



Jammu and Kashmir: Director  
General of Police instructs officers

PG 05 »



# Afternoon

VOICE

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## Advance amount disbursement of Pradhan Mantri Crop Bima Yojana has started: Dhananjay Munde



**So far 965 crore rupees have been distributed to the farmers**

AV Team

The distribution of the advance amount of insurance under Pradhan Mantri Crop Insurance Yojana is going on fast and so far 47 lakh 63 thousand compensation applications have been approved and Rs 1 thousand 954 crore will be distributed. Out of this, 965 crores have been distributed so far and the work of distributing the remaining amount is in progress, the information was given in the presentation of the Agriculture Department in the state cabinet meeting today.

At the same time, Agriculture Minister Dhananjay Munde gave this information to the media after the meeting.

A notification was issued for a total of 24 districts regarding damage due to unfavorable conditions during Kharif season. Now in 12 districts insurance companies have no objection to this notification and in 9 districts there are partial objections. At the state level, appeal hearings on the objection of insurance companies are currently going on in 9 districts such as Beed, Buldhana, Washim, Nandurbar, Dhule, Nashik,

Ahmednagar, Pune, Amravati and the hearings in other places except Pune and Amravati have ended.

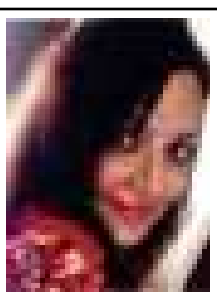
1 crore 70 lakh 67 thousand applicants have registered in the Pradhan Mantri Crop Insurance Scheme and the state government has provided crop insurance to the farmers for just Rs 1. For this a total insurance premium of 8 thousand 16 crore rupees has to be paid and the first installment of 3 thousand 50 crore 19 lakh rupees has been given.

The state has received 86 percent of the average rainfall (928.8 mm) till the

end of October 31. 58 lakh 76 thousand hectares are planned to be sown for Rabi and so far 28 percent has been sown. At present sowing has slowed down due to decrease in soil moisture. Around this time last year, 13 lakh 50 hectares were sown. This year 15 lakh 11 hectares have been sown. Sorghum is an important crop in Rabi season and covers an area of 17 lakh 53 thousand hectares. At present 45 percent of average jowar has been sown. The area of gram is 21.52 lakh hectares and this year 5.64 lakh hectares i.e. 26 percent of the average has been sown.

## Ubhaya Bharati: most scholarly woman of Hindu civilisation

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

I am blessed to have scholarly gurus who add a lot of understanding towards my spiritual path. They teach me Vedas, Upanishads and also about great perceptions, discussions and debates by ancient sages. Which is called "Shastrartha". Today morning, my Guru asked me "How are you? And I replied stating "आनन्दवृद्धमनिमेषमनतन्त्रम्". Just to indicate that I am happy and fine. These are the verses from kanakadhara-stotram. While explaining to me about how this Stotram originated, he spoke about Anang or Kamdev and then the discussion went on to a great renowned scholar and debater Saraswati, who bears the title Ubhaya Bharati, and her learned husband Vishwarupa, also known as Mandana Mishra. He also spoke about the famous philosophical debate between

Mandana Mishra and Adi Shankaracharya, with Ubhaya Bharati, who was considered as the incarnation of the Goddess Saraswati, acting as the impartial mediator.

Around 1,200 years ago, there was a learned couple in the region we now know as Mithila in Bihar. Mandana Mishra and his wife Ubhaya Bharati. They were highly educated and followed the Vedic way of life. They were married homemakers, who performed the rites and rituals designed to establish a household and make gods, sages and ancestors happy. They lived in harmony with nature and culture.

They followed the Mimamsa school of thought, an inquiry of the soul.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

# Ubhaya Bharati: most scholarly woman of Hindu civilisation

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*In the deliberations that followed, Bharati was made moderator. It is said that both men were exceptionally brilliant, but the garland around Mishra's neck started to wither, for his body was starting to get agitated and angry.*

*Ubhaya being a married woman poses him questions on kamakala, the sensual essence of human lives. Adi Śaṅkarācārya tells her that he has no experience in this side of life and learnings.*

*After attaining this experience, he discussed erotic principles with Ubhaya-bhāratī, but without hearing his discussion she blessed him and assured the continuous existence of the Śṛṅgeri-maṭha.*

The best way to identify their house was to look for parrots, kept outside in cages, discussing issues on ontological and epistemological realities associated with the Vedas. Adi Shankaracharya, was directed by another scholar, Kumaril Bhatt, to go and visit this very special couple. When Mishra first saw Shankaracharya, he became upset. Shankaracharya was a recluse and as per Vedic rules of household, the face of a hermit is ominous on certain days. Later, however, he prepared to accept Shankaracharya's presence.

In the deliberations that followed, Bharati was made moderator. It is said that both men were exceptionally brilliant, but the garland around Mishra's neck started to wither, for his body was starting to get agitated and angry. Though he was as intellectual as Shankaracharya, Mishra was not humble with his acute wisdom. Therefore, he was not as calm as Shankaracharya. This led Bharati to declare Shankaracharya as the winner over her husband. Shankaracharya was impressed by her fairness. But she asked him how he could claim to have complete knowledge of the world, contained in the Vedas, if he was a bachelor and had never experienced sexual pleasure. Until he understood kamashastra, or the sensual arts, he could not consider himself to be fully immersed in Vedic wisdom. This created a dilemma.

This is how Adi Śaṅkarācārya was made to experience the sensual philosophies. Ubhaya being a married woman poses him questions on kamakala, the sensual essence of human lives. Adi Śaṅkarācārya tells her that he has no experience in this side of life and learnings. She asks him to seek knowledge and come for debate. Shankaracharya then trained himself in the tantric secrets, enabling him to leave his body and enter the body of a dead king called Amaru in Kashmir. Through the re-animated body of Amaru, he experienced sexual pleasure. On returning to his original body, he met Bharati and explained how he understood kamashastra. Shankaracharya is said to have written a very famous collection of erotic verses called Amaru-shataka, but we prefer to study Shankaracharya as a metaphysician rather than an expert in the erotic arts.

After attaining this experience, he discussed erotic principles with Ubhaya-bhāratī, but without hearing his discussion she blessed him and assured the continuous existence of the Śṛṅgeri-maṭha. Bharati then happily declared Shankaracharya the greatest Vedic scholar. She then took leave of material life. Afterwards, Maṇḍana Mīśra took the order of sannyāsa from Śaṅkarācārya and became known as Sureśvara. As far as Matsya-tīrtha is concerned, Ubhaya-bharati then took leave of material life and she walked her way with Adiguru.

This story is composed 500 years after Shankaracharya died. It is quite possible that these are based on local folklore and may not have

ancient legitimacy. However, this particular story draws attention to very interesting ideas. We have tensions between the householder arm of Vedic Hinduism and the hermit arm of Vedic Hinduism. There is also tension between the Vedic way of thinking, valuing the mind, and the tantric way of thinking, valuing the body and the occult arts. We are made to realise that Shankaracharya was an expert, both in the occult and the metaphysical aspects of Hinduism, making him the winner.

If this was just a folklore then we can sum-up saying this episode was limited to this point only, if not then it is surprising to find no traces of Ubhaya Bharati after this prevalence. Bharati, was a scholar herself, what must be the reason that she gave permission to her husband to turn into a hermit? Was becoming a hermit superior to being a husband? By making the hermit superior to the husband, the woman's position is made mediocre? In the ascetic and occult traditions of India, the female position is always inferior and female biology is considered inferior to the male. It is ironic that Shankaracharya is said to have established Sharada Devi as his personal deity. This goddess holds a parrot in her hand, which is a symbol of Kamadeva, the god of love, desire and sexuality. She also holds a pot in her hand as well as a book, making her an incorporation of Saraswati, Laxmi and Gauri, goddesses of wisdom, wealth and the household, respectively. Though Shankaracharya was a hermit, he was made to appreciate both the woman and the householder's life. He even broke the rules of ascetic order when he returned to his village to perform his mother's cremation, indicating the value he placed on motherhood and womanhood. However, his followers chose to reject the emale completely.

It is time for us to take notice of Ubhaya Bharati who taught Shankaracharya that wisdom cannot exist without including the household, the body and the woman. This also gives a strong message that ages ago women were given that position to judge the scholars. Ubhaya Bharati was the daughter of Vishnu Mithra, who resided on the banks of Sona River. Bharati is the only woman arbiter in a debate, mentioned in Hinduism. This also indicates the position of women in Hindu Civilization. When it comes to talking about significant female figures of the Vedic era, five names -Ubhaya Bharati, Ghosha, Lopamudra, Sulabha Maitreyi, and Gargi - come to our mind. But still these figures have limited portrayals.



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## Harmless Plastic



- Vijay Garg

Scientists in Japan developed a new version of plastic that is not only stronger and more flexible than traditional versions, but is also partially biodegradable. Apart from this, its structure is so complex that even after heating it does not get spoiled for a long time. Due to the destructive impact of plastic on the environment, scientists around the world have been working for a long time with the goal of making eco-friendly alternatives to traditional plastics.

In this episode, scientists from Tokyo University has successfully created this plastic, which is based on epoxy resin 'Vitrimer'. Vitrimers are a relatively recent class of plastics that are known for their impressive strength at low temperatures, while also having the ability to be reshaped multiple times when exposed to higher temperatures.

Scientists incorporated a molecule called polyrotaxane into the 'plastic synthesis process' to make the plastic more effective, resulting in a new plastic variant, which they have named VPR., VPR is the abbreviation for 'Vitrimer incorporated with polyrotaxane'. At low temperatures the strong internal chemical joints of this plastic retain their rigid shape, but

as the temperature increases (up to about 150 °C) these joints begin to regroup, allowing the plastic to take different forms. Takes it. Apart from this, when plastic is heated and chemicals are applied on it, it easily breaks down into its components. During the test, when this plastic was immersed in sea water for 30 days, 25% of it Percent biodegradation occurred, with the polyrotaxane breaking down into a potential food source for marine life.

This plastic is five times more resistant than a typical epoxy resin vitrimer. It can also repair itself 15 times faster, regain its original shape twice as fast and can be chemically recycled 10 times faster than normal vitrimer. It also biodegrades safely in marine environments, which is new for this material. plastic It harms the environment in many ways. Along with air, water and land pollution also occurs on a large scale due to plastic. Plastic does not get destroyed for many years, due to which groundwater is not recharged, due to which the environment has to suffer damage. In such a situation, these steps of scientists can make the use of plastic effective across the world.

## Letters to the Editor

### Continue the column 'Readers' Correspondence'

In newspapers, a column 'Readers' Correspondence' is published. This column has been going on for last many decades. Readers express their thoughts, reactions and the problems of the society in it. At present, some newspapers have closed the 'readers' correspondence' column. The reason behind closing the column is also not known. So, the readers cannot express their thoughts through the newspapers. It is requested that every newspaper should continue the column 'Readers' Correspondence'.

Sudhir Kangutkar

### Blame Game on Pollution

Farmers' issues continue to haunt the government and the fallout from the UPA government's time continue. Blame games are played just to find an escape route for decades. Instead of punishing farmers, the government should find ways of empowering them so that they can explore

alternative ways of destroying stubble. High pollution levels affect the locals. Stubble-burning is environmentally hazardous, and it should be prevented.

The Supreme Court seems to think that if stubble-burning is halted, the air quality in Delhi would improve dramatically. It has asked the neighbouring states to take appropriate action to prevent it. True, there are safer ways of disposing of stubble, but they are costly. The farmers do not have the financial capacity to pluck out the stubble and bury it in the fields where it will become part of the soil. Yet, the sad fact is that the poor farmers of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Rajasthan are blamed for the poor air quality in Delhi.

Jayanthi Subramaniam

### India Weather: IMD forecasts rain in Odisha, West Bengal, Kerala, and other states

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned that a deep depression over the Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm by Friday. Fortunately, it's projected to move towards the Bangladesh coast, minimizing major impact on Odisha. IMD issued a rainfall warning for several states,

including Odisha, West Bengal, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura. Additionally, a fresh easterly wave is expected to bring isolated heavy rainfall to Tamil Nadu and Kerala on November 19-20. The system is predicted to become a cyclonic storm and cross the Bangladesh coast between Mongla and Khepupara on Saturday. Coastal districts of West Bengal, north Odisha, and other regions are expected to experience varying degrees of rainfall.

Manzur Hasan

### Need strict policy

The e-pharmacy business has seen good days due to the growing smartphone. With one click of the mobile, the required medicines are delivered to the home instantly. The e-pharmacy is used for medicines that are not available in the market, as well as the elderly and pregnant mothers. Questions are starting to arise on the pharmacy industry. The Delhi High Court has directed the central government to formulate the e-pharmacy policy, which has been pending for the past five years. The deadline for the e-pharmacy policy has been set in the next eight weeks. While banning the sale, it was clarified that it

was not permitted under the Drugs and Cosmetic Act and the Pharmacy Act, 1948. However, what is the online sale of medicines? Even if it is being sold, there is a need for the Union Health Ministry to devise a strict policy to prevent the sale of fake medicines.

Dattaprasad Shirodkar

### Shami's Semi Final

Mohammed Shami, who was not even involved in the initial strategy of Team India, is playing a key role in the story of Indian team's back-to-back victories in this World Cup. In the semi-final, Shami won with the ball in the battle between the batsmen of India and New Zealand on the flat pitch of Wankhede and he sent almost all Kiwis to Dressing Room alone. Where Virat Kohli made most century in ODI, Shami placed first rank on the same ground and pushed up the team to the Final Clash. Both are great and need of a concrete team.

TKR.Noori

Readers are requested to mail Letters to the Editor only at

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No postal letters will be entertained

(The views expressed are authors' own)

City

## Police registers case against a man for putting obscene comment against CM Eknath Shinde on social media



The Mumbai police have registered a case against a man for allegedly posting an obscene comment against Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Facebook, an official said.

According to a 56-year-old woman complainant, the Facebook account on which the obscene comment was posted is in the name of a Shiv Sena (UBT) activist, the official said on Saturday.

The complainant is the coordinator of the Shinde-led Shiv Sena for Andheri assembly constituency here. She came across the obscene comment while reading a news report online. The post was intended to insult the modesty of a woman, the official said. Based on the complaint lodged by the woman, a case has been registered under Indian Penal Code sections 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman), 153-A (1) (promoting enmity between two groups) and provisions of the Information Technology Act, he said. This is the second offence registered against Shiv Sena (UBT) activists in three days. **PTI**

## Maratha Reservation: Supporters of NCP Sharad Pawar threw black paint on writer Namdev Jadhav



Supporters of Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday threw black paint on the face of writer-author Namdev Jadhav. This comes after Jadhav earlier alleged that during his tenure as chief minister of the state, Pawar did not give the Maratha community their due right of reservation (under other backward classes categories) in education and government jobs.

While addressing the media near the Patrakar Sangh, supporters of Pawar threw black paint on Jadhav's face. They were also chanting slogans in support of Pawar.

A video capturing the inci-

dent depicting police intervention to rescue Jadhav amidst slogans raised by Pawar's supporters. Following the incident, Pune NCP chief Prashant Jagtap took responsibility for the incident and said that the party workers threw the paint on Jadhav's face after he made derogatory remarks against the NCP supremo. "A few workers from my party threw black paint on Namdev Jadhav. We take responsibility for the same. The way Namdev Jadhav has been making derogatory comments against our chief Sharad Pawar for the last few days isn't acceptable. Therefore, we blackened his face," Pune NCP chief Prashant Jagtap said. **ANI**

## Two held for alleged gang rape of a 19-year-old college student in Chembur



Two persons have been arrested in connection with the alleged gang rape of a 19-year-old college student in Mumbai's Chembur area, police said on Sunday. According to officials, the incident occurred at a flat of the Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC) quarters in Chembur area.

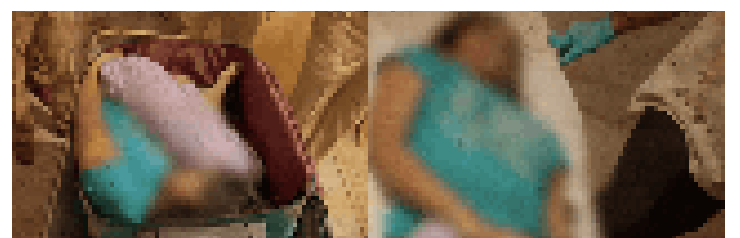
Officials said that the matter came to light when the vic-

tim, along with her family, approached the police and lodged a complaint against the duo. They said that the victim and one of the accused were acquaintances residing in the same building. On the night of the incident, the accused's family members had gone out, and he had invited his friend to his residence.

The victim visited the accused's house to collect ingredi-

ents for cooking, where the duo allegedly offered her a spiked drink. On taking a few sips of the drink, the young woman fell unconscious, and both accused reportedly took turns assaulting her, officials said. Upon regaining consciousness, the victim realized what happened to her and rushed to her flat. Subsequently, she informed her parents about the incident and approached the Chembur police to formally lodge a complaint against the duo. Based on her statement, a case has been registered against the two individuals under sections 376, 376 (D), 328,t and 34 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), leading to the arrest of both the accused. The accused were presented in court and subsequently remanded to police custody until November 20. **ANI**

## Woman's body found in suitcase at Kurla



A woman's body was found in a suitcase in Kurla in central Mumbai, the police said on Sunday. According to the Mumbai Police, the discovery of the body was made after the police were informed around 12.30 pm about a suitcase lying abandoned.

"The discovery was made after the police were informed around 12.30 pm about a suitcase lying abandoned on the CST Road at Shanti Nagar, where work for a Metro project is underway, an official said. The police reached the spot and found a woman's body inside the suitcase, the official said.

The body was sent to a civic hospital for autopsy, police said, adding that the woman's identity is yet to be established. "The woman has not been identified yet, but looking at her body, it is being estimated that her age could be between 25-35 years, the woman was wearing a T-shirt and track pants," they added. Moreover, police are also examining footage of CCTV cameras installed in the area. The case has been registered under Indian Penal Code (IPC) Section 302 (murder) and a search is on to track those who killed her, police added. Further investigation is underway. **ANI**

## UBT Sena leader Sanjay Raut slams BJP for holding a 'Political event', alleges cricket moved from Mumbai to Ahmedabad

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Sunday claimed cricket had been moved from Mumbai, which was the nation's traditional powerhouse in the game, to Ahmedabad in Gujarat as the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party wanted to

hold a "political event". Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium, which is the world's largest cricket stadium with a capacity of 1.32 lakh, is currently hosting the final of the World Cup between India and Australia. "The World Cup (final) is happening in Ahmed-

abad. Earlier, Mumbai was the Mecca of cricket. All such events were organised in Delhi, Mumbai or at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata. Entire cricket was moved from Mumbai to Ahmedabad because they (BJP) want to do political event," Raut claimed. **PTI**

# Nation

## Jammu and Kashmir: Director General of Police instructs officers to maintain zero-tolerance against terrorism, narcotics smuggling and corruption



Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police RR Swain on Sunday instructed officers to maintain zero-tolerance against terrorism, narcotics smuggling, and corruption. Swain held a series of meetings in the border district of Rajouri, stressing upon officers to maintain zero-tolerance against terrorism, narcotics smuggling and corruption.

While addressing the officers,

he said that the J-K Police is the best force to fight terrorism, as no one knows the topography and demography as they do. The DGP was on a day-long visit to Rajouri - his first visit to the Pir Panjal region after taking over as the chief of the Jammu and Kashmir Police on October 31.

He also chaired meetings of officers from the Army, CRPF, BSF and sister agencies, besides range and district police officers.

His visit to Rajouri comes two days after security forces eliminated a terrorist in an encounter in the Behrote Top area of the district.

He felicitated officers and personnel who participated in the operation on November 17. During the meeting with the officers of different forces besides sister agencies, all officers agreed upon more actions against terrorism and their supporters, according to the press release issued on Sunday. "Officers agreed upon clean and green operations while taking due care about the problems being faced by the citizens of the border districts. Revisiting and rejuvenating Border Police Posts with the support and synergy of other forces was also discussed. Measures for strengthening the intelligence and border security grids were also discussed in the meeting," it added. ANI

## Kerala: Police held 10 people at raids in sharing objectionable contents of children



The Kerala Police has arrested 10 people from across the state in simultaneous raids and registered 46 cases in connection with alleged viewing and sharing objectionable contents related to children.

Police said they have also seized 123 electronic devices. The raids were conducted as part of the Kerala Police's operation P-Hunt to crackdown on child pornography.

Four persons were arrested from Malappuram district while

two each were nabbed from Idukki and Kochi city, one person each were apprehended from Alappuzha and Ernakulam rural area, police said. Operation P-Hunt is a special drive of Kerala Police CCSE (Countering Child Sexual Exploitation) Team to curb the crimes against the children. According to law, viewing, distributing or storing of any child pornographic content is a criminal offense and can result in, up to five years of imprisonment and up to Rs 10 lakh fine. PTI

## ICC World Cup 2023 final: PM Modi and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal praised team India's performance



After India suffered a defeat against Australia in the ICC World Cup 2023 final, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal praised team India and said that India's journey in the World Cup was nothing short of exceptional. "India may have missed the trophy, but their journey in the World Cup was nothing short of exceptional. They fought hard, played outstanding cricket, and showcased brilliance in every game. Kudos to our boys for making the nation proud throughout the tournament," posted CM Kejriwal on X.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised the Rohit Sharma-led side's determination through their "noteworthy" campaign and said that they have brought immense pride to the nation. Despite having an unbeaten

campaign in the 2023 World Cup, India suffered a six-wicket defeat against Australia in the summit clash. PM Modi commended Team India's talent and commitment, stating that they have brought enormous pride to the country.

"Dear Team India, your talent and determination through the World Cup was noteworthy. You've played with great spirit and brought immense pride to the nation. We stand with you today and always," PM posted on X. The bulk of the supporters gathered at the Narendra Modi Stadium, wanting to see the host nation end their decade-long wait for an ICC trophy win. But it was Australia that came through on the big day. After a fast-paced powerplay, the Australian bowling attack collaborated to bowl India out for 240. ANI

## Bengaluru: A woman and toddler died of electrocution, came in contact with a high-voltage electric wire

A woman and her nine-month-old child died of electrocution after they came in contact with a high-voltage electric wire in the Whitefield area of Bengaluru on Sunday morning, said an official. The deceased were identified as Kadugodi (23) and her daughter, Suviksa Lee (9 months).

According to Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP),

Whitefield," This day on November 19, at 6:00 in the morning near Hope Farm under Kadugodi police station limits, an electric wire related to BESCOM department fell down and came in contact with the deceased mother and daughter after which they died on the spot."

The official further informed that a case has been registered in this regard at the Whitefield po-

lice station. "We have started investigating the case, all the concerned BESCOM officials and staff are being interrogated," said the DCP.

BESCOM stands for Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited. It is responsible for distributing electricity in eight districts of Karnataka. Further details on the incident are awaited. ANI

## Delhi Transport Corporation electric bus was overturned at Rohini Sector

Four people, including a conductor, sustained injuries after a Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) electric bus they were travelling in overturned in Delhi's Rohini Sector 15 area on Sunday morning, police said. According to officials, the KNK Marg police received a PCR call around 7:00 am regarding the overturning of a DTC bus.

Upon reaching the spot, police found that the DTC bus had overturned, and the front windscreen of the bus had shattered in the incident.

Police said that three passen-



gers and the bus conductor sustained minor injuries in the accident. All four injured people are undergoing treatment at Dr Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital, they said. Initial police inquiries into the matter revealed that the driver

of the DTC bus lost control while turning the vehicle at a T-point. The bus driver has been detained, and appropriate legal action is being taken, said the police. Police were further looking into the incident. ANI

World

# Israel- Hamas conflict: WHO is planning to evacuate 30 neo-natal babies from the Al-Shifa hospital

The Hamas-controlled Ministry of Health has said that the World Health Organization is planning to evacuate 30 neo-natal babies from the Al-Shifa hospital in northern Gaza, CNN reported on Sunday. It reported quoting the spokesperson from the ministry, "World Health Organization, using ambulances of the Palestinian Red Crescent, planned to carry out the evacuation of the babies on Sunday, adding that they were waiting for Israeli military bulldozers to open the way."

Meanwhile, the WHO has not confirmed the evacuation would take place but Richard Brennan, the WHO emergency director



for the Eastern Mediterranean region, said that the agency was

working on a detailed plan with partners including the Palestine

Red Crescent and the UN relief agency in Gaza, UNRWA, as

well as UNICEF.

"I can't go into details on that plan right now but we hope to have some more encouraging news later in the day," Brennan told CNN. He added that moving the babies was a major priority. After an assessment mission led by WHO that visited Al-Shifa on Saturday, the agency said that "over the next 24-72 hours, pending guarantees of safe passage by parties to the conflict, additional missions are being arranged to urgently transport patients from Al-Shifa to Nasser Medical Complex and European Gaza Hospital in the south of Gaza. Patients include 32 babies in extremely critical condition." ANI

## Egypt: India's second tranche of humanitarian aid arrives for Palestine



The second tranche of humanitarian aid for the people of Palestine has arrived in Egypt. The aid material has been handed over to the Egyptian Red Crescent for further transmission to Palestine.

Sharing this on social media X, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi stated, "2nd tranche of humanitarian assistance for the people of Palestine arrives in Egypt. Relief material handed over to Egyptian Red Crescent for further transmission to Palestine."

The second Indian Air Force

(IAF) C17 aircraft, carrying 32 tonnes of aid for civilians in Gaza caught up in the ongoing Israel-Hamas war, departed on Sunday morning for the El-Arish Airport in Egypt. Taking to his official handle on X, External Affairs Minister S Jaishanker reaffirmed New Delhi's commitment to extend humanitarian assistance to Gazans, posting, "We continue to deliver humanitarian assistance to the people of Palestine. Second @IAF\_MCC C17 aircraft carrying 32 tonnes of aid departs for the El-Arish Airport in Egypt." ANI

## Finland accuses "Russia of pushing undocumented migrants towards the frontier", closes border crossings

Finland has announced that it is completely closing four border crossings with Russia, Politico reported. Finland announced the decision shortly after accusing Russia of pushing undocumented migrants towards the frontier. Finland Prime Minister Petteri Orpo said, "We have acted decisively and swiftly to ensure that the situation on the eastern border does not worsen," Politico reported, citing Finnish news outlet Ilta-lehti.

He said, "Amendments were made to the Border Guard Act

during the last parliamentary term specifically for such situations. Now these tools have been used." Later, Finnish Interior Minister Mari Rantanen said, "The risk of the situation escalating poses a serious threat to public order and national security." The closures will be enforced until February 18, 2024. She made the remarks while addressing a press conference. Finland's decision comes amid a rise in the number of asylum-seekers crossing the border from Russia in recent weeks. Some other border crossings will

continue to remain open.

Finland's Foreign Minister Elina Valtonen said, "The government's decision to close border crossing points is a determined response to instrumentalized immigration." Valtonen said, "Finland together with our partners and allies does not tolerate hybrid operations in any shape or form." Since September, approximately 280 asylum-seekers have crossed the eastern border into Finland from Russia, according to the Finnish Border Guard, Politico reported. ANI

## Pakistan: Security forces claimed four armed fighters killed near Afghanistan

Pakistani security forces on Sunday claimed to have eliminated four armed fighters including one "high-value target" identified as "Ibrahim" near the northwestern border with Afghanistan, Al Jazeera reported, citing Pakistan's military. Pakistani forces exchanged gunfire with the fighters during an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in the Khaisoor area of North Waziristan district, according to Pakistan's military press release.

Moreover, troops found a



cache of weapons, ammunition and explosives during the raid, the military statement said. They further continued to search the surrounding areas for fighters in hid-

ing, according to Al Jazeera. "The security forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of terrorism from the country," the military statement said. ANI

## Expression

# Yet another piece of ignorance



Er Rajesh Pathak

Columnist

With the awareness of the country in general and its achievement in particular Rahul Gandhi seems to want to remain stranger forever. Country has seen much of it; and the allies of I.N.D.I.A. Alliance either. More than the seat sharing tussle, the issue of Rahul as a PM, therefore, has made them keep falling apart despite Congress party's fictitious display of indifference.

And now this notion about Rahul gets to be more firm when he gives yet another piece of his ignorance by telling with utter that Chinese phones are there in hands of the people in the country in an election rally in MP. But now he is left with no option but to be rubbing the pain of counter attack of Modi's jibe of 'Moorkhon ke Sardar' ('Chieftain of imbeciles').

Modi is not wrong. PLI [Production Linked Incentive] scheme was launched to promote mobile manufacturing inside the country soon after post Covid days that country knows. Under this the production of electronic components and semi-conductors is targeted to undergo manufacturing inside the country itself. The scheme is of 41 thousand crores. Among the proposals came presently so far are from the domestic and foreign companies in general; and contract manufacturers of Apple in particular-

such as Foxcon, Vistron, Pagtron, Samsung, Lava and Dixon. They are mostly those companies that want to take their business out of China to other destinations. These companies applied for the production of mobile phones with the cost of 15 thousand or above. However, no such limit of cost is set for Indian companies. From this scheme almost 12 lakhs people in country would get employment in the next 5 years.

The result is there for all to see. Today mobile-manufacturing has touched the figure of 4 lac crores in the country. Apple today is making its latest iPhone in India. Samsung Giga factory is also working with record production. Once totally dependent on import, India today has become second best 'Mobile - manufacturing hub' of the world. So says none other than Ashwini Vaishnav, electronics and information technology minister. The export of iPhones made in the country has touched the amount of 23,000 crore rupees, which is half of the total export from the country so far. By the end of the fiscal year 2022-2023 the total amount earned from export would get to be 1lakh crore by the end of this year, according to a report.

But like mobile phone, the production of laptop, computer and tablet may also flourish in the country itself as their import is now banned. Two years back a PLI scheme was started in this sector, the result of which has now begun to be appeared. Hope this time Rahul would not be caught unaware of the report of the performance ever published in this new emerging sectors.



# The Decline of Community Integrity in the Modern Era



Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun

Columnist

Within the intricate fabric of contemporary society, there exists a disheartening reality – communities that have strayed from their fundamental principles. Let us delve into the underlying issues afflicting these communities, where the inebriation of adversarial divisions, the pervasive influence of hunting-centered Vlogs and Blogs, and the seductive allure of falsehood have taken root.

### The Enigma of Adversarial Division:

Communities that were once bound by a shared purpose and common values now grapple with the corrosive impact of adversarial division. Disagreements, once fertile ground for growth, have transformed into ceaseless, often acrimonious conflicts that obscure the path to consensus and collective progress. The allure of adversaries blinds individuals to the potential inherent in dialogue, compromise, and constructive collaboration, which should serve as the very foundation of community life.

### The Sway of Hunting-Focused Vlogs and Blogs:

In an era where the influence of media and influencers reigns

supreme, we bear witness to a disquieting trend. Particular communities have fallen under the pervasive sway of hunting-focused Vlogs and Blogs, which extol violence and desensitize individuals to the sanctity of life and the delicate equilibrium of the natural world. Countering this indoctrination necessitates the cultivation of critical thinking and the promotion of responsible media consumption, which are indispensable tools to resist the erosion of empathy and compassion.

### The Alluring Guise of Deception:

Falsehood, often shrouded in an enchanting facade, has become an insidious presence within the very core of some communities. In an era inundated with information, trust in credible sources, rigorous fact-checking, and a vigilant skepticism stand as the bulwarks against the corrosion of a community's essence. When falsehood becomes the prevailing narrative, the very underpinnings of trust, vital for any community's flourishing, disintegrate.

### Bottom line:

It is the collective responsibility of all of us to preserve the integrity of our communities. We must champion open dialogue, nurture critical thinking, and steadfastly uphold truth and empathy as guiding principles. Pity alone is inadequate; it is our unified actions that will redirect our communities onto a path of reason, compassion, and authenticity.

## Entertainment

### International Emmy Awards: Actors Shefali Shah and Vir Das posed together



Actors Shefali Shah and Vir Das are super excited about the 51st International Emmy Awards and the duo posed together at the opening night in New York. In the pictures shared by Netflix's team, Shefali and Vir can be seen striking a pose with their medal and certificate that they received for their work at a special gala ahead of the International Emmy Awards.

Look at their smile in this picture with their medals. Taking to Instagram story on Saturday, Jim Sarbh shared a glimpse from the red carpet of a pre-ceremony of the International Emmy Awards. All smiles as Jim Sarbh poses with Shefali Shah and Vir Das.

Shah has been nominated for Best Performance by an Actress for her performance in the series 'Delhi Crime Season 2'. She is competing with Connie Nielsen from Denmark, Billie Piper from the UK, and Karla Souza from Mexico. Vir Das bagged a nomination for his comedy special 'Vir Das: Landing' which premiered on the OTT platform Netflix. He is competing with Le Flambeau from France, El Encargado from Argentina, and Derry Girls Season 3 from the UK. **ANI**

### Actor Abhishek Bachchan pens a note after sudden demise of filmmaker Sanjay Gadhvi



The sudden demise of filmmaker Sanjay Gadhvi has left the entire film industry in shock. Actor Abhishek Bachchan, who worked with him in 'Dhoom' and 'Dhoom 2' got emotional after hearing this news and penned a note in his remembrance.

He shared unseen pictures from the set and revealed that he spoke to him just last week. Sharing the pictures, he wrote, "I took this photo of Sanjay whilst we were filming the climax of Dhoom 2 in South Africa. We made 2 films together - Dhoom and Dhoom 2. Sanju, when I spoke to you last week and we were reminiscing about our shoots and memories I would never have imagined even in my craziest dreams that I would have to write a post like this. I'm shocked beyond belief. You had faith in me, even when I didn't. You gave me my first ever hit!!! I can never ever forget that or be able express what it meant to me. I will cherish your friendship always. Rest in peace my brother." **ANI**

### Actor Michael B Jordan is all set for the new direction of 'Creed'



American actor Michael B Jordan is all set to direct the fourth instalment of 'Creed', shared the franchise producer Irwin Winkler, reported Variety. Jordan made his directorial debut with 'Creed 3', in which he also starred as heavyweight champ Adonis Creed.

MGM did not respond to Variety's request for comment about 'Creed 4'. Jordan originally starred as Adonis in the 2015 film 'Creed', which was followed by a 2018 sequel and a 2023 threequel. In the first two 'Creed' films, Sylvester Stallone reprised his role as Rocky Balboa, becoming a mentor to Adonis, the son of his old opponent Apollo Creed (Carl Weathers). 'Creed 3' is the first installment in the long-running franchise sans Sylvester Stallone. **ANI**

### Actor Madhuri Dixit talks about her inspiration while shooting for 'Uttar Dakshin'

Actors Madhuri Dixit Nene and Rajinikanth have worked together in the movie 'Uttar Dakshin.' On Sunday, Madhuri took to Instagram and shared a picture of herself with Rajinikanth and her husband Shriram Nene.

She wrote, "'Keh do Uttar waalo se Dakshin waale aagye' This was a song from our movie Uttar Dakshin. I remember during the shoot Rajnikanth Ji always spoke to me in Marathi and whenever we met, he always remembered Uttar Dakshin. What an inspiration and what a human being. It was fabulous catching up with Rajnikant Ji #Thalaivar. I am always amazed at how kind, humble and respectful he is. @rajinikanth #rajinikanth #thalaivar." **ANI**

