



Bombay HC calls it "discriminatory and arbitrary policy" over

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## Mumbai crime branch cracks down jobs abroad racket



AV Team

Placement abroad is big scam in city, they lure youngsters in the name of placement abroad and extort money. Mumbai crime branch arrested two members of such gang. These people used to cheat the targets by taking their passport and huge amount. The gang used to ask to pay around Rs 50,000-1 lakh and when the victims demanded their passports back, they would demand a blackmail amount in exchange.

Ramkrupal Kushwa from Bhiwandi and one Rohit Sinha from Delhi came under the trap of cops, and at least other six more members are wanted in this case. This gang that cheated several youngsters with promise of jobs in Azerbaijan. Police said that the accused gang operated recruitment and placement services under the name of Bombay consul-

tancy at Shahid Bhagat singh road in south Mumbai and lured youngsters with a promise of Rs 50,000-Rs 80,000 job package in Azerbaijan.

Crime branch Officer told Afternoon Voice "The accused used to show bogus documents to lure youngsters. They used to show them the demand of bogus placements and accepted money from them and cheated the victims, mostly from Bihar. When the victims demanded their passport back, the gang members demanded an extortion amount in exchange of passports,".

Police team led by inspector Ghanshyam Nair raided the consultancy office and seized a router, 2 telephones, fake rubber stamps, visas and medical test book and 21 passports of various victims "Atleast 40 to 50 people mostly from middleclass families were tricked by the gang.

## The state govt has declared a drought in 40 Talukas of Maharashtra



AV Team

The 42 talukas are located in 15 districts, but exclude the Konkan region, which has had plentiful rainfall. A severe drought has been declared in 24 talukas and a moderate drought in 16 talukas. As many as 14 of the 24 talukas impacted by the severe

drought are located in the arid region of Marathwada. The state has knowledge a 13.4% deficit in rainfall this year and long pauses in the rain in the month of August, which affected the crops. The last drought in the state was declared five years ago in 2018, when 151 talukas were impacted.

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## Divorce in India : Children are the biggest sufferers

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

In a way it's good that the couples are leaving a bad marriage and saving their lives from torture and exploitation. I've seen a few colleagues; a couple of friends go through a divorce. In each case, it's been people who stepped up for themselves and made tough decisions so that they can be happy in life. I say people because not all of them were women. Marriage is an act of sacrament in India. And, ending this marriage on whatsoever ground is still not considered normal. Yet, in recent decades we can see an increase in the divorce rate in India. There is a common notion that the reason for the increasing divorce rate is because of an increase in love marriages, which is not true.

Maximum Divorce petitions are from highly educated and well-heeled couples, even though India still boasts that nearly hundred percent of the marriages are a success, rapid urbanization and awareness of various rights are now instigating the divorce rate to shoot upwards. Empowerment of women has initiated the disbanding of marriage in urban areas as financially educated women are now open to the option of ending the relationship rather than to bear life-long abuses silently. The campaigns on gender equality are now giving rise to ego clashes between the husband and wife, especially if the wife too is the equal breadwinner of the family.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

# Editoritis

# Divorce in India : Children are the biggest sufferers

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*The rural India is yet not progressed and divorce means dumping a woman with her children to face the social and economic challenges, ironically they don't know the laws and they don't have that background to approach lawyers.*

*The provisions of Section 498 A of the IPC and certain provisions of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act are being mostly misused.*

*Among states with the highest number of divorces, Maharashtra topped the list in the past years, accounting for nearly 50,000 cases, with Mumbai and Pune alone accounting for 20,000 of them*

In rural areas divorce is still a taboo, there men abruptly dump their wife and choose to live with another woman. In most of the cases the wife is not financially independent and she is made answerable on social and family front. My office help is from a nearby village and she is just 25 years old. Her parents are poverty stricken, she was dumped by her husband just because his heart started melting for another woman at his workplace, and there was conflict, family drama and on-going fights. The mediator was asked to intervene; most of the people who came for the meeting blamed the girl for being unable to lure her husband. Husband said he is ready to keep his wife provided what happens outside should not come inside the home. Well! This is just an example, the rural India is yet not progressed and divorce means dumping a woman with her children to face the social and economic challenges, ironically they don't know the laws and they don't have that background to approach lawyers.

Around 20 years back India had a negligible divorce rate of around 5%. But based on the increasing number of divorce being filed today, the divorce rate in India is expected to rise up at a faster rate in the coming years. The privacy of the institution of marriage is threatened as of late it has become a subject of great judicial scrutiny. Can you imagine forty per cent of marriages in Mumbai and Delhi are heading towards a divorce? The provisions of Section 498 A of the IPC and certain provisions of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act are being mostly misused. There are some families that cannot resolve their disputes on their own. Family courts are equipped with mediators and counselors who would try to resolve their disputes without court intervention but who will let go of their fees and perks? Lengthy cases, long term income.

However, owing to the awareness relating to men's rights nationwide, the number of divorce by mutual consent has also gone up. Today, statistics show 60 percent of divorces are by mutual consent. Most of the celebrity divorces make headlines when they are already separated. Among states with the highest number of divorces, Maharashtra topped the list in the past years, accounting for nearly 50,000 cases, with Mumbai and Pune alone accounting for 20,000 of them, while the remaining were reported from Nashik, Aurangabad and Nagpur. 2021, up to March, 4,313 marriages and 208 divorces were registered. The biggest reason behind growing insecurities is that earlier, it was a joint family system where people of all age groups lived together in the house, "Older family members would teach the children family values. Now, with the rise of nuclear families, there is

no one to inculcate these values in children. It's often said in India that marriages are for eternity. However, this does not necessarily mean these marriages are happy.

In Urban Indian interestingly, most of the couples are highly educated and hail from well-heeled families. I have seen cases in which couples as old as 75 seek divorce. In such cases, most of them may have been living separately for several years. It's to resolve the issue of dividing property among children that they approach the court for legal separation. Open arguments over custody of children and return of property are frequent occurrences outside family court. However, the majority of couples opt for mutual separation. In such cases, it takes around seven months for the divorce to be granted. In other cases, it takes longer—more than a year. But the greed to grab everything from men by women and tendencies to retain all that is possible by man is a bit snug. And their lawyers are equally greedy, one side advises to ask as much as she can, the other side says, pretend to be bankrupt as much as possible.

The couple may not be at much loss as their survival is hardly challenged, in long pending cases most of the time women find a fall back option and man to find some solace in another partner, but the sufferers and children. They are mentally challenged on various occasions, they have to accept the flight that their parents invited for them, most of the cases the mother gets children's custody and the father is projected as a villain, the children are strongly conditioned against the father just because the mother thinks he is a nuisance for her future. Ego clashes lead to dissatisfaction from allowing children to meet the other side of the parent. Increasing women's independence has much to do with increasing divorce rates. I am not against women's independence, but certainly against holding insensitive custody of children depriving them of both parents.

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Vaidehi has received several Awards like Icongokarmavir 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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## Animal Trainer - How to become an Animal Trainer



- Vijay Garg

**A**nimal Trainers (Pet Trainers) are trained instructors who use a variety of techniques in teaching dogs, horses or even marine animals to behave in a certain way. He or she gets animals accustomed to human contact and teaches them to respond to commands. An animal trainer may work with show animals, service animals or family pets.

They also train animals for riding, harness, security, performance or obedience or assisting persons with disabilities. Accustom animals to human voice and contact; and condition animals to respond to commands. Train animals according to prescribed standards for show or competition. They may also train animals to carry pack loads or work as part of pack team.

### Animal Trainer Eligibility

Though there is no special qualification for it, they should be expected 12th class pass at least.

### Animal Trainer Required Skills

Animal Trainers should have good instructing skills like teaching others how to do something.

They possess good communication, strong animal handling skills and ability to read animal body language, a love for working with animals and their guardians, patience, ability to adapt quickly and make decisions and physical fitness.

They should be able to understand behaves and activities of animal, their moods and teach them about following instructions.

They should also be courageous and bold as sometimes they could have faced some danger in handling animals, and may get some injury.

Their nature must be friendly towards them as an animal cannot speak, they mostly understanding the language of love and peace.

### Institutes offering Courses for Animal Trainer

- Dog Training Institute, Mohali
- Dog Clinic & Pet Shoppe, Panchkula

### How to become Animal Trainer?

For becoming Animal Trainer, one has to follow below-mentioned steps:

#### Step 1

The minimum requirement is a high school diploma to work as an animal trainer. For entry-level positions, Animal Trainers are usually trained on the job by an experienced trainer.

#### Step 2

Candidates need to have some training and additional education

in case they want to become a special trainer for special animals like Dog Trainer, etc. also, if they want to train marine animals, they need to have a Bachelor's Degree in Zoology, Marine Biology, Animal Science, or a related field. Along with this, they also need to be able to swim very well.

### Degree courses:

- B.Sc. (Hons.) (Zoology)
- B.Sc. (Zoology)
- B.Sc. (Marine Science)

### Educational qualification:

For graduation courses, they should be passed 12th class with one of animal science subjects.

### Step 3

Candidates willing to have further Master's Degree, they can go for it as it gives them a detailed behaviour view of animals. Also in some places, it is necessary for having jobs. They can have post-graduation in animal science.

### Animal Trainer Job Description

Animal Trainers normally use positive reinforcement which includes toys, food, rubdowns, play, etc. Some others may also use punishment to train the animals. They instruct the animals to respond under diverse conditions and obey particular commands. Many other different animal care responsibilities like preparing food, providing surrounding and habitat which is clean and safe are also supervised by the animal trainers.

### Animal Trainer Career Prospects

Animal Trainers are employed in many places like kennels, zoos, stables, animal shelters, pet stores, veterinary clinics and aquariums. Some of the work may be physically or emotionally demanding, and the number of work-related injuries and illnesses is higher than the national average. They can also have jobs in houses for taking care of family pets. They can also do free service for the uplift of animals in society.

### Animal Trainer Salary

Animal Trainers, generally, earning a monthly salary of Rs. 10,000 to 20,000 per month in a professionally run Animal Training Academy. At some place, they are paid on per hour basis like Rs.50 or Rs.100, etc. They have also good work scope with film and entertainment industries, government organizations and research facilities, where they could get a better salary on monthly basis.

## Letters to the Editor

### Mumbai sees over 60,000 dog bite cases every year which is cause for concern

Stray dog menace is not just prevalent in Mumbai but even in Vasai & other neighboring areas. People themselves are to be blamed as many citizens feed them in their society which invites other dogs in the vicinity & they become violent when they are hungry and not fed adequately.

I am a dog lover myself but one must also take the responsibility of adopting the stray & giving them shelter so that they can be tamed and are safe for public. BMC should take the initiative of neutering strays be it cats or dogs so that their numbers can be checked & controlled.

S.N.Kabra

### Terror in Bags

The bomb blasts during a prayer meeting in Ernakulam, Kerala, are deeply distressing and condemnable. Because of two successive explosions, three people were killed and 50 other worshippers injured. It should be clear that there is no place for hatred and violence in a civilised society in India.

The govt must conduct a thorough probe and deliver the guilty to justice. However, in view of the use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) planted in shopping bags to trigger the explosions, the State constituted a special investigation team to look into all possible angles, including if it was indeed a renegade's solitary mission. The National Investigation Agency and National Security Guard have begun their work. Whoever is guilty must but punished even if he is a member of any party or organisation.

Tauqueer Rahmani

### Onion Inflation

The price of onions is skyrocketing across the country. Soaring prices of onions burn a hole in common man's pockets. The common man is feeling the heat of financial stress once again as the onion price surged in the market across the country. Surging prices and the plight of farmers in an agricultural country are truly shameful and condemnable. Agricultural experts should develop technology that will increase onion production in every state of the country.

MJ Azizi

### India's victory over England

India emerged victorious by 100 runs against defending champion England. It was sixth victory in a row in the ongoing World Cup. Rohit

Sharma-led India will be buoyed by the fact that the hosts are the only team in the tournament without a defeat so far. As far as England is concerned, India's dominating victory over England indicates their fallibility. The 2019 world champion failed to counter India's bowling attack. Even their best batsman, Joe Root, was out of touch. Perhaps it is time for England to organize the team and recruit more young blood.

Jahangir Ali

Readers are requested to mail  
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**No postal letters will be entertained**

(The views expressed are authors' own)

# Bombay HC calls it "discriminatory and arbitrary policy" over height criteria for women candidate applying for fire brigade personnel

The Bombay High Court has said that different municipal corporations in Maharashtra having different height criteria for women candidates applying for the post of fire brigade personnel is a discriminatory and arbitrary policy. A division bench of Justices G S Kulkarni and Jitendra Jain, in an interim order passed last week, said there cannot be different benchmarks for the same job, and women candidates cannot suffer due to such arbitrary rules. The court was hearing a petition filed by four women who had applied for the post of fire extinguisher/fireman in the fire brigade of the Pune Municipal Corporation.

Their lawyer A S Rao said



the petitioners were informed that they did not comply with the norm which required that women candidates have a minimum height of 162 centimeters. As per the Maharashtra Fire Brigade Service Administration,

the minimum height for women candidates is 157 centimeters, but the civic bodies of Pune, Mumbai, Thane and Nagpur prescribe a minimum height of 162 centimeters, advocate Rao told the court. Several other municipi-

pal corporations in Maharashtra follow the 157 centimeters norm, the lawyer said. The high court in its order on October 26 said this was a case of "apparent discrimination". "There cannot be different benchmarks for different

corporations. Women candidates cannot suffer due to any arbitrary policy or any arbitrary approval of any such norms by the State Government, which discriminates against women candidates who are similarly situated," the court said.

The bench, by way of an interim order, directed the Pune Municipal Corporation to permit the petitioner women to participate in the selection process. But their selection would be subject to the final order of the court in the case, the judges said. The court directed the state government and Pune civic body to file their reply affidavits and posted the matter for further hearing on November 9. PTI

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## The state government has declared.....

In the process of drought declaration, there are several "triggers" which are assessed according to the Centre's drought manual. The first trigger is rainfall. There are four impact indicators which comprise trigger, ground water, vegetation, soil moisture content and sown area. If the taluka qualifies in any two of these parameters, it is included in trigger. Then there is a process of "ground-truthing" or surveys which are conducted. In June, the monsoon was delayed by around a fortnight. Then, there was excess rain in July which affected the crops. In August there was a long dry spell. Once a drought is declared, the affected talukas are entitled to relief for crop loss as per the National Disaster

Relief Fund norms which provide compensation of Rs 8,500 per hectare for irrigated land, Rs 17,000 per hectare for irrigated crops and Rs 22,500 per hectare for horticulture crops. According to the government resolution issued on Tuesday, impacted farmers will be entitled to relief in land revenue, restructuring of crop loans, an exemption from the payment of agriculture-

related loans and a 33.5% discount in the payment of bills of agricultural pumps. Also, electrical connections to agricultural pumps will not be cut off due to non-payment of dues and students will receive a waiver in the payment of exam fees in schools and colleges.

Severe drought conditions lead to exodus of labour from villages in Rayalaseema region. Villages in Rayalaseema, India are experiencing a labor exodus due to severe drought conditions. The poor monsoon and lack of inflows into irrigation projects have worsened the drought conditions during the kharif season. Crops, supported by groundwater, are also drying up. Many districts in the state are facing a crisis due to deficient rainfall, leading to people migrating to metro cities in search of work. The situation is particularly grim in Rayalaseema, with no rain even in October and no water in the Srisailem project. Castor crops and chili farmers are also struggling due to the absence of rain. The state government is providing relief measures such as free power and crop insurance.

## 3 detained for vandalising NCP leader Hasan Mushrif's vehicle in Mumbai

A private vehicle belonging to Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Hasan Mushrif was allegedly vandalised by three unknown people near Aamdar Niwas in Mumbai's Colaba around 8 am Wednesday, the police said.

"The NCP leader was at his Cuffe Parade home and the driver had parked the car outside Aamdar Niwas and was resting inside when the incident took place," said an officer. The three people were detained at the spot by the personnel deputed near Aamdar

Niwas, following which they were taken to the police station.

"Our investigation is underway. It appears that it is related to the Maratha reservation protest. We will take appropriate legal action against the three miscreants," said a police officer.

## Maratha quota protest heats up

As Maratha quota protests intensify in Maharashtra, the state government has formed a panel of three former High Court judges to advise it on the legal battle over the issue in the Supreme Court. Ahead of Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, activist Manoj Jarange-Patil has launched a fast-unto-death protest for Maratha reservation,

putting pressure on the state government.

The Marathas are a group of castes comprising peasants and landowners, among others, constituting nearly 33 per cent of state's population. The demand for Maratha reservation is not new in the state. The first protest over this was held 32 years ago by Mathadi Labour

Union leader Annasaheb Patil in Mumbai.

**What did the Bombay High Court rule in 2019?**

In November 2018, the then BJP government in Maharashtra passed a Bill proposing 16 per cent reservation in education and government jobs for the Maratha community. This was challenged in court.

## Maratha Quota: Police has registered cases against 500 activists for blocking Mumbai-Bengaluru Highway

The Pune police have registered offences against nearly 500 activists of outfits supporting Maratha reservation for allegedly blocking a stretch of the Mumbai-Bengaluru Highway and setting tyres ablaze, officials said on Wednesday. Protesters blocked the highway stretch near Navale

bridge in Maharashtra's Pune city between 12.15 pm and 2.45 pm on Tuesday and burnt tyres to press for their demand for reservation to Marathas, police said. The police said they have registered offences against 400 to 500 activists of the Maratha Kranti Morcha and Sakal Maratha Morcha on various charg-

es, including causing danger to the lives of others and spreading fear among commuters.

The activists have been booked under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code, the Maharashtra Police Act and the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, the police added. PTI

Nation

# All geared up for assembly elections in India



As campaigns continue in poll-bound states, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is scheduled address public meetings today in Mamit in the Mizoram's western region and Siaha in the south. Singh's visit comes shortly after two senior Mizo National Front leaders, including Assembly Speaker Lalinliana Sailo, joined the BJP.

Party Chief N Chandrababu Naidu walked out of jail on interim bail, the TDP will announce a joint manifesto with the Jana Sena Party (JSP) and will begin the campaign for the next elections together. TDP general secretary Nara Lokesh had made the announcement last week following a joint action committee meeting between the two parties at Rajamahendravaram in East Godavari district.

A day after Telugu Desam

Meanwhile, addressing a poll rally in Telangana's Kollapur on Tuesday, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said the BRS, the BJP and the AIMIM were "working together" with the "aim to prevent Congress from winning elections in Telangana". Targeting Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, he said: "Here, the contest is between BRS and Congress. BRS, BJP and AIMIM are working together. Your CM helps the BJP in Lok Sabha. Your CM fully supported GST and Farm Laws. All the CMs of the Opposition have CBI, ED and IT cases against them. But your CM has no such case against him... On the other side, there is AIMIM. They help BJP wherever they can. Wherever BJP tell them to contest election, they do it and field candidates helpful to BJP."

# Telangana TDP left leaderless after Kasani exit over Chandrababu Naidu 'ceding space to Jana Sena'



The Telugu Desam Party (TDP)'s Telangana unit president Kasani Ganeswar Mudiraj has resigned from the party following its supremo N Chandrababu Naidu's decision not to contest the state Assembly polls scheduled for November 30.

Announcing his resignation, Kasani said he took the decision because the Telan-

gana TDP leaders and workers were "thoroughly disappointed" by the party leadership's decision.

Kasani said he and the party workers in Telangana were "fully prepared" to contest the Assembly polls, but the TDP top brass, including Naidu, did not respond positively and instead allowed Jana Sena Party (JSP) to contest in the state.

# With promise of a 'new system', Mizoram party out to end MNF-Congress duopoly



One evening last week, all 40 candidates fielded by the Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) gathered at the Dawrpui community hall in Aizawl to take a collective oath. They promised to stay away from corruption if elected. With polling a week away, this new political formation is heading into this election with confidence, a set of fresh candidates, and support from some influential quarters.

On the stage at the oath-taking ceremony were a set of party "elders" such as former Chief Secretary Lalfal Zuala, retired

IAS officer Rinsanga, and retired Mizoram University professor Thangchungnunga. These leaders, while lending their weight to the party, are not its electoral faces.

"Our party is supposed to be an alternative to the 'grand old party' system currently existing in Mizoram. So, there are many young faces too. Four of the candidates are below 40. Sixteen are aged 40 to 60. 50% of the candidates are below 50 years old," said the party's Aizawl West-I candidate T B C Lalvenchunga, who is 41 years old.

# Telangana Congress sees more exits to BRS, ticket to Azharuddin latest trigger

THE TICKET to former India captain Mohamed Azharuddin from the Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency in Hyderabad by the Congress in Telangana has spurred a fresh round of exits from the party.

On Tuesday, two Congress leaders, including its former Jubilee Hills MLA who hoped to

contest from the seat again, P Vishnuvardhan Reddy, joined the ruling Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS). While originally from Hyderabad, Azharuddin has never contested an election from Telangana, and won his only election from Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier, Vishnuvardhan's sister Vijaya Reddy had got the Congress ticket from Khaira-

tabad. The other senior leader to cross sides was Nagam Jannardhan Reddy, a former minister in united Andhra Pradesh from 1995 to 2004 and a five-time MLA from Nagarkurnool. Sources said he was hopeful for a ticket from somewhere in Mahbubnagar district, and was sent feelers by the BRS after he couldn't manage one.

# Sitting MLA fumes as BJP fields Narpal Singh Rajvi as its candidate

Denied ticket for the Rajasthan Assembly polls, a BJP rebel is all set to make it an issue of Chittorgarh's pride and contest the November 25 election as an Independent candidate. Two-time MLA Chandrabhan Singh Aakya's supporters had held a series of protests when the BJP declared former vice-president Bhairon Singh Shekhawat's son-in-law and five-time MLA Narpal Singh Rajvi as its candidate from the Chittorgarh Assembly seat.

This assembly segment falls under the Lok Sabha seat held



by BJP state president C P Joshi. Aakya has held Joshi directly responsible for the party denying him a ticket and alleged that he was targeted because of an old political rivalry.

"This is certainly a fight of 'swabhiman' (pride). I have been among the people all the time and

have always worked for the party. It has no answer as to why my name was removed and an outsider was sent. People are with me and they want me to contest," Aakya told PTI. "I will certainly contest the election. I am hopeful that the party will change the poll nominee," he said.

World

# Amid ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas, 9 soldiers killed at fighting in Northern Gaza

Israel Defence Forces have announced that another nine soldiers have been killed fighting in Northern Gaza on Wednesday morning amid the ongoing ground offensive against Hamas terrorists, The Times of Israel reported. A statement from the military added that two other infantry soldiers were seriously injured in Gaza.

According to The Times of Israel, the soldiers are named as Lt. Ariel Reich, 24, from Jerusalem; Cpl. Asif Luger, 21, from Yagur; Sgt. Adi Danan, from Yavne; Staff Sgt. Harel Solomon, 20, from Dimona; Staff Sgt. Erez Mishlovsky, 20, from Oranit; Staff Sgt. Adi Leon, 20, from Nili; Cpl. Ido Ovadia, 19, from Tel Aviv; Cpl. Lior Siminovich, 19, from Herzliya; and Staff Sgt. Roei Dawi, 20, from Jerusalem. Notably, the conflict in Gaza escalated after the October 7 attack



by Hamas, where about 2,500 terrorists breached the border into Israel from the Gaza Strip, leading to casualties and the seizure of hostages. Over 8,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli attacks since October 7.

More than 1,400 people were killed in the Hamas attack on Israel. Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday made it clear that Israel would not agree to a ceasefire, drawing parallels to the United States' po-

sition after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He noted that calls for a ceasefire between Israel and Gaza are calls for Israel to surrender to Hamas. While addressing a press briefing, Netanyahu said, "I want to make clear Israel's position regarding the ceasefire. Just as the United States would not agree to a ceasefire after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, or after the terrorist attacks of 9/11. Israel will not agree to a cessation of hostilities after the horrific attacks of Octo-

ber 7." "Calls for a ceasefire are calls for Israel to surrender to Hamas, to surrender to terror, to surrender to barbarism. That will not happen. Ladies and gentlemen, the Bible says that there is a time for peace and a time for war. This is a time for war. A war for a common future," he added.

He called it a turning point for nations and said that it is time for everyone to decide if they are willing to fight for a future of hope and promise or surrender to

tyranny and terror. He said that Israel has been at war since October 7.

Netanyahu said, "The horrors that Hamas perpetrated on October 7 remind us that we will not realize the promise of a better future unless we, the civilized world, are willing to fight the barbarians because the barbarians are ready to fight us and their goal is clear, shatter that promise and future, destroy all that we cherish and usher in a world of fear and darkness." He further said, "This is a turning point, a turning point for leaders and nations. It is time for all of us to decide if we are willing to fight for a future of hope and promise or surrender to tyranny and terror. Now rest assured, Israel will fight. Since October 7, Israel has been at war. Israel did not start this war. Israel did not want this war. But Israel will win this war." ANI

## Indian origin families death penalty in Qatar, Relative mentions, "Wrong information spread"



Friends and families of the eight former Indian Navy personnel detained in Qatar and given the death penalty by a court in the Gulf country remain hopeful for early relief. The retired naval personnel were sentenced to death by a Qatar court on charges that have not yet been made public officially.

In the absence of any concrete information on the trial in Qatar the families feel there are a lot of misconceptions originating in the West Asian media on the issue. The close relative of one of the men detained in Qatar, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, says that the wrong information had been reported by several media outlets in West Asia alleging

that the Indian Navy men were accused of spying on a submarine project run by Qatar. According to the relative, the ex-Indian Navy men were not engaged in espionage but had gone to Qatar to help with the country's Naval program.

Qatar has also not made any proof public to substantiate these allegations of spying. The relative further says that none of the former Naval officers had been working on any submarine project while representing Dahra Global (the former employer of the ex-Naval personnel). Dahra Global employees worked with Fincantieri, the Italian ship manufacturing company, as a subcontractor for maintenance of ships and in training the Qatari Navy. ANI

## Pakistan: Consumers to face gas tariff hike

Following a significant increase in gas prices by the federal government, consumers will have to pay gas tariff hike for the last four months -July till October, ARY News reported. Given that there has been a total loss of (PKR) 65 billion over the last four months, the federal government has determined that consumers will have to pay the increased petrol prices from July of this year.

In addition to the price increases from July to October, the gas tariff increase will take effect in November. Notably, a significant increase in petrol prices was announced by the federal government, which said that the price hike would go into effect from November 1. However, the government has now decided to add the losses of PKR 65 billion and recover it by asking the consumers to pay the hiked tariff from July of this year (which is four months). Regarding the significant increase in petrol prices for domestic, export and non-export units, CNG, cement and other industries, the Petroleum Division released a notification.



Protected customers who use 25 to 90 cubic metres of petrol per month did not see a price increase for the fuel, but their fixed costs did climb from PKR 10 to PKR 400. According to the notice, domestic users who are not covered by insurance had their petrol costs increased by more than 172 per cent, ARY News reported. The Cabinet's Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) approved a number of summaries on October 23, including one that revised the price of natural gas, according to ARY News. According to the tariff schedule provided by the Ministry, a summary of the change of the natural gas sale pricing for the FY 2023-24 was also approved, with effect from November 1, 2023, rather than October 1, 2023, as

per the Ministry of Energy's Petroleum Division.

The World Bank has reported an increase in poverty in Pakistan during the previous fiscal year due to soaring food and energy prices, labour market challenges, and flood-related damages, Dawn reported. According to the Macro Poverty Outlook, which was prepared for the recent annual meetings of the World Bank and IMF in Marrakesh, Morocco, prolonged and high inflation in food and energy prices, combined with a lack of substantial economic growth, could lead to social upheaval and negatively impact the well-being of disadvantaged households that have already seen their savings dwindle and incomes decline. ANI

# Embracing Change: A Journey of Progress and Values



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In the ever-evolving landscape of human existence, society finds itself at a crossroads where traditions meet modernity, and where the past and the future intertwine. This journey of transformation, often marked by social, technological, and ideological shifts, brings forth both challenges and opportunities. What's most critical is how we choose to navigate this path and the values we uphold in the process.

Our ancestors handed down to us a rich tapestry of heritage, customs, and beliefs, which are the very roots of our identity. Their wisdom and timeless values continue to guide us in various aspects of life. Yet, the world today presents us with new and uncharted territories.

The struggle we face is not merely about adapting to change, but about preserving the essence of our heritage while embracing progress. It's about striking a harmonious balance between the old and the new.

In this journey, there are those who have chosen the path of prudence, recognizing the need for modernization without losing sight of their cultural and moral compass. They celebrate their heritage and look forward to the future with a clear conscience.

This approach reflects the enduring values of resilience and



adaptability, the capacity to accept change while preserving what truly matters. It encourages us to celebrate innovation and transformation, provided they align with our fundamental principles.

As we progress further into an era of knowledge and awareness, it becomes essential to redefine success. It's not merely about materialism or individualism; it's about how we, as a society, grow collectively. The emphasis shifts towards education, empathy, and unity.

We understand that education is the cornerstone of change. Emulating great minds such as Einstein, Shakespeare, and Alama Iqbal, Aristotle, Rumi we strive to adapt their writings into profound spiritual teachings. We pass on knowledge, the light that dispels ignorance, rather than hide it under the pretense of secrecy.

Our journey leads us to conclude

that societal success is built on principles of resilience, adaptability, and wisdom. In the midst of change, we should remember the timeless teachings that shape us.

The trials of history, technological advancements, and cultural clashes bring us to a crossroads. It's a juncture where we need to adopt new ideas while preserving our core values. We realize that true success is not in following materialistic paths, but in nurturing empathy, unity, and knowledge.

We celebrate the visionaries who gracefully adapt to the changing world and, in doing so, remain true to their origins. It's a call to action for us all, to navigate the ever-shifting sands of time while holding fast to the values that truly define us.

This journey is not about saying goodbye to our past, but about enriching our future by bringing along the cherished values that will forever

guide our way. It is a testament to human resilience, wisdom, and the power of adaptability that defines the very essence of our existence.

This perspective signifies that success in the present and future is more about values, knowledge, unity, and compassion than any materialistic pursuit. It encourages a holistic approach to life where progress is harmoniously combined with preserving the essence of our culture and tradition.

The great poet Allama Iqbal has rightly said: "Khirad ko ghulami se azaad kar, Jawano ko piron ka ustaad kar. Hari shaakh-e-millat tere naam se hai, Nafas iss badan mein tere dam se hai." (English Translation: "Liberate intellect from slavery, Make the youth disciples of sages. Every branch of the nation is through your essence, the breath in this body is from your spirit.")

These powerful words by Al-lama Iqbal encapsulate a profound message of awakening and empowerment. They call for the liberation of the human intellect from the constraints of ignorance and oppression and emphasize the importance of the youth becoming disciples of sages. It's a call to action, urging us to navigate the ever-shifting sands of time while holding fast to the values that truly define us.

In our ever-changing world, we can follow in the footsteps of those who adapt while cherishing their heritage. This not only ensures the preservation of our culture but also allows us to embrace the future with open hearts and a clear conscience.

# Entertainment

## Jio World Plaza launch: Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh joins viral trend of "just looking like a wow"

When Ranveer Singh is at an event, entertainment is guaranteed. Tuesday night was no exception as the launch of Jio World Plaza saw the 'Bajirao Mastani' star in full fun mode. From walking the ramp at the mall to stealing eyeballs with his quirky fashionable outfit, Ranvir's presence at the star-studded gala was undoubtedly a treat for all Bollywood lovers out there. However, it was his hilarious recreation of "just looking like a wow" trend that became the major highlight of the event.

DietSabya, a popular anonymous Indian Instagram account, dropped a video from the event in which Ranveer is seen addressing the audience saying, "So beautiful, so elegant, just looking like a wow."

Ranveer literally left everyone in splits with his "wow" lines. The "wow" trend started after a video of a woman named Jasmeen Kaur surfaced online. The video features Jasmine, who runs an Instagram account for her apparel store, showing outfits to the camera in a unique way. What makes this video unique is the catchphrase she repeatedly uses, "Just looking like a wow," which quickly became an internet sensation. A few days ago, Deepika Padukone also hopped on the trend. **ANI**



## Athiya Shetty drops pictures, celebrating love on her first Karva Chauth



On Wednesday at the festival of Karva Chauth or Karaka Chaturthi actress Athiya Shetty dropped elegant pictures on social media celebrating the festival first time after her wedding. In pictures actress is seen flaunting in beautiful red saree with a mangalsutra.

While dropping pictures on social media the post mentioned "Celebrating the first love that started everything on my first Karvachauth with this beautiful and timeless mangalsutra".

Athiya Shetty was celebrating the festival post her wedding with cricketer KL Rahul which was on January 23, 2023.

## Korean drama stars Lee Seung-gi, Lee Da-in announced their pregnancy



Korean actor couple Lee Seung-gi and Lee Da-in on Wednesday announced they are expecting their first child. Seung-gi, 36, and Da-in, 30, tied the knot in April in Seoul, South Korea in presence of friends and family. According to Korean entertainment website Soompi, the agencies of the actors announced the news through separate official statements. **PTI**

## Actress Shilpa Shetty shares pictures of Karva Chauth



One of the biggest Hindu festivals in India, Karva Chauth is here, and married women across India have kick-started the celebrations with fun and fervour. Our Bollywood actresses are no different when it comes to celebrating this festival. On Wednesday morning, Shilpa took to Instagram and gave a glimpse of her wholesome Sargi thali.

In the huge thali, one could see matthi, sweets and and lachcha seviyan. Besides food, there were bangles, bindi and mehendi. "#Sargi #Happyfasting," she captioned the post, adding a few red heart emojis and a nazar amulet emoji.

Sargi is a traditional thali that mothers-in-law usually give to their daughters-in-law. The thali includes makeup, jewellery, clothes and foods that one consumes before sunrise, and fast throughout the day, until moonrise. Meanwhile, on the work front, Shilpa will be seen in Rohit Shetty's OTT debut 'Indian Police Force', which also stars Sidharth Malhotra and Vivek Oberoi. The series will stream on the OTT platform Amazon Prime. Speaking about the show, Rohit Shetty earlier said, "Indian Police Force is integral part of my journey as a creator in the cop-verse that I and my team at Rohit Shetty Picturez has built with years of hard work and commitment. I am very proud of my cast and crew who devotedly worked together to present this action series that pays an ode to the valor, sacrifice and courage of our Indian Police officers. I am delighted to collaborate with Prime Video for my first digital venture that promises to deliver exhilarating entertainment to audiences worldwide." **ANI**