



Maha CM announces Rs 10 lakh assistance to kin of Agniveer who

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## Shiv Sena MLAs disqualification Row

### Thackeray faction of the Shiv Sena filed disqualification petitions against Shinde

AV Team

After the Supreme Court came down heavily on Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar for delay in the adjudication of the disqualification petitions, he is set to submit a fresh timeline for adjudication of the petitions within three months. Rahul Narwekar had clubbed the 34 petitions seeking disqualification of 54 Shiv Sena MLAs into six groups. He will conduct a hearing in the Shiv Sena MLAs disqualification issue Thursday. Last week, Narwekar clubbed the 34 petitions seeking the disqualification of 54 Shiv Sena MLAs of two factions — one led by Uddhav Thackeray and the other by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde — into six groups based on their similarities in nature and cause of action. The hearing on the first group of petitions will begin at 4 pm.

During last week's hearing, Narwekar also asked the Shinde-led Sena to submit before him by October 25 the same information that both factions had submitted in the Supreme Court. Narwekar is also expected to meet Advocate General Biren Saraf in Mumbai next week and also travel to New Delhi to consult Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta before submitting the revised schedule to the SC on October 30 to discuss the issue.

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## Mumbai Millworkers and their misery is never to end?

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Millworkers misery is not new to the city, once mills and mill workers were the pride of Mumbai. But gradually many mills got shut and generation after generation the mill workers' families still struggled for justice. In the recent past thousands of former mill workers in Mumbai are still waiting for the houses they were promised in 2016. Delays in paperwork, changes in government, and the using these ready homes as quarantine centers due to COVID-19 have all contributed to the postponement. The houses, which were supposed to be handed over on Dussehra, are now expected to be completed by November. However, many workers are unsure and worried about the extended wait and the worsened condition of the houses.

In 2016, the lottery was held by Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA) for subsidized housing for former mill workers and their families. Each was promised two flats of one-room-kitchen measur-

ing 160 square feet in Kongaon, Panvel, at ₹6 lakh. The land belonged to Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) where the agency built the houses. Many paid up in 2019, after dipping into their savings or taking loans. Many of them sold their assets and are now literally bankrupt. The ready homes were repurposed by the Panvel Municipal Corporation as quarantine centres for affected patients. Post pandemic, the buildings were left in awful conditions, with broken doors and sinks stolen. The houses could be handed over in such a state. The conditions of these new houses have deteriorated. MHADA then floated a tender for repairs, adding an expense of over ₹52 crore. Government literally ignored the urgent requirements of the people.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

# Editoritis

# Mumbai Millworkers and their misery is never to end?

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*Mills of Mumbai has interesting history, when the British and Portuguese decided to begin trade in India, they decided to make Mumbai as their foundation. It began around the late 1840s, when mills began to plant themselves around a location which now is the central part of Mumbai.*

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*By the 1980s the majority of the mills closed after a prolonged strike. Gradually, there were 58 mills employing a mere 20,000 people. Of these, 32 are privately owned, 25 are owned by the NTC and one by the State government.*

Mills of Mumbai has interesting history, when the British and Portuguese decided to begin trade in India, they decided to make Mumbai as their foundation. It began around the late 1840s, when mills began to plant themselves around a location which now is the central part of Mumbai. The mills were set up towards central and south Mumbai, when the islands still existed and the land had still not been reclaimed. A significant rise in the port activity led to the businessmen, mostly from the Parsi community, to invest in the rising trade in Mumbai. Mills were then built with large hall spaces in order to function with at least one thousand workers in them.

The first mill in Bombay was projected in 1851 by Mr C. Nanabhai Davar and commenced work in 1854 in the name of Bombay Spinning and Weaving Company. The initial mills began around Tardeo and Byculla, and later began moving northwards. The mills once located in the central part of Bombay, in a vast area known as Girangaon – village of the Mills – that encompasses the localities of Byculla, Chinchpokly, Lalbaug, Poybawadi, Parel, Lower Parel, Worli, Deleslie Road and Jacob Circle to Dadar. The walls of these once-gargantuan structures remain in despair today in the company of junkies, and perhaps occasionally witness couples whose stories that faded away with time. Ironically, the Shiv Sena earned its spurs as a party when it took up the cause of mill workers in the 1960s. Today Shiv Sena unions have lost most of their ground in the area as they failed to protect the workers' interests. In the recent past Shiv Sena also lost its existence as it used to be earlier.

The first textile mill, Bombay Spinning Mill, was set up in 1854 in response to Britain's need for cotton textiles. At that time, cotton was imported from the United States but when the Civil War broke out in that country supplies stopped. This enabled the Indian textile industry to flourish. In 1961, the mills employed more than 2.5 lakh people. But a decline in imports owing to stiff competition from other countries started to lead the mills to ruin. By the 1980s the majority of the mills closed after a prolonged strike. Gradually, there were 58 mills employing a mere 20,000 people. Of these, 32 are privately owned, 25 are owned by the NTC and one by the State government. Twenty-nine private mills, declared sick by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), have shut down. The few mills operated by the NTC have incurred massive losses.

The mills issue has remained mired in controversy for years. For instance, activists say many private mills do not have the right to sell their property as they were given the land on lease for industrial purposes. Then there is the issue of compensation for workers. Over the years, several plans to restructure and make optimum use of the mill area were proposed. They remain on paper. Now the mill lands vanished, a whole chapter of Mumbai's history is lost. But a government keen on redevelopment does not want a millstone round its neck in the form of the obligation to preserve the past.

The strike led by Dr. Datta Samant involved 247,189 Mumbai mill workers and brought the city to a standstill. The 1982-83 strike was the last industrial action by the Mumbai mill workers when the city witnessed an industry-wide strike bringing the workforce to the centre of politics. While the present-day public memory of the strike has receded, it is important to remember the event which fundamentally transformed the city of Mumbai. The conflict between the mill workers and the owners began over the issue of bonuses. However, as the conflict gained momentum other demands were added, such as providing for an ad hoc increase of wage per month from Rs 120 to Rs 195 per month depending on the years of service. Secondly, to make the badly (make a shift) workers permanent who had worked for an aggregate period of 240 days. Thirdly, payment of House Rent Allowance (Rs 52 per month), Leave Travel Allowance (Rs 42 per month), and Educational Allowance (Rs 30 per month). Substantial improvement in leave facilities such as privilege leave, casual leave, sick leave, and paid holidays was also one of the demands. Finally, the strikers demanded non-recognition of Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh (RMMS) as the representative union, and the sole bargaining agent for workers. These demands shocked the employers. The mill owners were able to put down the strike by colluding with the state machinery and the RMMS, the officially recognised trade union, which had held a monopoly of speaking up for the workers. After this, about 91,251 mill workers were laid off. The catastrophic outcome of the strike also had national-level implications, as Mumbai's mill workers held the vanguard position of the country's labour movement. The failure of the 1982-83 strike crucially led to the reversal of the entitlements that the mill workers had obtained through various struggles and fundamentally altered workers' claims over the city's social fabric. Following the strike, the workers lost the fighting spirit, which they had demonstrated historically. Most importantly, the failure of the strike resulted in the gradual dismantling of the various social, political, and cultural institutions that contributed to the rhythms of Girangaon.

The failure of the strike was not merely a loss of that industrial action, but it had ramifications for the future strikes of the working classes. Since the late 1980s protests by the working classes in Mumbai became increasingly weaker in staking their claims. The disastrous outcome of the 1982-83 strike, thus, not only resulted in working classes losing their rights and privileges earned through various decades of struggles but it heralded the unmaking of kaamgarachi or shramikanchi (labourers) Mumbai.

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Editor

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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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**Movable Library**

In the digital age, people are placing more emphasis on online shopping. Some time ago, small shopkeepers used to hope to increase their income during festivals, whereas now the festival sales available on e-commerce platforms have reduced the sales of shopkeepers. Before understanding this difference, it is important to know that one of the reasons for online shopping is wrong measurement of goods by the shopkeeper and charging more money. In today's time, people want to buy more and more products in less time at reasonable prices.

People have so much there is no time to spare the whole day for shopping, hence online shopping is increasing. Yes, one of the disadvantages of buying goods from e-commerce sites is that the quality of the goods shown to you in pictures and videos may not be the same in reality.

Whereas before going to the market and buying the goods, you can check its quality. However, considering the urgency of the times, shopkeepers have also started taking online payments, but people are still giving more preference to online shopping. to buy small items. They go to the market, but expensive items like TV, smartphone and laptop etc. are being purchased from e-commerce sites. There is also an argument that employment of lakhs of people is linked to small and medium traders. If their business is affected then the employment of the people associated with them will also be at risk, hence it is important to take care of everyone during the festive season.

In our country, the traffic police take every possible measure to ensure that traffic flows smoothly on the roads, but despite their best efforts, accidents still happen on the roads. In fact, while driving on the roads, drivers take shortcuts and cause accidents. Due to this, the number of road accidents and people losing their lives keeps increasing. Even after repeated attempts by the traffic police, drivers do not remain alert.

Often accidents occur on the highway due to complete lack of

following traffic rules. Two wheeler drivers make more mistakes than four wheeler drivers. Among these, the most common complaint is about not wearing a helmet. There are more complaints of driving in the opposite direction on expressways. She goes. Vehicle accidents often occur at night due to unnecessary parking of vehicles at various places on the highways. We just want that the way the knowledge of moral education is given to children in school, it is very important to organize a separate session to teach traffic rules right from the small classes, so that these future vehicles of ours, drivers can get into the habit of driving and following its rules right from the beginning and they can also easily get training on how to drive safely a matter of pride for us that the government is making serious efforts to make the travel of the common man comfortable.

To make travel more convenient in the country, a high-speed train has got the green signal. This will make travel easier for people in and around Delhi, and will also benefit other working people including office goers, businessmen and students. As traffic is increasing in metropolitan cities, it is necessary that the range of public vehicles also increases. Along with this, metro train facility should also be available in other areas of the country. center and to manage the increasing traffic system, state governments should provide metro train facilities even in small cities. Metro train is not only going to provide relief from the traffic problem, but it can also prove to be effective in stopping the increasing pollution.

Because due to this people will reduce the use of their personal vehicles. When less number of vehicles run on the roads, there will be no problem of traffic jam and the environment will also not be polluted. Therefore, people should also use public vehicles as much as possible for travelling. Public vehicles like auto, train and bus not only make traveling comfortable but also relieve the problem of parking.



- Vijay Garg

*Letters to the Editor*

**South Africa's Domination in World Cup**

Looking forward to winning their first World Cup trophy, the South African team is playing in a different style in this ongoing World Cup. Their all-round performance has dominated other teams. Specifically, their batting line-up seems stronger than any other teams. The absence of their captain Temba Bavuma is not affecting the performance of the team at all. Quinton de Kock and Heinrich Klaasen have been consistently scoring well for the team. They can definitely win the trophy if they continue with the same performance.

Rehan Khan

**China must be taught a lesson**

The US has alleged that 3 Chinese Establishments have been secretly supplying components to Pakistan for manufacturing Ballistic Missiles. For this reason, the US has banned these Chinese Establishments. Matthew Miller, the Spokesperson of US Department of State, has given this information. He said that this ban is based on violation of International Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament rules.

It is noteworthy that this action has been taken by the US after Pakistan carried out a test firing of Ballistic missile 'Ababil', however, the test failed. The United States is committed to strengthening the global nonproliferation regime by taking action to disrupt procurement networks supporting proliferation activities of concern, the US said. China must be taught a lesson for helping Jihadi Pakistan: India should take the lead in this matter & we should boycott China's goods.

Aparna Jagtap

**Fire audits at regular intervals should be made mandatory for all buildings!**

A stitch in time saves nine but we neglect minor short-circuits at our homes by getting small repairs done through our local electrician. Most homes today have air-conditioners & many other gadgets that run on electricity but the electric wires & other accessories are not equipped to take the load which results in major fires in the city which has proved fatal for many.

Electricity audits of buildings every year should be made mandatory. OC's to new buildings must be issued after thoroughly inspecting every aspect of safety. Regular fires in the city is cause of concern & authorities should take the help of IIT & other engineering institutes to chalk out a plan to reduce incidents of fire in future!

S.N.Kabra

**No Compromise, Infrastructure Projects**

The Centre expects its fertilizer outlay for the current financial year (2023-24) to ex-

ceed the budget estimate of Rs 1.75 lakh crore, due to a rise in input costs as the war in Israel has once again led to a spike in commodity prices, which had settled lower two years after the war in Ukraine began. One of the key inputs in the making of fertilizers is natural gas, which has also seen a rise in prices. In case oil prices remain elevated, that will lead to a higher subsidy outlay by the Centre. If it cannot make up the difference through higher tax and non-tax collections, then it may have to cut spending in welfare schemes and administrative expenditure.

However, there should be no compromise on capital spending for infrastructure projects. There must be an attempt to find as much savings as could be on administrative expenditure.

Tauqueer Rahmani

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)

# Maharashtra CM announces Rs 10 lakh assistance to kin of Agniveer who died in Siachen glacier



Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Thursday announced an assistance of Rs 10 lakh to the family of Agniveer Akshay Laxman Gawate, who died in the line

of duty in Siachen last week.

Shinde also expressed condolences to the family over the death of Gawate, who hailed from Pimpalgaon Sarai in Buldhana district of Maharashtra, as

per a statement.

Situated at an altitude of around 20,000 feet in the Karakoram mountain range, Siachen is known as the world's highest militarised zone, where soldiers have to battle extreme cold and strong winds.

Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande and all ranks of the force had condoled the death of Agniveer Gawate. "All ranks of Fire and Fury Corps salute the supreme sacrifice of #Agniveer (Operator) Gawate Akshay Laxman, in the line of duty, in the unforgiving heights of #Siachen and offer deepest condolences to the family," the Army's Leh-headquartered Fire and Fury Corps said on X on Sunday. PTI

## Who is the advocate of Sadavarta, a lawyer who opposed Maratha reservation?

The 'industry' of taking the big industries of Maharashtra away from the state to Gujarat has been continuously going on for the past one and a half years. Shinde-Fadnavis-Pawar are leading Maharashtra to decline by giving many industries including Vedanta-Foxcon to Gujarat. The current BJP government does not show any weakness in reducing the importance of Mumbai and Maharashtra. Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee President Nana Patole has alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has come to Maharashtra on his tour to take the big diamond industry in Mumbai to Surat as well.

Speaking to the media in this regard, the Congress state president said that in the last one and a half years, the BJP government in the state has been looting Ma-



harashtra as per the orders of Delhi. A big diamond industry is being set up in Surat, for that Prime Minister Modi has come to move the diamond industry in Mumbai to Surat and also to start the work of Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train. Bullet train project is a big burden on Maharashtra but Shinde-Fadnavis-Pawar cannot say anything in front of Modi-Shah. BJP has planned to take the industries, important offices, institutions of Mumbai and Maharashtra out of Mumbai, Maharashtra. The BJP government is committing the sin of driving the state into the abyss.

## Elderly man duped of Rs 4.35 crore by cyber fraudster in name of PF payout

An elderly man from south Mumbai was allegedly duped to the tune of Rs 4.35 crore by a cyber-fraudster, who told him that he was entitled to get a Provident Fund corpus of Rs 11 crore, police said on Thursday.

The incident came to light after the 71-year-old man's wife approached the Cuffe Parade police station and lodged a complaint, an official said. "In her complaint, she said she received a call from a woman in May this year. The caller claimed that she was speaking from the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO). In order to win the victim's trust, the caller provided all relevant information about the complainant's husband to her," he said. The caller also told the complainant that her husband's company had deposited Rs 4 lakh in his EPF account for a period of 20 years and he is now entitled to get the maturity amount of Rs 11 crore, he said.

The complainant's husband earlier worked in a prominent Information Technology (IT) services and consulting company. After his retirement, the couple had withdrawn invested funds post-maturi-

ty, the official said. The caller then asked the woman to deposit money required towards the payment of TDS, GST and income tax. Believing her, the woman transferred money into the bank accounts as per her instructions from time to time, he said.

"This way, the accused woman duped the couple to the tune of Rs 4.35 crore. The victim was asked to transfer money on several occasions between May and September under various pretexts. But when the caller kept demanding more money, the couple told her that they did not have any more funds," he said. The caller woman then started threatening that she would inform the I-T department, he said.

After they realised that had been duped, the couple approached the police and lodged a complaint on Tuesday, he said. Based on the complaint, a first information report (FIR) under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 384 (extortion), 419 (cheating by personation), 420 (cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property), and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) and various sections of the I-T Act, including identity theft was filed. PTI

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## Shiv Sena MLAs disqualification Row ...

Following a rebellion led by Shinde, the Shiv Sena split in June 2002 and the Shinde faction joined hands with the BJP to take over power in Maharashtra from the Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government. The Thackeray faction of the Shiv Sena filed disqualification petitions against Shinde and the MLAs who supported him.

Advocate **Asim Sarode** told Afternoon Voice, "It is clearly seen that he is taking sides of the government which does not have constitutional intention because to the law person serving at the constitutional post should be neutral and unbiased".

When asked that there are lot of talks going on about Speaker Rahul Narvekar is seen following footsteps of governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari over this, "Former governor was quite unconstitutional and it is sad to see that he is also seems following the same footsteps not only even court had mentioned that it is unfortunate to see that governor was a part of that conspiracy" **Sarode** further added.

Denying all the allegations and rumours, Cabinet minister **Sudhir Mungantiwar** said, "This is completely lie and when it comes to the speaker of the assembly then he working only as per the constitutional law and when it comes to Shiv Sena MLA disqualification process Uddhav Thackeray Sena faction should understand that there were some

problems in the party this is why they have left them. Also when it comes to judiciary it will take time".

While retired Judge **B. G Kolse Patil** said, "During this government regime most of them are working in favour of the government but they may say it openly. Also speaker is elected by this government so they will be working in favour of it".

Former CM **Prithviraj Chavan** said, "Speaker of the assembly is mostly elected by some of the party and if the person is coming from a political party then he will be taking decisions which works in favour of the party. The supreme court also has so many restrictions which cannot easily come to a point so it should direct parliament to make some amendments in the schedule to solve the disqualification issue".

"Obviously his decisions has political intent", Advocate **Majeed Memon** said, "Supreme Court has expressed its anger yet he did not show any respect to the highest level of judiciary".

UBT Shiv Sena MP **Vinayak Raut** said, "The case is still there in the court and we are sure of 101% that all the Sena MLA's with CM Eknath Shinde will be disqualified".



## Nation

### Army Chief Manoj Pande said, "Self-reliance, a key lesson" over Russia-Ukraine conflict



fairs. The importance of national security is growing in international affairs." "The last year has been challenging yet satisfying. As far as the OP situation is concerned, it is stable and we have dealt with internal security challenges the way we are supposed to deal with them," he added. In response to a query about data and new technology being the new engines of war, Gen. Manoj Pande said that modernization and technology indication are central to the capability development programme.

"Modernization and technology indication are central to our capability development programme. We have been focusing on the infusion of new technology. We have identified 45 niche technologies that we need to follow. We have defined philosophy for Artificial Intelligence and machine learning. AI in terms of surveillance and image interpretation and the key is to interpret information quickly. In the field of robotics, we are looking at man-and-unmanned combinations," he said. ANI

The Chief of Army Staff, Manoj Pande, said on Thursday that self-reliance is one of the key lessons in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, adding that India has done well there. The Army Chief was speaking at the curtain-raiser event of the Chanakya Defence Dialogue in the national capital.

He said, "Self-reliance is one of the key lessons in the Russia-Ukraine conflict and we have done well there. The lesson from the Russia-Ukraine conflict is

that land will continue to be a key domain of warfare where you have contested borders, as in our case. The victory markers will have to be defined in the land domain. That is not to suggest that the integration or jointness that we ought to achieve is not important but in my view, land domain is going to be more important."

Army Chief Manoj Pande said, "We are seeing unprecedented changes in the world. We're also seeing the centrality of national interests in global af-

### Karnataka: SUV collide with parked truck leaves twelve people dead



Twelve persons, including three women, were killed after an SUV collided with a parked truck in Karnataka's Chikkaballapur near Bengaluru early Thursday morning, police said. The accident took place on National Highway 44 near a traffic police station. Police suspect foggy weather to have been the cause of the mishap.

"An Andhra Pradesh-based Tata Sumo collided with a truck around 7 am," Chikkaballapur Superintendent of Police DL

Nagesh said. The deceased belonged to Kothacheruvu of the Gorantla area of the Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh, the Superintendent of Police said. The SUV was crushed due to the impact and passersby along with police managed to pull out victims who were rushed to hospital. The five injured are undergoing treatment in hospital, the police official said. Further details about the deceased will be known after an investigation, he said. ANI

### Himachal Pradesh: Anti-Narcotics Task Force seized 9.923 kg of cannabis, 2 held



The Anti-Narcotic Task Force (ANTF) of the Himachal Police seized 9.923 kg of cannabis along with the arrest of two persons in the Mandi district, police said on Thursday. According to ANTF officials, the accused have been identified as Girdhari Lal Singh (26) and Arun Kumar (22).

"One car has also been recovered from the accused's posses-

sion," they said. A case under sections 20, 25, and 29 of the NDPS (Narcotics, Drugs, and Psychotropic Substances) Act has been registered against the duo at the police station in Sunder Nagar. The Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) was constituted by the state police to curb the drug menace in the state. The ANTF has three field units at Kangra, Kullu, and Shimla in the state. ANI

### Karnataka: Electricity shortage, former government to be blamed

The state of Karnataka has been facing a huge power crisis for the last few months, which has led to mega protests by the opposition. The State is seeing an unprecedented demand of more than 15000 MW in October 2023, Energy Minister K J George said on Wednesday in Delhi. Blaming the previous government for the current shortage of electricity, George said, that if the power generation level had been better during the previous BJP Karnataka government, the State would not have faced such a situation today.

"The demand for power in the State has shot up this year compared to last year. In the last few years, power consumption has decreased due to the COVID-19 pandemic; however, the demand has been unprecedented this year. The power demand has been so



high that the power consumption in August has surpassed the summer months' consumption", the Energy Minister added.

"Power generation has remained the same in the last four years. Had the power generation level been better during the previous BJP Karnataka government, the State would not have faced such a situation today. In addition, the quality of

coal allocated from the Central Government to the State is also not good. Along with this, due to lack of rain, this has adversely affected power generation. Power generation was doubled in our first term of government. In 2013-14, the electricity generation was 14,048 MW. It had increased to 27,780 MW by 2017-18", Energy Minister K J George added. ANI

World

# US: Amid ongoing conflict between Israel- Palestine, Jewish students take shelter in college library as protestors were chanting 'Free Palestine'

**A**mid the ongoing Israeli offensive against Hamas in Gaza following the October 7 terror attacks, a group of Jewish students took shelter in a library at Cooper Union in New York as a group of demonstrators chanted "Free Palestine" outside. The Times of Israel reported. The demonstrators kept pounding on the door as the students were inside the library, The Times of Israel stated in its report.

In a viral video shared on social media platform X, the Jewish students are purportedly seen inside the library as those outside pound on the doors chanting "Free Palestine". However, the



report, citing the New York Police Department (NYPD), stated that the Jewish students were safely escorted from the library. Over 1,400 people are believed to

have perished in the Hamas terror attacks while more than 5,400 were injured, The Jerusalem Post reported, adding that a further 222 people, mostly civilians, are

being held hostage by the terrorists in Gaza.

After Hamas terrorists, believed to be in excess of 2,000, infiltrated southern Israel by land,

sea and air, going into homes and unleashing terror on defenceless civilians, Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant issued a stern warning to the terror group saying that "2023 is not 1943", referring to the persecution of Jews under the Nazi regime in Germany.

The minister said today's Jewish people possesses "different capabilities", Times of Israel reported. "We have been hit hard. Yet make no mistake - 2023 is not 1943. We are the same Jews, but we have different capabilities. The State of Israel is strong. We are united and powerful," he said. ANI

## Israeli fighter jets carried out airstrikes over 250 Hamas sites, including a rocket launch



**T**he Israeli fighter jets carried out overnight airstrikes over 250 Hamas sites in the Gaza Strip including a rocket launch site that was hidden between a mosque and kindergarten, Times of Israel reported on Thursday. IDF has called this "another proof" that terror group Hamas uses "civilian sites for terror purposes".

The sites struck by Israel included Hamas infrastructure, command centers, tunnels, and rocket launchers, according to the IDF. The IDF said that the rocket launchers were "placed in the heart of civilian areas that fired toward Israeli territory throughout the war." It further said that the missile launch site

is "located adjacent to a mosque and kindergarten, which is further proof that Hamas deliberately uses civilian sites for terror purposes."

Israeli Air Force also said in a statement about attacking over 250 terror targets of Hamas in the Gaza Strip. "Terrorist infrastructure, combat tunnel shafts and launchers in a civilian environment; The Air Force attacked over 250 targets of the terrorist organization Hamas in the Gaza Strip. In the last day, fighter jets of the Air Force attacked more than 250 targets of the terrorist organization Hamas in the Gaza Strip," Israeli Air Force posted on X (formerly Twitter). ANI

## Israel- Hamas war: IDF shares footage of soldiers chasing, killing Hamas terrorists

**I**n retaliation to the Hamas attack on Israel, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) is striking down the Hamas terrorists to secure Israeli civilians in the Kibbutz Be'eri near the Southern Israel Border. In a video footage shared by IDF, soldiers were seen chasing a Hamas terrorists and neutralising them within minutes.

IDF shared a video on X, saying, "Watch this never-before-seen footage of combat soldiers from the IDF's Shaldag Unit op-

erating to neutralize terrorists and rescue the civilians of Kibbutz Be'eri." It added, "In the footage, you can see the IDF soldiers firing at the terrorists' vehicle, killing the driver who then lost control of the vehicle. The unit's soldiers then killed the other terrorists in the cell who tried to escape. At the same time of the counterterrorism activities, you can see IDF special forces rescuing the residents of Kibbutz Be'eri." Meanwhile, the IDF is preparing

for the ground offensive in Gaza under which the Israeli tanks and infantry targeted numerous terrorist cells and destroyed Hamas launch posts in Gaza.

Taking to X, IDF said, "In preparation for the next stages of combat, the IDF operated in northern Gaza. IDF tanks & infantry struck numerous terrorist cells, infrastructure and anti-tank missile launch posts. The soldiers have since exited the area and returned to Israeli territory." ANI

## UK: PM Rishi Sunak announced that "World's first AI Safety Institute will be setup in the country"

**T**he UK is to be the headquarters of the world's first AI Safety Institute as the country takes the lead in examining and testing new types of artificial intelligence, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced in a speech in London on Thursday. Ahead of hosting the first Global AI Safety Summit next week, the British Indian leader who completed one year in office this week said that he genuinely believes that technologies like AI (Artificial Intelligence) will bring a transformation "as far-reaching as the industrial revolution, the coming of electricity, or the birth



of the internet".

But like those waves of advancements and the many positives that they offer, there are also "new dangers and new fears" that need to be tackled head on. "Get this wrong, and AI could make it easier to build

chemical or biological weapons. Terrorist groups could use AI to spread fear and destruction on an even greater scale. Criminals could exploit AI for cyber-attacks, disinformation, fraud, or even child sexual abuse," warned Sunak. PTI



# Entertainment

## 'The Railway Men' starring R Madhavan, Kay Kay Menon and other actors is all set for its release



Makers of 'The Railway Men' starring R Madhavan, Kay Kay Menon, Divyenndu, and Babil Khan announced the release date of the character-driven series. Taking to Instagram, streaming platform Netflix shared the motion poster of the characters.

Sharing the poster, they wrote, "The story of humanity's fight in the midst of a tragedy. #TheRailwayMen - a four-episode series inspired by true stories arrives November 18, only on Netflix!"

The four-episode series is directed by debutant director Shiv Rawail, one of YRF's homegrown talents. Set against the backdrop of the Bhopal Gas Leak, the world's worst industrial disaster, and inspired by true stories, 'The Railway Men' is an account of courage and a salute to humanity. It offers a poignant narrative of the unsung heroes - the railway employees of India, who went beyond their call of duty, trying to save the lives of hundreds of innocent citizens trapped in a helpless city. It stars R. Madhavan, Kay Kay Menon, Divyenndu Sharma and Babil Khan in the lead roles. **ANI**

## Aayush Sharma will be coming back with a new film 'Ruslaan'



"Ruslaan", starring Aayush Sharma, will be released in theatres on January 12, 2024, the makers said on Thursday. Directed by Karan L Butani of "Phamous" fame, the movie is produced by KK Radhamohan under Sri Sathya Sai Arts banner. The makers revealed the first look of the actor from the upcoming project on his 33rd birthday. **PTI**



After unveiling the intriguing first look, the makers of intense survival thriller 'Apurva' starring Tara Sutaria launched the trailer on Thursday. Directed by Nikhil Nagesh Bhat, 'Apurva' is touted to be a story of an ordinary girl who faces extraordinary circumstances and will do anything to Survive and Live. Rajpal Yadav, Abhishek Banerjee, and Dhairya Karwa are also a part of the thriller. Taking to Instagram, Tara treated fans with a glimpse of her never-seen-before avatar. **ANI**

## Actress Kangana Ranaut seeks blessings for her upcoming film "Tejas"



The Ram temple will become "the biggest place of holy pilgrimage for Hindus", said actor Kangana Ranaut on Thursday after she visited the shrine to seek blessings for her upcoming film "Tejas". The temple plays a pivotal role in "Tejas", set to be released in theatres on Friday and featuring Ranaut in the role of an Indian Air Force pilot, added the actor. "What the Vatican City is to Christians, the Ram Temple of Ayodhya will become the biggest place of holy pilgrimage for Hindus. We will see it become such a grand temple, something that the Hindus have wished for since centuries. It will become a grand symbol of our country and a beautiful link to Sanatan culture in the world," Ranaut told reporters here. **PTI**