



# Afternoon VOICE

IEWS & VISION OF CITY

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## Indian Institute of Technology Bombay: Students raised issue over alleged food discrimination



Two months after students raised the issue of alleged food discrimination at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B), its Mess Council has said six tables in a common canteen of three hostels will be designated for "vegetarian food only". Compliance is crucial, it said, noting that any violation identified by mess team (Council) will attract proper action and imposition of appropriate penalties. "Such violations will also be considered in disciplinary action, as they

disrupt the harmony, we aim to maintain in our dining facilities," said an email sent on Wednesday by the Mess Council to the students of hostels 12, 13 and 14. Calls and messages to the IIT Bombay administration did not elicit any response.

The email said "some people can't resist the view and smell of non-veg food during their dining" and this may create health issues as well. "Our primary goal is to ensure that every resident enjoys a very comfortable and pleasant dining

experience. To address this and create a more inclusive environment, it has been decided to designate only six tables exclusively for vegetarian food," the email said. These tables will be marked clearly with the signage stating, "This place is designated for vegetarian food ONLY," it said. In July this year, posters stating "vegetarians only are allowed to sit here" were put up on the walls of the canteen of hostel 12 at the prestigious institution, and a photograph of the same went vi-

ral on social media. A section of students had protested against it.

The Ambedkar Phule Periyar Study Circle, a Left-leaning students' body, in a post on X on Wednesday said that first there were "vegetarian only" posters, that the IITB admin had awkwardly termed as "unauthorised", after protest by students. Then there was an unending delay in removing those. And now the admin has officially declared some tables in the mess as "for vegetarian food ONLY!", it added. PTI

### Working with competitors while following the unbiased journalism

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Starting from year one, the first problems which we faced were finances. The lack of finances where one lady had to toss the gambling coin in the air, with a possibility of either getting it or losing it all and guess what, we had the 'head' and 'tails' soon followed. It was totally a game of guts that we did. So far, the media was always owned by the 'rich' or 'capitalists' who had their own backing and they rely on them. Thus, the basic idea of parallel media died and pseudo journalism flourished right from the early times. It was surely difficult for all of us to survive in the market.

Soon, our journey continued and year after year we finally completed fifteen years this year. The honour of having a television media was about to succeed but, unfortunately, we again met the wrong people at wrong place. Though, there was a slight set back but that was not enough to stop us. We

have promised to go ahead and reach out to keep extending our own records, year after year. Last year we came up with 'The Democracy' the digital video news portal. That was inaugurated by the former honorable Governor Of Maharashtra, Shree Bhagat Singh Koshyari.

There are people who have taken away powers from the people but we believe in giving power back to the people. My motive this time was to bring back journalism where it belongs, for the people and by the people. Thus, we even came up with an idea of letting common man or the citizens of India to speak up and give out news about anything and everything that they feel is happening with factual evidences, thus citizen journalism was flourished.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

# Editoritis

# Working with competitors while following the unbiased journalism

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*The event of coming out clean from various challenges itself was the proof that we no need to show more proof of our honesty and commitment.*

*Wise once said, if you speak a lie, you need to remember and be smarter but if you speak the truth, you just have to remember the event and rest the God stands right next to you.*

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With power back to the people, it feels like to have accomplished a revolution. The event of coming out clean from various challenges itself was the proof that we no need to show more proof of our honesty and commitment. Honesty comes with a huge price and we are constantly investing in it, without hesitation. Wise once said, if you speak a lie, you need to remember and be smarter but if you speak the truth, you just have to remember the event and rest the God stands right next to you. With high regards to my readers who have kept us strong and high respect to people who have taken the time out and contributed in our journey, thanks is a small word for them. We stand up with the pride of being what we are today and will continue carrying on with it. The journey was difficult but difficulties are the only things which are guaranteed in life, isn't it? We have embraced the challenge of running the show and we have proved it, one and for all that running a media house is no game of the industrialists only. Money is the most important factor to run anything in this world, even your car needs cash to sustain itself. We are not even playing puppets with anyone; how do we ensure money? Struggle story is always aspiring and very inspiring towards growth but no one understands where it pinches in the shoe, except the one who is actually wearing it. If your heart is true to what you wish to do, everything is possible.

The voice of people has taken a toll over the past few years and over the repeated incidents, people have become more and more intellectual, politically sound and optimistic towards the opportunities. The growth of the country and decline of the economics are all tied up into one. The last year which we spent seems like a story summed up over the nightly full of caffeine running across the membranes and still pushing our adrenaline rush into the veins as we typed the stories for you, the readers!

There are many media veterans and individual entities made their efforts to sustain with authentic reporting and broadcasting, I would like to mention few names here, like News laundry a readers supported, independent news media company. In an industry driven by corporate and government interests, they understood the need of independent news model, and a free and accountable press. But if you look at their viewers ration, is one is to thousands as compared to main stream media.

Their viewers are also their types some neutral but most of them against Modi government. I personally watch them for the reason they hoot these rabblouser anchors. Trust me these days prime time debates have become sort of physical and verbal wrestling. All chicken headed newscasters with one set agenda and the typical list of panelists, everything staged. Their only job is to keep people high on Modi, Hindutva, temples and the strongest dopamine is Hindu-Muslim.

We really need someone to tell the people that this is something is not for your good. The entire team of News laundry doing marvelous

job with series of satire supported by exclusive research work. Through media critique, reportage, podcasts, documentaries, comics and animation, they bring you the latest in current affairs in innovative and engaging formats. But again, because they survive on people's fund they are grow beyond on limit. Again, even if they manage to grow, few lakhs of subscribers if not enough to compete the channels having hundred crores viewers. The influence of TV is larger the audiences are conditioned by them. Where in all these individual commentators and YouTubers have limited scope.

Remember, our country has larger population living in rural area and they have got nothing to do with all these broadcasts, the urban population that subscribes them are educated people who are already of similar opinion, perhaps this is the reason these people hardly play any role in influencing the mandate during elections.

Right wing IT cells have successfully tagged them as anti-Modi and leftists, that is another reason those who are flowing in the wind of Hindu Rashtra are not much keen in taking then seriously. An average citizen is not even aware that there is something called News Laundry or Dhruv Rathee's show.

AbRAR Bhat, Ram Dutt Tripathi, Navin Kumar, Abu Aimal Azad, Mohammed Akram Ali, Kunal Majumdar are few examples of independent and neutral voices but the collective viewership of all these people against the viewership of Sushant Sinha of Times now is less than 50 percent. Sushant Sinha, Amish Devgan, Navika Kumar, and Arnab Goswami are the big sharks here. Their influence on viewers is larger than these parallel media broadcast. Ravish Kumar had huge following and viewership for his prime time, and he is doing equally well on YouTube. He is known as common man's journalist. In main stream media Arnab Goswami has his typical dominance and his viewers vouch for him.

The main stream media are the actual players. They condition people's mind, they create perceptions, they change narratives and they successfully do businesses. They are the actual powerhouse in the hands of powerful people. No matter how hard the neutral or honest media houses make efforts, they will remain limited in the reach. There are obnoxious voices against ruling government and its leaders, and these broadcasters go to all low levels of demonstrations thankfully they have only set of their kind of viewers.

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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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## India becoming a stronghold of coarse grains



- Vijay Garg

On coarse grains, the saying 'Man is not strong, time is strong' is completely true. During the Green Revolution, the coarse grains which were limited to the plates of the poor, are today being served in the plates of foreign guests. In the recently concluded G-20 summit and other meetings of the group held across the country before that, the desi touch was given everywhere, from welcoming the guests to the food and drinks in the hotel. Foreign leaders were served dishes made from coarse grains like jowar, millet and ragi. Foreigner Guests enjoyed snacks made from coarse grains with desi tea. This also led to international branding of Indian millets. To make people aware about millets, 2023 has been declared as 'International Year of Millets'.

Earlier in 2018, India had celebrated the Year of Millets at the national level. Millets include coarse and small grained grains. Major coarse grains include Jowar, Bajra, Ragi, while small grains include Kutki, Kangni, Kodo and Sawan in these many nutrients including calcium, iron and fiber are found in it. That is why coarse grains have been given the status of superfood. Today, coarse grains are being sold in big shopping malls in attractive packaging. These grains are eaten with great enthusiasm in many countries of the world.

Given the abundance of nutrients and amazing ability to fight diseases, millets are important for the nutritional security of the country. That is why the medical world is advocating the inclusion of coarse grains in the diet. Now the government has also banned processed food made from coarse grains. The products are planned to be included in breakfast and lunch plates. The processed products will be made according to the age and taste of the local people. It is noteworthy that the main diet of 42 percent of the country's population is starchy food and 60 crore people are severely malnourished. By including food made from coarse grains in the diet, the problem of malnutrition will automatically be solved. Due to their health benefits, millets are now becoming a part of diets across the world. Many countries have replaced wheat with coarse grains. Have given place in your routine food. Coarse grains contain good amount of iron.

Being gluten free, it is beneficial for the body and also helps in controlling diseases like diabetes. Coarse grains are mostly cultivated by small and marginal farmers. Now new entrepreneurs are joining these farmers and trying to deliver coarse grains to the common people. Millets require less water to grow and their crops can

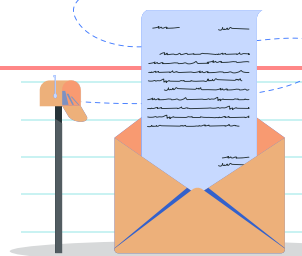
easily withstand seasonal fluctuations. This carbon absorption are helpful. The maturity period of these crops is also less as compared to wheat and paddy. That is why millets provide a ray of hope in times of climate change. Prime Minister Modi has mentioned the role of coarse grains in increasing the income of farmers in the Mann Ki Baat programme. He has also advocated making it a movement and making India the global hub of millets.

In this series, dishes made from coarse grains have been included in the canteen of Parliament House. Considering the nutritional properties of coarse grains, it has been included in the diet of soldiers after 50 years. Coarse grains have made a comeback. The Yogi government of Uttar Pradesh is giving 100 percent subsidy to those setting up processing units of coarse grains. Separate sales centers will be set up for coarse grains in the mandis. The Rural Development Department will extend it from blocks to gram panchayats and the haat markets there.

The food made from these will be included in the catering of hotels. To ensure that children also have knowledge about coarse grains, coarse grains will be included in the curriculum of primary schools. midday meal, nutrition, Coarse grains have been included in the public distribution system. Self-help groups will be trained to prepare millet products. In view of the increasing difficulties and costs in wheat and paddy cultivation due to climate change, the government is working on a plan for nationwide government procurement of coarse grains at support prices and distributing them under the public distribution system. Millets are cultivated in 130 countries of the world and these grains are the traditional diet of 500 million people of Asia and Africa.

Now Modi government is making coarse grains a global brand. For this, exhibitions based on millets are being organized in many countries of the world. NABARD has prepared an action plan to promote the export of coarse grains. For this, it has created a capital fund of Rs 600 crore for agricultural and rural startups. It is being used to promote millet based startups. For this, NABARD has formed a company called 'Nabventure'. In the financial year 2022-23, India has exported coarse grains worth \$ 754 million, which The target is to increase it to \$100 crore by 2025. India exports 55 percent of its coarse grains to the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. All these steps will have a positive impact in the coming years.

### Letters to the Editor



#### Goodbye Lord Ganesha

The festival of Ganesh Chaturthi was celebrated on a large scale in several parts of India. The history of the Sarvajanic Ganesh Chaturthi in Maharashtra is centuries old. It was started by the late Lokmanya Tilak.

According to Hindus, Ganesha is the remover of obstacles and all the problems in one's life, as well as the creator of happiness in the life of people. People in India worship Ganesha before starting any new work. He is the eldest son of Shiva and Parvati and is one of the five major Hindu deities. With his pot belly and elephant

head, he is the god who removes all obstacles in the paths of those struggling to achieve both spiritual and worldly success. Almost every Hindu home has an image of Lord Ganesha over the doorway, and he is worshipped at the beginning of every important undertaking, whether it is the building of a new house, the beginning of a marriage, or the opening of a new accounts book.

As per belief, Ganesha is also known as Vighnaharta or the one who removes all obstacles. He holds great significance in Hinduism where almost all rituals begin with his worship. Celebrations for this festival begin months in advance with the preparation of idols of Lord Ganesha.

On the 10th and last day of the festival, the idol is immersed in a nearby river or pond with full devotion, and this ceremony is called 'Ganesh Visarjan'. People chant "Ganapati Bappa Morya,

Pudhchya Varshi Lavkar ya", which means "Goodbye Lord Ganesha, please come back next year."

Adieu Ganesh Bappa, pudhchya varshi lavkar ya! (Goodbye Lord Ganesha, come back again soon next year).

Jubel D'Cruz

#### Mumbai University is in complete mess

Mumbai University was rated among the top universities in the world many, many years ago. But today sadly, it seems to be in a complete chaos. Question papers sometimes don't reach the examination centres, sometimes wrong papers are sent, probably. There are news reports that answer papers of final year of various courses have been lost. And now, students have been asked to apply for ATKT and appear for those ex-

ams again. One can imagine the trauma these students have to undergo on account of the inefficiency of the University. As a result, students are also losing out on job opportunities. Everything seems to be going wrong at the University of Mumbai. Changing names or enforcing sign boards in Marathi is not going to help. The government would do well to take urgent corrective steps to streamline the working of the University. It's time to put their house in order, a time for complete overhaul. The state government must get their priorities right.

Melville X. D'Souza

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)

# Sharad Pawar faction MLA Rohit Pawar says, "When difficulties come, struggle doesn't stop. I will fight this battle" over issue of MPCB notice

The Sharad Pawar-led NCP on Thursday said the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) has issued a notice to party MLA Rohit Pawar, asking him to close down a part of his firm Baramati Agro Ltd. Rohit Pawar, who is the grand-nephew of Sharad Pawar, is the CEO of Baramati Agro Ltd.

Baramati Agro works in the fields of animal and poultry feed manufacturing, sugar and ethanol manufacturing, co-generation of power, trading of agri-commodities, fruits and vegetables and dairy products. It has a registered office in Baramati, the hometown of Pawar family.

Taking to 'X', Rohit Pawar said that in the "post-midnight action" carried out at the behest of "two influential leaders" from the state out of "hatred", he re-



ceived an MPCB notice at 2 am in which he was directed to shut down a unit of his firm. The 37-year-old MLA representing Karjat-Jamkhed constituency in Ahmednagar district, who celebrates his birthday on Thursday, alleged that the MPCB's action was politically-motivated because he speaks out and takes a

stand on different issues. "When difficulties come, struggle doesn't stop. I will fight this battle. The uniqueness of Marathi people is that they don't change their stand and loyalty. I want to tell those on whose instance action is being taken against me that I was in business first and then entered politics," he said.

"There are many who joined politics and then became financially very wealthy. You will not get anything out of such actions. The youth doesn't like the politics of hatred and revenge," the legislator added. Truth was on his side, he said. "My family and employees of my company need not worry. I thank the government for

this birthday gift to me.

The youth of the state will surely give a return gift to the government," Pawar said, adding that he will also fight a legal battle against the action. Meanwhile, Mahesh Tapase, chief spokesperson of the Sharad Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), alleged that the Eknath Shinde government is afraid of Rohit Pawar as he fervently champions the progressive and secular ideals of national leader Sharad Pawar.

"In the dynamic landscape of Maharashtra politics, Rohit Pawar has garnered a substantial following among the youth. Nevertheless, CM Shinde's administration faces serious allegations of wielding administrative machinery for political purposes, obstructing Rohit Pawar's endeavors," he said. PTI

## Thane fake currency case: NIA files supplementary charge sheet against four persons



The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a supplementary charge sheet against four persons, including a designated terrorist, in the Thane fake currency case, an official said on Thursday. The charge sheet was filed in a special court in Mumbai on Wednesday under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, the official said.

Besides the designated terrorist — Uncle alias "Javed Patel" alias "Javed Chikna" — those charge-sheeted have been identified as Riyaz Shikilkar, Mohammad Fayaaz Shikilkar and Nasir Chaudhari, all residents of Mumbai, a spokesperson of the federal agency said. Fayaaz has also been charged under the Arms

Act, the official said. The Thane police had in April last year charge-sheeted three accused in the case which was originally registered following the seizure of 149 high-quality counterfeit Indian currency notes of Rs 2,000 denomination from Riyaz Shikilkar. Subsequently, the NIA took over the case. After investigations, it arrested Fayaaz in May for possession of illegal arms, the official said. "The investigations also revealed that Fayaaz was in contact with the designated terrorist 'Uncle' through WhatsApp and had conspired to carry out unlawful activities in India. He had also received funds sent by 'Uncle' through his associate 'Bhai'. "Uncle, a wanted accused, had committed acts of terror through his associates by possessing and circulating high-quality fake Indian currency notes with the aim of damaging the monetary stability of India," the spokesperson said quoting the charge sheet. PTI

## Ganesh festivity: Idol immersion processions, crowd gatherings seen as devotees mark farewell for the lord Ganesh

Amid the beating of drums and chants of 'Ganpati Bappa Morya', various Ganesh mandals in Mumbai on Thursday started processions to immerse the idols of the deity, marking the culmination of the 10-day festival.

Crowds gathered at various places in the city to catch a glimpse of their favourite deity, as decked up idols of Lord Ganesh in various forms and sizes were taken out of pandals for their final journey, accompanied by music, dance and prayers.

The festival, which began with 'Ganesh Chaturthi' on September 19, is set to conclude on the 'Anant Chaturdashi' on Thursday with the immersion of idols in the Arabian Sea and other water bodies here. In Mumbai's Lalbaug area, famous for celebrating the festival with grandeur, the procession of idols of Tejukaya and Ganesh Gully mandals started with chants of 'Ganapati Bappa Morya, Pudhchya Varshi Lavkar Ya' (come soon next year Lord).



The procession of the famous Lalbaugcha Raja idol, that attracts maximum number of devotees during the 10-day festival, started at around 11.30 am. A large number of people were seen waiting on both sides of roads for the final 'darshan' of the idol. Thousands of people gathered on the streets of Lalbaug and other major procession routes of Ganesh idols to bid farewell to the deity with heartfelt prayers and witness the vibrant processions being taken out with music, dance and sprinkling of 'gulaal' (vermillion powder). There was also a large gathering of people at Lalbaug's Shroff building to wit-

ness 'pushpavrusti' (showering of flowers) on the Ganesh idols.

Crowds also assembled on the main road leading to Girgaon in south Mumbai, from where the maximum number of processions pass. These include the processions of Ganesh idols from Fort, Girgaon, Mazgaon, Byculla, Dadar, Matunga, Sion, Chembur and other areas. According to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, as many as 1,65,964 idols, including several household idols, 'sarvajanic' (public) ones and idols of Goddess Gauri, were immersed in various water bodies here including artificial ponds till the seventh day of the festival. PTI

Nation

# Manipur killing case: Parents of victim pleaded authorities to locate remains of their kids for last rites

Parents of both the murdered youths, viral pictures of whose bodies caused widespread protests in Imphal valley for two days, on Thursday pleaded with authorities to locate the remains of their children so that the last rights of the boy and the girl can be conducted "with the dignity they deserve." They hoped that with sleuths from the CBI joining the investigation into the kidnapping and death of the duo who went missing in July this year, the mystery of where their bodies lie will be solved.

The 18-year-old girl's father, Hijam Kulajit, in an interview said, "We just want to see our children one last time and conduct their last rites with the dignity they deserve. Nothing can substitute the loss. According to



Meitei custom, at least a small portion of the clothes they wore is needed to perform the last rites and give them a farewell." "Whenever I see her photo, it makes me completely restless and I can't find peace in my heart. Her mother has lost her senses and become bed-ridden while

embracing a photo of our daughter," Kulajit said.

The two went missing on July 6. They were last seen on CCTV camera footage at Nambol in Bishnupur district. Their phones were tracked by police to Laman in Kuki-dominated Churachandpur district. "For a day, we

assumed they had eloped, but after contacting the boy's family, we sensed something missing. I don't understand why they had to be killed," Kulajit asked. Meanwhile, the family of the 20-year-old boy continues to struggle to deal with the situation. Unable to believe that their son is no more,

his mother continues to cook for him daily. "It's been two-and-a-half months now, but I haven't washed the blanket of my son as I can still smell him," she said.

In accordance with Meitei custom, both the mothers offer incense sticks, candles and a small portion of food in front of the photographs of their children daily till the last rites are conducted. Both the families hope that the CBI probe will help in finding the bodies of their children and reveal why they were murdered.

On Wednesday, Chief Minister N Biren Singh said Union Home Minister Amit Shah assured him that those who had kidnapped and killed the two Manipuri youths will be arrested and punished. **PTI**

## Manipur: Violent protests seen over the issue of two youths death at Imphal

Violent protests over the death of two youths in Manipur continued till the early hours of Thursday with a mob vandalising the deputy commissioner's office in Imphal West and torching two four-wheelers, officials said. A fresh bout of violence, this time led by students, broke out in the state capital on Tuesday after photos of the bodies of two youths who went missing in July went viral on social media.

Last night, the protesters clashed with security personnel in Uripok, Yaikul, Sagolband and Tera areas, prompting the

forces to fire several rounds of tear gas shells to control the situation, officials said. The protesters blocked roads with burning tyres, boulders and iron pipes to prevent the security forces from entering residential areas, they said. A mob also vandalised the DC office and torched two four-wheelers. CRPF personnel brought the situation under control, they added. Curfew was re-imposed in the two districts — Imphal East and West — as the security forces combatted the violent protests, which saw 65 demonstrators being injured since Tuesday. Meanwhile, a BJP office at Khongjam in Thoubal district

was set on fire, police said.

In a statement, the Manipur Police said that a mob targeted a police vehicle and burnt it, while assaulting a policeman and snatching his weapon. Stern action will be taken against those indulging in such crimes, it said, adding that a search operation was underway for the recovery of the snatched arms and the arrest of the accused. The Manipur Commission for Protection of Child Rights, meanwhile, urged the security forces not to use lathi charge, tear gas shells and rubber bullets "arbitrarily and abruptly" against teenagers. **ANI**

## Uttar Pradesh: Police suspended for talking in an obscene manner to a rape victim

A police inspector, probing gang-rape case, has been suspended after an audio clip of him purportedly talking in an obscene manner with the rape survivor surfaced on social media, officials said on Thursday.

The rape survivor had lodged a police complaint in June, accusing five people of the crime. The matter was being probed by Inspector Ashok Kumar, who allegedly talked to the woman in an obscene manner, they said.

The rape survivor's brother had alleged that Kumar connived with the accused and talked to his sister in an obscene manner. A complaint in this regard was submitted to Superintendent of Police Kuldeep Singh Gunawat, officials said. The SP took cognisance of the matter and suspended the inspector on Wednesday, they said, adding a probe into the matter has been handed over to Additional Superintendent of Police Shrish Chandra. **PTI**

## Two separate car accidents reported in Kerala

Three youths died in two separate road accidents in this central Kerala district on Thursday, police said. In the first incident, two men (aged 22) died after their car rammmed into a tree on the roadside near Kaipamangalam here.

The accident occurred around 1.15 am, an officer of Kaipaman-

galam police station said. There were seven people in the car and the remaining five suffered minor injuries, police said.

Police suspect that speeding was the reason behind the car going out of control and ramming into the tree. The seven friends, aged between 18 and 22 years, were returning

from Milad-un-Nabi day celebrations, they said. The second accident occurred near Pananchery here when a 28-year-old man died after his motorbike crashed into a road divider, an officer of Mannuthy police station said. The cause of the accident is not yet known, police said. **PTI**

## Jharkhand: A wanted criminal in several cases was arrested in Hazaribag district

A Naxalite wanted in several cases was arrested in Jharkhand's Hazaribag district, police said on Thursday. Nitesh Kumar Mehta, a member of the Tritiya Prastuti Committee, was arrested from the Barkagaon police station area, they said.

He was a "terror" in Chatra and Hazaribag districts, and was

on the run for the last three years, they added. He was arrested from his sister's house where he came to celebrate Karam Puja, Sub-Divisional Police Officer Amit Kumar Singh said. Mehta was wanted in more than six cases, including those of extortion, he said. A court sent him to judicial custody on Wednesday, he added. **PTI**

World

## Taiwan: President launched the island's first domestically made submarine at Kaohsiung



Taiwan's president launched the island's first domestically made submarine for testing Thursday at a port in Kaohsiung. The submarine, if successful in its tests, will be a major breakthrough for Taiwan in shipbuilding and design. "In the past, a domestically made submarine was considered impossible, but today a submarine designed and built by our countrymen is in front of you," said President Tsai Ing-wen at the launch ceremony. "It is the concrete realization of our resolution to protect" Taiwan.

said Cheng Wen-lon, head of Taiwan's CSBC Corporation, which led the construction of the submarine. However, its completion marks an important milestone in Taiwan's strategy of adopting asymmetric warfare. "Although we have worked quietly the past several years, it doesn't mean the process was very smooth," he said at the ceremony held in CSBC's shipyard. After years of construction and design, the prototype will begin a test in the harbour before being tested in the ocean.

The submarine, named Hai Kun, or literally Sea Kun, is

named for a type of fish found in Chinese literature called Kun, of legendary proportions. It took seven years of design and construction. It will only be handed over to the military after passing both its harbour and ocean-faring tests. Taiwan plans to build another submarine if successful, with both to be deployed by 2027, according to the semi-official Central News Agency.

Taiwan began the expensive and time-consuming task of building its own submarines after Beijing successfully prevented it from purchasing such craft from abroad through the use of economic and diplomatic threats. In recent years, China has stepped up its military exercises aimed at the island, sending fighter jets and navy vessels to patrol and hold drills in the waters and skies near Taiwan. In attendance at the ceremony, was the head of the US's de facto embassy Sandra Oudkirk, as well as the Japanese and Korean trade delegations based in Taiwan. **PTI**

## UN Meet: Around 11 countries have put pressure on the Taliban govt for violating women's rights in Afghanistan



As many as 11 countries have put pressure on the Taliban government for violating women's rights in Afghanistan during the United Nations (UN) meeting, reported Khaama Press. Countries including the United States, France, Britain, Japan, Brazil, the United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Ecuador, Albania, and Malta, referred the treatment of Afghan women and girls by the Taliban

government as "gender-based violence", according to a joint statement.

The Women's Rights Council representative further called for global support to define "gender apartheid" in international law. The statement also stated that systematic violations of women's rights have taken away their freedom and forced gender segregation, constituting instances of gender-based violence, Khaama

Press reported.

Moreover, these 11 countries called on the Taliban to revoke all restrictive policies on women's education and work. Representatives from these countries and the UN are pressing the Kabul administration to recognize gender apartheid in Afghanistan officially, as women in Afghanistan have been engaging in protests, including hunger strikes. Afghanistan is also a member of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

Sima Bahous, the Executive Director of the UN Women's Division, during the meeting said, "Systematic and organized attacks on women by the Taliban create a pattern, and international law should define it as 'gender apartheid.'" **ANI**

## Canada: PM Justin Trudeau apologises after parliament's recognition of a man who fought for a Nazi unit during World War II



Trudeau apologises after Nazi unit war veteran honoured in Canadian Parliament Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has apologised for the Canadian Parliament's recognition of a man who fought for a Nazi unit during World War II, an incident that drew global condemnation and was termed by the Opposition as the "biggest single diplomatic embarrassment" in the country's history. Trudeau, already under pressure for jeopardising Canada's relations with India over the killing of a Khalistani separatist in Canada, said the Canadian government has reached out to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who was present during the event last Friday, in the wake of the incident. Russia has painted his enemies in Ukraine as neo-Nazis" after the incident although Zelenskyy is Jewish and lost relatives in the Holocaust. Speaker Anthony Rota, who has assumed responsibility for inviting Yaroslav Hunka, 98, resigned on Tuesday. The incident has drawn global condemnation. Hunka, who fought with a Nazi unit in World War Two, got a standing ovation and was praised as a Ukrainian and Canadian "hero". He served in the 14th Waffen-SS Grenadier Division, a voluntary unit made up mostly of ethnic Ukrainians

under Nazi command.

Division members are accused of killing Polish and Jewish civilians, although the unit has not been found guilty of any war crimes by a tribunal. "This was a mistake that has deeply embarrassed Parliament and Canada. All of us who were in this House on Friday regret deeply having stood and clapped even though we did so, unaware of the context," Trudeau told reporters, indicating his plans to personally address the House of Commons about the controversy for the first time since it exploded.

He called the incident a "horrendous violation" of the memory of the millions of people who died in the Holocaust and said it was "deeply, deeply painful" for Jewish people, as well as members of the Polish, Roma, and LGBTQ2S+ communities who were also "targeted by the Nazi genocide", CTV News reported. "Every year, there are fewer and fewer Holocaust survivors to share firsthand the horrors of what they experienced. And it is therefore incumbent upon us all to ensure that no one ever forgets what happened," Trudeau added before entering the chamber to offer similar remarks. It was the first time the prime minister personally addressed the House of Commons about the controversy since it exploded. **PTI**

## Expression

# Elegance and Depth: The Signature Style of Waheeda Rehman's Acting



Lalit Garg

Columnist

Waheeda Rehman has been representing the ethical values of a woman in Hindi films with which a traditional Indian woman has been seen. She is a unique actress, who by playing memorable and unforgettable roles for five decades, not only gave high heights to Hindi cinema but also opened many doors of entertainment. The Government of India has taken the decision to honor this great actor with the 'Dada Saheb Phalke Award' at a time when the historic 'Nari Shakti Vandan Act' has been passed in the Parliament.

Waheeda Rehman has been wowing millions of audiences from generation to generation with memorable and sensitive roles. Whose acting, like love, can be cherished in a safe corner of the mind? It has hitched into the minds of the audience as a mark of glory. Her charming image, gestures and nuances of dance captivate the audience at once. This unique and wonderful actress has been seen on the screen as the most beautiful creation of nature. The love and respect that she has received from countless audiences through her impressive acting is amazing, till date no actress has been able to match the depth of her acting. The decision to honor Waheeda Rehman with the Dada Saheb Phalke Award, who has given sensitive and indomitable dignity to the characters with her acting skills, is an event that makes everyone proud.

Certainly, it is a happy coincidence that when the country is celebrating the birth centenary of the beloved actor Dev Anand, at the same time, Waheeda Rehman, the actress of his classic film *Guide*, was announced the highest honor of Indian cinema. Interesting fact is also that the pair of Waheeda Rehman and Dev Saheb dominated the silver screen for a long time. Both of them did seven films together, out

of which five were huge hits.

The most attractive aspect of Waheeda Rehman's personality is that from the beginning of her film career till now, she has worked only on her own terms and her upbringing played a major role in this. In childhood, when she was learning Bharat Natyam, a relative had complained to her District Magistrate father, 'Will you make your daughter dance after being a Muslim? Preferring progress, father's answer was that art is not a bad thing, human thoughts are bad.

Waheeda Rehman's acting has not only been appreciated by the big screen audience of Hindi films, but she has also ruled the audience of Telugu, Tamil and Bengali films. She is known for her contributions to various genres of films of the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. Born on 3 February 1936, this great artist has many characteristics and eccentricities. Considered one of the most accomplished actresses of Hindi cinema, Waheedaji has received one National Film Award and three Filmfare Awards. Rahman was awarded the Padma Shri by the Government of India in 1972 and the Padma Bhushan in 2011. She has worked in more than 90 films.

At this stage of her career, Rahman started experimenting with more challenging roles. She accepted the offer to play Jaya Bhaduri's mother in *Phagun* (1973). Waheeda Rehman's successful films in the new innings of the 70s included *Kabhi Kabhie* (1976), *Trishul* (1978), *Jwalamukhi* (1980), *Naseeb* (1981), *Namkeen* (1982), *DharamKanta* (1982), *Namak Halal* (1982), *Coolie* (1983), *Mashaal* (1984), *Chandni* (1989) and *Lamhe* (1991). *Namkeen*, *Chandni* and *Lamhe* received nominations for the Filmfare Award for Best Supporting Actress. After his appearance in *Lamhe* (1991), he announced a sabbatical from the film industry. The way Waheeda Rehman is living her life at the age of 85, she is an inspiration for all women, and she has a unique and meaningful way of living. Often at this age, women get affected by some disease or lose hope of living, but Waheeda Rehman inspired her fans through photography and scuba diving at this age, she is praiseworthy. In such a situation, even at this age, she is an example for other women of her age.



Waheeda will always be appreciated and remembered for many films in her acting career spanning over half a century, but the entire spectrum of her acting can be understood from three films - *Guide*, *Teesri Kasam* and *Khamoshi*. *Guide*'s character 'Rosie' is like a proclamation of women's liberation in which women of that era did not have the desire to break various types of restrictions and taboos? When Waheeda embodied *Aaj Phir Jeene Ke Tamanna Hai*, *Aaj Phir Marne Ka Irada Hai* on screen, it was as if the suppressed desire of the entire women's society had found expression. Today, when the discussion of women's liberation is in front of us in new forms, and sometimes it appears in a very indecent form, then the character of Rosie shows us a decent path. Despite being in a disrespectful profession, *Heerabai* of *Teesri Kasam* starts looking respectable and loved due to Waheeda's pure beauty, innocent feelings, unexpressed pain and innocent sweet voice.

*Gulabo* of *'Pyasa'* is a prostitute, but her sensitive expressions also seem innocent and natural due to her skillful and excellent acting style. Waheeda's cheerful and flirtatious acts in *'Saheb, Biwi Aur Ghulam'* immersed the audience in a sweet feeling and they started humming along with her, *'Bhanwara is bada nadan hai...'* In *'Chaudhwin Ka Chand'*, the traditional lady who loves her husband deeply and whose young mind would not have cherished a devoted wife like Waheeda. Certainly Waheeda is different, her attire and make-up were also special, decent and dignified. A rare talent, a soft-spoken

woman, who has been described by great personalities of the world as a brilliant artist, whose soul is as pure and sensitive as a poet. Waheeda Rehman, dressed in simple fashion, whose characters are also known for their determination and frankness. Favorite actress of filmmakers like Yash Chopra, Prakash Mehra, Manmohan Desai, Mahesh Bhatt, Raj Khosla and Gulzar, Waheeda stands at a place where today's actresses start gasping at the thought of reaching.

She is an inspiration for budding actresses. Now even after so many years, the shine of *'Guide'* is increasing. *'Time Magazine'* has given a new insight to the importance of Indian cinema by discussing this classic film while doing an in-depth analysis of Hindi cinema. Needless to say, no other film could create the same place that *'Guide'* did in Indian cinema. The spiritual height achieved by a romantic drama film is unmatched. Waheeda Rehman is unmatched in the role of Rosie. No other heroine could have played this role better than Waheeda.

The gestures and expressions of her dance are rare in Hindi cinema. With such immortal films, Waheeda Rehman has created new milestones in Indian cinema; her films can be considered as a living museum. When we tell our future generations about Waheeda Rehman, an influential, great and vibrant actress of the golden era of Indian cinema, we will be able to say that this is Waheeda Rehman, who used her soul in the acting.

## Entertainment

**Director Rajkumar Hirani teases star actor SRK during his 'AskSRK' session "Sirji ab bathroom se bahar aa jao"**



After the success of 'Pathaan' and 'Jawan', Shah Rukh Khan is all set for his next, 'Dunki', which has been co-written and directed by Rajkumar Hirani. Recently the actor took to X to host an interactive session with his fans. While giving answers to their questions, he also got engaged in a banter with Hirani.

When SRK started the session, he mentioned, "Away shooting. Been told call time is a bit later. So think can do a faasssttt #AskSRK with u all if u are also free like me! Let's start and ask for anything....oops ask anything!!! I mean."

In between his conversation with his fans, Hirani interrupted and wrote, "Sirji ab bathroom se bahar aa jao. Kya kar rahe ho? Trailer dikhana hain. #AskSRK" SRK responded to him in a hilarious way, "Oh Sh#%. Coming sir...doston se baat kar raha tha!!! Sorry boys and girls have to rush now. Varna #Dunki se nikaal denge!!! Thanks for ur time boys and girls. See u in the theatres very very soon. Love u all. So much to do less time to talk to you...Muah."

During 'Ask SRK', a fan of Shah Rukh Khan asked, "#AskSrK, how is Dunki shapingup, sir ji" Shah Rukh Khan replied, "#Dunki is done and very beautiful."

One of the fans asked, "Dunki ki realise date fix h na? #AskSRK" The 'Pathaan' actor wittingly replied, "#Dunki Fixed hi hai. Aur kya karoon Maathe pe gudwa loon!!!!" ANI

**Comedian Trevor Noah called off his India tour due to "technical issues", apologises**



Popular comedian Trevor Noah, who is in India for a comedy tour, called off two stand-up shows in Bengaluru due to "technical issues" and apologised to the audience members for the inconvenience. After three gigs in New Delhi last week, the 39-year-old comedian was scheduled to perform at the Manpho Convention Centre in Bengaluru on September 27 and 28 as part of his "Off The Record Tour". A video clip on social media purportedly shows Noah apologising to the crowd that he won't be able to perform with "bad sound" and promised fans a refund. PTI

**Legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar: PM Modi says "Everlasting impact" to mark the birth anniversary**



"Everlasting impact": PM Modi remembers Lata Mangeshkar on her birth anniversary. Prime Minister Narendra Modi remembered the legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar on her birth anniversary. He took to X and wrote a special message while recalling the contribution to Indian music of the late singer

PM Modi wrote, "Remembering Lata Didi on her birth anniversary. Her contribution to Indian music spans decades, creating an everlasting impact. Her soulful renditions evoked deep emotions and will forever hold a special place in our culture."

Born on September 28, 1929, the contribution of the 'Nightingale of India' to music is unforgettable. Her voice echoed in every corner of the country and continues to create the same magic, even after she is no more. Who can forget the voice behind the iconic track 'Aayega Aanewaala' from the movie 'Mahal' or 'Lag Ja Gale' from the movie 'Woh Kaun Thi?' or 'Pyaar Kiya To Darna Kya' from 'Mughal-E-Azam'. ANI



**Actor Alia Bhatt pens a sweet note, shares adorable pictures on Ranbir Kapoor's birthday**

Actor Alia Bhatt has a special birthday wish for her hubby Ranbir Kapoor. She shared some adorable pictures of him and penned down a sweet message. She took to her Instagram handle to post several pictures of Ranbir. In the first one, Alia can be seen kissing Ranbir on his cheek, while in the other the couple can be spotted enjoying a baseball match.

The following image shows Alia posing in front of the number 8 while taking a selfie. She further shared a close-up, monochrome picture of Ranbir taken on their wedding day. Another black and white photo shows Alia gazing at Ranbir's palm. The final image was another up-close portrait of Ranbir's face.

Along with the pictures, she wrote in the caption, "my love.. my best friend.. my happiest place.. as you read this caption from your secret account sitting right next to me .. all I'd like to say is.. happy birthday baby... you make it ALL magical" ANI