bus was the pride of Mumbai. It was a great experience to enjoy the lovely breeze by sitting on the front window seat of the upper deck. The joy of non-A/C double-decker bus will not come in an air-conditioned bus. Because, A/C double-decker bus is to render only cool air, which is not natural breeze. Double-decker bus retired from service, sad feeling that this bus will not be seen again.

Sudhir Kangutkar

Mosquito-breeding - cause for concern

We are all aware of the dangers posed by stagnant water in public places giving rise to illnesses like dengue & malaria. However, BMC have no qualms about fining housing societies and others for poor mosquito control

when they themselves are the biggest offenders. Take a look at the stagnant water collected in the potholes and uneven roads & footpaths. And the trash which they remove from the drains and lying there for days together. Are they not breeding spots for mosquitoes? The BMC needs to put their house in order first. And how about providing good quality roads and walkable footpaths free of encroachments. The BMC needs to get their act together before penalising others. Charity begins at home!

Melville DSouza

Scapage policy a must before raising 10% diesel GST on vehicles!

Union Road Transport & Highways Minister Nitin Gakari's proposal for 10% diesel GST on diesel vehicles is harsh when the govt does not have a plan in place for alternative fuel or replacing diesel obsolete vehicles in the required quantity. People are forced to use diesel vehicles for commercial use out of compulsion & not choice since there is not much price difference between petrol and diesel. Also, diesel vehicles are costly & taxing them further is unwarranted.

Govt should first come out with a scapage policy for vehicles where owners of obsolete vehicles are compensated appropriately if

they buy new EV or other bio-fuel vehicles by scrapping their old vehicles. Pollution is on the rise & Gadkari's concern is valid. Govt should move towards a time bound policy where most diesel vehicles can be replaced slowly & efficiently without causing anxiety or pain to its owners!

S.N.Kabra

Save Environment

Man-made chemicals are most harmful to the ozone layer include chloro fluorocarbon, methyl chloroform, bromide, halon, hydro chloro fluorocarbon, methyl bromide, hydro bromo fluorocarbon, bromo chloro fluoro methane, carbon tetra chloride, etc. which prove to be extremely fatal for the ozone layer. It is deadly to the ozone layer, nowadays, this is widely used in air conditioners, refrigerators, and many other similar factories. If we have to save our future generations from the dire effects of ozone layer depletion, we will have to take meaningful steps in this direction and promote environment-friendly products.

N Mateeni

Our Present Leaders' Disgusting Motto

Around 40% (306) of the 763 members of Parliament have criminal cases against them, a report by Association

for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and National Election Watch said. Additionally, it said 194 MPs have serious criminal cases, including those related to murder, kidnapping, crimes against women, etc. It also said 139 BJP MPs and 43 Congress MPs have declared criminal cases. These are people who cry for justice and raise voice against criminals and gangsters but who will just with them? They rape women while their slogan is "Beti Padhao Beti Bachao". They are elected for public welfare but they are involved themselves in corruptions. Notably, those who are alleged and they realise to be arrested immediately they join political parties. It seems that politics have become criminals, refugees. The main reason of overspreading corruptions is that we have voted for such leaders. Be careful, take care yourself, present mind always and bear them in mind next time.

Tauqueer Rahmani

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)

Ganesh Chaturthi celebration: People are opting for eco-friendly 'Bappas' despite of high prices



An environment-friendly celebration seems to be the plan this festive season, as more and more Mumbaiers are keen on bringing eco-friendly Ganesha idols home despite their high prices.

The city is gearing up to celebrate the 10-day Ganpati festival, which begins on September 19, and the markets are flooded with idols and decor items.

This year, eco-friendly Ganeshas seem to be all the rage, as people have become more aware of the ill effects of idols made

of plaster of Paris (PoP). Rahul Vele, who runs his shop "Vele Brothers" in the Lalbaug area of central Mumbai, has been exclusively making eco-friendly Ganeshas for the last three years.

"I loved making Ganpati idols even as a child. In 2020, I started my own shop where I make eco-friendly idols, especially of clay because that is what the people want," the 23-year-old management graduate said. There is an increased awareness among people about the benefits of clay idols. They dissolve com-

pletely in water when immersed and are not harmful to the environment, he said. A one-foot eco-friendly idol costs around Rs 6,000, while a PoP one is for anywhere between Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,000. Despite this, people are willing to pay more for an environment-friendly idol, Vele said. Pankaj Mohne, a customer, said, "We have been bringing 'Bappa' home for 11 years, and we only have one rule the idol must be completely eco-friendly. It is our duty to conserve and protect nature, hence, we prefer a mud idol." "Though mud cannot be moulded as well as PoP and the idols may not look well crafted, but Bappa is Bappa," he said.

Mumbaiers throng the beaches, lakes, and ponds in and around the city on immersion days. Every year, the civic authorities take measures to prevent pollution of water bodies during the festival. PTI

Marathwada Liberation Day: CM Shinde says, "Hope central govt provides assistance to water grid project"



Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Sunday said he hoped the Union government will provide financial assistance for the ambitious water grid project in Marathwada.

Shinde, who was speaking at an event to commemorate Marathwada Liberation Day, also said he had made such a request to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The region, comprising eight districts, was under the oppressive rule of the Nizam of Hyderabad. An uprising of peasants

and common citizens ensured the defeat of the Nizam and his Razakar militia and the region merged with India on September 17, 1948.

"We are trying to divert the run-off water during the monsoon towards the Godavari river basin. The state government has allocated Rs 15,000 crore for the ambitious Marathwada grid project. We have also requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi for (Central) assistance. I am sure we will get support from the Union government," he said. PTI

Anti-Narcotics Cell of Navi Mumbai police arrested nigerian person with cocaine worth Rs 5.7 lakh

A Nigerian national has been arrested for alleged possession of cocaine worth Rs 5.7 lakh in Navi Mumbai, police said on Sunday.

Acting on a tip-off, the Anti-Narcotics Cell (ANC) of the Navi Mumbai police apprehended the accused from the Kharghar area on Saturday, an official said.

The ANC team recovered

57 gm of cocaine worth Rs 5.7 lakh from the accused, identified as Egbulem Michael Okewuchukwu, he said. An offence under relevant provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered against the man, and a probe is underway to find out from where the contraband was sourced. PTI

Nashik-based training and placement institution's chief booked for cheating over govt's scheme

The head of a Nashik-based training and placement institution has been booked for allegedly cheating the government to the tune of Rs 79.49 lakh, a Navi Mumbai police official said on Sunday.

The institute was given a contract of Rs 79.49 lakh in 2015 under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Rural Skill Development scheme to train people and place them in

jobs, he said. However, despite repeated reminders, the institute did not provide proof of having placed people in jobs post training, nor did it refund money provided to it by the government, the official said. An offence was registered on the complaint of a government official on Saturday, but no arrest has been made, the CBD Belapur police station official said. PTI

CJI Chandrachud says, "Integrity is the core of the legal profession" over strengthening legal system

Our profession will continue to thrive or it will self-destruct based on whether we do or do not maintain our integrity, Chief Justice of India Dhananjay Chandrachud said here on Sunday. Integrity is the core of the legal profession, the CJI asserted. Integrity is not eroded by one thunderstorm, it gets eroded by small, little concessions and compromises made by lawyers and judges, the CJI said while speaking at the event on the theme 'Enhancing collaboration between Advocates & Judges: Towards strengthening legal system'.

"Our profession will continue to thrive or it will self-destruct based on whether we do or do not maintain our integrity. Integrity is eroded not by one thunderstorm, it erodes by small little concessions and compromises which are made by lawyers and judges," he said.

"We all sleep with our con-



science. You can fool the whole world but can't fool your conscience. It keeps on asking questions every night. Integrity is the core of the legal profession. With integrity we will either continue to survive or we will self-destruct," the CJI added. Lawyers get respect when they respect judges and judges get respect when they respect lawyers, and the mutual respect takes place when there is realisation that both

are part of the same wheel of justice, he said. Talking about women in the judiciary, he said gender is not a woman's issue alone and it was equally a man's issue. "I believe one significant challenge before the Indian legal profession is to create an equal opportunity profession. Because the composition of the legal profession today will define it 30 or 40 years down the line," CJI Chandrachud said. PTI



नरेंद्र मोदी
प्रधानमंत्री



मराठवाडा मुक्तिसंग्राम अमृत ७५ महोत्सव



एकनाथ शिंदे
मुख्यमंत्री

प्रतिज्ञा

स्वतंत्र भारताचे नागरिकत्व देणाऱ्या आणि
वैभवशाली महाराष्ट्राशी जोडणाऱ्या मराठवाडा मुक्तिसंग्रामाचा
आम्ही सार्थ अभिमान बाळगू...

हा मुक्तिसंग्राम अनेक ध्येयवादी स्वातंत्र्यसैनिकांच्या
अमूल्य बलिदानातून आणि जनतेच्या सक्रिय पाठिंब्यातून
सिध्द झाला आहे, याची आम्ही कृतज्ञतापूर्वक जाणीव ठेऊ...

सार्वभौम भारताचे नागरिक म्हणून महाराष्ट्र धर्म पाळताना
मराठवाड्याच्या भूमीला समृद्ध करण्यासाठी,
आम्ही सदैव सानंद वचनबद्ध राहू...

मराठवाडा मुक्तिसंग्रामातील हुतात्म्यांना विनम्र अभिवादन!



देवेंद्र फडणवीस
उपमुख्यमंत्री

एकनाथ शिंदे
मुख्यमंत्री

अजित पवार
उपमुख्यमंत्री

World

Libya Floods: An activist talks about challenges and help received from people



Zahra el-Gerbi wasn't expecting much of a response to her online fundraiser, but she felt she had to do something after four of her relatives died in the flooding that decimated the eastern Libyan city of Derna. She put out a call for donations for those displaced by the deluge.

In the first half-hour after she shared it on Facebook, the Benghazi-based clinical nutritionist said friends and strangers were already promising financial and material support.

"It's for basic needs like clothes, foods and accommodation," el-Gerbi said. For many Libyans, the collective grief over the more than 11,000 dead has morphed into a rallying cry for national unity in a country blighted by 12 years of conflict and division. In turn, the tragedy has ramped up pressure on the country's leading politicians, viewed by some as the architects of the catastrophe. The oil-rich country has been divided between rival administrations since 2014, with an internationally recognized

government in Tripoli and a rival authority in the east, where Derna is located. Both are backed by international patrons and armed militias, whose influence in the country has ballooned since a NATO-backed Arab Spring uprising toppled autocratic ruler Moammar Gadhafi in 2011.

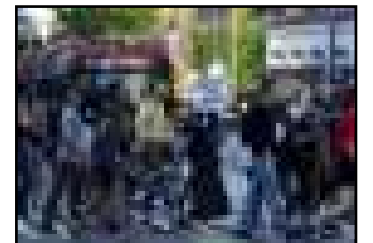
Numerous United Nations-led initiatives to bridge the divide have failed. In the early hours of September 11, two dams in the mountains upstream of Derna burst, sending a wall of water two stories high into the city and sweeping entire neighbourhoods out to sea. At least 11,300 people were killed and a further 30,000 displaced. An outpouring of support for the people of Derna followed. Residents from the nearby cities of Benghazi and Tobruk offered to put up the displaced. In Tripoli, some 1,450 kilometres (900 miles) west, a hospital said it would perform operations free of charge for any injured in the flood. **PTI**

Indian student death case: Community members in Seattle hold rally, demands justice

Demanding sensitivity, respect and jail for killer police officers who were responsible for the killing of Indian student Jaahnavi Kandula, more than 100 members of the South Asian community held a rally on the site where she was struck and killed by a speeding police patrol car. Kandula, 23, was struck by a police vehicle driven by Officer Kevin Dave when she was crossing a street on January 23. He was driving 74 mph (more than 119 kmh) on the way to a report of a drug overdose call.

In bodycam footage released on Monday by the Seattle Police Department, Officer Daniel Auderer laughed about the deadly crash and dismissed any implication Dave might be at fault or that a criminal investigation was necessary.

Over 100 members of the Seattle area's South Asian community gathered at Denny Park on Satur-



day and made their way to the intersection where Kandula was hit. They held signs saying "Jaahnavi had more value than Seattle Police Department" and "Justice for Jaahnavi, jail killer cops." The rally was put together by UTSAV, which means festival or celebration, an organisation based in Bothell that helps connect South Asians with their communities. "We're not a monolith, the Indian community," Rep. Vandana Slatter, D-Bellevue, said to the crowd. "There's diaspora in the community, but we are all united today." Video from the night of the crash has sparked international outrage over the officer's comments. **PTI**

Brazil plane crash incident at Amazon rainforest kills 14 people



A small passenger plane crashed in Brazil's Amazon rainforest Saturday, killing all 14 people on board, Amazonas state Governor Wilson Lima announced. "I deeply regret the death of the 12 passengers and two crew members who were victims of the plane crash in Barcelos on Saturday," Lima said on X, formerly known as Twitter. The Embraer PT-SOG aircraft had taken off from Manaus, the Amazonas state capital and the biggest city in the Amazon, and was attempting to land in heavy rain when it

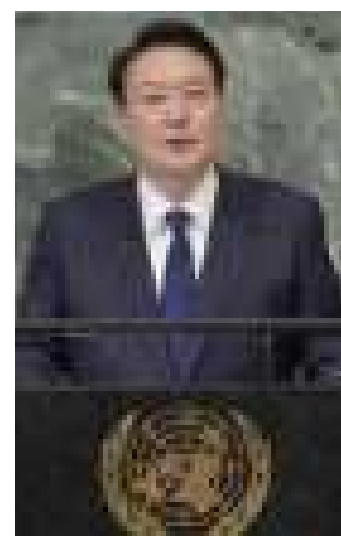
crashed, local media reported. The passengers were Brazilian tourists on their way to fish, the reports said. Video footage posted by the Globo television network showed the plane lying on a muddy dirt track with the front part of the aircraft in green foliage. A couple of dozen people are seen standing nearby holding umbrellas. The Brazilian air force sent a team from Manaus to collect information and preserve any evidence that could be used for the investigation into the crash, an air force statement said. **PTI**

South Korea's president says, "international community 'will unite more tightly', will discuss at UN

South Korea's president said the international community "will unite more tightly" to cope with deepening military cooperation between Russia and North Korea, as he pushes to raise the issue with world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly this week.

Worries about Russian-North Korean ties have flared since North Korean leader Kim Jong Un traveled to Russia last week for a summit with President Vladimir Putin and to tour a slew of high-profile military and technology sites. Foreign experts speculate Kim could refill Russia's ammunition inventory drained in its 18-month war with Ukraine in return for economic aid and technologies to modernize his weapons systems targeting South Korea and the U.S.

"Military cooperation between North Korea and Russia is illegal and unjust as it con-



travenes U.N. Security Council resolutions and various other international sanctions," South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol said in written responses to questions from The Associated Press before his departure to New York to attend the U.N. General Assembly. "The international community will unite more tightly

in response to such a move," he said. In his address Wednesday at the annual U.N. gathering, Yoon will speak about his assessment of the Russian-North Korean moves, according to his office in South Korea, which added it is discussing countermeasures with the U.S., Japan and other partners.

While Russian-North Korean cooperation is feared to fuel Russia's war efforts in Ukraine, it has also stoked security jitters in South Korea, where many think a Russian transfer of sophisticated weapons technologies would help North Korea acquire a functioning spy satellite, a nuclear-powered submarine and more powerful missiles. Some experts still say North Korea would end up receiving food and cash in return for supplying ammunition and shells because Russia closely guards its high-tech weapons technologies.

Expression

Peacock National Bird of India



C.K. Subramaniam

Columnist

The national bird of a country is a designated representative of that country's fauna. It is chosen on the basis of the unique qualities that the bird may symbolize. It should uphold certain core qualities or values of the nation it belongs to. The national bird should be a prominent feature in the cultural history of the country. Another point in favor of being chosen as the national bird is the beauty that it embodies. The indigenous nature of the bird is another point while it is being considered as the national bird. Being designated as a national symbol affords the bird a special status with increased awareness and dedicated conservation efforts.

Peafowl is a common name for three species of birds in the genera Pavo and Afropavo of the Phasianidae family, the pheasants and their allies. Male peafowl are referred to as peacocks, and female peafowl as peahens. In 1963, the peacock was declared the National Bird of India because of its rich religious and legendary involvement in Indian traditions. The criteria for this choice were many. The bird must be well-distributed within the country so it could truly national. It must be recognizable to the common man.

National bird of India is the Indian Peafowl commonly termed as a Peacock. Vividly colorful and exuding oodles of grace, the Indian Peafowl commands a lot of attention. The peacock and its colors are synonymous with Indian identity. It is indigenous to India and Sri Lanka, but now features in countries all over the world. Peacocks are sometimes domesticated and kept in the garden for aesthetic purposes.

Threats towards the Indian peafowl arise due to the demand for the beautiful feathers to be used for decorative purposes. They are hunted and killed by poachers for meat as well. They can be a nuisance when inhabiting near farms as they prefer to feed on crop grains. They can be hunted down for the reasons stated above although that is not a common practice.

The Indian peafowl has been granted special conservation efforts owing to its status as the National Bird of India. Hunting of the national bird is illegal. Peacock symbolism: Vision, Royalty, Spirituality, Awakening, Guidance, Protection and

Watchfulness. In Greek - Roman mythology the Peacock tail has the eyes of the stars. In Hinduism, the Peacock is associated with Lakshmi who represents patience, kindness and luck.

The peacock has been a prominent feature in Indian literature as its resplendent beauty is a source of inspiration for many. In popular legends, when the peacock displays its glorious plume, it's a sign of rain. They have an iconic status as the carrier animal of the Hindu God Kartikeya. Lord Krishna was always depicted with a peacock feather in his headdress. In Buddhist philosophy the peacock represents wisdom. The peacock and its feather motifs are prominent features in Mughal architecture. The peacock and the peacock feather is still a popular motif to be used in logos, textile patterns as well as designs.

The Indian peafowls are best known for the beautifully elegant display of feathers the evolution of which is believed to be driven by sexual selection. The peacocks spread their train in the shape of a fan and quivered them during the courtship display. It is believed that the number of eye spots in a male's courtship display determines his success in mating. Peafowls are omnivorous in their feeding habit and survive on insects, seeds, fruits and even small mammals. They forage on the ground in small groups which have a single male and 3-5 females.

They roost as a group as well on the upper branches of a tall tree to escape predators. When agitated they will prefer to flee by running, rarely opting to take a flight. The males are surprisingly agile on foot despite the long train. The 'eyes' in the peacock's tail feathers symbolise the all-seeing Christian God and – in some interpretations – the Church. A peacock drinking from a vase is used as a symbol of a Christian believer drinking from the waters of eternal life.

Peacocks are part and parcel of our country and we like the bird for its wisdom and colorful nature. It is rightly called the National Bird of India.

Hinduism is the fusion of various cultures, traditions and symbols. Each and every culture, tradition and symbol in Hinduism has its own importance. Everything is connected deeply to roots and has a unique way of its origin. There is nothing without meaning. We all know about the national bird of India- Peacock and adore its beauty. Its head, neck, feathers, in fact almost every feature captures one's eye.

Peacock feathers have great significance

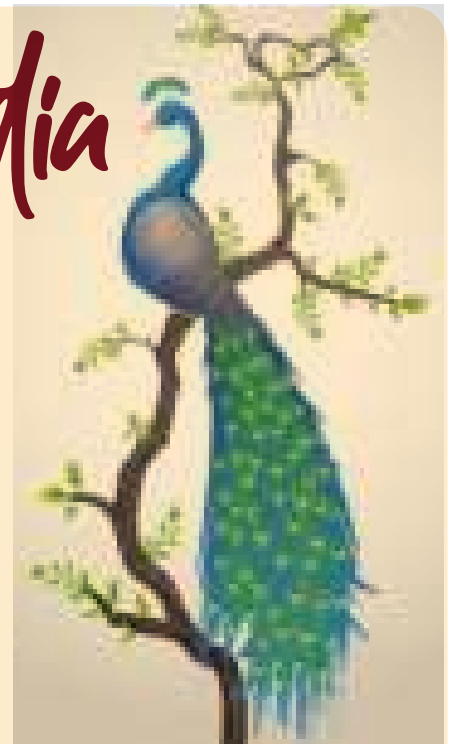
in Hinduism. Many people even keep peacock feathers in their houses. Do you know why? Do you know what the connection of peacock with the Hinduism is? Do you know what the significance of peacock feathers in Hinduism is? According to the Hindu mythology, the peacock was created from one of the feathers of the bird Garuda (a mythical creature) which is the carrier of Lord Vishnu. Many Hindu sculptures use peacocks as a symbol of the cycle of time. The Peacock is also associated with Goddess Saraswati, a deity representing benevolence, patience, kindness, compassion and knowledge. It has a special relation with Lord Krishna too. Lord Krishna wears peacock feathers on his head and also ties them with his flute. These feathers are given to him by the peacocks themselves.

It is believed that once Lord Krishna was playing his flute, the sweet melody that poured out made the peacocks dance in joy and excitement. At the end of a long dance, they spread their feathers and the king Peacock offered with great humility its feathers as an offering. The Lord accepted it and adorned himself with it. Goddess Kaumari, another form of Shakti also rides a peacock. Peacock is also the mount of Hindu God of war Murugan, also called Kartikeya, the brother of Ganesha. The beautiful feathers of the peacock which we all adore today once were very dull. It is believed in a battle between Ravana and Lord Indra, the bird opened its feathers for Lord Indra to hide behind and wage a war. Lord Indra was saved and in gratitude, he made peacock long feathers iridescent. That is why Lord Indra is often depicted as seated on a peacock throne.

The peacock's feather in all ages has been considered as a sign of beauty and knowledge, beauty because it is beautiful, knowledge because it is in the form of an eye. People keep the peacock feathers in their houses because it is believed that keeping peacock feather at home brings good luck and prosperity in the house.

The feather of the peacock has extraordinary powers; they give hypnotizing powers to the wearer. They stand for beauty, richness in life, Felicity and joy. The dark colours in it stand for sorrow, sadness and the bright colours for happiness. The eyes in the feathers are seen on both the sides, which commonly do not occur. It is very rare in nature. It represents the divine wisdom or the third eye of Krishna.

One is blessed with auspiciousness, wealth, health and transcendent knowledge when one worships Krishna with the



feathers on his crown. It helps one attain the supreme knowledge of the self. It symbolically states that wisdom of the mind and love of the heart makes one existence whole and for this blessed state. It represents divine love that enters the human heart and fills one's entire being in ecstasy. It also reminds us of the romantic love shared between Krishna and Radha. It is said Lord Krishna cleansed the holy feet of Radha with Peacock feathers, during their playtimes in Vrindavan.

The peacock is also considered to be a bird of protection and safeguarding. The feather protects one from evil eyes and destroys all negativity like anger, greed, and jealousy. They also have the power to get away from the bad influences of the planets. This bird is also valued as a protection for the psychic self. It brings harmony and joy to our mind. The peacock bird is majestic and proud, with much dramatic expression - the male bird dances for the sake of the female during courting, reminding us of the celebration in life.

Peacock feathers are vastly used in the Vastu Shastra too. It is said that the South direction represents Lord Kuber and if the feather of the peacock is kept on the southern side of the locker room where you keep your wealth, it increases in leaps and bounds. The peacock is also connected to rain. It is said to be able to foretell rain, by dancing before it pours. And, if a peacock cries more than usual, it is said to foretell the death of someone in the family.

Not only in Hinduism, In Christianity too, the peacock is a symbol of eternal life. The Peacock symbolism represents the "all-seeing" church, along with the holiness and sanctity associated with it. Additionally, the Peacock represents resurrection, renewal and immortality within the spiritual teachings of Christianity.

Entertainment

'The Great Indian Family' is a celebration of India's diversity, says Vicky



Actor Vicky Kaushal says his upcoming film "The Great Indian Family" underlines the significance of India's diversity and values in an entertaining way.

The family drama, written and directed by Vijay Krishna Acharya of "Dhoom 3" fame, revolves around Kaushal's character of Bhajan Kumar, who battles an identity crisis when a letter claims he was born as a Muslim.

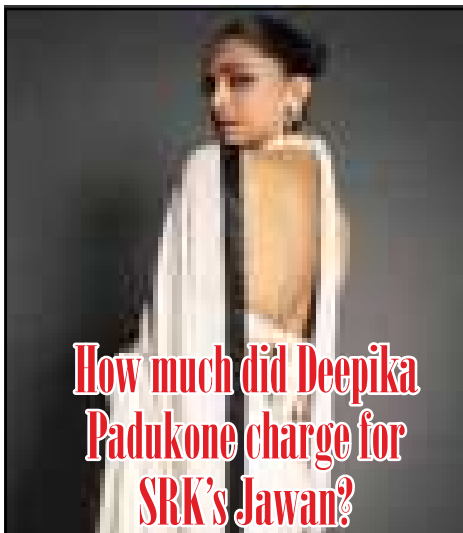
"It is a celebration of our family values, our diversity. It is all said in a way, which is not like where we are trying to teach or preach you something. It is said in a way that is entertaining. It will make you laugh, it will make you feel good about being part of the Indian family and culture," the 35-year-old told a news agency in an interview.

According to Kaushal, India's diversity is its most distinct aspect.

"I take a lot of pride in the diversity that India holds. I feel it is most unique and special about us, where every 100 km the spices, the food, the language, the culture changes.

"But there's something that unites us, the values that unites us. It is across everywhere, whether it is cities or small towns or rich or poor. It is just those values that make us Indian, and that is something in which I take pride in," the National Award-winning actor added.

Also starring Manushi Chhillar, Manoj Pahwa, Kumud Mishra and Alka Amin, "The Great Indian Family" will hit the screens on September 22.



How much did Deepika Padukone charge for SRK's Jawan?

Shah Rukh Khan's second consecutive movie of this year, *Jawan*, is breaking records and has already grossed over Rs 700 crore globally. The staunch Bollywood actress, Deepika Padukone, shared that she did not charge anything for her cameo in the movie.

SRK and Deepika have done many successful projects together. In fact, Deepika made her debut in 'Om Shanti Om' as a lead actress with Shah Rukh. And every single movie in which the actors paired, such as *Happy New Year*, *Pathan*, and *Chennai Express* did quite well at box office.

In an interview with a leading magazine, Deepika spoke about SRK and said that their relationship goes beyond work and that they are each other's "lucky charms." The actress revealed that she feels vulnerable around only a few people, and Shah Rukh is one of them. She expressed that she respects, trusts, and appreciates their relationship.

Hugh Jackman, Deborra-Lee Furness announce separation



Hollywood star Hugh Jackman and his wife Deborra-Lee Furness have announced that they are separating after 27 years of marriage.

The ex-couple shared the news in a joint statement to *People* magazine. "We have been blessed to share almost three decades together as husband and wife in a wonderful, loving marriage. Our journey now is shifting and we have decided to separate to pursue our individual growth," they said in the joint statement.

Jackman, 54, and Furness, 67, further said that their "family has been and always will be our highest priority" as "we undertake this next chapter with gratitude, love and kindness".

They urged for "privacy" as they navigate the "transition in all of our lives". Jackman and Furness met on the set of Australian television series "Corelli" in 1995 and married the following year. The two Australian actors are parents to two children -- Oscar, 23, and Ava, 18.

In April this year, Jackman had marked the 27th anniversary of his marriage with Furness through an Instagram post. "I love you so much. Together we have created a beautiful family. And life. Your laughter, your spirit, generosity, humour, cheekiness, courage and loyalty is an incredible gift to me," the actor had posted.

Here's how AR Rahman's 'Piya Haji Ali' song helped Badshah to overcome difficult times

Rapper Badshah, who serves as a judge on the talent reality show 'India's Got Talent' Season 10, shared that Oscar-winning composer A.R. Rahman's song 'Piya Haji Ali' helped him navigate through the difficult times in his life.

This weekend, the contestants will not only impress the judges – Shilpa Shetty Kundra, Badshah, and Kirron Kher, but also leave social media influencer-actor Kusha Kapila in awe of their impressive acts, as she graces the show to promote her upcoming film 'Sukhee'.

Farhan Sabir Live from Delhi, known for remarkable vocal prowess, perform a soulful rendition of 'Piya Haji Ali', a timeless composition that will touch the hearts of one and all.

Awestruck with the performance, Badshah says: "This song holds a lot of significance for me. I was going through a very tough time when I first heard this song. And now, whenever I am going through a hard phase, I listen to this song. It's as if there's a connection between me and this song and A.R. Rahman sir's voice has a profound impact. I feel like his voice has pulled me out of those things through this song."

"I was telling ma'am (Kirron Kher) that there was nothing missing in your performance, but this song is very special. Farhan, you are one of my favourite singers, and I hold you in high regard. The way you sing, the way you hit those high notes, it's extraordinary. When you sing, it feels like actual waves and the way you flow with the tone is amazing. I won't call it waves or frequency; I'll call it the "tarang" that you create when you sing," he adds.

