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# Afternoon VOICE

IEWS & VISION OF CITY

Volume: 16, Issue: 41

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023 MUMBAI 08 PAGES, ₹ 2/-

RNI No. MAHENG/2009/29332

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## Women's Reservation Bill: Sharad Pawar slams PM Modi, says "He was not briefed appropriately" over no support from congress, allies

**N**CP chief Sharad Pawar on Tuesday said the Congress and its allies wholeheartedly supported the Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament, and asserted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was not briefed correctly about it. He also said that it was the previous Congress governments in Maharashtra and at the Centre that had initiated steps for women's empowerment. His statement comes a day after PM Modi said in Madhya Pradesh that

the Congress and its allies in the new "ghamandia" (arrogant) alliance supported the Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament "reluctantly".

Addressing a press conference here, Pawar said, "PM Narendra Modi spoke of Congress and 'ghamandia' allies supporting the Women's Reservation Bill reluctantly. But this is not true. All of us have wholeheartedly supported the bill. The PM was not appropriately briefed."

He said that on June 24, 1994, the Congress government headed by him in Maharashtra had unveiled a women's policy which was the first in the country. "Similarly, the Congress government at the Centre had brought the 73rd constitutional amendment, which paved the way for 33 per cent quota for women in local bodies," the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) founder said.

"When I was Defence Minister, 11 per cent reservation was given to women

in Army, Navy and Air Force," he said. To a question on his meeting with industrialist Gautam Adani in Ahmedabad, Pawar said he had gone to inaugurate an industrial unit belonging to a businessman from Baramati. Adani was the chief guest of the function held at Sanand industrial estate, he said. On the issue of tension between India-Canada tensions, Pawar said his total support as an Indian citizen will be with the policy of the Indian government. **PTI**

## Crossing the barriers of "Demonetization, GST and Lockdown"

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

**S**omehow, I completed my studies. I did Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP) certification. Also got trained on laser machines, did beauty and esthetician certification courses. Opened a wellness clinic called "Vaidehee Aesthetics and Wellness", hired a dermatologist, purchased some machines on EMI. In the present scenario, beauty industry has no death. I thought this business will generate regular income to support Afternoon Voice. Because my magazines were not doing well, industry was limited and many publications made their entries, finding peculiar reporters to cover shipping sector became difficult. I shut those magazines.

Vaidehee Aesthetics was started in 2015, it was doing good, but every new business needs time to reach some break-even. We were committed to ethical treatments than getting into these industries malpractices. For me it was dou-

ble duty, half day in Afternoon Voice and rest of the day at Vaidehee Aesthetics and Wellness. Night I was doing cyber security jobs. Some content writing work for various agencies also. Online coaching for some college of journalism and trade, I was working 24/7 to run the show. Perhaps this is the time I completely got detached from my fraternity. I could hardly attend any event or press conference. But never compromised on Afternoon Voice.

We were survived against all odds till 2016. 2014 to 2016 the nation was in Modi worship; it is even today but then there were some hopes. Amid Inflation and economic slowdown people held broom in their hand and participated in cleaning photo-op in the name of "Swatch Bharat Mission" by now 'Make in India' was super-duper flop.

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# Editoritis

# Crossing the barriers of "Demonetization, GST and Lockdown"

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*Demonetization gave huge setback to small businesses. For months people were spending their time in Bank queue.*

*Online work never suffered, but slowed down. I had to approach family for some funds, some ancestral properties were sold to provide me some funds.*

*Media got extremely divided, most of the media channels became "Their master's voice". They were labeled as lap media.*

Ram Mandir was again in news but Ram Temple dream came true. BJP won in state of Maharashtra and Devendra Fadavis became Chief Minister. Politically lot was changed in state and center. Well, we the commoners had to struggle to earn our living who so ever rules the state.

Somehow, people were trying to adjust with new government and its politics, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced the demonetization of Rs 500 and Rs 1000-rupee notes. Demonetization gave huge setback to small businesses. For months people were spending their time in Bank queue. There was no flow of money in the market, small business succumbed to this pressure. Vaidehee Aesthetics was completely out of business, rather it became liability. Machine EMI's and clinic rent was huge. Online work never suffered, but slowed down. I had to approach family for some funds, some ancestral properties were sold to provide me some funds. My relatives and friends stood by me in thick and thins.

I approached all my well-wishers and friends and also my directors, their individual businesses were also at stake. But all those salaried friends also helped me with sharing some or the other responsibility of Afternoon Voice, we shut print edition for few months and only online publication was kept running. With everyone's contribution the newspaper survived. But there was lot of panicky in people. I told my staff that I may not be able to pay them regular salaries and they can take a call, but they all stood in support without taxing me much. I also requested my readers to visit our online edition and keep reading us. By now some of our readers became regular visitors of office, they used to volunteer in helping us with office work, some freelance writers used to do their job. We were supported by many in our journey.

The challenges were knocking us through different doors, GST was another disaster came our way, income tax, GST and already a huge setback to business, small businesses and especially self-funded ventures like us really grieved. I am thankful to all my employees, employers those who gave me online work, my friends and family members, and my directors and well-wishers for their huge contribution for the sustenance of Afternoon Voice. It took us years to come back on track.

Vaidehee Aesthetics was doing good business because we were sharing our machines with other doctors, the cliental was built up. I also had handful of freelance jobs. Afternoon Voice was getting advertisements, classifieds and some paid promotions too. 2016 to 2018 we had tremendous struggle, but in 2019 things became positive. It was election time and nation were busy and more than nation we were busy making news. Modi came to power for second time, but things were not changed much for common public. Especially for the strugglers like us.

Media got extremely divided, most of the media channels became "Their master's voice". They were labeled as lap media. I never ever witnessed such low of journalism. There were set of media people who were hardcore anti Modi and majority of media houses pro Modi. Opposition is weakest ever in India history, there were neutral voices but their reach was nowhere near the main stream media houses.

In Maharashtra BJP lost to power because Devendra Fadanavis was sabotaged twice. A new coalition government Maha Vikas Aghadi came to rule, and global

Pandemic knocked our doors. COVID 19 Lockdown was irreparable tragedy. We all were working from home but office-rent and clinic-rent was on. Most of the staff left job because they had their own challenges, but Akshay Redij the digital editor of Afternoon Voice and I, we both managed the show. Afternoon Voice got new viewership; we were prompt in giving all updates. Clinic was partly functional.

During Lockdown, many newspapers in Mumbai ceased production. The large issue was not on the supply end, it was not in the newsroom but at the distribution channel that had been badly affected. Many prominent media houses have sanctioned layoffs or mandatory leave without pay. While The Indian Express and Business Standard newspapers have announced pay cuts, others have also taken the steps to curb costs. 15 employees of News Nation, a Hindi news national channel, were asked to leave with immediate effect. On April 13, 2020 digital news website, The Quint had asked about 45 employees to go on indefinite leave without pay. Many news organizations faced "a truly unprecedented situation...in these circumstances, revenue was under severe strain. Times Life, the Sunday supplement of the Times of India also asked its employees to leave. Small media houses just silently vanished from the race. There was a survival crisis for the news print

This was the time when I actually thought of winding Afternoon Voice. News of closures and layoffs in the media industry was distressing me. I was almost at the verge of shutting down my newspaper. Dealing with monetary disasters was not easy and above all coming up from scratch looked difficult but, in some way, we walked our path making many adjustments and this year celebrating 15th year of success.

I always wanted to have one honest parallel media publication to fight the odds in fourth estate, but with the time I realized the monster of unethical media is so huge, efforts like us make no difference and not even get noticed. Since our entry into the market, we have always been experimenting with things to set new trends in media and keep parallel journalism alive. Holding a Publication house or Newspaper one need courage and capabilities and a strong pen in hand. There is no alternative to hard work and sincere efforts. For me, it has been quite an eventful journey and a fantastic learning process.

At this juncture my company went in dormant and the directors also resigned. They thought newspaper can be hugely profitable business, but the roller-coaster ride did not fascinate them. Many get astonished by our persistence. Now I learned the secret of working with limited resources. I am proud to know the fact that, ours is one of the parallel media houses existing so far. The main purpose of starting this media house is to say no to intellectual slavery. We may not be hundred percent successful because we are still young but the fact is that we at least have tried.



Volume No. 16 | Issue No. 41



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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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## Increasing significance of including practical courses in academy



- Vijay Garg

There are different styles of learning that can vary from student to student, but the practical approach to learning is unarguably the best approach known to benefit students largely. Introducing practical courses in the education system has a unique ability to enhance a learner's skills in a non-classroom environment. This makes it crucial for institutes to create and inculcate practical courses in mainstream academics that will help students apply theoretical knowledge in practical and real-life situations and build on skills such as problem-solving and creativity. The idea is to learn through a systematic, practical approach that allows students to think critically, analyse a problem, and develop appropriate solutions.

There has been a rising urge among new-age learners to adapt to learning patterns that foster the development of multi-disciplinary knowledge through practical training programmes. The new breed of learners understands the colossal importance of a hands-on learning curriculum and is proactively seeking to acquire non-theoretical skills to upgrade their skill sets. The old-school system of rote learning is slowly losing its roots, with practical learning gaining dominion and influencing different facets of the education system.

The successful implementation of practical learning programmes requires well-formulated training modules that assist students in expanding their knowledge by enabling them to prog-

ress. The goal for students is to take up challenging and competitive industry roles that require autonomous decision-making and innovative thought processes. This is only possible by advancing learning opportunities through exposure to real-world situations.

### Catalyst for evolving learners

Experiential learning is one of the most powerful approaches to learning and allows learners to engage in the 'art of self-experimentation'. The methodology is reflective, enables critical analysis, and is a synthesis of learning processes that enables the creation of future leaders. Institutes are imbibing learning programmes that help students acquire leadership and analytical skills that are of mounting importance in an ever-evolving and dynamic career landscape.

### The liberal approach to education

A cornerstone of liberal arts education is the interdisciplinary method of learning. This method integrates several disciplines of study and exposes students to a variety of subjects and perspectives. An interdisciplinary liberal approach promotes a blend of academic and experiential learning for a cohesive outcome. It incorporates vital skills such as creative thinking, quantitative literacy, teamwork, problem-solving, ethical reasoning, and intercultural knowledge in mainstream academia. Furthermore, it provides a framework for cumulative progress to ensure that students are well-equipped to address global challenges.

## Letters to the Editor

### Heavy vehicle barred from plying on Oshiwara bridge

Recently, the BMC has barred heavy vehicles from plying on Oshiwara bridge apparently for fear of the bridge collapsing. This seems to be yet another instance of the BMC's lackluster attitude towards the Infrastructure in this financial-commercial capital of the country, called Mumbai. Needless to say, the authorities need to give a serious thought to regular inspection and maintenance of the existing Infrastructure to prevent mishaps, thereby preventing unnecessary damage and loss of life and property.

Melville X. D'Souza

### Row with Canada

The relationship between India and Canada has been worsening since the Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accused the Indian government of complicity in the killing of a Khalistani separatist leader. This

can adversely affect the students and migrants who are living in Canada for a better education and future. Their safety must be the first priority of the Indian government. The government should not take such a step which will lead to their insecurity.

Muhammad Hassan

### Can Dalit parties reignite social justice movement?

Coalition of 26 Parties in I.N.D.I.A. is evident that the battle of the 2024 general elections for the ruling right-wing establishment will not be easy. While major national and regional parties in the opposition have joined this alliance and appealed to other secular parties to unite for a decisive defeat of BJP, some parties have decided to operate at the fences. Notably, the absence of BSP in this alliance has raised eyebrows, as it has a history of a remarkable struggle against Brahmanical hegemony and is seen as the vanguard of social justice politics. It is equally important for the leaders of I.N.D.I.A. to provide dignified political space to the Dalit leaders and herald social justice as the primary

agenda in its manifesto. A unified front to defend the ideals of secularism and social justice will be a crucial challenge and can halt the right-wing juggernaut.

Tauqueer Rahmani

### Wastage of public money!

The railway department spends lakhs of rupees to keep control on increasing numbers of rodents, but the number of rodents does not decrease. It is like after digging huge mountain, finally a mouse in hand. The same is the case with stray dogs. Local municipalities spend lakhs of rupees on the sterilization of stray dogs. However, the number of stray dogs is not decreasing. On the contrary, it is increasing. There is no one to ask about all these expenses. So all the arbitrary administration is going on. Such wastage of public money is wrong.

Sudhir Kangutkar

### It Shows BJP's Ideology

The Parliament House is new but people sitting there are the same as those who used to sit in the old House in the past. The chair and place may be new but the thoughts of the MPs are the same

as they were in the old House. Danish Ali and Ramesh Bidhuri controversy is not first and new incident in parliamentary history. But, Bidhuri made such a statement which disappoints all the MPs in a healthy constitution. The words he used are unacceptable. Whatever Bidhuri said, he did not say it casually, but said in full consciousness and assimilating the ideology of his party. In other words, he has not only targeted BSP MP Danish Ali but on this pretext he has also targeted the major minorities of the country. It becomes clear from the smiling faces of BJP MPs Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Ravi Shankar Prasad who were sitting with Bidhuri that the entire BJP community is feeling happy and proud with Bidhuri's statement. What was feared after 2014 has now started happening in this country.

N Ashraf

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)

## UBT Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut slams BJP says, "Not just AIADMK, but more parties will break ties with the BJP"



After The All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) broke all ties with Bharatiya Janata Party and NDA, Shiv Sena (UBT) Sanjay Raut has said that Not just AIADMK, but more parties will break ties with the BJP. Sanjay Raut in press conference said "When we formed INDIA alliance that is when they remembered NDA. Till then it was 'Modi akele kafi hai'. But the moment INDIA alliance was formed, PM

Modi was not enough alone, they needed more support. The NDA alliance which does not have Shiv Sena and Akali Dal is not NDA. Shiv Sena and Akali Dal were the real strength of NDA. This NDA is very weak. Not just AIADMK, but more parties will break ties with the BJP. BJP will also sink before 2024."

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) lost a key ally in Tamil Nadu on Monday when the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra

Kazhagam (AIADMK) snapped its ties with the ruling party at the Centre. This came as a jolt to the BJP, just months before the 2024 Lok Sabha polls as well as key state assembly elections preceding that.

"The state leadership of the BJP has been continuously making unnecessary remarks about our former leaders, our general secretary EPS (K Palaniswami) and our cadres for the past year. In today's meeting, this resolution was passed unanimously that AIADMK will break all ties with BJP and NDA alliance," AIADMK leader KP Munuswamy said.

Munuswamy alleged that the state BJP has been intentionally attacking former Chief Minister Jayalalitha and Annadurai. Bihar Deputy Chief Minister and Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav said that BJP lost a major ally in south India and it is a big loss to the party. ANI

## State govt says, "Visit applicant's home if needed to prevent illegal immigrants and anti-nationals from obtaining an Indian passport" to police



The Maharashtra home department has issued an order asking police officials to visit the residence of a passport applicant, "if required", before clearing verification of the applicant's address. The aim is to prevent illegal immigrants and anti-nationals from obtaining an Indian passport, as per the government order issued on Monday.

The preface of the order pointed out that central agencies have found organised gangs involved in issuing fake Aadhaar

and PAN cards to illegal foreign immigrants. These gangs use residential addresses from north-eastern states, it said. Such foreign nationals then apply under the 'Tatkal Passport' service and influence the decision-making of police with the help of local administration, the order said. Such gangs are suspected to have been illegally supplying Aadhaar cards to illegal immigrants and anti-nationals. It is affecting the internal security of the country, the order said. PTI

## Ganesh Chaturthi festivity: Man booked for molesting woman at immersion procession in Navi Mumbai

A case has been registered against an autorickshaw driver for allegedly molesting and verbally abusing a woman at an immersion procession of a Ganesha idol in Navi Mumbai, police said on Tuesday.

The police have registered a case under section 354 (assault or use of criminal force to any woman, intending to outrage her modesty) and other relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code for the incident that took place in Turbhe on September 24, assistant police

inspector Datta Dafal said.

As per the complaint lodged by the victim, an immersion procession of a Ganesha idol was passing through Turbhe Naka around 10 pm on September 24, when the accused, who was inebriated, caught her hand and verbally abused her, he said. The duo had a heated argument after the accused allegedly molested her, the official said.

The police are probing the incident and no arrest has been made in the case so far, he added. PTI

## Engine failure of goods train in Umbermali-Khardi section disrupts services of local and express trains

Both local and express trains were disrupted and passengers were stranded on Tuesday morning after the engine of a goods train failed in the Umbermali-Khardi section on the Central line of the Mumbai Suburban Railway network. According to Central Railway Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) Dr Shivraj Manaspure, "A goods train engine has had a technical failure in the Umbermali-Khardi section since 11:20 am. Therefore, it is blocked, and an assisting engine is planned for it. DN section is running."

## Mumbai 26/11 terror attack: Tahawwur Rana stayed at Mumbai hotel before the attack as per police chargesheet

In the supplementary chargesheet filed against Pakistani-origin Canadian businessman Tahawwur Rana in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks case, the city police have mentioned that he stayed for two days at a hotel in suburban Powai till November 21, 2008, days before the attacks, an official said. The Mumbai police's crime branch on Monday submitted the over 400-page chargesheet, the fourth in the case so far, before a special court hearing the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) cases. Rana, currently under detention in the United States, faces multiple charges for his role in the Mumbai attacks and is known to be associated with Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman Headley, one of the main conspirators of the 26/11 strikes. The chargesheet mentions that



Tahawwur Hussain Rana came to India on November 11, 2008 and stayed in the country till November 21. He spent two of these days at the Renaissance Hotel in Powai, a senior official of the Mumbai police's crime branch said on Tuesday. "We have found documentary evidence against Rana and some statements in which his role in the conspiracy was established. The documentary evidence shows that Rana

was actively involved in the conspiracy with Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman Headley, one of the main conspirators of the 26/11 strikes," he said. He (Rana) was the person who helped Headley get an Indian tourist visa based on fake documents, the official added. Rana allegedly provided logistic support to the Lashkar-e-Taiba in carrying out the 26/11 terror attacks, he said. "The crime branch has found email communications between Headley and Rana," he said, adding that in one of the emails related to 26/11 terror attacks, Headley asked about Major Iqbal's email id, he said.

Major Iqbal, an operative of the Pakistani intelligence agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), was named as accused in the 26/11 terror plot case, he said. PTI

## Nation

### Bihar: Dalit women beaten up and stripped naked in Khusrupur, no arrests yet



Three days after a Dalit women beaten up and stripped naked in Khusrupur area of Bihar, the police have yet to arrest the accused. Patna SSP Rajiv Mishra said "Our team is trying to arrest the accused. According to local witnesses, the woman and her husband had borrowed some money from the accused. There was a dispute over it, and an incident of violence

occurred. As per the local witnesses, the allegations of disrobing and other allegations have not been confirmed yet" he said.

"The investigations are in their initial stages. We have submitted a proposal to the district welfare officer to give compensation to the woman. The woman is being given medical treatment. Whatever facts come up, we will do further investigation

into them. The evidence of urination has not been confirmed yet. The local witnesses, too, have not confirmed this. They have confirmed the incident of a woman being beaten up. We will arrest the accused soon" the SSP added. According to the police, the women and her husband had borrowed Rs 1500 from a money lender. After repaying the whole amount, the lender demanded for interest on the loan. Upon, refusing to pay the same, money lender and his son assaulted the women and stripped her naked, the victim alleged in her complaint.

It was alleged by the women also that the son of the money lender had urinated on her too. The women sustained serious injuries and is getting treatment in the hospital, police added. The incident occurred on September 23. ANI

### Gyanvapi case: Advocate files a fresh plea stating, "Hindu side demands handover of Gyanvapi basement to Varanasi District Magistrate"



Amid the ongoing survey of the Gyanvapi complex by Archaeological Survey of India, advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain representing the Hindu side in the Gyanvapi case on Tuesday said that a fresh plea has been submitted in the district court Varanasi seeking the handover of the basement of Gyanvapi complex from under the possession of the Vyas fam-

ily to the District Magistrate. The 'tahkhana' (basement) that is under the possession of the Vyas family is in the southern part of the Gyanvapi mosque.

The Hindu side of the case has demanded that the basement be handed over to the District Magistrate immediately and that the DM be appointed as its receiver. "We have filed a civil suit on behalf of the Vyas family in the honourable

civil court, Varanasi, and we have also applied before the Varanasi district court and district judge, to transfer the original trial to the district court, Varanasi, like it is doing in other cases," told Advocate Vishnu Shankar to ANI. "The demand in this is that a basement which is on the southern side of the Masjid can be taken over by the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee and hence we have demanded that the possession of this basement be handed over to DM immediately and that the DM be appointed its receiver," he said. "We have gone to the district court with this demand. Today a hearing has been done on our transfer application and Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee has appeared in this case and asked to reply. We will receive an order on the transfer application tomorrow, after that further action will be taken in this case," he added. ANI

### Cauvery water dispute: Police says, "Adequate arrangements have been made" over bandh



Police in Bengaluru Tuesday said they have made adequate bandobast and no protest or procession will be allowed amid a call for Bandh by farmer outfits to protest against an order by Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to release 5000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu. "We have made adequate bandobast...as per the order of the commissioner, no protest or procession is allowed... traffic is normal," Deputy Commissioner of Police (central) Bengaluru Shekar T Tekkannavar told ANI.

Police have been deployed in city's Whitefield and Cottonpete to maintain law and order. All the shops are closed except those providing essential services. Farmer bodies, Kannada organisations, and opposition parties have called for a 'Bandh' on Tuesday in the city to protest against the order of the Cauvery Water Management Author-

ity (CWMA) directing the state to release 5000 cusecs of water to its neighbouring state, Tamil Nadu, for 15 days, effective September 13. Naseer Khan, an auto driver at Majestic Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMT) Bus stop, told ANI they support the bandh. "We support the bandh called by various organisations. When the Cauvery water issue comes, we have a very clear stand that Karnataka will not provide water to anyone. Autos will not run today, we will support the bandh."

Manju, a bus conductor, told ANI, "As bandh has been called, no commuters are seen at Kempegowda bus stop, which is usually one of the busiest bus stops in the state."

Amid the bandh, a commuter from Maharashtra was reportedly asked to pay 300-500 rupees for 12 kilometres. Cabs will be plying as usual and restaurants will remain closed in the city. ANI

### Vande Bharat express allegations: Union Minister V Muraleedharan says, "People were welcoming Vande Bharat train at stations, not me"

Union Minister V Muraleedharan on Tuesday rejected the Congress' allegations that the inaugural run of Kerala's second Vande Bharat Express had turned into his own political campaign, saying people were welcoming the train at the stations and not him. The Union Minister of State for External Affairs was responding to the allegations by Congress MP K Mu-

raleedharan, who on Monday had said the train was stopped at the stations for more than the mandated time to enable him to accept the greetings of the BJP workers and supporters who had turned up there. The Congress MP had also said the executive coach of the train had turned into a BJP party office as many party supporters got passes, the same as those given to MPs, to board it. PTI

World

# US: President Joe Biden to join 'Auto worker's strike' in Michigan



United States President Joe Biden's decision to stand alongside United Auto Workers picketers Tuesday on the 12th day of their strike against major carmakers underscores an allegiance to labour unions that appears to be unparalleled in presidential history. Experts in presidential and US labour history say they cannot recall an instance where a sitting president has joined an ongoing strike, even during the tenures of the more ardent pro-union presidents such as Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Harry Truman.

Theodore Roosevelt invited labour leaders alongside mine operators to the White House

amid a historic coal strike in 1902, a decision that was seen at the time as a rare embrace of unions as Roosevelt tried to resolve the dispute. Lawmakers often appear at strikes to show solidarity with unions, and during his 2020 Democratic primary campaign, Biden and other presidential hopefuls joined a picket line of hundreds of casino workers in Las Vegas who were pushing for a contract with The Palms Casino Resort.

But sitting presidents, who have to balance the rights of workers with disruptions to the economy, supply chains and other facets of everyday life, have long wanted to stay out of

the strike fray, until Biden. "This is absolutely unprecedented. No president has ever walked a picket line before," said Erik Loomis, a professor at the University of Rhode Island and an expert on US labour history. Presidents historically avoided direct participation in strikes. They saw themselves more as mediators. They did not see it as their place to directly intervene in a strike or in labour action.

During the ongoing UAW strike, Biden has argued that the auto companies have not yet gone far enough to satisfy the union, although White House officials have repeatedly declined to say whether the president endorses specific UAW demands such as a 40 per cent hike in wages and full-time pay for a 32-hour work week. "I think the UAW gave up an incredible amount back when the automobile industry was going under. They gave everything from their pensions on, and they saved the automobile industry," Biden said Monday from the White House. He stressed that the workers should benefit from the carmakers' riches now that the industry is roaring back. PTI

# Pakistan: Former PM Imran Khan's judicial detention in the Cipher case gets extension



Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman, Imran Khan and Shah Mahmood Qureshi, the vice chairman, had their judicial detention in the cipher case extended by a special court on Tuesday by 14 days now, reported Dawn. The cipher case refers to a diplomatic document which reportedly went missing from Imran Khan's possession. The judicial remand of Khan and Qureshi has been extended till October 10.

According to the PTI, it contained a US threat to depose Imran from office. It was discovered that the PTI chairman had been

held on judicial remand in the cipher case after the Toshakhana case's three-year prison sentence was suspended, Dawn reported. Imran's special court proceedings are being held at the Attock jail "for security reasons," according to a notice from the law ministry.

Imran's special court proceedings are being held at the Attock jail "for security reasons," according to a notice from the law ministry. Notably, Imran's judicial detention along with Qureshi's was originally prolonged until September 13 and then again until September 26. ANI

# US: Woman dies after falling from more than a 100 feet waterfall

A woman has died after falling more than 100 feet from a waterfall in Glassmine Falls Overlook, North Carolina, US, CNN reported. The 61-year-old woman died after falling roughly 150 feet from a steep cliff on the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina.

A call was received by the authorities on Saturday about a woman who had fallen down a cliff at Glassmine Falls Overlook, located on the scenic National Parkway, the National Park Service said in a news release. The high overlook attracts visitors for its view of a skinny waterfall - Glassmine Falls - across the valley, according to the park service. Rescuers found the woman roughly 150 feet below the overlook, the release said. She was identified as Nancy Sampson of

Greer, South Carolina.

Crews from the Reems Creek Fire Department, who responded to the call, rappelled down more than 100 feet and located the hiker, the department said in a Facebook post. The hiker died from her injuries, the department said, as per CNN. The Trauma Intervention Program of Western North Carolina said that a family member was on scene and "distracted" in the aftermath of the woman's fatal fall. "The distraught family member lives out of state and was alone following the tragic incident. The TIP volunteer went above and beyond in supporting him at the scene and helping him get back down the mountain and connect with friends who could support him after this tragic loss," their statement said as per CNN. ANI

# Sweden experiences two powerful explosions

Two powerful explosions ripped through dwellings in central Sweden, injuring at least three people and damaging buildings, with bricks and window sections left spread outside. Late Monday, an explosion occurred in Hasselby, a suburb of the capital, Stockholm. In the early hours of Tuesday, a blast in Linkoping, some 175 km (110 miles) to the southwest, ripped the facade off a three-story building, leaving debris strewn across a parking area. It was not known whether the blasts were related to each other.

Swedish radio said Tuesday that the explosion in Linkoping was connected to an ongoing feud between criminal gangs, a growing problem in Sweden with drive-by shootings and bombings.

Two gangs, one led by a Swedish-Turkish dual national

who lives in Turkey, the other by his former lieutenant, are reportedly fighting over drugs and weapons. So far this year, there have been 261 shootings, 36 people have died and 73 were wounded. The count doesn't include the latest explosions. Police

said that residents in the affected area in Linkoping were evacuated to a nearby sports facility. In Hasselby, three people were taken to a hospital - their conditions were not known. No one has been arrested in connection with the two explosions, police said. PTI

# Canada: Khalistan supporters hold protest outside Indian Consulate

Dozens of Khalistan supporters outside the Indian Consulate in Vancouver held a protest against the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar amid Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegations that the Indian government was behind his slaying. Protesters waved Khalistan flags, played music and shouted slogans. Some of them burnt India's flag in a garbage can outside the Indian Consulate.

Similar protests were held in Toronto as well.

Protesters called Nijjar's killing an "assassination" and called for a public inquiry into the case, Canada-based CTV News reported. The protest was one of several planned by Khalistan supporters in cities across Canada. The World Sikh Organization in advance issued a warning of the possibility of "incitement and interference" and called for vigilance, CTV News reported. ANI

## Expression

# Tourism ushers in Peace and Smile



Lalit Garg

Columnist

World Tourism Day is celebrated every year on 27 September with different themes; this year's theme is 'Tourism and Green Investment'. Every year one country is selected by the United Nations World Tourism Organization to host the Tourism Day in 2023 'Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia' is hosting the events of this important day. Last year, Bali, an island of Indonesia was chosen as the host country for 2022. Today, the situation of war has deepened at the global level; every person is surrounded by some or the other problems, like inflation, unemployment, disease, epidemic etc. In this era of fear and life crisis, it seems as if happiness and smiles have gone somewhere else. Despite all this, every person should definitely find some time in his life to have happiness, peace and joy coming alive; and tourism is a powerful medium for such wonderful moments. To embrace happiness and peace, one must embark on the world's itinerary.

Tourism will not only help in bringing back the happy moments in our lives, but it will also play an important role in the social, cultural, political and economic development of any country. Due to many reasons, clouds of economic crisis are looming over the world, in these circumstances the first need of every country is to strengthen the economy, and tourism will play an important role in it. The economy of many countries revolves around the tourism industry.

European countries, coastal African countries, East Asian countries, Canada, Australia and India etc are such countries where the income from the tourism industry strengthens their economy. India attracted many foreign travelers in the past due to its perceived wealth, cultural splendour, resplendent nature and picturesque views; the arrival of the Chinese Buddhist monk Hiuen Tsang in India is one such example.

Emperor Ashoka and Emperor Harsh got many constructions done to strengthen the pilgrimage. Indian economics indicates the importance of tourism sector infrastructure for governments, which has played an important role in the past. After Independence, the tourism sector has continuously been a part of five year plans. After the Seventh Five Year Plan, various forms of tourism like business



tourism, health tourism and wildlife tourism etc were introduced in India. India's tourism sector ranks sixth in its contribution to the world's gross domestic product (GDP), with a contribution of US\$178.0 billion in 2021, as the World Travel and Tourism Council reports.

India has diverse tourism potential and richness, which offers many types of tourism, including cultural, nature, heritage, educational, sports, rural, eco-tourism etc. This diversity of India makes it a major tourist attraction. Tourism in India has the potential to promote faster, more sustainable and more inclusive growth.

September 27 was chosen as World Tourism Day, because on this day the Constitution of the World Tourism Organization was accepted in 1970. Tourism Day is seen as a milestone in the efforts to promote global tourism and the purpose of celebrating this day is to disseminate and spread awareness to the world about how tourism globally makes the world a family. It can help in developing social, cultural, political and economic values, and also increasing mutual understanding. This is the main basis of world peace. Tourism has special importance for countries like India; besides showing off the archaeological heritage or cultural heritage of the country, international tourism is also a source of revenue. The livelihood of many people is linked to international tourism sectors. Today, by looking at countries like India, old and historical buildings are being conserved and promoted in almost all the countries of the world.

India shows off innumerable tourist spots and exotic destinations. Be it grand monuments, ancient temples or tombs, rivers, waterfalls, natural scenic spots; its bright colours and rich cultural heritage have an inextricable connection with its technology-driven present. Tourist spots

like Kerala, Shimla, Goa, Agra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Mathura, Kashi are always in the news for their foreign tourists. Every year lakhs of international tourists come to visit India. There are beautiful places for all types of tourists here, whether they are on an adventure trip, a cultural trip, a pilgrimage or a trip to the beautiful beaches. In Delhi, Mumbai, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and many states of South India, people spend months roaming around.

India is famous all over the world for its scenic beauty. In India, people of different sects, religions and castes live together. Due to its rich cultural, historical and natural heritage, India ranks among the major tourist countries of the world. Every state here has supernatural and unique specialties which attract international tourists. India-travel has a special attraction for those tourists who are looking for calm, magical beauty and adventure. For these tourists, the abundant travel literature in India has been presenting itself with a special identity and usefulness. Till now, from the point of view of travel literature, Rahul Sankrityayan's 'My Tibet Yatra', Dr. Bhagwati Sharan Upadhyay's 'Sagar Ki Waver Par', Kapurchand Kulish's 'Main Dekhte Chala Gaya', Dharamveer Bharti's 'Dhale Par Himalaya' and Nehru's 'Aankhon Dekha Russia', Rameshwar Tanti's 'Memoirs of World Travel', Acharya Tuli's travelogue. Like travel literature, my friend Shri Pukhraj Sethia's 'Aao Ghoomo Apna Desh' is a poignant and interesting travelogue.

These travelogues contain all the qualities of a travelogue like factuality, geography, charm and spontaneity. Because of these texts, the diversity of the country has attracted many wandering people from across the country and the world. The aim of life of these itinerant men has been to move away from the hustle and bustle of life; and to find the meaning of life in the major tourist

destinations. The search for this truth has led him to encounter various historical, natural, cultural and spiritual places. These travelogues not only describe the major tourist destinations, but also give a lively presentation of the people there, the food there, the lifestyle there, the cultural values there and the historical facts there. This India is changing every moment, fresh, multi-dimensional and full of miraculous reality to the extent of magic. It is truly a supernatural and unique experience to encounter the complete diversity, daily innovations and contradictions of India, so that this multi-faceted India can be seen in its multi-dimensional and unique form and the beauty hidden in the layers of rough and tumble can be revealed.

We experience India like a bouquet, in which different types of flowers are arranged. Some flowers have the redness of Kashmir and some have the magic of Kamrup. Some flowers are cherished buds of Punjab, while some others have the fragrance of Shyama of Tamil Nadu. In some there are stories of sacrifice of Rajasthan and in some there is religiosity of Uttar Pradesh. In Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal and other states, cultural unity in diversity can be seen. Similarly, apart from tourism in Jaisalmer, the experience of detailed information about the ancient manuscripts stored there, architecture and Jain tourist places are also unique. The Indian Tourism Department had launched a campaign named 'Incredible India'. The objective of this campaign was to promote Indian tourism on the global platform, which became successful to a great extent. In the times of shrinking distances, people are curious to know about the outside world also. This is the reason why tourism has become a thriving industry in the world today.

# Entertainment



**A**ctor Priyanka Chopra Jonas applauded everyone's efforts in bringing about a tentative but essential agreement between the Writers Guild Association (WGA) and the studios and streamers. The SAG AFTRA strike, which has been ongoing since July of this year, might come to an end as a result of this outcome. She took to her Instagram handle and wrote, "Bravo!!! This is the result of a committed, unified stance. Hope that this positive momentum can drive closure on the SAG AFTRA discussions too. After several long consecutive days of negotiations, the #WGA and the #AMPTP have reached a tentative deal on a new contract in a major development that could precipitate the end of a historic, 146-day #WritersStrike."

Nearly five months after Hollywood screenwriters went on strike, a tentative deal has been struck to end the impasse between writers and studios that has impacted the television and movie industry.

The Writers Guild of America (WGA) on Sunday signed a tentative deal with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP), a labour group representing studios and streaming services, Deadline reported. **ANI**

**A**ctor Alia Bhatt on Tuesday announced her next film with director Vasan Bala. Titled 'Jigra' the film will be co-produced by Karan Johar and Alia herself.

Post the success of the romantic drama film 'Rocky aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani' Alia will be again seen joining hands with KJo for the new project. On Tuesday, actor Alia took to her Instagram account and shared the announcement video of the film. "Presenting #Jigra, directed by the extremely talented @vasanbala and produced by @dharmamovies & @eternalsunshineproduction. From debuting in a Dharma production to now producing a film with them, in many ways, it feels like coming full circle from where I started. Every day is a different day... exciting, challenging (and a little scary)... not just as an actor but also as a producer as we bring this film to life, and I CANNOT wait to share more as we move forward. JIGRA - in cinemas on 27th September 2024," she captioned. **ANI**



**Hollywood strike: Actress Priyanka Chopra states, "This is the result of a committed, unified stance" over agreement studios and streamers**

**Actress Alia Bhatt reveals pictures of her upcoming project on social media**

## Actress Ananya Panday pens a sweet birthday wish for her father

**A**ctor Ananya Panday in the early hours of Tuesday penned down a sweet birthday wish for her father Chunky Panday. Taking to Instagram, the 'Liger' actor shared a throwback video on her stories which she captioned, "Thanks for introducing me to the camera at such a young age. Happy birthday Papatiiiiiii love you."

Ananya also shared a series of throwback pictures on her stories of her father. **ANI**



## Asian Games 2023: Shraddha Kapoor lauds Indian women's cricket team, says "Macha Diya!!"



**A**ctor Shraddha Kapoor on Tuesday congratulated the Indian women's cricket team for clinching the gold medal at the Hangzhou Asian Games. Taking to Instagram, Shraddha shared a post on her stories which she captioned, "Golden Girls. What a proud feeling!! Macha Diya!!"

The 'Women in Blue' outshone their Sri Lankan counterparts by winning the final match by 19 runs. A fiery spell by Titas Sandhu and tight spin bowling from Deepti Sharma and Devika Vaidya helped India defend a modest total of 117 runs to secure the gold medal in the women's cricket tournament.

With this, the Indian women's team has captured a Cricket gold medal in their first Asian Games outing. This has been a remarkable year for women's cricket in India, starting with the spirited performance of the team in the T20 WC, followed by the historic WPL and now the achievement at the Asian Games. **ANI**