



Delhi: Air quality turns 'poor' level, Authorities asked to implement

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WOMEN'S WRESTLER'S HARRASMENT CASE:

Delhi Court defers order on police's cancellation report in a ongoing POC SO CASE against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh



A court here on Friday deferred the order on the cancellation report filed by the Delhi Police in a POC SO case against the outgoing Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chairman and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. This case was lodged on the complaint filed by a minor woman wrestler.

Special (POC SO) Judge Chhavi Kapoor was on leave on Friday. Therefore, the order was deferred for November 25.

On August 1, the court had reserved its order on the cancellation report after noting the response of the minor wrestler and her father. They did not oppose the cancellation report. The minor wrestler and her father appeared before the court and said that they are satisfied with the investigation of Delhi police, Public Prosecutor Atul Srivastava had told media. He also had said that the daughter and her father did not oppose the cancellation report filed by the

Delhi police. They had appeared on the notice issued by the court. The hearing was conducted in closed court room (In Camera Proceedings).

Delhi police had filed a cancellation report on June 15 in the POC SO case against Singh. Thereafter, Patiala House court on July 4 issued notice to complainant/her father. Delhi police on June 15 filed a cancellation report in Patiala House Court in the case filed against former WFI chief and

BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. This case was filed in POC SO Act on a complaint by a minor wrestler. The report contains more than 500 pages. A charge sheet was also filed in Rouse Avenue Court in sexual harrasment case in the matter. The Rouse Avenue court had issued summon to Singh after taking Cognizance of the charge sheet in sexual harassment case. Singh appeared before the court and was granted bail in the matter. ANI

A unique cyber-crime for love story, hacker barged in to Mumbai police data system

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Life is all about doing something for the people we love and here no one knows when and how they cross boundaries. Most of us would agree that our relationships are the most important thing. That a layoff or lost opportunity can be tolerated so long as the people we love are healthy and safe. And yet it's all too easy to lose sight of the big picture when we're knee-deep in the struggles of our daily lives. It's easy to deprioritize the little things that keep relationships strong when we're worried about our debt and our deadlines. Its human nature—our negativity bias: we're more sensitive to what's going wrong than what's going right. It's how we're wired, a means to keep ourselves safe. When one is in love then life is about more than just being safe. Today I am going to

tell you a love story that led a man to breach cyber security.

A 27-year-old UP-based civil engineer Babu Shah's wife works in Mumbai. She has seen this busy and never ending fast life here. She is ambitious and wants to go abroad for better opportunities. She found one such opening. She applied for a passport; there were no discrepancies in her passport form and the documents. But the application was halted by authorities after initial application due to some official reasons. We all know how lethargic our system is. It takes time in each government domain.

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Editoritis

A unique cyber-crime for love story, hacker barged in to Mumbai police data system

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But being a skilled techie he managed to do so. This is not the first time that someone barged into Mumbai police data system or website. There were several attacks reported earlier too.

The hackers claimed to be supporters of an Islamic group.

Following the hacking, a message popped up on the website, allegedly from the hackers in which they demanded an immediate apology to "Muslims all over the world".

The case has been handed over to the Southern Region Cyber Police Station.

Well, as we call blessing in disguise Babu has exposed Mumbai police on cyber security skills.

The wife was not happy about the delay; she cribbed about it to her husband. When one is in love that too if she is his beloved wife, I know a man can try to pluck stars from the sky. His woman's happiness is what matters the most. Babu decided to impress his wife by fulfilling her dream of getting a job abroad. To achieve his motive, he hacked the Mumbai Police data system. How he hacked will not be appropriate to explain here. But being a skilled techie he managed to do so. This is not the first time that someone barged into Mumbai police data system or website. There were several attacks reported earlier too.

There were Distributed Denial of Service (DDOS) attacks on Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in the state. Millions of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses were infected with a kind of virus known as a Trojan are being used in the attack, since 2016 there were hundreds of such cases registered by Mumbai police. The official website of the Thane City Police that was hacked and restored, The hackers claimed to be supporters of an Islamic group. Following the hacking, a message popped up on the website, allegedly from the hackers in which they demanded an immediate apology to "Muslims all over the world". But no hacker was traced or arrested.

Hundred times Mumbai police websites were down, many government websites were hacked and data was compromised. Mumbai police is not well versed or updated with cyber security measures and hacking techniques. Perhaps this is the reason that the detection rate of cyber-crime is very marginal. With the latest infrastructure and cyber forensics, security agencies and the cops are successfully reaching their targets.

Well! Let us come back to Babu, to ensure that his wife's passport application got a smooth approval, he hacked the Mumbai Police system and approved her form along with that of three other applicants to avoid any suspicion. By approving those forms which were under scrutiny, Babu left a clue for cops about this hack. Police got alert and during the probe, it was found that the accused used a system with Noida's IP address to hack the police system.

His wife, who was an applicant whose passport forms were



cleared, was a resident of Chembur, Tilak Nagar and Antop Hill in Mumbai. The Mumbai Police Crime Branch arrested Babu Shah from Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh. Investigation is underway to find how the techie managed to hack the system. The case has been handed over to the Southern Region Cyber Police Station. Well, as we call blessing in disguise Babu has exposed Mumbai police on cyber security skills. He successfully accessed the data and made changes, imagine if some neighbouring country hackers got into the system through this vulnerability and damaged the system and data both? There is a possible threat to Mumbai police's data system, when it comes to passport approval. I don't refute the fact that Babu has committed a crime, but I also look at it as timely exposure. If this wouldn't have happened, the police could never understand about the glitch.

Vaidehi Tamam

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Voices



Now focus on CRICKET WORLD CUP



- C.K. Subramaniam

The Asian Games are coming to an end and now our main focus will be on cricket World Cup. This is for the first time that all the matches will be played in India as we are the sole organiser of this mega event this time. Earlier we have organised it three times but in association with our neighbors.

The English team was lucky winner in the last world cup held in England. Now they are going to face stiff challenge in the opening match against New Zealand at Ahmedabad. The Indians will play its first match against mighty Australians on Sunday. It will be a tough and close match keeping in view the strength and stubborn attitude of Australians.

Indians are a hot favorite in winning the world cup this time but one can't predict the outcome in the initial stage. We were front runners in winning the cup in 1987, 1996 but lost in the semifinals all of a sudden. Grahan Gooch reached Mumbai one week before the commencement of the all-important semifinal match, practiced sweep shots and defeated us with this particular shot only. We were pitted against our co-partners in the semifinals of the 1996 world cup at Kolkata. We were quite comfortable as long as Sachin was at the crease but soon lost the momentum as he got out and Sri Lankan spinners became unplayable on a turning track. The Bengali crowd became restless as losing the match was on cards. The burning of clothes and pelting of stones led to the abandoning of the match and ultimately it was rightly awarded to the Sri Lankans by match referee Clive Lloyd.

Captain Dhoni gave us a moment of rejoicing when he hit his famous helicopter shot in the 2011 World cup and fulfilled

the long awaited desire of great Sachin Tendulkar of winning the cup in front of his home crowd.

Can we repeat the performance of 2011? Yes, we are capable and hot favorites in winning the World cup. Ours is a well-balanced side and holds an upper hand against all the opponents. A lot depends upon the curators how they prepare the pitch. A normal and a perfect pitch will definitely help us in winning the matches.

Cricket is a language that is spoken and understood by almost every Indian. And the country is all set to cheer for a cricket extravaganza as it prepares to host the ICC Cricket World Cup after a decade-long wait. India's love for the sport is already reaching fever pitch, with fans eagerly anticipating the chance to witness history in the making. As the tournament draws near our pulse rate increases as we all feel that Cricket is a religion in India. From sold-out ticket sales within minutes to skyrocketing prices on the black market, the cricket fever is spreading like wildfire. The D/L method will come into force time and again and better luck to the participating sides. This cricket extravaganza couldn't have come at a better time but for the intermittent rain interruptions. As the World Cup coincides with the festive season, it is expected to drive growth in the sector. While we are all expecting that history is going to be repeated like in 1983 and in 2011 during the ICC Cricket World Cup. We all feel and live that the World cup has reached our doorsteps. As a cricket enthusiast for the last 60 years, I wish the tournament all success and bring glory to our sports loving country.

Letters to the Editor

Celebrating the efforts of Achievers - The AFTERNOON VOICE October 2, 2023

This news item was interesting. It felt so good to see the encouragement being shown by your newspaper to people who make a difference in society, in their own little way. That is a good gesture on your part, Dr. Vaidehi.

I do understand you must have faced a few obstacles in your path but I guess, we all learn through our experiences, both good and bad. I wish you all the very Best, all success in all your endeavours. Continue to be the Beacon of Light to others!

Melville X. D'Souza

Boycott movies of celebrities who promote betting, gambling & consumption of addictive products!

Celebrities should not promote betting, gambling & consumption of prod-

ucts like cigarettes, tobacco & alcohol that are harmful. Film stars, cricketers & other celebrities may have a huge fan following but also have a responsibility towards society. Trying to earn money out of such acts may be legal as modelling is a profession but they are doing disservice to society & their nation by influence people towards services & consumption that is detrimental to the health & wealth of the people.

Celebrities like Ranbir Kapoor who has been summoned by the ED in a betting case has the money to hire top lawyers to protect them from the law but influencing masses by one's popularity deserves the stringent of punishment & Govt. needs to amend laws so that people do not get influenced so easily by these superstars. People should boycott movies of superstars who promote addictive products & Influence gambling!

S.N.Kabra

Moments of Proud

Among the many unique and extraordinary achievements of India, the way India and its players left behind their previous best performance and won 83 medals in the 19th Asian Games held in Hangzhou China, is a memory not only among India's players but also all over

the world. It is believed that it will become a way to change the environment. The proud stance of moving forward towards a century of medals will infuse India with new energy, generate new confidence, new hope and new enthusiasm.

India on Wednesday broke its previous record of winning 70 medals at the Asian Games, taking its medal journey to a new record. The performance of Indian players has removed the stigma of incompetence on the sports field. The players, especially the girls, who are desperate to write the victory story in the Asian Games, have achieved unprecedented success and conquered the dream of making India the number one position floating in the eyes of two hundred and eighty crore people of India, which is definitely thrilling and proud.

N Mateeni

Men's Attitude Needs to Change

According to the latest World Economic Forum report, it will take 131 years for women in the world to become equal to men, while for India it will take 149 years. It means more 18 years, as India is currently much below the world average in all parameters. The country of Gandhi, Azad, Nehru, Patel and Abdul Kalam which hoisted the

flag on the south pole of the moon for the first time, has advanced ancient knowledge and culture, lags behind the world average in equality for women. Reasons for this have to be found.

The bill gives 33 percent reservation to women in legislatures - Nari Shakti Vandan, 2023 has now become law. Just like after the Nirbhaya rape case, a strict law introduced. But, the question is: Will enacting the law change society's view for women? On the day the Nari Vandhan Bill was passed, women associated with the ruling party were seen dancing to express happiness, but if only 1500 women became MPs or MLAs, women would have got equality, women would have been deprived of their right for 50 years. Has the exploitation of women in the workplace been stopped by appointing a panchayat mayor and councilor? In fact, not the law but the attitude of men towards women needs to change.

N Ashraf

Readers are requested to mail Letters to the Editor only at

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No postal letters will be entertained

(The views expressed are authors' own)

Bombay HC extends an interim order stay of the MPCB closure order against NCP MLA's firm

The Bombay High Court on Friday extended till October 16 an interim order staying the operation of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board's (MPCB) order directing Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MLA Rohit Pawar to close down a part of his firm Baramati Agro Ltd.

A division bench led by Justice Nitin Jamdar said it would hear a plea filed by Baramati Agro Ltd challenging the MPCB's closure order on October 16.

The bench directed the MPCB to file its affidavit in response to the petition and said it would hear the matter on October 13. On September 29, the court had in an interim order directed the authorities to not act on the



order till October 6 (Friday).

Appearing for the MPCB, senior counsel Milind Sathe on Friday urged the court to vacate the stay alleging that there was a large-scale violation on the part of the petitioner. The bench, however, noted that the MPCB ought to put forth its submissions in an affidavit first. The firm in

its plea filed through advocate Akshay Shinde alleged that the order has been passed "owing to political influence and considering the present political situation to pressurise the director of the petitioner company i.e. Rohit Pawar, who is also a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Maharashtra." Rohit Pawar, who

is the grand-nephew of Sharad Pawar, is the CEO of Baramati Agro Ltd.

Baramati Agro Ltd is involved in the manufacturing of animal and poultry feed, sugar and ethanol, co-generation of power, trading agri-commodities, fruits and vegetables and dairy products.

The petition claimed that the company has obtained the necessary permissions from time to time to operate the unit and that it was also granted environmental clearance in 2022. The MPCB claimed that certain irregularities were found during a regular inspection of the unit situated in Pune. Earlier this month, the Board issued a show cause notice to the company which was responded to and a personal hearing was also held. "However, the MPCB officials failed to take into consideration any explanation, clarification or evidence submitted by the petitioner company and issued an order on September 27 directing to close down the manufacturing activities of the unit within 72 hours," the plea said. PTI

CM Eknath Shinde said, "Naxal-affected areas in the state was changing for the better due to development schemes"

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Friday said the face of Naxal-affected areas in the state was changing for the better due to development schemes, and called for the need to put in place an effective mechanism to curb "urban Naxalism".

He was speaking at a meeting convened in Delhi to review the security situation of Left Wing Extremism (LWE)-affected states. The meeting was chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

"Due to the effective implementation of various development schemes in Naxal-affected areas over the past year, we will soon succeed in completely eradicating Naxalism in areas like Gadchiroli," a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) quoted Shinde as saying. But urban Naxalism is being propagated through the internet and social media, and there is a need to create an effective mech-

anism to stop it, he added.

"Every year, billions of rupees are sent to Naxalites. To stop this money transaction and to thoroughly investigate it, a joint group of Enforcement Directorate, Income Tax department and Financial Intelligence Unit should be formed," the chief minister said. Shinde emphasized the need to expand the railway network in the Naxal-affected areas. He stressed that developing a railway network in the border areas of Gadchiroli, Chhattisgarh, and Telangana will be very beneficial for development. "If the railway network from Mancheril in Telangana to Sironcha (Maharashtra) and then from Bhopalpatnam in Chhattisgarh to Jagdalpur, and similarly, from Aheri (Maharashtra) to Sirpur (Kaghnagar in Telangana) is developed, it will benefit the Surjagad iron project and the overall development," he said. PTI

Goregaon fire incident: Actor Manish Chaturvedi says, "Situation was heart-rending"

On Friday, Mumbai witnessed a horrific fire incident. At least eight people were killed, while 50 others were injured after a massive fire broke out at a building in Goregaon.

Actor Manish Chaturvedi, an eyewitness to the incident, told ANI, "The incident occurred 2.30 am-3 am. I had returned from a party around 1.30 am and was sleeping. Suddenly, around 2.45 am I could sense a burning smell in the air. I woke up and first searched my room. I then woke my brother up. We then saw the smoke rising... We then called up the fire brigade. I was able to place a call at 3.06 am but there was no response from the other side... I think had they been alert the loss would not have been this much. Police did arrive on time... The situation was very heart-rending."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over the loss of lives. He has announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh each for the next-of-kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured. Seven people have been killed and over 50 people were injured in the blaze that broke out in Jay Bha-



vani building around 3 am today. "Pained by the loss of lives due to a fire mishap in Mumbai's Goregaon. Condolences to the bereaved families. I pray that the injured recover soon. Authorities are providing all possible assistance to those affected. An ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh from PMNRF would be given to the next of kin of each deceased. The injured would be given Rs. 50,000," PM Modi posted on X (Formerly Twitter).

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde also expressed grief over the loss of lives in the fire and announced that the State government will provide monetary help of Rs 5 lakh to their families. "I am continuously talking with Municipal Commissioner and Police... What happened

is unfortunate. I express my condolences to those who died. The government will provide monetary help of Rs 5 lakhs to their families. Those who are injured will be given treatment by the government," Maharashtra CM said. Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said that he is in touch with the BMC and Mumbai Police officials to provide assistance. "Pained to know about the loss of lives in the fire incident at Goregaon, Mumbai. We are in touch with BMC and Mumbai Police officials and all the assistance is being provided. My deepest condolences to the families who lost their loved ones and wishing speedy recovery to the injured ones," Devendra Fadnavis posted on X. ANI

Nation

SC issues notice to Bihar Govt. over plea challenging a caste-based survey in the state



the Bihar government why they published the data. The court was hearing petitions challenging the Patna High Court's decision to uphold the caste survey initiated by the Bihar Government. The petitioner's lawyer has apprised the court that the Bihar Government has already published the caste survey data, prompting concerns and challenges from various quarters.

Among the petitioners are organizations like Ek Soch Ek Prayas and Youth for Equality, who have contested the legality and authority of the caste-based survey. The central government also entered the legal fray, filing an affidavit with the Supreme Court, emphasizing that the Census Act of 1948 bestows exclusive authority upon the Central Government to conduct census-related activities. ANI

The Supreme Court on Friday issued notice to the Bihar government on the plea challenging a caste-based survey in the state and refused to stay anything arising out of the publication of the data of the caste census. A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and SVN Bhatti made it clear that it is not going to stay anything at this point.

The court said that it cannot stop the state Government or any Government from taking a decision as that would be wrong. The court, however, said it would consider any issue with regard to data of caste-based survey and examine the issue regarding the power of the state Govt. to conduct such exercises. The court also sought to know from

Tamil Nadu sees a surge in dengue cases, Govt. hospital to setup special ward

With the number of dengue cases rising in the district, a special ward has been set up at the Madurai Government Rajaji Hospital to treat the patients affected by the disease. The officials say because of recent rains dengue has been spreading in the district.

As per official data, 79 dengue cases were reported in the

district in September. As part of a statewide drive to prevent the dengue spread, 129 medical camps were held in the Madurai district.

"Dengue fever is usually high in this month. Ten to 15 dengue cases per day have been reported. It is not a huge number currently. We expect the same thing to happen through this

October. We have prepared to face any number of cases, because six years before we had 300 cases per day in Madurai government hospital. Fortunately, we haven't many cases and don't have severe and serious cases," said Dr. Natraj from Madurai Government Rajaji Hospital. The special ward has more than a hundred beds. ANI

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Delhi: Air quality turns 'poor' level, Authorities asked to implement measure under GRAP stage I



With the air quality in Delhi dropping to the 'poor' level on Friday, authorities in the National Capital Region have been asked to strictly implement measures under "Stage 1" of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) which include a complete ban on the use of coal in roadside eateries, hotels and restaurants. At a meeting, the Centre's sub-committee on GRAP noted that there has been a "sudden dip" in air quality parameters in the region in the last 24 hours which pushed Delhi's AQI to 212 (poor category). "It is considered necessary to invoke Stage-I of

GRAP with immediate effect in the entire NCR in an effort to take steps to prevent further deterioration of air quality in the region," the Commission on Air Quality Management said in a statement. GRAP -- a set of anti-air pollution measures followed in the Delhi-NCR region in the winter season -- classifies actions under four different categories - Stage I - 'Poor' (AQI 201-300), Stage II - 'Very Poor' (AQI 301-400), Stage III - 'Severe' (AQI 401-450), and Stage IV - 'Severe Plus' (AQI >450). Under stage 1, authorities are also required to take penal and legal action against polluting industrial units. PTI

PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti said, "Country could not produce another Mahatma Gandhi in the last 75 years"



The country could not produce another Mahatma Gandhi in the last 75 years, but the BJP made many Nathuram Godses in the last decade, PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti said on Friday. Mufti was replying to a volley of questions about BJP's poster portraying Congress leader Rahul Gandhi as a 'new age Ravan'. Speaking to reporters here, Mufti said that any

person who would have put out a similar poster showing a BJP leader would have been "jailed immediately without any case or investigation" and would also be denied bail. In a poster on X, the Bharatiya Janata Party depicted Gandhi as a 'new age Ravan', triggering strong criticism from Congress that called it totally "unacceptable" and "downright dangerous". PTI

World

Russia's airstrikes on Ukraine's Kharkiv leaves ten year old dead



Russian forces launched a strike on a residential building in Ukraine's Kharkiv, killing a 10-year-old boy and injuring 26 on Friday, Al Jazeera reported quoting the regional governor. As per the Al Jazeera, Moscow's drones targeted port infrastructure in Odesa region which led to the damage of a grain silo near the Danube river.

The Ukrainian forces claimed that over 25 out of 33 HESA Shahed 136 drones targeted

Odesa, Kharkiv and five other regions in the country. This came hours after the Russian missile strike. Russian missile strike has resulted in the death of at least 50 people in a village near the eastern Ukrainian city of Kupiansk, marking one of the most devastating attacks on civilians since the conflict's onset, CNN reported. Ukrainian Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko said that Moscow's forces targeted a cafe and a shop in Hroza, located in

the Kharkiv region, just after midday local time (5 am ET).

The aftermath of the strike depicted scenes of emergency workers navigating through dense rubble, tending to the six individuals injured. Among the casualties were 29 victims whose bodies were identified, including a 6-year-old boy, with the other remains sent to facilities in the city of Kharkiv. Tragically, the missile struck when locals had gathered inside the store for a wake, resulting in a level of devastation unseen since a 2022 attack on a railway station in Kramatorsk that claimed the lives of at least 50 people, according to CNN.

Hroza, a village housing 330 people, suffered immense loss, with approximately one-fifth of its population wiped out in the attack. Ukrainian Interior Minister Klymenko decried the incident as "a terrible tragedy for Ukraine" and a "war crime committed by the Russians" that must be met with accountability. ANI

Geneva: Several rights activist urged for recognition of Bengalis in Bangladesh

Many rights activists urged for international recognition and awareness of the genocide of Bengalis in Bangladesh, then known as East Pakistan, in 1971 by the Pakistani Army, informed Global Human Rights Defence (GHRD). An event was organised, on the sidelines of the 54th session of the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), by Global Human Rights Defence, an international Non-Governmental Organisation based in The Hague, Netherlands.

Discussing the Genocide of Bengalis in Bangladesh, then known as East Pakistan, in 1971 by the Pakistani Army, the event began with a brief introduction of the issue at hand. With the intention of raising awareness and ensuring justice for the victims, the panellists provided their expert views on the issue from varied perspectives. With delegations including the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Belgium and the European Union (EU) present, this event reached a global audience with over 80 participants present in the room and many more watching online, the release added. To begin, GHRD Chairman, Shradhanand Sital

provided introductory remarks that reminded the room of the promise made in 1945 of "never again" after the Second World War. Despite this, such horrific crimes continue to happen time and again across the globe, including in Rwanda, the Balkans and Bangladesh, with no justice or reconciliation for the victims. He ultimately called for this issue to be of utmost priority for NGOs and members of the UN.

Next, Harry van Bommel, Dutch Politician and Human Rights Activist provided the findings of the Fact Finding Mission that visited Bangladesh in May 2023. Having discussed directly with victims and researchers of this genocide, he spoke with a 90-year-old woman who witnessed the killing of 43 people in her village by the Pakistani Army. He stated that the vast evidence of such crimes can lead to the conclusion that there was a Genocide in 1971. In the coming days, these findings will be taken to the European Parliament and other such institutions in order to seek international recognition and raise awareness of this crime while also involving the Bangladeshi diaspora in the process. ANI

Mumbai 26/11 terror attack: US Court allows accused Tahawwur Rana time to petition against extradition to India

US court allows Mumbai terror attack accused Tahawwur Rana more time to file motion against extradition to India A federal US court has allowed Pakistani-origin Canadian businessman Tahawwur Rana time till November 9 to file a motion against his extradition to India to face a trial in the 2008 Mumbai terror attack. In August, Rana, 62, had appealed before the Ninth Circuit Court against the order by a US District Court in the Central District of California that denied the writ of habeas corpus. The Ninth Circuit Court on Tuesday agreed to his request for more time to file his motion which was initially set for October 10. According to the latest court order, Rana's brief is now due on November 9 and the government's answer will be due on



December 11, 2023.

Earlier on August 18, the court had granted Rana's motion for a stay of extradition so that his appeal could be heard by the US Court of Appeals. Rana, who is currently detained at the Metropolitan Detention Centre in Los Angeles, faces multiple charges for his role in the Mumbai attacks and is known to be associated with Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman Headley, one of the main conspirators of the

26/11 strikes.

Following his request, Judge Fischer from the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit had asked Rana to submit his argument before October 10 and the US Government was asked to submit its response by November 8.

Judge Fischer wrote that Rana has shown that he is likely to suffer significant irreparable harm absent a stay. "He will be extradited to India for a trial on serious crimes with no hope for a review of his arguments or hope for his return to the United States. The government admits this but then argues that because this claimed irreparable harm applies categorically to any fugitive who seeks a stay of extradition pending appeal, it does not count," the judge had said. PTI

US: President Joe Biden says, "I don't believe in border walls work"

US President Joe Biden on Thursday said he doesn't believe border walls work. This comes as his administration said it will waive 26 laws to build additional border barriers in the Rio Grande Valley amid heightened political pressure over migration, CNN reported. As per a notice posted to the Federal Register on Wednesday, construction of the wall will be paid for using already appropriated funds earmarked specifically for physical border barriers. The administration was under a deadline to use them or lose them. But the move comes at a time when a new surge of migrants is straining federal and local resources and placing heavy political pressure on the Biden administration to address a sprawling crisis, and the notice

cited "high illegal entry."

Biden - who, as a candidate, vowed that there will "not be another foot" of border wall constructed on his watch - defended the decision to reporters on Thursday, saying that he tried to get the money appropriated for other purposes but was unsuccessful.

Biden told reporters in the Oval Office: "I'll answer one question on the border wall: The border wall - the money was appropriated for the border wall. I tried to get them to reappropriate it, to redirect that money. They didn't, they wouldn't. And in the meantime, there's nothing under the law other than they have to use the money for what it was appropriated. I can't stop that", reported CNN. Asked whether he believes the border wall works, Biden answered, "No." ANI

Expression

Haryana Public Service Commission Results: Has Haryana turned devoid of intelligentsia?



Jag Mohan Thakur

Columnist

In Sita Swayamvar, when no king could even move the Shiva's Dhanush, King Janak became distressed and said that I did not know that this earth has become devoid of brave men. Is there no such brave man on this earth who can break this Shiva Dhanush?

If we look at the examination results of the state's highest administrative service 'Haryana Civil Service' (HCS), recently released by the Haryana Public Service Commission (HPSC), then it seems that the soil of Haryana has become barren of intelligence and the youth of the state are rolling towards lower levels. Will the posts of this prestigious service of Haryana will remain vacant due to non-availability of the suitable candidates?

HPSC, under its advertisement number 11/2023, had invited applications for 95 posts for 'HCS Examination-2022' on February 9, 2023, for which more than ninety thousand candidates had applied. Only half of the applicants appeared in the preliminary examination and out of those who were successful in this examination, 1190 candidates appeared in the main examination held on 12-13 August. According to the main examination result released by the Commission on September 25, only 61 candidates for 95 posts have been considered eligible for interview as per the condition of the commission. So, will the remaining 34 posts remain vacant now? Are all the remaining applicants not found even eligible for interview? What are the conditions which the youth of Haryana are not able to fulfill?

The minimum qualifying marks requirement for HCS main examination remains a hindrance for the candidates. Four papers have to be passed in the main examination – English (100 marks), Hindi (100 marks), General Knowledge (200 marks) and any one optional paper (200 marks). It is mandatory to score minimum 33 percent marks in Hindi and English papers and minimum 45 percent marks in aggregate of all four papers combined. It is a very gloomy picture that in this main examination, out of 1190 candidates appeared, only 61 candidates were able to fulfill these conditions and the remaining 1129 candidates failed to cross this hurdle. What would be more ironical than this that some of the candidates could not even score minimum 33 percent marks in English and Hindi.

Such a situation has not arisen for the first time. Earlier, in the recruitment examination for 600 posts of Agricultural Development Officers (ADO), only 59 candidates were able to pass the examination. That is, 90 percent posts were left vacant due to unavailability of qualified candidates, whereas Chaudhary

Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University located in Hisar in the state is considered a leader in agricultural education and the students of this university have earned their name and fame in foreign countries also.

Why are the sufficient & efficient candidates not being found?

In the state of Haryana, which is consistently included in the statistics of top unemployed states, a long army of unemployed youth is always found standing in the queue to get jobs. During the recent Legislative Assembly session on August 29, 2023, in response to a question asked by Meham MLA Balraj Kundu, the Chief Minister of Haryana had said that at present 5.4 lakh unemployed youth are registered in the state to get jobs.

He also informed that as on July 31, 2023, a long queue of 1,03,265 graduates, 29,998 post graduates and 21,569 professional degree holders were registered in various employment offices of the state. The Legislative Assembly was informed that based on the Quarterly Bulletin (January-March 2023) of the Periodic Labor Force Survey conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, Government of India, the unemployment rate of Haryana is 8.8 per cent.

It is clear from the above government data that in Haryana alone, more than 1.5 lakh youth possess the prescribed eligibility for 'HCS' examination, who are registered in the employment offices. Apart from these, there are several thousand youth who possess the prescribed qualifications for this examination but do not register in the employment offices.

It is not that these people do not fill the forms for the posts. More than 90 thousand applicants had filled the forms for 95 posts of HCS recruitment alone, which means an average of one thousand applications for one post. Still even 95 candidates could not pass the recruitment exam, why so?

Has the education system in the educational institutions of Haryana become so poor that the students coming out from here are not able to score only 33 percent marks in English and Hindi papers and even 45 percent marks in aggregate? Or have students become so discouraged after seeing the long lines of unemployed that they have given up hope and studying? Do they not believe in the slogan of Chief Minister Manohar Lal "No expenditure – No slip" (No Kharchi – No Parchi)? Despite the Chief Minister's repeated claims, is there still some 'Kharchi – Parchi' system going on inside, which is visible to the public but is hidden from the Chief Minister's sight? Is it not the effect of 'Eating Milk and Curd' of Haryana that by drinking buffalo milk, the bodies of the youth are becoming strong, but the mind is becoming incapacitated? Is that why wrestlers and players of Haryana are winning medals, but students are lagging behind in ability? But it is not so at all, because every year the youth of Haryana are securing places in the first line of successful candidates in the



country's highest and most difficult 'IAS' examination. Then what is the reason?

It seems that the recruitment examination system of the state itself is faulty. The government should pay more attention to this so that the youth of the state can get jobs and lakhs of vacant posts in the state can be filled, so that the public can get relief. It has even been seen that at some places each Tehsildar or SDM has the charge of two places, due to which public works remain in limbo.

What the leaders of opposition parties allege?

Kumari Selja, National General Secretary of All India Congress Committee, former Union Minister and former State President of Haryana Congress, says, "Even today 01 lakh 82 thousand 497 posts are vacant in Haryana. A total of 04 lakh 45 thousand 849 posts are sanctioned in the government departments of the state, out of which only 2 lakh 62 thousand 497 posts are filled. In this examination for HCS, a total of 61 candidates have been shown to have passed the main examination for 95 posts of HCS, it smacks of rigging, rules are being changed for their favourites. The rule says that three times the number of candidates is called for interview against the total number of posts."

Selja alleges, "Today Haryana Public Service Commission remains the crown of scams. Question papers of the examinations conducted by them have been leaking, most of the questions from previous question papers have been repeated in the question papers, making the examination a joke. Question papers of various competitive examinations have been leaked more than 40 times. Instead of taking action against such institutions, the government is busy protecting them, in such a situation the candidates have to approach the court."

Attacking the poor education system of Haryana, Kumari Selja says in a statement issued on September 25 that more than 28 thousand posts are lying vacant in government schools. She says that 60 percent posts of professors and assistant professors are lying vacant in government colleges. The condition of the universities is even worse.

Haryana State President of Aam Aadmi Party and Rajya Sabha MP Dr. Sushil Gupta said that there should be a high-level inquiry into the matter as to how only 61 candidates out of 1190 candidates appeared in the main examination were considered eligible for the interview. After all, on what basis was the interview list prepared?

Dr. Gupta said that there is a rule to call at least 3 candidates for one post, but the HPSC results dashed the hopes of

the youth. He said that Haryana Public Service Commission has left no stone unturned to harass the youth. Even before this, HPSC paper was leaked, whereas in the previous exam, 38 questions were repeated.

Gupta said that Aam Aadmi Party demands rechecking of the mains exam paper. After all, how were 14 candidates in 1500 series roll number and 13 candidates of 1900 series roll number given place in the final list?

What should be the solution?

When more than 28 thousand posts are lying vacant in government schools, 60 percent posts of professors and assistant professors are lying vacant in government colleges, universities are also facing shortage of staff, so how will the students be able to compete in the competitive examinations. The government should not skimp on teacher recruitment. There is definitely some truth in the allegations being made by the opposition leaders, the government must improve its education system. Along with this, the examination system of Haryana Public Service Commission and Staff Selection Commission also should be under investigation as to how the papers are being set at such a difficult level or paper checking is being done on such a strict scale that candidates are not able to even get passing marks.

An HCS aspirant says, "The Haryana Public Service Commission should also reconsider the condition of minimum prescribed marks. Our neighbouring state Rajasthan has set the condition of minimum 10 percent marks for different subjects in the main examination and 15 percent minimum marks in the aggregate of all the papers for its state level services. In comparison, Haryana's condition of minimum 45 percent aggregate marks appears to be more oppressive."

This allegation of Congress leader Kumari Selja should also be taken seriously, in which she has said that 'it smacks of rigging, rules are being changed for the benefit of one's favourites'. The rule says that three times the number of candidates is called for interview than the total number of posts. But, conclusively the fault does not lie with the government or the commission alone, the youth of Haryana should also prepare themselves seriously for a prestigious service like Haryana Civil Service. Whatever may have been the shortcoming at some steps, the government and the commission will have to keep their credibility clean.

Entertainment



Actor Bhumi Pednekar says, "I'm pinching myself seeing all love coming my way" over performance of the new movie release

Actor Bhumi Pednekar's performance in 'Thank You For Coming' is being appreciated by many. In Karan Boolani's directorial, she essays the lead role alongside Shehnaaz Gill, Shibani Bedi, Kusha Kapila, and Dolly Singh. The movie revolves around five friends and their tryst with the concept of female sexual pleasure.

On receiving an overwhelming response over her role, Bhumi said, "The fact that I have been compared to all-time acting greats like Carole Lombard and Goldie Hawn by the media for my performance in Thank You For Coming is a hugely gratifying validation that will forever be special for me. I can't believe that people are saying that I have delivered a performance of a lifetime. I'm still pinching myself reading all the love coming my way and I'm very happy about it."

She added, "As an actor, I have only wanted to swim against the tide. The greater the challenge, the harder the task at hand, the more the opportunity to break the norm, this kind of environment is my thriving spot. I'm hugely grateful to all the film-makers who have seen me to be actor who will always try and go that extra mile for their vision." Bhumi also thanked the makers for believing in her. "I'm fortunate to have found an incredibly talented director in Karan Boolani and gifted, visionary producers in Rhea Kapoor and Ekta Kapoor in Thank You For Coming. They have given me a film of a lifetime and I couldn't thank them enough. It is an important film for everyone to see - girls and boys because it talks about something that is extremely important and relevant. A girl has her rights. A woman has her rights. And she should be celebrated for exercising those rights. TYFC is a celebration of the spirit of womanhood and I'm incredibly proud that I have headlined this movie and been a vehicle to communicate this important message," she emphasised. **ANI**

Actor Akshay Kumar revealed over movies related to real-life incident, says "I like doing films that make an impact on society"

Actor Akshay Kumar is known for making films inspired by real-life incidents or characters. Be it 'Padman', 'Kesari', 'Airlift', 'Bell Bottom', 'Rustom', and 'Gold' the actor has delivered a number of true incident-based hit films.

On Friday, during a press conference, Akshay revealed that he loves doing films based on real-life incidents. "I personally enjoy doing these (real-life incident) kinds of cinemas which can make an impact on society, I like those kinds of cinema. But also I would not say I won't do 'Welcome', or 'Hera Pheri' I like doing those films too, but this also I enjoy the most," he said. **ANI**



South actor Venkatesh Daggubati new action avatar movie's poster released



After the release date announcement, the makers of 'Saindhav' continue to captivate audiences with new announcements. Actor Venkatesh Daggubati on Friday unveiled the new poster on social media. Taking to Instagram, Venkatesh shared an intriguing poster of himself and captioned it, "#SaindhavOnJAN13th[?]."

In the poster, seems like Venkatesh is ready for action as he holds guns in his hands and carried an intense look. As soon as the actor uploaded the poster, fans and followers chimed in the comment section. One of the users wrote, "Victory Venkatesh." Another commented, "Looks." Venkatesh on Thursday treated fans with a release date announcement poster. Sharing the poster, he wrote, "Sankranthi ki kaluddhaam#SAINDHAV #SaindhavOnJAN13th." **ANI**

Imran Khan, who has been away from films for almost 8 years, is now back in the spotlight, courtesy of his candid Instagram posts. On Friday, he shared his throwback pictures on Instagram and made some revelations. He opened up about taking steroids to bulk up as he thought he was often criticised for his skinny body.

"I'm one of those hyper-metabolic people, my body just burns through whatever I consume. Oh no, what a terrible affliction! In my late teens, guys around me started joining gyms and working out. They started to expand, their biceps stretching the sleeves of their t-shirts. I wore a size S, and my sleeves were still loose," he said about his body type. "I didn't need to be muscular to play Jai Singh Rathore (his character in Jaane Tu Ya Jaane Naa)... but I was convinced that I was too skinny, which is why Jai mostly wears two layers of clothing throughout Jaane Tu. For my next film, Kidnap, I hit the gym in earnest, and began my journey with body building," he revealed. He further recalled how people used to pass nasty comments at him as he was skinny.

"Over the next few years, the sculpting and maintenance of my body became part of my lifestyle. I worked out regularly, but still I would hear 'So... you'll bulk up a bit before we start shooting, right?'; 'You're looking weak', 'You look like a little boy, not a man', and 'The heroine looks bigger than you' (ouch for both of us)," he added. **ANI**



Actor Imran Khan opens up about his roles for the film says, "I was told heroines look bigger than you..."