



Shiv Sena leader accused of swindling Rs. 70 lakh from Airoli

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AV Team

After the Sena split last year, both factions fought over the venue for the Dussehra rally. They filed applications with the BMC to get permission for the rally, but the civic body rejected both applications. The Bombay High Court eventually allowed Sena (UBT) to hold the event at Shivaji Park on October 5, while the Shine-led Sena held its rally at the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) ground in Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC). Uddhav Sena to hold Dussehra rally at Shivaji Park

In a shocking move, Eknath Shinde announced that his party would not stake claim over Shivaji Park and would consider Azad Maidan or Cross Maidan for the rally. Until Eknath Shinde backs off BMC was in dilemma because Uddhav Sena is actual contender for Shivaji Park rally but Eknath has his dominance over BMC. The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) Thursday permitted the Shiv Sena faction led by former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray to hold its annual Dussehra public rally at Shivaji Park ground. This was after the Sena faction led by incumbent Chief Minister Eknath Shinde Tuesday withdrew its claim over the venue to hold its rally.

The Shinde-led Sena is likely holding its Dussehra rally at Azad Maidan or Cross Maidan in South Mumbai. Both Sena factions had staked a claim on Shivaji Park for holding their annual Dussehra rallies on October 24, setting the stage for a repeat of last year's face-off.



Uddhav Sena to hold Dussehra rally at Azad Maidan

Why are relationships at stake?

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Love and appreciating the people we care about is important in building strong and healthy relationships. In relationships, it's essential to remember that they require effort and commitment. Just like any other aspect of life, they have their ups and downs. The key to a successful relationship is communication, trust, and empathy. When faced with challenges, remember that they are opportunities for growth, not roadblocks. Cherish the good times, learn from the tough times, and always strive to be the best partner you can be. Love, respect, and support each other, and together, you can overcome anything that comes your way. Protecting a relationship requires effort from both partners. Open and honest communication is the foundation of a healthy relationship. Be reliable, keep your promises, and avoid betraying your partner's trust. Trust can take time to build but can be shattered in an

instant. Treat your partner with respect and kindness. This means listening to their perspective, acknowledging their feelings, and avoiding disrespectful behaviour.

Spend quality time together, nurturing your connection. Make an effort to create shared experiences and memories. Establish healthy boundaries to maintain individual identities within the relationship. Discuss and agree on what is acceptable and what isn't. Disagreements are natural. Learn to resolve conflicts in a constructive way, focusing on understanding each other rather than winning the argument. Be there for each other during both good and challenging times. Offer emotional support and encouragement. Physical and emotional intimacy are important aspects of a relationship.

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Editoritis

Why are relationships at stake?

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While spending time together is essential, having personal space and interests can also strengthen your bond. Encourage each other's individual growth.

People can lose faith in relationships for various reasons, and it's a complex issue influenced by individual experiences and societal factors.

A relationship takes work, and if one or both partners stop putting in the effort to nurture it, it can deteriorate, leading to a loss of faith.

Keep the romance alive and continue to express affection. Relationships change over time. Be adaptable and willing to grow together, especially as life circumstances evolve. Don't forget to express gratitude and appreciation for your partner. Recognize the qualities and actions you love about them.

While spending time together is essential, having personal space and interests can also strengthen your bond. Encourage each other's individual growth. Accept that mistakes will happen. Learn to forgive and move forward, letting go of past grievances. A strong relationship is an ongoing effort. Keep working on it, and don't take your partner for granted. Remember, no relationship is perfect, but by consciously applying these principles, you can build a resilient and lasting connection with your partner. People can lose faith in relationships for various reasons, and it's a complex issue influenced by individual experiences and societal factors.

Past negative experiences, such as infidelity or emotional abuse, can erode trust and make it difficult to have faith in future relationships. Unrealistic expectations about what a relationship should be can lead to disappointment and disillusionment. Poor communication or a lack of understanding can lead to misunderstandings and emotional distance. External pressures, such as financial problems or work-related stress, can strain a relationship and make it challenging to maintain faith in it. Societal trends and the portrayal of idealized relationships in media can create unrealistic standards and make people question their own relationships. A relationship takes work, and if one or both partners stop putting in the effort to nurture it, it can deteriorate, leading to a loss of faith.

Insecurity or low self-esteem can lead individuals to doubt their worthiness in a relationship, which can affect their faith in it. As people grow and change, their values and priorities can shift, leading to questions about the compatibility of their current relationship. Some people are afraid to be emotionally vulnerable and may avoid deeper connections, leading to a lack of faith in relationships. A history of short-lived relationships may contribute to cynicism about long-term commitment.

It's important to note that while these factors can erode faith in relationships, they are not insurmountable. With self-awareness, effort, and communication, individuals and couples can work through these challenges and rebuild faith in the potential for healthy, loving relationships. Faith and commitment are indeed fundamental to the success of a good relationship. Faith in your partner involves believing that they are reliable and have your best interests at heart. Trust is the cornerstone of a healthy relationship, providing a sense of security and emotional safety. Commitment signifies the intention to stay dedicated to the relationship over the long term. It's a promise to work through challenges and cherish the good times, providing a sense of stability and continuity. In a committed relationship, couples are more likely to weather the storms together. The commitment to one another strengthens their ability to overcome obstacles

and face adversity as a team. Knowing that your partner is committed and trustworthy encourages open and honest communication. You can discuss difficult topics and share your feelings without fear of betrayal.

Commitment promotes a willingness to resolve conflicts and find compromises. Instead of seeking an easy way out, committed partners work together to find solutions. In a committed relationship, both partners are invested in each other's well-being. They offer emotional support and encourage personal growth and happiness. Faith and commitment can enhance intimacy, as partners feel safe and comfortable being vulnerable with each other. This can lead to deeper emotional and physical connections. Commitment allows couples to make plans and decisions together, whether it's about marriage, family, career, or personal goals. Over time, people change, and life circumstances evolve. Commitment and faith enable partners to adapt to these changes and grow together. A strong sense of faith and commitment often leads to greater fulfillment and satisfaction in the relationship, as both partners work together to create a loving and supportive environment.

In summary, faith and commitment provide the essential glue that binds partners together in a healthy, successful relationship. They create a foundation of trust, security, and mutual support, allowing couples to navigate the ups and downs of life together with resilience and love. Marriages can fail for various reasons, and it's a complex issue influenced by individual circumstances and societal factors. Poor communication or a breakdown in communication can lead to misunderstandings and conflicts that erode the foundation of a marriage. Unrealistic expectations about what a marriage should be like can lead to disappointment and dissatisfaction. Money-related issues, such as debt, financial instability, or disagreements over financial management, can strain a marriage. A lack of physical and emotional intimacy can create distance between spouses.

It's important to note that while these factors can contribute to the failure of marriages, each relationship is unique, and the combination of reasons can vary widely. In many cases, problems in a marriage can be addressed and resolved through open communication, counselling, and mutual effort. However, there are instances where separation or divorce is the best option for both individuals to find happiness and fulfilment. Seeking professional help from therapists or counsellors can be valuable in navigating these challenges.

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A day to remember



- Jayanthi Subramaniam

The Panchsheel of Nari Sushakti is paving way of exhibiting the talent of women entrepreneurs, sports women, Women achievers, talent search of women, women coming to the fore from the lowest strata of society and climb a top spot and that includes climbing Mount Everest at the age of 13. It is a different women's world and they wish to share their momentary joy and celebrate womanhood with fun and enthusiasm and honour them at an appropriate time of the year.

First and the foremost is women's sense of self worth, which goes a long way in building confidence among women of this generation. Women are not caged parrots as in olden days and they are free to go around and achieve things in various fields with confidence and conviction. Women rule the roost in the offices, companies and at the same time make our dream come true in our household as well. Women are confidence personified and they will work to achieve targets in the stipulated time. The women's day brings out the best of the best in a world dominated by men. There are double speak when celebrating this special day.

The purpose of this article is not to dampen women's spirit but to give the pride of place for them. I am not saying that you should stop celebrating this special day. All I am saying is that this Women's Day, look around you. Do you see or know someone who needs help? A woman who is probably not as lucky as you? Lend her a hand, help her out. If that is not feasible, because I know a lot of such women are just not ready to come out of the situation, then lend them a shoulder or an ear. And when they are ready, they will let you know. It will prove far more satisfying than getting that designer handbag at dirt cheap price. Women at workplace should be respected all the time and need not be given testing times for getting their favour.

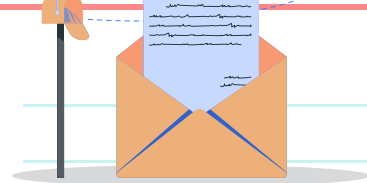
We generally propagate the need for equal access to opportunities and resources to women. Despite all the efforts taken in an

Independent India, women suffer in silence. India still has a high number of female foeticide, in some places it gets worse—a newborn baby girl's neck is snapped so that the burden in the family is destroyed forever. Her ordeal does not end there, often one hears of marriages stalled or turning sour owing to dowry or due to the lack of it. Domestic violence, verbal abuse, and cruelty are all sometimes just a part of the lives of so many women in our country. Leaders should find ways and means to make a much easier way of survival for women without harming them in any way.

Women should be given the power to regulate and control their own lives in a respectable manner. It is time to give respect and take respect from the better half rather than fighting for trivial matters. Money plays the villain. But women work as the watchdogs, make prudent decisions by saving money for the rainy days and keep a cool composure during both rain and shine. Women transact online to invest in shares and help the family during financial difficulties. Even without a sound educational background they manage accounts better than men.

Women come out in the open without fear and their ability to contribute to more social and economic order surprises all including men. Despite all their attributes to society, the researchers at the Michigan University found that 10% of the women surveyed had experienced the most severe form of harassment in the male-dominated environments. We had a woman Prime Minister and a President in the past but the outlook on women hasn't changed much. Leave alone the accolades, awards and felicitations on this day, let also have a broader outlook in dealing with women issues in the days to come and celebrate the womanhood in the best way possible in a competitive world where there is no difference between men and women.

Letters to the Editor



Frightening alarm

After Ganesh Chaturthi now in the Navratri festival too, a lot of malpractices are observed – extortion of donations, noise pollution, doing Garba on the tune of film songs, vulgar dance performed in an inebriated state, an upsurge of unwed mothers within a few months after Navratri etc. The misconduct occurring at the Navratri festival every year is a frightening alarm to the immense loss it is causing to Hindu Dharma and culture! The present day's modern Garba is in a pitiable state. One might ponder, what we are really achieving from it. The main motive behind Garba is to worship the Goddess and to receive her blessings. However due to the malpractices that have crept in, the aim underlying celebration of festivals is certainly not fulfilled.

Dr. Jyoti Kale

Baba Vanga's prediction

It was a prophecy that sent shivers down the spine of many: a 'great war against Muslims' that would establish a 'huge caliphate' in Europe. This chilling prediction was made by Baba Vanga, a renowned Bulgarian seer known for predicting world events with uncanny accuracy. And now, the recent large-scale conflict between Israel and Hamas is being viewed as a fulfillment of Baba Vanga's prophecy. She had predicted that the World War 3 would begin after the Israel-Hamas conflict. She also predicted that the world would witness nuclear attacks causing large-scale destruction. Her predictions, ranging from the fall of the Twin Towers to the Tsunami of 2004, have been eerily accurate, earning her a significant following worldwide.

The world is rapidly moving towards a destructive war; Spiritual practice can change the destiny of mankind for good! Performing spiritual practice is essential to protect ourselves since World War 3 will be far worse than the previous World Wars. So start preparing so as to protect yourself & survive World War 3 and the coming adverse times.

Aparna Jagtap

Aggressive attitude of Israel

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu posted a tweet on 'X' (formerly Twitter) issuing a warning to the enemies of the State of Israel. The tweet read, '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. Once, the Jewish people were stateless. Once, the Jewish people were defenseless. No longer (sic)'. Netanyahu added, 'Hamas will understand that by attacking us, they have made a mistake of historic proportions. We will exact a price that will be remembered by them and Israel's other enemies for decades to come. Although Hamas started the terrorist attack, it is certain that Israel will end it with a heroic attitude!'

Sagar Shirodkar

History will repeat itself

Virat and KL Rahul's impenetrable innings in the India vs Australia match at Chennai-made India's victory easy, otherwise the Indian cricket team was in a miserable state of 3 for 2. It is very difficult for the team to recover when the Australian bowlers are bowl-

ing like a storm. The player tried their best to prevent the downfall of the Indian team by putting all his skills to the test. But at the same time, when KL Rahul came to the field, now we have to play like Test cricket. Virat, who was at the peak of the batting, gave such valuable advice, but it turned out that his feet are still in the field.

The team spirit of the Indian team and the fight to stand firm even in difficult situations was especially visible in the Chennai match. Kohli is a master at chasing runs. His fame came in the Chennai match. However, two records were set in this match. However, the Indian team had won. The Indian team had won the first World Cup with Kapil Dev's hard work. Even now the Indian team is the best cricket team in the world and once again the history will be repeated and the Indian dream of winning the World Cup will come true.

Dattaprasad Shirodkar

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)

City

Shiv Sena leader accused of swindling Rs. 70 lakh from Airoli society funds



Members alleged that between April and July 2021, transactions worth ₹70 lakh were carried out between the former committee and the developer without any approval from the committee. In

the complaint to the registrar, one of the complaints is about resolutions getting passed without the required quorum. Vijay Chougule, a leader belonging to the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena, is facing serious allegations of aid-

ing in the misappropriation of society funds and conducting fraudulent transactions to the tune of over ₹70 lakh. The accusation has been made by over 55 members of Newa Garden CHS Ltd, Sector 20 A, Airoli, via a written complaint made to the joint registrar of CIDCO. The politician was the first elected chairperson of the 23-storeyed posh housing society, comprising 200-odd flats, in 2019.

Disagreements over financial decisions taken during Chougule's tenure have cropped up from 2021. Opposing members of the society are demanding a re-audit of the society's accounts and even seeking an inquiry into the misappropriation of funds under Section 83 of the Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act, 1960.

Car shed for metro 6 at Kanjur in Kanjurmarg

The Eknath Shinde-Devendra Fadnavis-Ajit Pawar government has decided to build a car shed for metro 6 at Kanjur in Kanjurmarg, years after BJP vehemently opposing the plan and the Central government blocking it on grounds that it owns the allocated land. The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has floated tenders for the ₹506-crore project that includes a stabling yard, depot control centre, administrative office, staff quarters, maintenance and workshop buildings, and a sub-station. The 14.477-km elevated line will connect Lokhandwala Complex with Vikhroli and will pass over Jogeshwari-Vikhroli Link Road and the Powai lake with 13 stations. Metro 6, which is also called Pink Line or the Swami Samarth Nagar-Jogeshwari-Vikhroli-Kanjurmarg line, offers connectivity with the Western railway at Jogeshwari and the

Central Railway at Kanjurmarg. In 2019, the Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi government headed by Uddhav Thackeray had stopped construction of the metro 3 car shed in Aarey Milk Colony in response to concerns raised by citizens and environment activists. Instead, Thackeray decided to build in Kanjur an integrated shed for several lines, including metro 6. However, the then leader of the opposition Fadnavis had opposed the plan saying it would lead to cost escalation and delay in construction. The Centre too had expressed its reservation in a letter to the state and said that this land could not be given for the project because it belonged to the government. Later, the Centre approached the Bombay high court staking claim on the land. After the Shinde-Fadnavis government took over, the case filed by the union government was quietly withdrawn, he claimed. "We had also intervened in the case."

19 navy officers cheated of ₹3.13 cr in fraud land deal

In 2019, the trio had set up an office in CBD called Sky Garuda Developers. They advertised that they were selling Non-Agricultural plot at Vindhane village of Uran. The complainant, Sanjeet Kumar Madanchandra Pal, resident of Colaba, had approached the developers after one of his colleagues recommended him. Three persons were booked on Monday for cheating 19 Navy personnel of ₹3.13 crore

by promising them land in Uran in 2019.

In 2019, the trio had set up an office in CBD called Sky Garuda Developers. They advertised that they were selling Non-Agricultural plot at Vindhane village of Uran. The complainant, Sanjeet Kumar Madanchandra Pal, resident of Colaba, had approached the developers after one of his colleagues recommended him. Pal, along with Navy officers

from Mumbai, met the three directors at the office of Sky Garuda Developers. The accused told them they had purchased a large piece of NA land from the farmers of Vindhane of Uran, which they are developing and selling.

The trio informed that the cost of two acres is ₹13.95 lakh. After that, Pal, his brother, and 15 officers decided to book the plot from their company and paid a total of ₹2.82 crore.

SC extends three months interim bail to NCP leader Nawab Malik



The Supreme Court Thursday extended by three months the temporary bail granted to former Maharashtra minister and NCP leader Nawab Malik on medical grounds in a money laundering case, pending his plea seeking bail on health grounds. A bench of Justices Bela M Trivedi and Dipankar Datta passed the order on Thursday.

On August 11, a bench of Justice Aniruddha Bose and Justice Bela M Trivedi granted temporary bail on medical grounds for two months after Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Enforcement Directorate (ED), did not object to it. "We are pass-

ing the order strictly on medical conditions and have not entered into merits," the SC had clarified.

The Bombay High Court on July 13 rejected a plea by Malik seeking bail on health grounds in the money laundering case. His plea seeking bail on merits is pending before the court.

Malik had sought relief from the HC, claiming he was suffering from a chronic kidney disease apart from various other ailments. The HC had held that since there were no compelling reasons warranting interim medical bail, it was denied to him. Malik thus approached the SC seeking medical bail.

MSBSHSE to increase examination fees for Class 10 and 12 students by 15-20%

For Class 10 students, the fee has gone up from ₹435 to ₹490 while those in Class 12 will face a raise of ₹40 to ₹50, depending on the stream. The Maharashtra State Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education (MSBSHSE) has decided to impose a 15-20% hike in the examination fees for Class 10 and 12 students. The increase is set to take effect from the coming exams. Teachers' associations have demanded that the board rethink its decision. Tanaji Kamble, Mumbai president of Maharashtra Progressive Teachers Associa-



tion, has expressed strong opposition to this move in a letter sent to the chief minister, the school education minister and the education commissioner. He said, "The burden of numerous other expenses falls on schools and junior colleges, which include filling out forms online, downloading

and printing of pre-lists and hall tickets, and providing all necessary documents as mandated by the board." The letter also highlighted that these schools and junior colleges are also responsible for covering the essential stationery costs for Class 10 and 12 examinations.

Nation

Cauvery river dispute: Karnataka govt to appeal against release of 3000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu



After the Cauvery Water Regulatory Committee (CWRC) order to Karnataka to release 3000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister said the state government will protect the interest of the farmers and they will appeal against it. DK Shivakumar said, "When I was the power minister, I added more than 12,000 MW of power. When

the BJP regime was there they did not plan to add any power. Normally there is a 12-15% growth every year... Almost 200 talukas are in drought and people are finding it very difficult. To generate power, a lot of water is needed. Coal issue is also there... We have an inflow of 8,000-9,000 cusecs but still, we will protect the interest of the farmers... We will appeal against it,"

Earlier on Wednesday, Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) has decided that Karnataka has to ensure the release of 3000 cusecs of water starting October 16 till October 31. According to the statement, CWRC during its 88th meeting made crucial decisions regarding water allocation and shortages pertaining to the ongoing Cauvery river water dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. "After deliberation, the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) reached a decision. Karnataka has been mandated to ensure the release of water from its reservoirs in such a manner that the flow at Biligundlu is maintained at 3000 cusecs. This directive is effective from 8 am on October 16, 2023, and is to be upheld until October 31, 2023," the statement read. ANI

Delhi excise policy case: HC seeks response from ED over interim bail plea of Sameer Mahendru

The Delhi High Court on Thursday sought a response from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on the interim bail plea of businessman Sameer Mahendru, one of the accused in the Delhi Excise policy money laundering case. Sameer Mahendru has sought medical bail on medical grounds. He is one of the accused in the Delhi Excise policy money laundering case involving former Deputy CM Manish Sisodia.

Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma sought a response from the ED and listed the matter on October 18 for further hearing. The trial court had dismissed his interim bail on October 6 giving certain directions to jail authorities. Senior advocate Siddharth Luthra appeared for the petitioner that the petitioner had fallen in the hospital and was on the floor

for around 12 minutes. Nobody was there to attend to him, despite a direction from the court to provide a full-time attendant. The trial court had also noticed from the CCTV footage pertaining to the fall of the applicant that after the above fall suffered by him during the intervening night of 06/07.09.2023, no attendant or official of the jail staff came to help him for a considerable duration of around 12-13 minutes.

"This is not acceptable when the claim of jail authorities is that he is lying admitted therein under constant supervision and CCTV coverage for 24/7 hours," the court had said. Hence, it is being directed that one full-time attendant be provided to take care of the applicant by rotation of their duties so that such an incident is not repeated, the trial court had directed on October 6, 2023. ANI

Delhi incident: Police arrested two members of the Arsh Dalla gang



Potentially major incident was averted near the Pragati Maidan area of New Delhi when police arrested two members of the Arsh Dalla gang. One of them was about to use a live hand grenade, and the other had already fired a shot at the police before being stopped. The intense encounter took place on Outer Ring Road near Pragati Maidan in the early hours of Thursday, where a police team comprising circle inspector and the Special Cell, intervened.

When asked to surrender, one of the accused fired at the police, and the second one tried to use a live hand grenade. The police team acted swiftly and

overpowered them before the situation could escalate further. Delhi Police Special Cell officials said that two shooters of the Arsh Dalla gang were arrested on the basis of a tip-off received through sources.

"The team intercepted the duo on Outer Ring Road and when they were asked to surrender, one Krishan fired one round towards the police team. Suddenly, the second gangster took out one live hand grenade from his bag but before he could pull the safety pin, they were overpowered by the team," officials said. "A live hand grenade, a pistol and 5 live cartridges were recovered from their possession," they added. ANI

Bihar train incident: Fault in tracks likely cause for derailment of North East Express, report

Fault in tracks was the possible cause of derailment of the Delhi-Kamakhya North East Express in Bihar in which four people were killed and several injured, sources said on Thursday citing a preliminary investigation report. The report, signed by six railway officials including the driver of the ill-fated train, stated, "It seems that derailment occurred due to fault in tracks." It estimated the cost of damage due to the accident at more than Rs 52 crore. The loco pilot was

partially injured and his assistant suffered serious injuries in the accident Wednesday night.

The report also contained a statement by the loco pilot who said that the train passed Raghunathpur station, near which the accident occurred, at a speed of 128 km per hour, but soon after it crossed the station section it suffered a severe jolt at the rear end with excessive vibration. As a result of the excessive vibration and the severe jolt, the brake pipe pressure dropped suddenly and the train derailed

at 9:52 pm, the preliminary report quoted the loco pilot as saying.

It also quoted a gateman and a pointsman at the Raghunathpur station as saying that they saw sparks coming from near the wheels of the train. The report stated a breathalyzer test of the loco pilot and his assistant was negative. At least four people died and several were injured when 12506 North East Express derailed near Raghunathpur in Bihar's Buxar district on Wednesday night. PTI

Tamil Nadu: Two people were killed in encounter with police

Two rowdies were gunned down in an encounter with police in Tamil Nadu's Thiruvallur on Thursday, officials said. The two rowdies, identified as Muthusarvanan and Satish, were killed in the Cholavaram area when they tried to attack police officials. As per officials, both the accused were arrested in Delhi for the murder of an AIADMK functionary.



Officials said that both accused, Muthusarvanan and Satish, were being taken to Chennai when they tried to escape from police

custody near Marembedu village. They attacked the police team after which they were gunned down by the officials. ANI

World

Israeli consulate said, "Israeli govt is doing its best to assist the Indian embassy in Tel Aviv in Operation Ajay"



Israel's Consulate General to Midwest India, Kobbi Shoshani on Thursday congratulated Prime Minister Narendra Modi for launching 'Operation Ajay', under which India is planning to bring back around 18,000 Indian in Israel. "I congratulate Prime Minister Narendra Modi for launching Operation Ajay to bring Indian citizens back from Israel. There are around 18 thousand Indian citizens in Israel, including 1 thousand Indian students whom we

love very much," he said.

Shoshani further emphasized that Israel loved and respected the Indian business community in Israel as it contributed a lot to their economy. "The Indian business community that we love and respect so much contribute to our economy in a big way," he added. Additionally, Israel's Consulate General stressed that the Israeli government is doing its best to assist the Indian embassy in Tel Aviv in Operation Ajay. "Indian

nurses and caregivers have become part of our families. The Israeli government is doing the utmost to assist the Indian Embassy in Tel Aviv in Operation Ajay. We look forward to welcome all of you back in Israel once we win the war against Hamas ISIS terrorists," he said.

India on Wednesday launched 'Operation Ajay' to bring back its citizens stuck in the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas. "Launching #OperationAjay to facilitate the return from Israel of our citizens who wish to return. Special charter flights and other arrangements are being put in place. Fully committed to the safety and well-being of our nationals abroad," tweeted External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. Meanwhile, the Embassy of India in Israel informed that it has emailed the first lot of registered Indian citizens for the special flight on Thursday. ANI

India's significant role in Afghanistan's development

In the aftermath of the Taliban's resurgence in Afghanistan, India's significant contributions have been a beacon of hope for the nation and the broader region. While the world observed the shifting power dynamics with concern, India stood out as a steadfast partner, committed to Afghanistan's growth and stability for over two decades, Khaama Press reported. India's commitment to Afghanistan has been unwavering, extending beyond infrastructure and development to encompass the hearts and minds of the Afghan people. Even after the closure of its embassy in Kabul, India continued to support the Afghan people through humanitarian aid, including food supplies, vaccines, and medical assistance, according to Khaama Press, online news service for Afghanistan.

India's extensive developmental assistance program in Afghanistan has exceeded USD 3 billion, reflecting its dedication to the country's progress. This commitment was formalized in the 2011

India-Afghanistan Strategic Partnership Agreement, focusing on infrastructure, education, investment, and market access. India's contributions have left a lasting impact on critical infrastructure, including roads, dams, electricity networks, and the Afghan Parliament. India has also established schools and hospitals, improving education and healthcare access for countless Afghans.

Bilateral trade between India and Afghanistan has surpassed USD 1.5 billion, highlighting the depth of this economic partnership. India's exports to Afghanistan and imports from Afghanistan have further solidified this economic interdependence, as reported by Khaama Press.

Despite the challenges posed by the Taliban's return to power, India's developmental assistance remained steadfast. India's portfolio of projects, spanning all 34 Afghan provinces, addresses critical sectors such as power generation, water supply, road connectivity, healthcare, education, agriculture, and capacity-building. ANI

Amid ongoing conflict, Israeli Minister said, "We have been hit hard. Yet make no mistake - 2023 is not 1943"

Issuing a stern warning to the Hamas terror group, Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said that "2023 is not 1943" and in an indirect reference to the persecution of Jews under the Nazi regime in Germany, added that today's Jewish people possess "different capabilities", Times of Israel reported. His comments came during a briefing for 31 NATO counterparts at a meeting in Brussels.

"We have been hit hard. Yet make no mistake - 2023 is not 1943. We are the same Jews, but we have different capabilities. The State of Israel is strong. We are united and powerful," he said. Gallant also briefed them about atrocities committed by Hamas terrorists against children, women, men and the elderly. He expressed appreciation for the

global show of support for Israel after Hamas launched an attack on the former on October 7, according to The Times of Israel report.

The Israeli President also showed them an uncensored video of some of the attacks against Israeli civilians and soldiers as well as foreign nationals, i24 News English reported. He further asserted that Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) will destroy Hamas and "will hunt down every last man with the blood of children," The Times of Israel reported. "Hamas is the 'ISIS' of Gaza, a savage organization, funded and supported by Iran. Hamas is ISIS," he says. "The 'ISIS' of Gaza will not exist, on our borders. The IDF will destroy Hamas. And we will hunt down every last man, with the blood of our children, on his hands," Gallant said. ANI

Jaish-e-Mohammed terror group's associate succumbed to his wounds

One of the close associates of Jaish-e-Mohammed terror group's slain leader Shahid Latif, who suffered bullet injuries during an attack in a mosque in Pakistan's Punjab province, succumbed to his wounds on Thursday, raising the death toll to three in the incident, police said. Latif, the mastermind of the 2016 attack on the Indian Air Force base in Pathankot, and his security guard Hashim Ali were shot dead by three gunmen while offering prayer in a mosque in Daska city of Punjab province, over 100 km from Lahore, on Wednesday early morning. Prayer leader and close associate of Latif, Maulana Ahad was also hit by bullets and was shifted to a hospital where he succumbed to his wounds on Thursday, police said.

Punjab Police have registered an FIR against six unknown suspects for killing three persons



under sections 302 (murder), 324 (attempted murder), 148 (armed with deadly weapons), 149 (unlawful assembly) and Anti-Terrorism Act.

According to the FIR, a copy of which is available with PTI, six gunmen aged 22 to 23 reached the Noori-e-Madina Masjid in Mandike Guraya Chowk (Daska)

at Fajr (pre-dawn) time. "Three of them stayed outside while the other three entered the mosque and opened fire on Latif at point blank at 5.28 am. They also sprayed his security guard and the prayer leader with bullets. They, however, didn't target other people offering prayer," the FIR says. PTI

Expression

Global Recognition to Namami Gange Programme



Er. Prabhat Kishore

The Author is a technocrat and educationist

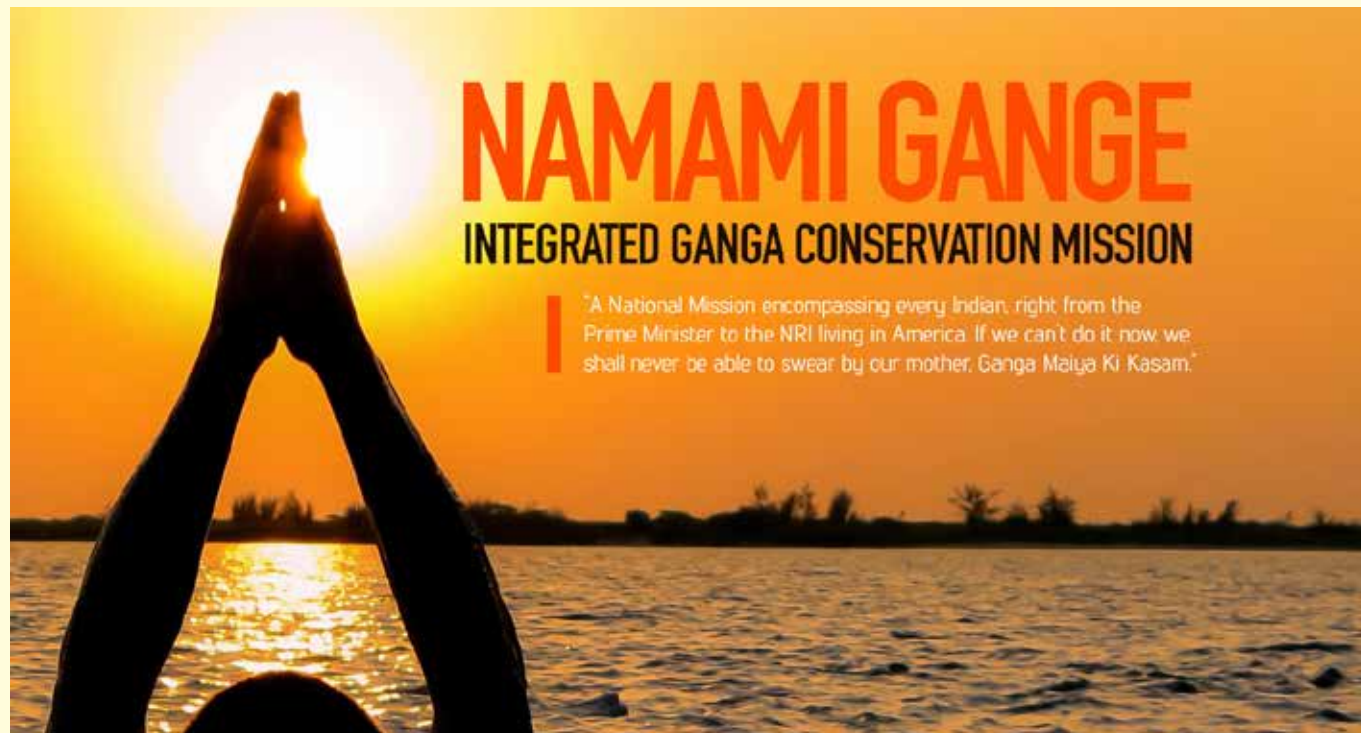
India is a country of rivers. Major cities of the country are situated on the banks of these rivers. These rivers symbolise the nation's cultural, spiritual and economic prosperity and are the lifelines of the majority of the population, which is why they are worshiped and termed as "Mata". River Ganga has special significance in Indian and Sanatan culture. Ganga's water has always been called nectar.

Rivers, especially the Ganga, are full of medicinal properties and their waters contain bacteria that are more effective than antibiotics in treating serious human infections.

Over time, as the cities settled on the banks of the rivers, the challenges of these rivers also increased. These challenges range from the decreasing depth of rivers due to siltation to safeguarding its cleanliness & purity. Most of the rivers including Ganga, Yamuna, Sabarmati have become polluted due to improper disposal of wastes. Sewerage and excreta of the cities are being released directly into the rivers without proper treatment.

Due to domestic waste, industrial waste, agricultural waste, chemical fertilizers, pesticides etc., pollution in most of the rivers has reached its peak and the river water is no longer usable.

After covering a distance of 2525 kms from Gangotri, the river Ganga joins Gangasagar. The Ganga sub-basin extends over an area of 10,86,000 Sq KM and lies in India, Nepal, Tibet and Bangla Desh. The drainage area lying in India is 8,61,404 Sq KM, which is nearly 26.2% of the total geographical area of the country. Due to great bond of Indian culture and civilisation with Mokshadayini Ganga, in June 2014, the Government of India launched an integrated Ganga Conservation Mission named Namami Gange, whose twin objective is effective abatement of pollution and conservation &



rejuvenation of the holy river Ganga and its tributaries. For the success of this mission, targets have been set for basic infrastructure construction for sewerage disposal, industrial effluent monitoring, development of river front, river surface cleaning, Bio-diversity conservation, afforestation, Ganga Gram, public awareness etc. This project covers 9 states namely - Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh respectively.

The activities earmarked for achieving the objectives of the Namami Gange programme have been classified into three parts – Entry level (for immediate impact), Medium term (within 5 years) and Long term (within 10 years) activities. The entry stage activities includes river surface cleaning to collect floating solid waste, construction of toilets for cleaning of solid and liquid waste flowing into drains of rural areas, Renovation, modernization & construction of crematoriums to prevent half-burnt dead bodies from flowing into the river, Repair, modernization and construction of river ghats.

Medium-term activities includes construction of sewerage treatment plants for disposal of waste coming from municipal bodies and setting up of online continuous effluent monitoring stations, biodiversity

conservation, afforestation, and water quality monitoring.

In the long term activities, the goal is to ensure the natural flow of the river by creating e-flow, better water use efficiency and improving surface irrigation potential.

According to the report of Ministry of Jal Shakti, 76 out of 160 sewerage projects, 66 out of 90 river front, river ghat and crematorium project, 1 out of 5 ghat and river surface cleaning project, 26 out of 41 Afforestation and Biodiversity Conservation Project, 3 out of 5 Composite Ecology Task Force and Ganga Mitra Project, 7 out of 25 Research and Development, Public Access and District Ganga Committee Assistance Project and 2 out of 8 Ganga Knowledge and Monitoring Center Projects have been completed.

But in reality, after more than 8 years of launching of the ambitious programme and expending thousand crore rupees, the net effect on the ground is negligible. The quality of water is still poor. The infrastructure being created is of substandard quality and slow pace of work is creating hurdle in day-to-day lives of the people. Red-tapism in the administrative system and arbitrary attitude of the construction agencies raise questions on the sustainability of the scheme.

The Namami Gange programme has been included among the world's

top 10 regeneration flagship initiatives by the United Nations at the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biodiversity (COD) in Kunming-Montreal (Canada). Other top 9 pioneering initiatives for restoring the natural world include Tri-national Atlantic Forest Pact (Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina), Abu Dhabi Marine Restoration, Great Green Wall for Restoration and Peace (Africa), Multi Country Mountain Initiative (Serbia, Kyrgyzstan, Uganda and Rwanda), Small Island Developing States Restoration Drive (Vanuatu, St. Lucia, Camoros), Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative (Kazakhstan), Central American Dry Corridor, Building with Nature (Indonesia) and Shan-Shui Initiative (China).

Following recognition by the United Nations, all selected ground breaking initiatives committed to the prevent and reverse the degradation of natural spaces across the planet are expected to receive UN-backed promotion, funding and technical expertise. When the power of our resolve is strong, even the biggest challenge becomes easy. Government initiatives alone will not last, but citizens have to come forward by involving themselves in every activity of Namami Gange to keep Ganga clean and save biodiversity.

Entertainment

Chandu Champion: Actor Kartik Aaryan performs "most challenging" 8-minute-long single shot



Actor Kartik Aaryan, who is gearing up for sports-drama 'Chandu Champion' on Thursday shared a still from most challenging 8 minutes long single-shot war scene. Taking to Instagram, Kartik treated fans with an intense still from the film and captioned it, "This 8 minutes long single-shot war scene turned out to be the most challenging, spectacular and yes, difficult but also the most memorable shot of my acting career. Thank you @kabirkhankk sir for giving me a memory to cherish for a lifetime."

As soon as he shared the picture, fans and followers chimed in the comment section. One of the users wrote, "From delivering a five and half page monologue in one shot to shooting 8 minutes long war scene in one shot. Only you can relate to doing these things [?]" Another user commented, "Can't wait to see the Shot" "Can't wait anymore to watch chandu champion," another comment read. **ANI**

Actor Akshay Kumar reveals about the 'Best Film' of his career

Actor Akshay Kumar was recently seen in the film 'Mission Raniganj: The Great Bharat Rescue' where he portrayed the role of Jaswant Singh Gill, a real-life unsung hero. "Mission Raniganj is about 71 miners who were trapped three hundred and fifty feet below the coal mine and this Sardar Jaswant Singh Gill who was an engineer and was there at that time. Some people from France and from the UK also came. They all said that it is impossible to get them out, they're dead because there were almost trillion of gallons of water filled below with carbon dioxide sorted filling," Akshay Kumar told ANI,

He added, "Then there comes a man who decides that I am going to save them. I don't know if there is any person who knows that it's sure death still he himself went down and took them out one by one and he himself came last. I have done so many films, this film won't be a commercial success but I can easily tell you it is the best film of my career. Ye meri sabse behtareen, sabse imaandaar, sabse sachchi aur sabse achi film hai. What matters to me is that I have made an honest film." **ANI**



Actor Jada Pinkett and Will Smith revealed of living separately since 2016

American actor Jada Pinkett Smith has revealed that she and her husband Will Smith have been living completely separate lives since 2016, People reported. Pinkett Smith's revelation comes ahead of the release of her new memoir 'Worthy'.

The pair had got married in 1997 but live separately now and they do not plan to divorce. Pinkett told People magazine that she remembered her husband storming the stage at the 2022 Academy Awards and slapping presenter Chris Rock when he made a joke about her shaven head. She has alopecia, which causes hair loss. "I thought, 'This is a skit. Not believing it was real at first, I was like, there's no way that Will hit him'. It wasn't until Will started to walk back to his chair that I even realized it wasn't a skit," Pinkett told People.

The pair had got married in 1997 but live separately now and they do not plan to divorce. Pinkett told People magazine that she remembered her husband storming the stage at the 2022 Academy Awards and slapping presenter Chris Rock when he made a joke about her shaven head. She has alopecia, which causes hair loss. "I thought, 'This is a skit. Not believing it was real at first, I was like, there's no way that Will hit him'. It wasn't until Will started to walk back to his chair that I even realized it wasn't a skit," Pinkett told People. She said she "made a promise" to Smith that there would never be a reason for them to divorce, "and I just haven't been able to break that promise," she said. **ANI**



Actor Jim Sarbh gave a shoutout with new fashion look to Delhi



In Jim Sarbh-starrer hit fiction series 'Made in Heaven', the makers have kinda taken style inspiration from real wedding scenes of Indian society, especially from the homes of the elite families of Delhi.

Interestingly, on Wednesday, Jim gave a shoutout to Delhiites' fashion statement while speaking to ANI at Lakme Fashion Week 2023. "I think the elite of Delhi are very fashion-forward and fashion-conscious. Since we fit into that world we would have to be as well," he said, referring to 'Made in Heaven'. Jim was in the national capital for Lakme Fashion Week, where he turned showstopper for designer Samant Chauhan. He hit the runway in an embellished chest piece atop an ivory cotton silk shirt with pants paired with a dramatic oversized coat. He represented Samant's collection 'Ice Watch' at the gala.

As per the designer, the collection is inspired by the beauty and fragility of glaciers. Sharing his experience as a muse, Jim, in a statement, shared, "Walking for Samant, in his bespoke creation for Lakme Fashion Week x FDCI, has been an absolute delight. Making my way down the Atelier, I felt a connection with nature's elegance. Ice watch: this collection is a tribute to the glaciers and their fragility. It's a reminder of the delicate beauty we must cherish and protect." **ANI**