



**Dussehra rally 2023: Shinde Shiv Sena faction withdraws its**

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# Afternoon

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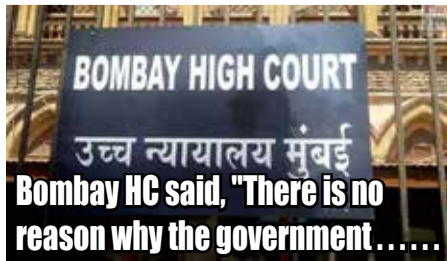
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**BOMBAY HIGH COURT**  
उच्च न्यायालय मुंबई  
**Bombay HC said, "There is no reason why the government .....**

Page 04



**Delhi excise policy case: Rouse Avenue Court.....**

Page 05



**rael-Gaza conflict: Hamas threatens....**

Page 06



**Canadian-American actor open's up about .....**

Page 08



## Dy CM Ajit Pawar talks about inspiration from leaders but does not utter a word of NCP chief Sharad Pawar

**A**jit Pawar, who heads one of the factions of the NCP, on Tuesday described himself as the party's national president and defended his move of joining the Eknath Shinde-led Maharashtra government, saying several top politicians took "different" stand in the political history of the state. In a statement issued to mark the completion of his being 100 days in office as the state deputy chief minister, he called Maharashtra's first chief minister late Yashwantrao Chavan as his source of inspiration. However, he did not mention the name of his uncle and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) founder Sharad Pawar.

Sharad Pawar, 82, considers Yashwantrao Chavan as his political mentor. Ajit Pawar took oath as the deputy chief minister of the state on July 2, the day he joined the Shiv Sena-Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government along with eight other NCP MLAs. In his open statement, he said the Maharashtra government was committed to the economic empowerment of all sections of the society, and added that the NCP would work vigorously to achieve the goal. In the statement, Pawar, who described himself as the national president of the NCP, said employment, economic empowerment of all sections of the societv.

welfare measures were the priority of the government.

"NCP is committed to achieving these goals by using the medium of power. Criticism is part and parcel of any politician's life. I always take cognisance of constructive criticism. I believe in positive and developmental politics. Taking any work to its logical end and bringing positive changes in the lives of people is what I believe in," he said.

The NCP believes in the ideals of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Mahatma Phule, Shahu Maharaj, Dr B R Ambedkar and Yashwantrao Chavan. Under my leadership, the party will continue this legacy. Pawar said.

"In the political history of Maharashtra, several top leaders have taken a different political stand. Every political leader takes a stand depending on the prevailing political and social situation," he said. "NCP, under my leadership, took a similar position on July 2, 2023 and joined the state government," he added. He also laid claim to the legacy of Yashwantrao Chavan, saying the state's first chief minister inspires him to work for the welfare of people. The NCP will work for farmers, youth, women and for protecting the rights of different sections of the society, he said. "We have trodden on this path for 100 days and will continue to do so." he said. **PTI**

## Journey of the Award Ceremony, celebrating the efforts of achievers

**Editoritis**



**Dr. Vaidehi**

**I**n that award event Shri Babasaheb Purandare and Lata Mangeshkarji and Mandakini Amte (popularly known as Manda Amte) were presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Shri Babasaheb Purandare was a renown historian who has truly protected the history of Shivaji Maharaj. Though his health was not good, even at the age of 100, he showed spirit and the desire to travel all the way from Pune to Mumbai. He attended the event and gracefully accepted the award. He arrived without any terms and conditions or demands of monetary benefits. His presence was inspiring to everyone in the venue. Though Lata Mangeshkarji, due to her ill-health was unable to be at the venue in person, she had sent us her voice recording which was played at the venue for all to hear. Her kind words in that mellifluous voice shall always be in our hearts and memory.

Mandatai Amte, though occupied in her social commitments, made time for the event and was kind enough to attend after just one phone call. Other dignitary like Devendra Fadnavis was selected for the Best Performing Politician of the Year award. Though Devendra Fadnavis is the most sought after and guarded politician of Maharashtra, he calmly entered the premises and sat down in the audience without throwing any tantrums. His respectful conduct and elite presence observed by all as such humble approach truly sets a benchmark. He is man of masses; he understands his duties towards people. Politician of his strata made full time presence in the auditorium. Greeted everyone out there, allowed them to take photos with him. And left wishing us all great future ahead. His presence was so prominent that when he left there was vacuum.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 02**

# Editoritis

# Journey of the Award Ceremony, celebrating the efforts of achievers

▶▶▶ PAGE 1

*Koshyariji actually started wholeheartedly participating in the event and was happy to see the unique mélange of dignitaries. In spite of his primary condition to leave early*

*2022 award function is special for us as we have tried to make a small difference in the lives of acid attack victims and sex workers daughters' lives. By lending a helping hand to them we are hoping rebuild their lives.*

*This depicts my struggle of keeping my newspaper above everything. The lady is dreamy, she has beautiful golden crown on her head, sign of a reward of victory or mark of honor.*

Once the award event started, Koshyariji actually started wholeheartedly participating in the event and was happy to see the unique mélange of dignitaries. In spite of his primary condition to leave early, he sat through the whole event, continued to encourage the show and gave awards to everyone. He extended his enthusiastic support and motivation towards the event. He applauded all the awardees for their achievements and wished them greater success. In this event, we could see how Governor Koshyariji's down-to-earth approach and his connect to all the people from varied social strata.

Iqbal Singh Chahal, Pratap Dighavkar, Vithal Kamat, Mrunalini Deshmukh, Prof. Vasant Shinde, Rohan Dua, Khalil Sharif Girkar, Sanjay Jog, Sushant Sinha, Narendra Wable, Dr Neelam Gorhe, Narhari Zirwal, Dhananjay Shinde, Manoj Bajpayee, Rajshri Deshpande, Chetan Sashital, Rashmi Mishra, Sunil Kadasne, Usha Patel were rest of the awardees for this year.

2022, Newmakers Achievers Award was another mile stone. This time Dr Prabha Atre, Shri Ved Pratap Vaidik, Smt Nadira Babbar, Shri Hemant Nagrale, Shri Tirath Singh Rawat, Smt Kishori Pednekar, Dr Ashish Chauhan, Adv Prashant Mali, Shri Riteshwar Maharaj, Dr Zinal Shah, Prof. Ajay Kumar, Ms. Ojas Rajani and journalists Ms Santoshee Mishra, Ms Poulomi Saha, Shri Vinod Kumar Menon, Shri Chaitanya Marpakwar, Shri Manjul, Shri Rafique Mulla, Shri Nayandeep Rakshit, Ms Zoya Lobo and TV personalities Ms Shreya Bugde Sheth, Priyanshu Kshatriya, Hardika Sharma, Azinkya Mishra were given awards. Honorable DCM Devendra Fadnavis was the Chief guest of the programme. That day he has his rallies in outskirts of Mumbai. He still took out the time and presented the lifetime achievement awards. Maharashtra is one big state, here we need people's leader to rule us. Devendraji cares for public sentiments and state needs such humble yet skilled working politician. Same year, Shree Sharad Pawar was also given lifetime achievement award, he assured me that he will come to receive the award but at eleventh hour he didn't turn up. His award was delivered to him at his office, he gave us enough time to talk, understand and acknowledge. He is one grassroot level senior leader Maharashtra has.

In 15 years of award journey, around 400 people from different states and different walks of life received "Newmakers Achievers Award". 2022 award function is special for us as we have tried to make a small difference in the lives of acid attack victims and sex workers daughters' lives. By lending a helping hand to them we are hoping rebuild their lives.

2023, Newmakers Achiever Award is even more interesting with excellent election of awardees. Iqbal Durrani Writer, director, and producer who has translated 'Samaveda', an ancient Vedic Sanskrit text to Hindi and Urdu. Durrani believes that the framework and style of 'Samaveda' is of a prayer, which involves entreaty, purity, humility, complaint and surrender as if a person is asking God for knowledge

and for self-confidence. Durrani, accepted the invite on one call, not only that he communicates with me on daily basis if any help needed. Another life time awardee is Ms Asha Parekh Indian actress, film director, and producer who appeared in many commercially successful films throughout her career. She was the highest paid actress of her time and was one of the most successful actresses of the 1960s and 1970s. Aanjan Srivastav, Raza Murad both are verticals actors and skillful artists.

List continues as : Best IAS Officer - Muhammad Aijaj Asad, Best IAS Officer - Pandurang Kondabarao Pole, Best Spiritual Guide - Gauranga Das, Best Doctor - Lt Col (Retd) Dr LC Verma, Best Classical Dancer - Jhelum Paranjape, Best Social Activist (Transgender) - Gauri Suresh Sawant, Best Author - Jitendra Dixit, Best Author - Tushar Gandhi, Best Social Worker - Ashok Kurmi, Best Social Activist - Somnath Bose, Best Sportsperperson - Priya Singh Meghwal, Best Working Politician (AAP) - Sanjay Singh, Best Working Politician (BJP) - Bharati Lavekar, Best Journalist - Paranjay Guha Thakurta, Best News Presenter - Sakshi Joshi, Best Editor - Sanjay Raut, Best Journalist - Gaurav Mishra, Best Journalist Association - Raja Mane, Best Journalist (Print) - Hari Mrudul, Best Photojournalist - Naval Hans. Best Comic Show Presenter - Dr Nilesh Sabale, Best Child Artist - Puvika Gupta, Best Sitar Player - Pt. Niladri Kumar, Best Versatile Actress - Divya Dutta.

The award event will continue year after year as long as good people exist on earth. We will try to pick all those people who brought change. Purpose behind writing this book was to introduce you to the motive behind this award event and also my jigsaw journey into journalism.

### Story behind the "Newmakers Achievers Award Trophy"

The trophy is very heavy, it weighs more than two KG. it is beautifully designed with a narrative. she is a lady holding her banner up above keeping her head high. This depicts my struggle of keeping my newspaper above everything. The lady is dreamy, she has beautiful golden crown on her head, sign of a reward of victory or mark of honor. If you crown your career with a success or achievement, you have a final success or achievement which is greater than all the others you have had. This year we have given small necklace around her neck, that is sing of luxury, womanhood and prosperity. Who so ever receive this award I want them to remind of three things "Hard work, success and celebration".

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**Dr. Vaidehi**

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

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## To Enhance Your Public Speaking Skills



- Vijay Garg

Public speaking is a valuable skill that can open doors to numerous opportunities in both personal and professional life. Whether you're giving a presentation at work, speaking at a social event, or addressing a large audience, improving your public speaking skills can boost your confidence and effectiveness as a communicator.

Becoming a proficient public speaker is achievable with dedication and practice. Whether you're a seasoned speaker looking to refine your skills or a novice starting from scratch, these seven strategies will help you build confidence and become a more effective communicator.

### Practice, Practice, Practice:

The adage "practice makes perfect" holds true for public speaking. Regularly practicing your speeches or presentations allows you to become more comfortable with the material and delivery. Practice in front of a mirror, record yourself, or rehearse with friends and family to gain valuable feedback.

### Master Your Material:

Knowing your content inside and out is essential. Understand the topic thoroughly, and organize your speech logically with a clear beginning, middle, and end. This familiarity will make it easier to handle questions or unexpected situations during your presentation.

### Overcome Nervousness:

It's normal to feel nervous before speaking in public, but learning to manage those nerves is crucial. Try deep breathing exercises, visualization techniques, or

mindfulness to calm your anxiety. Remember, a little nervousness can be a positive energy boost.

### Engage Your Audience:

Captivate your audience by making your presentation interactive. Use anecdotes, ask questions, and encourage participation when appropriate. Engaging with your audience creates a connection and keeps them interested in what you have to say.

### Work on Your Body Language:

Non-verbal communication plays a significant role in public speaking. Maintain good posture, make eye contact with your audience, and use gestures and facial expressions to emphasize key points. A confident demeanor can enhance your credibility.

### Use Visual Aids Wisely:

Visual aids, such as slides or props, can enhance your presentation, but use them sparingly and effectively. Ensure that your visuals complement your speech rather than overshadow it. Avoid cramming too much information onto slides and maintain a clear, concise design.

### Seek Constructive Feedback:

Continuously improving your public speaking skills requires feedback. After each presentation, ask for constructive criticism from peers, mentors, or even your audience. Use their input to identify areas for improvement and refine your skills.

## Letters to the Editor

### Goregaon fire mishap does not come as a surprise!

The Goregaon fire mishap which killed 7 innocent lives does not come as a surprise as most buildings in the city are death traps where 'Occupancy Certificates' (OC) have been issued without safety measures in place by bribing officials. Fire & lift mishaps claim several lives each year but the authorities have remained silent because they are responsible for most tragedies which can easily be avoided.

Stringent laws are the need of the hour & authorities who issue 'OC' should be made accountable wherever safety measures have been breached. Multi-storey buildings are highly risky & their plans need to be passed keeping various safety parameters in mind. RERA which is a regulatory body for construction activities should follow stringent guidelines for safety so that future mishaps can be avoided!

S.N.Kabra

### Israel-Palestine escalation

Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi stands with other countries in their happiness and sorrow, and it is appreciable work. There is a tweet from PM Narendra Modi regarding the Israel-Palestine conflict. "Deeply shocked by the news of terrorist attacks in Israel. Our thoughts and prayers are with the innocent victims and their families. We stand in solidarity with Israel at this difficult hour." It is surprising that our honorable PM expressed shock within a few hours of the incident but remained silent on the dire situation in Manipur. When Manipur was burning, humanity was being slaughtered, but there was no sympathy to be expressed for it, which is part of our country, and he didn't express condolences regarding the incident that occurred at the dispensary in Nanded, Maharashtra. What kind of love and humanity is this for our country?

Jahangir Ali

### Reality Can Not Be Concealed

A Congress leader has filed a petition in a court against BJP national president JP Nadda and party's IT cell incharge Amit Malviya over a social media post

by the saffron party, showing party leader Rahul Gandhi as 'a new age Ravan'. "The accused publicised the post deliberately with ill-intention on October 5 and the aim of the accused is to insult and to harm the goodwill of Congress and people associated with it and to make political gains," the plea said. The Congress party has protested against the poster at several places across the country. It has been BJP's tradition to blame other parties and to divert people's attention from concerning issues. BJP's leaders can do whatsoever they want but if an opposition leader points out reality he will be arrested. It is full strive of suppressing the truth and concealing the actuality that is condemnable.

TKR.Noori

### 'Google map' can turn dangerous

Two young doctors were drowned to death when their car carrying a five-member group fell into an overflowing river in Ernakulam district, Kerala. As they were not familiar with the route, they were traveling following the directions using Google Maps. The locals could save three of the passengers.

A study reveals that many a times people get involved in such accidents while travel-

ling, following the directions of Google maps which sometimes show wrong routes and put passenger's life in danger.

Though navigation map does help in hassle free driving sometimes it can lead drivers to death too. Google map do not show when there are instances of road 'reroute' in localities. Sometimes the map may show short cuts which may not be fit enough for travelling. There may be dangers of fallen trees and electric posts on the roads which the map may not show resulting in fatalities, especially during heavy downpour, when drivers use such routes. Hindrances in GPS signal can also lead to danger.

Using GPS routes can be saved and used before commencing a journey. Making use of 'add stop' can avoid confusion while choosing a route. Also while traveling to new places seeking help from locals or police is the best way to reach one's destination safely.

M Pradyu

Readers are requested to mail Letters to the Editor only at

[afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com](mailto:afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com)

No postal letters will be entertained

(The views expressed are authors' own)

## Bombay HC said, "There is no reason why the government should not have a "draconian" provision" over issue of rehabilitation tenements



Wholesale racketeering in Mumbai and illegal trafficking in rehabilitation tenements was causing a colossal loss, the Bombay High Court has said. It is now necessary to find means by which the state government and the Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA) are vested with summary powers to evict those who are not original allottees, a division bench of Justices Gautam Patel and Kamal Khata said on Monday. The court said it sees no reason why the government should not have a "draconian" provision to take back such tenements and use them for other public purposes. "If there was such illegal trafficking in rehab tenements then we see no

reason why the SRA and the state government should not have a provision, draconian though it may be, in support of the primacy of the rule of law to ensure that those premises are resumed by SRA or the state in vacant possession condition," it said.

"They can possibly be used as PAP (project affected persons) houses or for other public purposes. In a city that is chronically starved of adequate affordable housing, it seems to us utterly balanced to permit individuals to profiteer at public expense like this," the court said. The HC, which was hearing a plea filed by 89 people seeking disbursement of transit rent, noted that several

of the original tenants had illicitly sold/ transferred the rehab premises or illicitly given them on rent or license basis. Some steps need to be taken regarding these illegal transfers of SRA's rehab tenements, the bench said. The allotment of free-of-cost ownership rehab housing is supposedly accompanied by a transfer restriction, that is no transfers for 10 years, the court said.

"The SRA does not seem to have any mechanism in place at all for controlling these transfers. If it does, it is not working, because otherwise we would not have these cases," the HC said. The court said Aadhaar-based and biometric authentication is one possible solution, but it is now necessary to find means by which the SRA and the state government are vested with summary powers to evict any person who is not the original allottee and not a heir of the allottee and is impermissibly in occupation and possession of a free of cost ownership rehab tenement. "We say this because it seems to us that there is wholesale racketeering in this city and trafficking in rehab tenements. The loss is colossal," the HC said. PTI

## Dussehra rally 2023: Shinde Shiv Sena faction withdraws its application for 'Shivaji Park'

The Shiv Sena led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has decided to withdraw its application submitted to the Mumbai civic body seeking permission to hold a rally on Dussehra at the iconic Shivaji Park ground here, a party MLA said on Tuesday afternoon. Shiv Sena MLA Sada Sarvankar, in a post on X (formerly Twitter), said the ruling party is withdrawing the application on Shinde's directive and termed it as a conciliatory move aimed at ensuring the Hindu festival is celebrated with enthusiasm.

The ruling party and the opposition Shiv Sena (UBT) led by former chief minister Uddhav Thackeray had submitted separate applications to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) seeking nod to hold their Dussehra rally at the sprawling ground in Dadar, a civic official said. The BMC received an application on October 1 from Sarvankar and another one from the Shiv Sena (UBT) central office on October 7 for permission to organise their respective rally at the site, the official told PTI.



On Tuesday, Sarvankar announced the decision to withdraw the application and said his party's rally will be held somewhere else. "This year too Shiv Sena's Dussehra festival should be celebrated with enthusiasm. To avoid differences among each other during Hindu festivals, Shiv Sena leader and Maharashtra Chief Minister Honourable Eknath Shinde Saheb took a conciliatory stance by announcing that the Dussehra rally will be held elsewhere," the MLA from Mahim wrote on X.

Shiv Sena founder late Bal Thackeray had started the tradition of holding his party's Dussehra rally at the Shivaji Park. This year Dussehra will be celebrated on October 24. PTI

## Man breaks into BMW, steals valuables worth Rs 24 lakh; held



A man allegedly broke into a BMW and decamped with cash, gold and diamond jewellery worth Rs 24 lakh in the western suburb of Bandra here, police said on Tuesday. The police on Monday nabbed the accused Abhimanyu Arjun Gupta alias Rinku (31), a history-sheeter, for the theft that took place outside Lilavati Hospital on October 7, an official said.

The complainant had parked his car with a bag inside containing cash, gold and diamond jew-

ellery. When he returned to the spot after three hours, he found the car window broken and the bag missing, he said. The police scanned CCTV footage from the area and with the help of technical evidence, zeroed in on the accused and recovered valuables worth Rs 24 lakh, the official said. The accused has multiple cases to his name at police stations in Navi Mumbai, Palghar and Thane districts, and with this arrest, the police have detected three theft cases, he said. PTI

## Government sanctions disbursement of Rs 1,720 crore to farmers under 'Shetkari yojna' scheme

The Maharashtra government on Tuesday sanctioned the disbursement of Rs 1,720 crore to farmers as the first tranche of funds under the Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi Yojana. A Government Resolution (GR) to this effect was issued by the state Agriculture Department which stated the amount will be deposited in the

bank accounts of cultivators.

This new financial scheme under which more than 1 crore farmers in the state will be paid Rs 6,000 annually was approved at a Cabinet meeting in May. The scheme was announced in the 2023-24 budget by Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, who was holding the finance portfolio at that time. Chief Min-

ister Eknath Shinde had said the amount (Rs 6,000 to be paid to farmers annually by the state) is in addition to Rs 6,000 paid in instalments per year by the Centre under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana. Though the Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi Yojana was announced in the 2023-24 budget, the funds were not disbursed. PTI

## Aftab Shivdasani loses Rs 1.50 lakh due to online fraud

Bollywood actor Aftab Shivdasani became a victim of cyber fraud and lost Rs 1.50 lakh after he received a text message in which he was asked to update his Know Your Customer (KYC) details linked to a leading private sector bank, police said on Tuesday. The incident took place on Sunday and a case in

this connection was registered the next day, an official of Bandra police station said.

"The actor received a message from a mobile number unknown to him. In the message, he was instructed to update his KYC details linked to the bank, failing which his account will be suspended. Shivdasani clicked on the link men-

tioned in the message. As he followed the instructions, he received a message that Rs 1,49,999 were debited from his account," he said. A case under sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including 420 (cheating) and sections of the Information Technology (IT) Act was registered and further investigation was underway, he added. PTI

## Nation

### West Bengal: Sundarbans region records the world's highest drowning mortality rate: Report



West Bengal's Sundarbans region has recorded the world's highest drowning mortality rate of 243 per lakh population among children in the age group of one to four in three years prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a study. The study, which was conducted from 2016 to 2019, also found that the region has a mortality rate of 38.8 per lakh population among children aged between five and nine. The study was conducted in 19 blocks – 13 in South 24 Parganas district and six in North 24 Parganas – of the region on incidents reported

from October 2016 to September 2019. It was recently published.

"There was no difference in the mortality rates among boys and girls. Most children drowned in ponds within 50 metres of their homes when they were unaccompanied by their primary caretakers who were engaged in household work," it said. The survey was carried out by non-governmental organisation Child in Need Institute (CINI), in partnership with global agencies Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) and The George Institute (TGI) to gauge the enormity of the problem of drowning among children

in the coastal Sundarbans region. Sundarbans is a mangrove region in southeastern part of West Bengal and southwestern region of Bangladesh. In the Indian part, Sundarbans is spread over 100 islands and has around 40 lakh inhabitants.

Of the total population, around 15.9 per cent are children aged between one and nine. Many settlements are remote and far away from medical establishments. Water level in the waterbodies of Sundarbans increase during monsoon, while the coastal region is also increasingly experiencing incidents of flooding over the last four to five years. West Bengal's Sundarbans Affairs Minister Bankim Chandra Hazra acknowledged the problem of drowning of children and said that the state government is trying to address the issue. "We have no hesitation in admitting that there have been incidents of deaths of children by drowning. However, we do not have a detailed report," Hazra told PTI.

### Delhi excise policy case: Rouse Avenue Court extends ED custody of AAP MP Sanjay Singh



The Rouse Avenue Court here on Tuesday extended the Enforcement Directorate custody of Aam Aadmi Party MP Sanjay Singh till October 13 in connection with the now-scrapped Delhi liquor policy case. The senior leader of AAP was produced in the court after his five days of ED custody got over today.

ED had sought five days of further custody on grounds that Singh is not cooperating, and not telling about his old phone. "His close associate Sarvesh Mishra is also not cooperating," ED told the court. The agency also said that material collected shows that

a bribe was demanded to clear liquor licences. Sanjay Singh was arrested on October 4, after a day-long questioning by the ED officials at his Delhi residence. Later, on October 5, the Court sent Sanjay Singh to remand till October 10, 2023, in connection with the Delhi excise policy case. Allegedly, Sanjay Singh's party colleague and former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia is also involved in the same liquor policy scam. He is currently lodged in jail in connection with the same. The former Delhi Deputy CM and excise minister was first arrested by the CBI on February 26 for his alleged role in the scam. ANI

### Manipur communal violence: Curfew relaxation gets cancelled in moreh town

Tengnoupal district authorities in Manipur cancelled the daily curfew relaxation in the Indo-Myanmar border town of Moreh. An order issued by the District Magistrate of Tengnoupal Krishan Kumar on Monday said that daily curfew relaxation from 6 am to 5 pm to facilitate the general public to purchase essential items including medicines and food is "cancelled with immediate effect till further orders as there is a

likelihood of gathering of public." However, curfew relaxation in the rest of the district will remain from 6 am to 5 pm, it said.

On Monday, large groups of the mob gathered in the Kuki-dominated town and started to clean market sheds previously used by the Meitei community so as to use them following which security forces intervened triggering altercations and tension, official sources said. PTI

### Tourists stranded from Lachen and Lachung in North Sikkim was evacuated by forces

The evacuation of stranded tourists from Lachen and Lachung in North Sikkim was resumed by the armed forces on Tuesday with the weather remaining clear for the second day, officials said. Around 95 stranded people were brought from Lachung and Lachen by choppers. The first group from Lachung included 17 tourists and two lo-

cals of Lachung village. The choppers made two sorties to the area in the morning. Those from Lachung were being brought to Pakyong Airport near Gangtok. The first batch of 76 stranded people including two children were evacuated from Lachen by helicopters in three sorties. They were brought to Ringhim Helipad, Mangan. PTI

### Delhi: Man arrested for killing another person due to revenge

Delhi police has arrested a person for allegedly killing a man in the city's Dev Nagar area to settle his old score with him, said Delhi Police on Tuesday. The alleged killing happened on the intervening night of November 4-5. According to the police, the accused shot the man dead in revenge for the "public humiliation" that he suffered from the latter.

Delhi Police said that in the intervening night of 04-05.10.2023, at about 1.50 AM, a PCR call was received at Police Station Prasad Nagar wherein the caller informed that his friend was shot at outside Gali No. 1, Krishna Nagar, Dev Nagar, Delhi. Immediately, Police teams rushed to the spot and found that the injured person had been shifted to BLK Hospital. The victim was identified as Keshav Kakkar, 32 who succumbed to his injuries during treatment at the hospital.



Delhi Police said that in the intervening night of 04-05.10.2023, at about 1.50 AM, a PCR call was received at Police Station Prasad Nagar wherein the caller informed that his friend was shot at outside Gali No. 1, Krishna Nagar, Dev Nagar, Delhi. Immediately, Police teams rushed to the spot and found that the injured person had been shifted to BLK Hospital. The victim was identified as Keshav Kakkar, 32 who succumbed to his injuries

during treatment at the hospital.

The police team enquired about the details of the incident from the friends of the deceased and through that the name of Vishal emerged as the alleged accused. Thereafter, the team gathered more information about the alleged accused Vishal through technical surveillance, local informers and by scanning of his previous criminal record. On the basis of available information, local informers were activated. According to the police, the cumbersome efforts of the team yielded positive result soon as a secret information was received by the team that alleged accused Vishal alias Pawan was making an effort to escape from Delhi and in that process, he was going to meet one of his friends in the area of Zafrabad. After waiting there for hours, the team noticed the presence of Vishal and acting swiftly apprehended him. ANI

World

# Israel-Gaza conflict: Hamas threatens of major rocket attack

As the ongoing conflict between Israel and terrorist group Hamas grows tense, the spokesperson for Hamas's Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades, Abu Obeida, has threatened the Israel's coastal city of Ashkelon with a major rocket barrage in the coming hours, The Times of Israel reported. The Hamas leader has also asked the residents to leave their homes in order to not fall victim to the attacks.

"In response to the enemy's crime of displacing our people and forcing them to flee their homes in several areas of the Gaza Strip, we give the residents of the occupied city of Ashkelon a deadline to leave before 5 p.m.," Abu Obeida said on his Telegram channel, according to The Times of Israel. Over 770 Palestinians have been killed in air raids after



Israel launched a strong retaliation after the 'surprise attack' by Hamas, Al Jazeera reported on Tuesday.

The Health Ministry in Gaza said that at least 770 Palestinians have been killed and 4,000 wound-

ed in Israeli air raids. Among the dead are 140 children and 120 women, a ministry spokesperson said. In addition to this, at least 18 people have also been killed and around 100 were injured in the West Bank region since Saturday,

Al Jazeera reported. Meanwhile, at least 900 Israelis were killed and over 2,616 people injured after Hamas launched a barbaric 'surprise attack' on Israel on October 7. In a war update shared by Israel Defence Forces (IDF)

on X, the IDF said that about 30 hostages have been held by Hamas in Gaza in the ongoing conflict. It also stated that about 4,500 rockets have been fired from Gaza on Israel after which the Israeli defence forces struck 1290 Hamas targets in Gaza.

An IDF Spokesperson has confirmed that 123 soldiers have been killed in the fighting, and 50 families have been informed that a relative was kidnapped by Hamas. Earlier in the day, in a stern warning to Hamas, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that "though Israel did not start this war" but "will finish it". "Israel is at war. We didn't want this war. It was forced upon us in the most brutal and savage way. But though Israel didn't start this war, Israel will finish it," said Netanyahu in an address to the nation. ANI

## Israel terror attack: FBI says, "Won't hesitate to adjust security posture to protect American lives"



America's premier investigating agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), said on Tuesday that they were probing any possible threats to the security of citizens in the United States in the wake of the terror attacks on Israel by Hamas. In a message posted on its official handle on X, the FBI stated that they wouldn't hesitate to change their "security posture", if so needed, to protect the lives of American citizens.

"While the FBI does not have specific and credible intelligence indicating a threat to the United States stemming from the Hamas attacks in Israel, we are closely monitoring unfolding events and will share relevant information with our state, local, federal and international law enforcement, intelligence and homeland security partners to ensure they are prepared for any impacts to pub-

lic safety. We will not hesitate to adjust our security posture, as appropriate, to protect the American people," read the FBI post on X. "We are closely coordinating with our counterparts in the region as well as other international partners," the agency added in its post.

It added that its Legal Attache' office in Israel was actively working with partners on the ground to locate and identify US citizens affected by the terror attacks. "Through our Legal Attache' office in Israel, FBI personnel are working with our partners on the ground to locate and identify any impacted Americans. Reports of deceased, injured, or missing Americans are being treated with the utmost urgency and aggressively investigated. The FBI's Victim Services Division is coordinating with the Department of State to assist, as necessary, with family engagement," the FBI stated. ANI

## Myanmar: Activists and local media alleges that military an accused of bombing a displacement camp in a northern state, killing more than 30 people

Myanmar's military was accused of launching an airstrike on a camp for displaced persons in the northern state of Kachin late Monday that killed more than 30 people, including 13 children, a human rights group and local media said.

The attack on the Mung Lai Hkyet displacement camp in the northern part of Laiza, a town where the headquarters of the rebel Kachin Independence Army is based, also wounded about 60 people, a spokesperson for Kachin Human Rights Watch told The Associated Press on Tuesday. Laiza is about 324 kilometres northeast of Mandalay, Myanmar's second-biggest city. The spokesperson, who asked to be identified only as Jacob for security reasons, said 19 adults and 13 children from the camp were killed by the airstrikes, which occurred around 11 p.m. We strongly condemn this inhumane killing. This action causes resentment among the Kachin people, he said. Kachin News Group, a local online news site, reported that more than 30 displaced persons were killed by the bombs dropped by jet fighters.

However, there was some



uncertainty about how the attack was carried out, because it came suddenly and late at night. Other unverified media reports said the attack may have been carried out with drones or even artillery. It was impossible to independently confirm details of the incident, though media sympathetic to the Kachin posted videos showing what they said was the attack's aftermath, with images of dead bodies and flattened wooden structures. Myanmar has been in turmoil since the military overthrew the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi in February 2021, triggering widespread popular opposition. After peaceful demonstrations were put down with lethal force, many opponents of military rule took up arms, and large parts of the country are now embroiled in conflict.

The military government in the past year has stepped up the use of airstrikes in combat against two enemies the armed pro-democracy Peoples Defence Forces, which formed after the 2021 take-over, and ethnic minority groups such as the Kachin that have been fighting for greater autonomy for decades. The military claims it targets only armed guerrilla forces and facilities, but churches and schools have also been hit and many civilians killed or wounded. Artillery is also frequently employed. The Kachin are one of the stronger ethnic rebel groups and are capable of manufacturing some of their own armaments. They also have a loose alliance with the armed militias of the pro-democracy forces that were formed to fight army rule. PTI

## Expression

# VIP Security Cover: A symbol of supremacy



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VIP culture has been prevalent since ancient times in India as well as in other parts of the world. Such people have always dominated the administration. These include the ruler to the lower level personnel. This culture has continued to flourish even after the end of the monarchy and the establishment of a democratic system, and has expanded extensively in recent decades.

A fixed number of security personnel are deployed by the government for the security of declared as well as unannounced VVIPs and high-risk individuals. From the Prime Minister's SPG security cover to Z-plus, Z, Y-plus, Y, X category security, there is a provision of one or two security personnel in the name of VIP security as prescribed by the Central and State Governments. The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) have been entrusted with the duty of protection to VIPs.

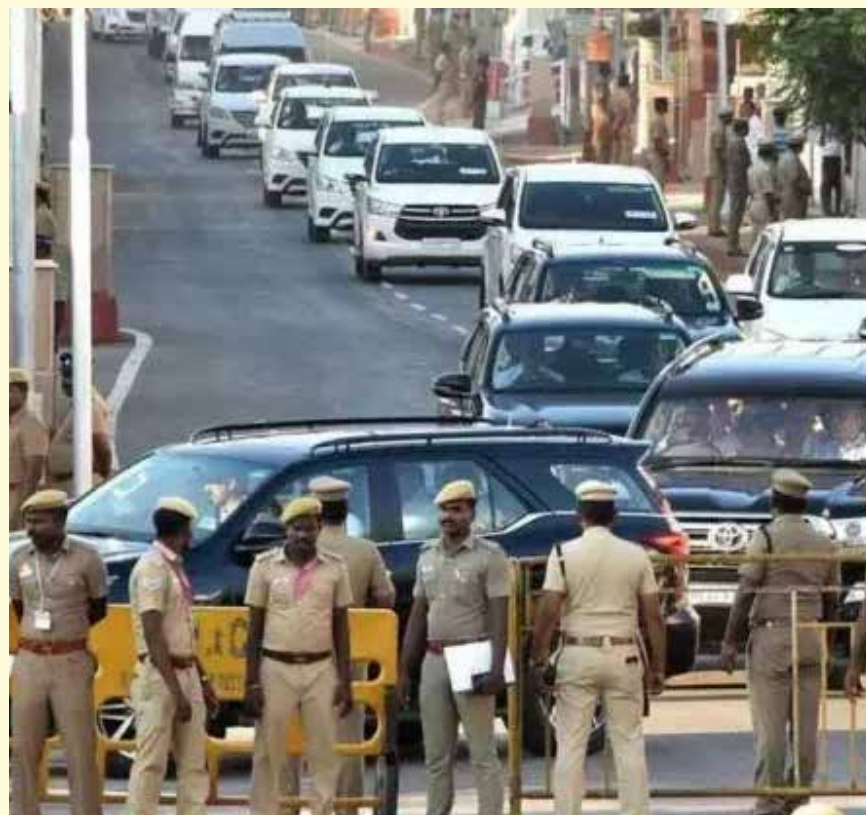
According to the Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D), over 60,000 security personnel were deployed in India for the protection of more than 19,000 current and former ministers, MPs, MLAs, judges, bureaucrats and some other VIPs in the year 2019. This number has considerably increased significantly in recent years. Along with this, the facility of more than 30,000 vehicles is being made available in this work, on which more than 12,000 crore rupees of public's hard earned money are being spent. Thousands of crores of rupees are being spent separately on these security personnel for their accommodation, food, transport, health, etc.

Interestingly, states like West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab, which are witnessing minor incidents of

insurgency or disturbance, have the highest number of protected dignitaries; while states like Jammu and Kashmir, Assam, Manipur and Chhattisgarh, which are most affected by militancy and terrorism, have lower number of important people getting the facility of security personnel.

In fact, on the basis of the report of Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Research & Analysis Wing (RAW) at the Central level, there is a provision of providing security to a person by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Similarly, on the basis of the report of agencies like the State Intelligence Department, there is a provision of providing security to a person by the State Governments. But it is a general perception that the related reports are motivated by manipulation and political interference. The inputs generated by the vigilance agencies are neither put in the public domain nor open to scrutiny through any other agency. Accordingly, the criteria other than the actual situation are set by the Central and State Administrations. In most of the states, some politicians, actors and bureaucrats are carrying heavy security personnel just to prove themselves different from common people.

According to the government provision, around 55 security personnel are deployed in Z-plus, 22 in Z, 11 in Y-plus, 8 in Y and 2-3 in X category security cover. The Z-Plus security cover has a provision of 55 security personnel including 10 commandos and five bulletproof vehicles. Z Cover has a provision of 22 security personnel including National Security Guard (NSG) Commandos. Y-plus has 11 security personnel, in which one CRPF commander and 4 constables are stationed at the residence and 6 personal security officers are deployed in three shifts with VIPs concerned. There are 8 security personnel in Y cover, in which a commander and 4 constables are deployed at the residence and 3 PSOs are deployed with the concerned VIPs in three shifts. In X Cover, 3 PSOs are posted in three shifts with the



respective VIPs.

After independence, Home Minister Sardar Patel had suggested to the Prime Minister that apart from a few policemen, there was no need to deploy more than two security personnel in the houses of ministers from the point of view of security. But after his death there was no one to pay attention to these sensitive issues. Now the designation of a person as VIP is on the rise just because of his/her political and official position.

Apart from the financial implications, VIP movement causes physical inconvenience and discomfort to the common motorists and people. Ordinary people faces a lot of problem due to unending VIP movements on the streets, roads and highways and people are virtually stranded without any fault of their own. VIP movement abandons the flow of vehicles on the busy roads, halts the movement of the pedestrians, hinders the movement of serious patients to the hospitals, causes mental depression to those

who are already disturbed due to their hectic work and daily routine. The behavior of the escort police is very rude. These VIPs are not above the law and hence, they have no right to make others life miserable just for their own sake.

Last year, a positive initiative has been taken by the Punjab government by withdrawing the security of 429 alleged VIPs and the amount saved from this can be spent in public welfare works. Central and other state governments should also take this initiative.

There is no doubt that the present day security cordon given to the so-called VIPs in the name of their security are nothing but a show of supremacy. This highly expensive system is being implemented at the cost of public welfare of the people living below the poverty line. This monarchical as well as the unproductive system must be scrapped and if a person demands security cover, he should bear the entire cost.

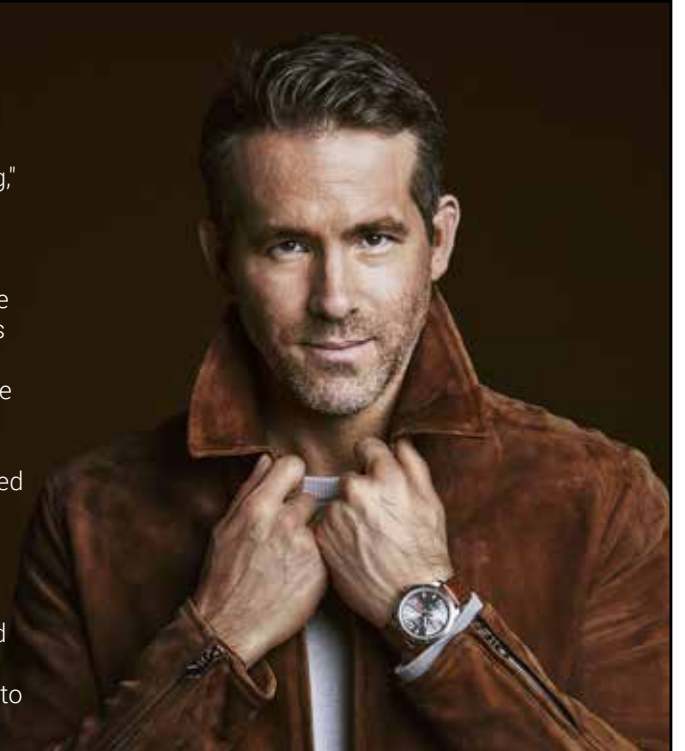
# Entertainment

## Canadian-American actor opens up about struggles of parenting and mental health

Canadian-American actor and film producer Ryan Reynolds got candid about parenting and his children's mental health, reported People. "I think it's more about talking to them about everything," the actor, 46, told People at the Bring Change to Mind Revels & Revelations 11 event in New York City on Monday. "It's genuine when I say I take a huge interest in their days and how things are going."

Reynolds also opened up to People about how he and his wife Blake Lively stress the importance of "self-awareness" to their four kids as well as sharing details of their daily routines. "For me, the best time of my day is walking them to school and walking them back," he says to PEOPLE at the event. "I think as parents, we are so much better equipped to handle the rigors of childhood through our kids now than when I was a kid. It's just totally different now. People are much more self-aware. And that's the thing we sort of hang our hat on the most is self-awareness with our kids. Not be happy, not be anything, just be self-aware and welcome everything in."

Reynolds and actress Lively, 36, share three daughters: James, 8, Inez, 7, and Betty, 4. They welcomed their fourth baby in February. According to People, the 'Deadpool' star was honored with the Robin Williams' Legacy of Laughter Award at the event. Actress Glenn Close and her family established the organization Bring Change to Mind in 2009 to fight the stigma of mental illness. Reynolds told out about how he and Lively were adjusting to life as a family of six shortly after the birth of their fourth kid. "Everybody's doing great. Everybody's actually doing fantastic," he continued. "I think if we hadn't figured it out by now, I think we'd be in deep, deep trouble." Reynolds went on to joke that the couple's house resembles a "zoo" during his virtual appearance, adding, "It's a zoo over here. This is my office here and to be honest I'll probably spend the rest of my life in here," reported People. **ANI**



American actor and film producer Dwayne Johnson has spoken out after facing backlash for asking people to donate to a Maui wildfire recovery fund, reported People. On August 31, the actor, 51, joined up with Oprah Winfrey to start the People's Fund for Maui, with the pair contributing a combined USD 10 million. However, their request for public donations drew considerable criticism.

The Young Rock musician, who used to live in Hawaii, addressed the outrage in a video uploaded on his Instagram page on Sunday. "When we first launched the fund, there was some backlash that came with launching the fund, and I want to address that backlash," he told his followers. "I get it, and I completely understand, and I could have been better. And next time, I will be better." He also said he understands that "money ain't falling out of the sky, and it's not growing on trees," and that many Americans are "living paycheck to paycheck" right now. "I get it."

"I know what it's like. I've lived paycheck to paycheck," he continued. "When you are living paycheck to paycheck, the last thing you want to hear is someone asking you for money, especially when the person asking you for money already has a lot of money." According to People, Johnson conceded that he could have handled things better and that the situation has been a learning experience for him. "I've never launched a fund before, but I'm a quick study," he noted.

In the caption accompanying his video, he thanked his followers for giving him constructive feedback. "You always tell me the truth – good or bad – I'll always appreciate and protect that straight talk between us – You have my word to always listen, learn, grow and do better," he wrote. **ANI**

## Star actor Dwayne Johnson responds to the backlash faced by him over Maui wildfire recovery fund

## Actress Ratna Pathak Shah talks about her experience of working with younger people



Veteran actor Ratna Pathak Shah will be seen in a fun element in 'Dhak Dhak', which also stars Dia Mirza, Sanjana Sanghi and Fatima Sana Shaikh. Helmed by Tarun Dubeja, 'Dhak Dhak' brings a bunch of four women, all different from each other, daring to ride bikes to world's highest motorable road, the Khardungla Pass.

Speaking to ANI, Ratna Pathak Shah opened up about her experience working with the young cast. "I love working with youth. They bring new ideas to the table with a distinctive style of their own. They focus on the future...In 'Dhak Dhak', I got to learn so much from all the young artistes," she said. Dia also expressed excitement about the film. "It's a beautiful film about four different women who set out on an extraordinary journey to the highest motorable road in the world. They develop a deep bond along the way and discover themselves during the journey. We formed a beautiful relationship with each other on and off screen," Dia shared. **ANI**