



Women's Reservation Bill:  
Congress leader Rahul Gandhi



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## WOMEN'S RESERVATION BILL ALLOWS GREATER REPRESENTATION TO WOMEN IN THE INDIAN PARLIAMENT

AV Team

The Women's Reservation Bill has been pending for the past 27 years. NDA under the leadership PM Narendra Modi it is being realised. With the implementation of Women's Reservation Bill, Maharashtra will have 95 women legislators in the 288-member state legislative Assembly. The current strength of women MLAs in the Assembly adds up to only 24. The Congress has the second-highest number of women legislators in the Maharashtra Assembly. Out of 44 Congress MLAs, five are women NCP, with a total of 54 MLAs, has three women members; while Shiv Sena's Shinde faction with 40 MLAs has two women legislators. Shiv Sena (UBT) faction led by Uddhav Thackeray has only one-woman MLA out of its 16

legislators. Apart from the mainstream parties, there are two women independents. After the 2019 Assembly elections, the BJP with 105 MLAs has brought the maximum number of women legislators (12) to the House. The demise of Mukta Tilak (Kasbapeth) last year, however, brought down the strength of BJP women legislators to 11.

The Centre's offer to implement 33 per cent reservation to women in Lok Sabha and state Legislative Assemblies has been welcomed unanimously by all parties setting aside their ideological differences. Earlier, women voter turnout was less between 1960s and 1980s. Later, from 1980s to 2019, the women vote bank has become crucial for elections. The role of deploying women workers to reach out to households as part of campaign is now a mainstay of election exercise.

Apart from political parties, Election Commission has also launched the voting awareness drive that resulted in large number of women coming to polling booths in the last two decades. Yet, when it comes to the number of women in Cabinet, the representation is bleak. Aditi Tatkare is the lone woman minister in the Eknath Shinde government that has a total of 27 ministers. The total permissible strength of state cabinet is 43 ministers, including CM. In July 2023, when the NCP faction under Ajit Pawar joined the government led by BJP and Shiv Sena (Shinde faction), 36 out of 54 NCP MLAs switched to the rebel group. Subsequently, Aditi Tatkare, NCP MLA from Shrivardhan, got a Cabinet berth. Both BJP and Shiv Sena (Shinde faction) have promised to bring in woman ministers in the next cabinet expansion.

Maharashtra, known for its leadership and progressive characters, has never had a woman chief minister ever since its formation in 1960. The previous state governments have ensured at least one, two or three women ministers in the cabinet depending on the coalition, although their representation has always been low. The Maha Vikas Aghadi government (2019 to 2022) comprising Congress, NCP, and Shiv Sena led by former chief minister Uddhav Thackeray had three women ministers – Varsha Gaikwad and Yashomati Thakur from the Congress and Aditi Tatkare from NCP. In 1994, the then chief minister Sharad Pawar came out with its first comprehensive women empowerment policy. The state also took the lead to support 50 per cent reservation to women in local bodies.

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## Demand for Khalistan is totally impractical and hollow

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Canada is a hub of Sikh separatists; all the plans are made there and unrest is created on Indian soil. Fortunately, Indian Sikhs have no time to buy this conflict but the conditioning of Sikhs is always remaining an agenda of these groups. There are many extremist Khalistani outfits, such as Khalistan Liberation Force (KLF), International Sikh Youth Federation (ISYF) and Babbar Khalsa International (BKI). There are many countries who shelter these separatists, including Canada, the US, Australia, the UK and Greece.

Hardeep Singh Nijjar, the chief of Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF), had joined hands with Pannun in 2019. Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, who lives in the US and has been running a Khalistan Referendum campaign, has been missing for the past few days after his aide,

Hardeep Singh Nijjar, was shot dead in Canada on June 18th. Pannun and Nijjar used to work together and had visited Australia, besides other countries, to launch the Khalistan Referendum campaign. Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, who would usually take credit for terror-related incidents in India, has been silent about the killings, besides the mysterious death of Avtar Singh Khanda. Pannun even halted his propaganda after Nijjar was shot dead and has not released any audio/video since then. Nijjar was shot as he was leaving the parking lot of the Gurudwara where he served as president in British Columbia. He suffered multiple gunshot wounds and died at the spot.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

# Editoritis

# Demand for Khalistan is totally impractical and hollow

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*The NIA has issued lookout notices against dozens of Khalistani radicals, including Arshdeep Singh alias Arsh Dala, Gagandeep Singh, Goldy Brar, Gurbinder Singh, Satveer Singh, Charnjeet Singh and Ramandeep Singh.*

*In 2016, Indian media reported that Nijjar was suspected of masterminding a bombing in the Sikh-majority State of Punjab and training terrorists in a small city southeast of Vancouver.*

*More recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi government has cracked down on both non-Hindu rights movements and dissidents. Sikh diaspora activism has been a source of tension between India and Canada for years.*

The World Sikh Organisation of Canada alleged the role of Indian intelligence agencies in Hardeep Singh Nijjar's murder. It asked Canadian intelligence and law enforcement agencies to "fully investigate the assassination of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, including the role of foreign interference, specifically from India". It is not only Pannun, but several other Khalistani exponents and terrorists, based in the UK, US, Canada, Australia and Pakistan, who have gone into hiding after the spate of deaths.

The NIA has issued lookout notices against dozens of Khalistani radicals, including Arshdeep Singh alias Arsh Dala, Gagandeep Singh, Goldy Brar, Gurbinder Singh, Satveer Singh, Charnjeet Singh and Ramandeep Singh. Most of them are hiding in Canada. Nearly a week after Nijjar's slaying, about 200 protesters from Canada's Sikh community gathered in front of the Indian Consulate in Vancouver to demonstrate. Many of the protesters were convinced that Nijjar's killing was linked to his calls for an independent Sikh state.

In 2016, Indian media reported that Nijjar was suspected of masterminding a bombing in the Sikh-majority State of Punjab and training terrorists in a small city southeast of Vancouver. Last year, Indian authorities accused Nijjar of involvement in an alleged attack on a Hindu priest in India and announced a reward of about \$16,000 for information leading to his arrest. The modern Sikh independence movement reaches back to the 1940s but eventually became an armed insurgency that shook the country in the 1970s and 1980s. In 1984, then-Prime Minister Indira Gandhi ordered a raid to capture armed separatists taking refuge in Sikh's holiest shrine.

The raid killed hundreds of people, and two of Gandhi's Sikh bodyguards assassinated her shortly after. In response, anti-Sikh riots took place across India in which members of the minority were dragged out of their homes and killed. The insurgency was eventually suppressed in a crackdown during which thousands of people were killed, but the goal of Sikh independence still has support among some in northern India and in the Sikh diaspora.

More recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi government has cracked down on both non-Hindu rights movements and



dissidents. Sikh diaspora activism has been a source of tension between India and Canada for years. Canada has the largest population of Sikhs outside India, and India has repeatedly accused it of tolerating "terrorists and extremists". At present in India, there is no Khalistan movement, nor it will be in coming future. Most of Sikh's are patriotic as 20% of them are in Indian army. This Khalistan movement is created by few radical Sikh extremists on foreign land and they are still continuing to do so but the reality is that, they will never get separate Khalistan, the extremists will come and go but they will not be able to get inch of separate land in the name of Khalistan.

It's high time these Sikh separatists should utilize their energy in some constructive work that will benefit the entire humanity, this is the ideal way of life that a Sikh is supposed to live. The Langar practice (distribution of free food in the community kitchen of Gurudwra) is a living example of that tradition. Moreover, when millions of Sikhs settle outside Punjab and most of them out of India, what are they going to achieve when their community

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## Sansad Sustains Subtle Change



- C.K. Subramaniam  
Columnist

As the Parliament shifted to the new premises, the hopes and aspirations of people grew up and raised the confidence level to greater heights. Now the scene is set for the new beginning in the new era of modernisation. Democracy died in the old house of the Parliament building. As we cherish to have a better standard of living with better amenities. The position stands in a forward motion. The so-called opposition used to be a bottleneck all the time and never allowed the parliament to function in a harmonious way. Walking out of the house for no reasons made it a mockery of the house and gave scant respect to the people's forum.

The platform was laid for a peaceful hearing instead of rushing to the floor of the house and creating a ruckus within the four walls and then go out and the show off leads to a forced agitation. Having failed to achieve their aim, they start to shout slogans. It is a matter of shame and the writing is on the wall. The parliament paralysis dashing the hopes of the people to the dust and there needs to be a change of attitude. Power corrupts and absolute power



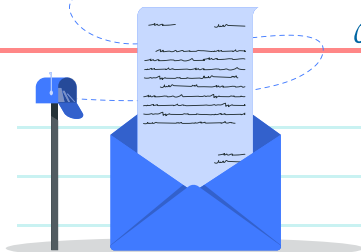
corrupts absolutely turns the tide of destiny.

The walking glory of our country in the last decade is phenomenal and worth praising. The many faces of the government calling for a pat on the back for the hard work put in by the magic mantras which needs to be complimented without any controversy. If

Abrogation of Article 370 is the icing on the cake the other welfare measures leading to a golden period. In a religious minded country, where sanatan dharma is well and truly followed, the Ram Mandir construction stands tall among history.

The Covid handling and the vaccine distribution all made us proud even in worrying causes of deaths. The digital economy, UPI has touched the nadir of the world and thereby boosting our economy in the bargain. Financial inclusions saw our country soaring 5th spot in the World economy. The infrastructure development is worth mentioning with wide roads and monumental highways. Both water management and Swachh Bharat mainstay of our clean green India are well and truly maintained. GST boost and the welfare scheme. In all it is glory all the way and the new parliament all add to the trust to the destiny.

## Letters to the Editor



### Woman Reservation Bill

In a historic move after the Special Session moved to the new Parliament House on Tuesday, the Narendra Modi government introduced the women's reservation Bill in the Lok Sabha to reserve one-third of the seats in the Lower House and the Assemblies for women. Will Nari Shakti be really visible in Parliament and assemblies?

The crux of the issue is why political parties whether it is BJP or Congress, or any other party does not give tickets to more number of women candidates in Lok Sabha and assembly elections. For that they do not need any legislation. Another question that arises is rotation of reserved constituencies in every election may reduce the incentive for an MP to work for his constituency as he may be ineligible to seek re-election from that constituency.

**Karan Singh**

### New Parliament Building

In the political and social journey of any country, the Parliament House is not just a building but a witness to the history of the quality of governance. The British Parliament, which is considered the mother of the parliamentary system in the world, has a tradition that no matter how great a leader is speaking, if an ordinary member stands in the middle and becomes an obstacle, he stops the speech, in parliamentary language it is called the "yield". The logic behind this is that if someone stands in the middle of a speech then perhaps his point is more important or timely. How wonderful this feeling would be and how great would be the expectation from that common member. In fact, even the ruling party should not forget that forming the government on the basis of numbers in Parliament does not take away the right of the opposition to ask questions. The opposition and the media have a big role in the parliamentary system which scrutinize the actions of the government and tell the public what has not happened through discussion in the Parliament so that people can form their opinion on the quality of governance.

**N Mateeni**

### Stay alert for Fatal Virus

Seven leopard cubs at the Bannerghatta National Park have died between August 22 and September 5, owing to the outbreak of Feline panleukopenia, a viral disease that is usually spread through cats. Surprisingly, all the cubs were vaccinated. In rare cases, there is a vaccination failure. It is also possible that the virus might have mutated, making the vaccine ineffective.

This is the first time a Feline panleukopenia outbreak has occurred at Bannerghatta National Park. While the exact cause is unknown, the authorities suspect that it might have spread from animal keepers who have pet cats. Following the outbreak, the authorities have sanitised the entire area and have put in place precautionary measures. "It is similar to Covid, distancing measures are the key. We have sanitised the area and asked the doctors and animal keepers to take precautionary measures, the situation is now under control" Sen said.

**Tauqueer Rahmani**

### History of tomatoes

Tomatoes has its origins traced back to the early Aztecs around 700 A.D; therefore, it is believed that the tomato is native to the Americas.

It was not until around the 16th century AD

that the Europeans were introduced to this fruit when the early explorers set sail to discover new lands. Throughout Southern Europe, the tomato was quickly accepted into the kitchen, yet as it moved north, more resistance was apparent. The British, for example, admired the tomato for its beauty, but believe that it was poisonous, as its appearance was similar to that of the wolf peach.

**Jubel D'Cruz**

### Better late than never

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the Government will launch the Vishwakarma Scheme with an allocation of 13,000 crore rupees next month for those with traditional skills. In around ten years of PM Narendra Modi didn't take care of the traditional skills of people, but now as the Lok Sabha election is approaching. The Vishwakarma scheme is being initiated. After all, 'Better Late than Never.'

**M J Azizi**

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(The views expressed are authors' own)

## State LoP Vijay Wadettiwar slams Smriti Irani's remarks says, "What does she know? and has no right to speak on Congress"



**M**aharashtra Leader of Opposition and Congress Leader Vijay Wadettiwar on Tuesday targeted Smriti Irani over her 'Gandhi family is only interested in empowering women in their family' remark by saying, "The woman who enters other people's houses and owns the property of the rich has no right to speak on the poor; she has no right to speak on Congress." "What does she

(Smriti Irani) know? The woman who enters other people's houses and owns the property of the rich has no right to speak on the poor; she has no right to speak on Congress," he said while speaking to ANI.

He further said, "Congress has uplifted the poor; the world knows this, and the whole of India knows this.

He further alleged, "These people (BJP) are concerned

about only the businessmen, and they blame Congress to hide their sins." Earlier on Tuesday, while questioning former Congress president Sonia Gandhi for not being present in the House when the historic Women's Reservation Bill was tabled in the Lok Sabha, Union Minister Smriti Irani said that the Gandhi family is only interested in empowering women in their family. "Gandhi Family is only interested in empowering the women in their family. They are not interested in empowering the poor, Adivasi, or Dalit women," Smriti Irani said while speaking to ANI on Tuesday.

The Congress' parliamentary party chief, Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday said the women's reservation bill "is ours", as the bill was about to be tabled in Parliament. ANI

## Man dies of electrocution on shooting sets of a serial in Goregaon



**A** crew member succumbed to electrocution on the shooting sets of a daily soap serial located in Mumbai's Goregaon area, police said. The deceased has been identified as Mahendra Yadav, police confirmed.

Speaking on the matter, president of the All Indian Cine Workers Association, Suresh Shyamal Gupta said that the deceased got electrocuted on Tuesday evening while he was working on the shooting set of a daily soap serial. "The man was taken to the

nearby government hospital and the doctors declared him brought dead," he added. Gupta also demanded the Maharashtra government provide a compensation of Rs 50 lakh to the next kin of the deceased. "A case should be registered against the producer and the production house of the serial. Rs 50 lakh compensation should be given to the next kin of the deceased and the resignation of the Managing Director and Labor Commissioner of Film City should be taken with immediate effect," he said. Further investigation into the matter is underway. ANI

## Portions of four-storey residential building at Girgaon collapsed

**P**ortions of a four-storey residential building located in Mumbai's Girgaon area collapsed on Wednesday afternoon, civic officials said. No casualties were reported in the incident, they said. "Portions of the weather sheds of the 2nd and 3rd floors of Bansi Bhavan in Khet-



wadi collapsed at around 2:45 pm while some parts are hanging

precariously," an official said. He said some people were trapped on the upper floors of the building but they were rescued by Fire Brigade personnel through the staircase. The hanging portion was removed and the area has been cordoned off, the official added. PTI

## Ganesh Chaturthi celebration: Devotion, decorations on full display as festival begins



**M**umbai was steeped deep in devotion as it welcomed the annual homecoming of Lord Ganesh on Tuesday, marking the beginning of the 10-day festival amid pomp and grandeur.

Idols of the elephant-headed God in various shapes and sizes were installed at several households and in pandals (temporary stages set up by community groups at street corners and open spaces) against the backdrop of elaborate decorations based on myriad themes ranging from the Chandrayaan-3 launch to Ayodhya's Ram Mandir.

Families, including children as well as senior citizens, stepped

out of their homes early morning to bring their beloved "bappa" home amid chants of "Ganpati Bappa Morya" and the beating of drums. Many people were seen carrying the idols of Lord Ganesh in autorickshaws, cars, and other modes of transport.

Several politicians and celebrities from Bollywood install idols of the deity of wisdom and knowledge in their homes every year. While many famous Lord Ganesh idols were installed in pandals in the early morning hours in Mumbai, including the most famous Lalbaugcha Raja, many idols were taken out from workshops to the pandals in colourful processions. PTI

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## Women's Reservation Bill allows .....



NCP MP **Dr Fauziya Khan** told Afternoon Voice, "This bill

was pending and has been in a debate since last 27 years if the government have taken an initiative it is a welcome step but the implementation of the bill goes upto the year 2029 so government called out for a special session if there is such a long wait this could have been done in the regular sessions".



Social activist **Feroze Mithiborwala** said, "This bill should have been passed in the year 2010 at

it was brought during the UPA regime but as OBC reservation was included in this due to which it was delayed. If implementation of women's reservation bill is passed then it should not require any census or delimitation also it should be implemented in the year 2024"



Social Activist **Sarita Bhart** said, "We are not accepting the resolution of the recent bill which is passed as the percent should be upto 50 % as it has not given proper reservation to every women as it is following some patriarchal mindset"

## Nation

### Women's Reservation Bill: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi says, "Delimitation and census not required..." for its implementation



plete. I would like to have seen the OBC reservation included in this bill," he said. Supporting the bill, Rahul Gandhi also raised the party's demand for caste census and said that the population of Dalits, tribals and Other Backward Classes can only be known through it.

Referring to the concerns raised by opposition parties about the provisions of the bill, he said that it legislation can be implemented without delay. "Delimitation and census is not required, the bill should be immediately implemented," the Congress leader said. ANI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday said that census and delimitation is not required for implementing the Women's Reservation Bill and it should come into force soon after it is passed

by Parliament. Participating in the debate on the Bill in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi said that it should also have provision for OBC reservation.

"There is one thing in my view that makes this bill incom-

### AIMIM chief slams centre, opposes women's reservation bill



that more women will get elected to Parliament. If that is the justification, why that justification is not being extended to the OBC and Muslim women whose representation in this august House is minimal," Owaisi said. "We know Muslim women are seven per cent of the population, but in this Lok Sabha their representation stands at only 0.7 per cent," he said. Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal introduced the Constitution amendment bill which seeks to reserve 33 per cent seats in the Lok Sabha and state Assemblies for women in the Lower House of Parliament on Wednesday. PTI

AIMIM MP Asaduddin Owaisi on Wednesday opposed the women's reservation bill saying it would provide reservation only to "savarna women", and questioned

why OBC and Muslim women who have even lesser representation in Parliament are not being given any quota. "I oppose this legislation.... The justification that is being given for the bill is

### CM Sukhu says, "Result of HPSSC-conducted exams will be declared in 3 months"

The results of examinations conducted by the erstwhile Himachal Pradesh Staff Selection Commission (HPSSC) whose papers were not leaked and sold would be declared within three months, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said in the Assembly on Wednesday. Leak of question papers of 14 examinations conducted by the commission has been



confirmed and 65 people have been arrested, he said, replying to a question on unemployment in the state during the Question

Hour. Investigations into these leaks are in progress, he said. Refuting the allegation of the opposition that the government was cheating the youth in the name of employment, Sukhu retorted that question papers were leaked and sold during the erstwhile BJP government, but the present government scrapped the commission after cases of leak and selling of papers surfaced. PTI

### Opposing the women's reservation bill SP's Dimple Yadav asks When will census, delimitation take place? to centre



Pointing out that the implementation of the Women's Reservation Bill is dependent on both the census and delimitation processes, Samajwadi Party MP Dimple Yadav on Wednesday asked the Centre when will both be taking place. "I have asked questions (in Lok Sabha) about when the census would happen and if the caste-based census would take place. I also asked when the delimitation process will take place because both are related to each other... The Women's Reservation Bill is dependent on both of these,"

Dimple Yadav said while speaking to reporters outside the new Parliament building.

Earlier in the day, while speaking in the Lok Sabha on the discussion on the women's reservation Bill, Dimple Yadav argued for quota within quota of the Women's Reservation Bill for members from the minority and OBC communities. "Without revolution, evolution is not possible. For evolution to take place in our country, it is very important that women from OBC, SC and minorities get reservation....," she said in the Parliament. ANI

### Nipah Virus: Kerala Health Minister says, "No new cases reported in last four days"



Kerala Health Minister Veena George on Wednesday said that no new cases of the Nipah virus have been reported in the last four days in the state. Addressing reporters in Kerala's Thiruvananthapuram, George said, "No new Nipah cases have been reported in the last four days in the state. Out of the 323 samples tested, 317 samples tested negative and six samples tested positive till now. 11 persons in isolation and

their test results are negative". "We have decided to strengthen the healthcare system. We have started to strengthen the 'One Health' activities in the district. We have started training people for the same. 'One health' means all the departments will come together. We have also taken the decision to establish an institution where all the departments will be well-coordinated. So, community surveillance will be there throughout the year", she added. ANI

World

## Russia calls for immediate stop to 'Bloodshed' over ongoing tensions between Nagorno-Karabakh region



Russia has called for an immediate halt to "bloodshed" in the ongoing conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh region and has urged Azerbaijan and Armenia to return to compliance with the trilateral agreement with Moscow, TASS News Agency reported. Moscow has further urged the sides to stop armed hostilities and do everything possible to protect the population.

"The most important thing

now is to immediately return to compliance with the trilateral agreements signed at the top level in 2020-2022, which lay out all measures for a peaceful solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh issue," the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement. It also urged "to stop armed hostilities and to do everything possible in order to protect the population of Nagorno-Karabakh and defend its interests," TASS reported. It further demanded the sides to stop

the 'bloodshed', adding that the Russian peacekeeping force is assisting the civilian population in the conflicted region.

"Due to a rapid escalation of armed hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh, we strongly call upon the conflicting sides to immediately stop bloodshed, cease hostilities and prevent casualties among the civilian population," TASS quoted the Russian Foreign Ministry. It added, "Currently, the Russian peacekeeping force is assisting the civilian population [of Nagorno-Karabakh], including providing medical aid to them, and is dealing with matters of evacuation".

Meanwhile, at least 27 people have been killed and 200 wounded in a military operation by Azerbaijan in the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region, CNN reported citing an official in Armenian-controlled territory there.

## Cyberattack case: International criminal court says, "hackers accessed its systems"

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has said it experienced a cyberattack last week after hackers accessed its internal systems, TechCrunch reported. TechCrunch is an American global online newspaper focusing on high-tech and startup companies.

The ICC, headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands, is the only permanent war crimes tribunal. Established in 2002, the court is currently investigating crimes against humanity in Ukraine. On Tuesday, the ICC confirmed that it had detected "anomalous activity affecting its information systems." The ICC said in a post on X, formerly Twitter: "Immediate measures were adopted to respond to this cybersecurity incident and to mitigate its impact."

"Additional response and security measures are now ongoing, with the assistance of the

Host Country authorities," he said, referring to the Netherlands.

The nature of the incident remains unclear and it's not yet known whether any data held on the ICC's systems was accessed or exfiltrated. ICC spokesperson Fadi El-Adballah declined to answer TechCrunch's questions and said the organization would not be commenting beyond its statement. The impact on the ICC's operation is also not yet known. In its statement, the court said it "continues to analyze and mitigate the impact of the incident" adding that "priority is being given to ensuring that the core work of the Court continues". "The Court is thankful to the Host Country for the excellent cooperation and the immediate response and support provided in relation to this incident," the statement said. ANI

## Indian student death case: City Council asks Seattle Police to review a policy over involvement in the conflict



The Seattle Police Department has said that they will review a policy that allows a police union official to be involved in an investigation of a rank-and-file officer they represent and defend, a potential conflict of interest that has emerged following the tragic death of Indian student Jaahnavi Kandula. Kandula, 23, was struck and killed by Officer Kevin Dave on the night of January 23 when his speeding patrol vehicle

hit her. As part of the investigation, Officer Daniel Auderer, a certified drug-recognition expert, and the elected vice president of the Seattle Police Officers Guild (SPOG), was called from home to perform field sobriety tests on Dave at the West Precinct. "It was very obvious to me that Dave was not impaired and safe to operate a motor vehicle," Auderer concluded after conducting a series of observations and tests recorded in his report. PTI

## Canadian PM's remark over involvement in killing of a sikh leader, allies divided: report

A day after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau alleged India's involvement in the killing of a prominent Sikh separatist leader, the Canadian media reported that Ottawa's Five Eye allies were not keen on taking sides though they have said that the claims should be thoroughly probed. Hardeep Singh Nijjar, 45, the chief of the banned Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF) and one of India's most-wanted terrorists who carried a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh on his head, was shot dead by two unidentified gunmen outside a gurdwara in Surrey in the western Canadian province of British Columbia on June 18. Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau told the House of Commons on Monday that he waited until he was able to raise the issue with allies and with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the G20 summit in New Delhi earlier this month before telling



the public about the possible link.

India has dismissed Trudeau's allegation as "absurd and baseless." "We wanted to make sure that we had a solid grounding in understanding what was going on in analysis and indeed in facts. We wanted to make sure we were taking the time to talk with our allies, to share what we knew," The Canadian Press news agency quoted Trudeau on Tuesday.

Canada is part of a 'Five Eyes' network which is an intelligence alliance consisting of the United States, United Kingdom, Australia,

Canada and New Zealand. Trudeau has also said he does not want to make things worse for relations with India. "We are not looking to provoke or escalate. We are simply laying out the facts as we understand them, and we want to work with the government of India to lay everything clear." According to a report by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), Canada's other Five Eyes allies "showed little inclination Tuesday to wade into an escalating row between Ottawa and New Delhi over allegations." Most opted to treat the allegation as a matter still to be investigated — in spite of the fact that the Trudeau government feels it has enough information to make an accusation in Parliament and expel a diplomat, it noted. The United States, United Kingdom and Australia have all issued statements calling for the allegations to be thoroughly probed. PTI

## Expression

# Peace is the beauty of life, not war



Lalit Garg

Columnist

World Peace Day or International Day of Peace and Non-Violence is celebrated every year on 21 September. This day is considered an ideal of freedom, peace, non-violence and happiness among all countries and people in general. This day is celebrated mainly to establish peace and non-violence throughout the world. The first Peace Day was celebrated in 1982 by many countries with the help of political parties, military groups and people. This year the 41st International Day of Peace is being celebrated on Thursday, 21st September 2023. This year's theme is Action for Peace – Our Ambition for the Global Goals. This call to action is awakening us to our individual and collective responsibility to promote peace, which contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and which will further create a culture of peace for all. Everyone loves peace. Non-violence and peace are the beauty of life. Man sacrifices most of his life in its search.

But it is quite disappointing that today man is moving away from this peace and non-violence day by day. Today, the Russia-Ukraine war that has been going on continuously for one and a half years, and the spread of commercialism all around has made peace and non-violence further elusive. That's why UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said, 'Today more than ever, peace is needed. War and conflict are causing devastation, poverty and hunger, which are driving millions of people from their homes. There is climate chaos all around and most of the countries of the world are in the grip of huge inequalities and political polarization.' This year-2023 is also the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide.

Human beings, animals, birds, insects, spiders etc. all want to remain alive. No one wishes to die. When someone does not want death, then what is the justice in imposing it on him? People who believe in peace and



non-violence do not torture, kill or hurt any living being, and from this tendency, the idea of non-violence and peace has emerged. Non-violence consists in uplifting the entire humanity along with oneself, avoiding self-fall and saving others from it. Disturbance is darkness, and peace is light. Darkness cannot be seen with eyes closed. Similarly, peace cannot be seen through unrest. To see peace requires the light of non-violence in the eyes. The earth, sky and ocean are all disturbed. Selfishness and hatred have disintegrated human society. Although the message of 'world peace' has been given in each and every era, it has more relevance today amidst the possibilities of world war.

There has been a war raging on between Russia and Ukraine for the past several months and many more countries harbour the ambitions to wage a similar war. Amidst all the fears and possibilities of this war, efforts for peace talks are becoming increasingly ineffective. The second big problem of the war between Russia and Ukraine is that in reality the war is not a war between Ukraine and Russia at all. The real war is going on between the Western alliance and Russia, and these parties are absent from the peace talks. Today, when we find ourselves in the midst of a cold war, China is now standing alongside Russia in that cold war. And in this period, China has become not just 1.25 cents, but 125 cents. In fact, the world moving towards world war needs the reconstruction of

non-war, peace and non-violence. And if this reconstruction is not done, then the boiling war in Ukraine will engulf not only Ukraine but many other countries. Peace alone will not solve the problem in Ukraine. This fire will continue to burn like this in future, too. Maintaining peace in the entire world is the main goal of the United Nations today. It is also clearly mentioned in the United Nations Charter that the UN was born to prevent international conflicts and to develop a culture of peace. In this era of conflict, terror and unrest, propagating the importance of peace has become extremely important and relevant.

Therefore, the United Nations, all its institutions, non-governmental organizations, civil society and national governments organize this day every year. To spread the message of peace to every corner of the world, the United Nations has appointed world famous personalities from the spheres of art, literature, cinema, music and sports as the peace messengers.

India is a country that gives maximum importance to non-violence and peace, its precious soil has given birth to many saints, seers and sages, who gave the message of non-violence and peace to the world through their life of sacrifice and sadhana. Mahatma Gandhi laid maximum emphasis on non-violence and peace. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had given five basic mantras to establish peace and tranquility in the world, these are also called 'Principles of Panchsheel'. These five basic principles of Panchsheel

are the five basic principles of mutual cooperation among countries with different political, social and economic systems to establish the ideals of human welfare and world peace - respecting each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, not taking aggressive action against each other. Do not interfere in each other's internal matters, follow the policy of equality and mutual benefit and believe in the policy of peaceful co-existence. It is believed that if the world follows the above five points, there will be peace and tranquility, non-violence and peace everywhere in the entire world.

On the occasion of 'World Peace Day', white pigeons are flown at various places in every country, spreading the principles of 'Panchsheel' to the world. The following couplet by a poet conveys a very thoughtful idea of peace – "Let us carry the message of brotherhood, so that the blood of any protector of the country is not shed in vain." Today many people believe that the biggest threat to world peace comes from imperialist economic and political misdeeds. Developed countries create war situations, so that their military equipment can be sold. This is such a bitter truth that no one can deny.

Violence and unrest are the burning problems of the world. Non-violence and peace are the only solution to this problem. Non-violence is also one of the constituent elements of Indian culture. Here saints and ascetics of all religions have been preaching non-violence. In this context, the statement of Acharya Shri Mahapragya is going to pave the way for a permanent solution to the problem. During his Ahimsa Yatra, he had repeatedly reiterated that he was searching for the reasons for violence in his journey. The philosophy of Lord Mahavir is the philosophy of non-violence. Words like non-violence, equality, friendship, compassion, restraint, etc. Give expression to the same meaning. Ahimsa Savvabhuyakhemankari - There is a need to create a non-violent society to remove the ashes that have fallen on the bright light of non-violence which brings welfare to all the living beings of the world and to remove the rust from the power of non-violence and sharpen its edge.

# Entertainment

## Actress Kareena Kapoor Khan says, "Always wanted to be a part of a moody thriller" over OTT debut of film 'Jaane Jaan'

Actor Kareena Kapoor Khan is currently gearing up for the release of her debut OTT film 'Jaane Jaan'. On the eve of the release of the thriller film, Kareena took to her Instagram account and penned down a heartfelt note.

Kareena shared a collage video which she captioned, "I have always wanted to be a part of a moody thriller... something that I love to watch... and it's finally coming to you tomorrow... So on the eve of Jaane Jaan release ...I wanted to share what an incredible journey it's been. I absolutely loved playing Maya, but it would not have been so much fun if not for these amazing people. #JaaneJaan, 21st sept only on @netflix.in."

In the collage video, Bebo dropped some BTS moments of the film in which she could be seen posing with her co-actors Jaideep Ahlawat, Vijay Varma. She also shared some pictures of her husband Saif Ali Khan and kids Taimur and Jeh.

Soon after the 'Heroine' actor dropped the pictures, fans flooded the comment section with red hearts and fire emoticons. "Can't contain the excitement, eagerly waiting for this," a fan commented. Another fan wrote, "The most beautiful Indian actress." "Good luck! Can't wait to see you as Maya," a user wrote. **ANI**



### Kevin Jonas, Priyanka Chopra wrote a sweet note for Danielle Jonas on her birthday



Kevin Jonas penned a sweet note for his wife, Danielle on her 37th birthday, People reported. He took to Instagram to post a photo of himself with Danielle.

"How did I get this lucky? Happy birthday Danielle. I love you so much!" he wrote next to a photo of the two embracing one another in front of a white wall.

While many of the couple's followers left birthday wishes in the comments, Priyanka Chopra Jonas also wished Danielle. Priyanka, wife of Nick Jonas, Kevin's brother, posted a picture of Danielle on her Instagram story. She wrote, "Happy Birthday Gorgeous! Wish you love and all the good things in the world! @daniellejonas." **ANI**

### Pre-wedding ritual pictures of ardas ceremony are going viral of Parineeti Chopra-Raghav Chadha



Actor Parineeti Chopra and AAP leader Raghav Chadha, who are all set to tie the knot in Udaipur, are in the capital for their pre-wedding rituals. The pictures of the couple from their ardas ceremony have gone viral on social media. While Parineeti looked gorgeous in her pink-shaded suit, Raghav complemented her in a pink-beige ensemble.

Parineeti completed her look with chandelier earrings and a dupatta. In one of the pictures, the stunning couple can be seen holding each other's hands while posing with the guests. In another photo, they can be seen seeking divine blessings.

**ANI**

### Actor Sai Pallavi is all set to collaborate with Naga Chaitanya for upcoming project



Actor Sai Pallavi is set to reunite with Naga Chaitanya after the 2021 Telugu film "Love Story" for another project, the makers said Wednesday. Chandoo Mondeti, known for films such as Telugu titles "Premam" and the "Karthikeya" franchise, will direct the upcoming film. Production house Geetha Arts, established by Allu Aravind, made the announcement on its official X page. **ANI**