



Maratha quota issue: Fadnavis says CM looking into quota issue;

PG 04 >>



# Afternoon VOICE

IEWS & VISION OF CITY

Volume: 16, Issue: 68

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2023 MUMBAI

08 PAGES, ₹ 2/-

RNI No. MAHENG/2009/29332

www.afternoonvoice.com

## Maratha agitation: Government lacks will Manoj Jarange Patil refuses health check



AV Team



Patil and quota protestors refuse to be appeased by statements given by the ruling coalition, including Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's announcement of a three-member committee to advise the state government on submission of a proposed curative petition in the Supreme Court in connection with the Maratha quota issue. On the second hunger strike since

Wednesday after the government failed to give any assurances regarding Maratha reservation, activist Manoj Jarange Patil refused a to get a health check-up done.

Meanwhile, the residence of NCP MLA Prakash Solanke in Beed district was set on fire and stones were hurled at it amid fresh violence over the demand for Maratha quota. A group of people also set ablaze a car parked at the residence of Solanke located in Majalgaon

The ongoing Maratha agitation for

reservation has seen many political leaders being boycotted by villagers. While NCP MLA Rohit Pawar cancelled his Yuva Samvad Yatra, Union minister Bhagwat Karad was shown black flags by protesting Maratha youths. Even Congress leader and former chief minister Ashok Chavan was shown black flags by protestors at the start of the operations of the Bhaurao Chavan Cooperative Mill in Nanded.

**I CONTINUED ON PAGE 04**

CM Shinde says Marathas will be given reservation in two phases, orders formation of 3-member panel



Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said a three-member committee of experts will be set up to advise the State Government on submission of a proposed curative petition in the Supreme Court in connection with the Maratha quota issue. "I do not want to go into the details of why the previous government failed to retain the Maratha reservation in the state. The Supreme Court has struck down the reservation upheld by the Bombay High Court," he said. A committee, headed by retired judge Sandeep Shinde, will submit a report on Tuesday on how to issue Kunbi caste certificates to the Maratha community.

## Many women pretend to be a men for their social security

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

There could be a number of reasons why females might pretend to be a male and male pretend to be a girl, but one of the most common reasons is because they enjoy the attention they receive from other users when they're pretending to be a woman. And women who pretend to be men seek social security. Social tolerance for gender swapping and the security of anonymity are particularly important in relation to the adoption of gender swapping as a behavior that may cause negative treatments. The second is the perceived security of anonymity is the most important aspect. Although from a certain aspect, the lack of identity clues may make social relationships in virtual worlds seem empty and fragile. Rabat - A 57-year-old Indian woman made international headlines for her sacrifice to protect her daughter from what she has described as a

"male-dominating society."

S.Petchiammal from Tamil Nadu, a state in southern India, pretended to be a man for 36 years to raise her daughter and to avoid sexual harassment following the death of her husband. Petchiammal's husband died 15 days after their wedding. Aged only 20 at the time, the Indian woman found herself not just a widow but also pregnant with a daughter that she had to raise by herself. The woman's story has gone viral, with both Indian and international media highlighting Petchiammal's courage and selflessness in raising her daughter in the face of daunting challenges.

**I CONTINUED ON PAGE 02**

# Editoritis

# Many women pretend to be a men for their social security

▶▶▶ PAGE 1

*After facing sexual harassment and other challenges in her hometown, Petchiammal moved to another town to escape from patriarchy. She decided to cut her hair and change her attire,*

*After days, Muthu [a male name] turned out to be my identity, which in turn was mentioned on all documents, including Aadhaar, Voter ID, and bank account.*

*There are men loving themselves in women's attire and there are women who are literally adopted to men's lifestyle. There are several social and personal challenges but in spite of going against the odds with such adoptions they could not live a normal life.*

After facing sexual harassment and other challenges in her hometown, Petchiammal moved to another town to escape from patriarchy. She decided to cut her hair and change her attire, disguising herself as a man to raise her daughter and avoid the sexual challenges she faced in her own village after her husband passed away. She did all kinds of jobs, from working as a painter, tea master, parotta master to 100-day work. She saved every penny to ensure a safe and secure life for her daughter. After days, Muthu [a male name] turned out to be my identity, which in turn was mentioned on all documents, including Aadhaar, Voter ID, and bank account. She is not ready yet to change her attire back although her daughter is married. Her identity as a man ensured a "safer life" for her daughter and therefore she wants to maintain the same person until her death.

According to the National Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) report on crime in India, total cases of sexual harassment stood at 17,003 in 2020. The number shows a slight decrease of 1,333 cases compared to 2019, when 18,334 sexual harassment reports were recorded.

53-year-old journalist Norah Vincent opted for assisted suicide on July 6, 2022, years after experiencing what it was like to live as a man. Journalist Norah Vincent and author of Self-Made Man wanted to experience life as the opposite gender so she could write about it. She was a lesbian, not transgender, but her inquisitive nature made her curious about gender and identity. In 2003, she hired a makeup artist to help her paint stubble on her face to match her short, dark hair. She worked out to build the muscles on her back, wore rectangular-framed glasses, and strapped her breasts against her chest. And with the help of a Juilliard vocal coach, she was even able to train her voice to sound more manly. Norah Vincent was determined.

There was no stopping her from switching genders. But what she found in living life as the opposite sex wasn't "male privilege" — instead, Vincent learned what it was like to be at an incredible disadvantage. For 18 months, Norah pretended to be a man under a new name: Ned. She did "manly" things and joined a bowling league, a Roman Catholic monastery, and an awareness group for men. She went to strip clubs and dated



women. She even worked in a male-dominated industry. But despite these adventures, Ned didn't feel alive, free, or fluid. In fact, Ned was wearing Norah down, and she began to fall into a deep depression. Norah Vincent's depression never went away, and she attempted suicide in 2014.

In what can be called absolutely shocking, a Pune man dressed as a woman for seven years so he could continue his romantic relationship with his former close friend's wife. The man tried to sedate the husband with chloroform every time he visited in his presence but got caught the last time he tried. He has been arrested by police and court proceedings are underway. There are men loving themselves in women's attire and there are women who are literally adopted to men's lifestyle. There are several social and personal challenges but in spite of going against the odds with such adoptions they could not live a normal life.

*Vaidehi Tamkar*

Volume No. 16 | Issue No. 68



Flat No. 2, J- Wing Ground floor, Sumer Nagar Building 3, S.V. Road,  
Near Gandhi Motors, Borivali - West, Mumbai - 400 092.

Editor

**Dr. Vaidehi**

Vaidehi has received several Awards like Icongong-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.

[www.afternoonvoice.com](http://www.afternoonvoice.com)  
[www.beyondthenews.biz](http://www.beyondthenews.biz)  
[www.mumbaimanoos.com](http://www.mumbaimanoos.com)

[www.newsmakers.co.in](http://www.newsmakers.co.in)  
[www.nbcaward.com](http://www.nbcaward.com)  
[www.hackers5.com](http://www.hackers5.com)

Email- [afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com](mailto:afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com) • SMS -9820199881

For any queries regarding the editorial desk, contact - 7506760610

Disclaimer : The views expressed in the edit are solely of the editor. The publication do not necessarily share the opinions expressed. Any litigation against the content or publication will be entertained under the Jurisdiction of Mumbai only.

# Voices



## Why then this Kolaveri di in Hindi?



- C.K. Subramaniam

Our state itself or country by virtue of language, food habits and culture. We can speak different languages as per our place of postings and the Bank employees enjoy this luxury and there are a number of all rounders. As a man from Chennai I learned Hindi by working in North India. If people speak in our own language with each other where it ends, no where, just like animals. English is a link language and almost everyone can understand, in the circumstances why not stick to English. Enjoyed the experience of using English in different stages. I still remember how I spoke my first word in English when the Loyola College cricket captain inquired who is your College president and MGR's name cropped up. I remember saying " he was the former president" and that former word boosted my confidence to write many English articles and the print media is behind me to write many more. The draft of the National Education Policy, which proposes a three-language formula, has evoked strong opposition from political parties in Tamil Nadu, which has witnessed anti-Hindi agitations in the past.

As the day (26 January 1965) of switching over to Hindi as sole official language approached, the anti-Hindi movement gained momentum in Madras State with increased support from college students. On 25 January, a full-scale riot broke out in the southern city of Madurai, sparked off by a minor altercation between agitating students and Congress party members. The riots spread all over Madras State, continued unabated for the next two months, and were marked by acts of violence, arson, looting, police firing and lathi charges. The Congress Government of the Madras State, called in paramilitary forces to quell the agitation; their involvement resulted in the deaths of people. To calm the situation, Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri gave assurances that English would continue to be used as the official language as long as the non-Hindi speaking states wanted. The riots subsided after Shastri's assurance, as did the student agitation.

Hindi language is part and parcel of our educational system and it is a national language. People from South suffer because they lack learning in Hindi. When a Tamilian goes out of Tamil Nadu he should learn other languages and learning Hindi is more important. We students studied in schools during the 1960s still remember the days of learning Hindi. We used to write in English and read Hindi

in front of the teacher. And once I was caught red handed and I felt sorry for not knowing the language. By the time we realised our mistakes, the Hindi agitation came in 1965 and the trains were burnt in the aftermath and that was the end of our learning period of a National language.

After finishing my college education when I was appointed as a Bank clerk in Ghaziabad UP, I had a bitter time dealing with my clients. Once I issued a draft to a customer in record time and the client thanked me by saying Dhanyawaad and I asked what then he said Shukriya and again what I asked then he politely told "Thank You" and went off from that place. I took less time to issue a draft but I took more time to accept his thanks. I felt shy and from that day onwards started learning the language through hearing Hindi filmi songs. But still to date I cannot read and write Hindi, thanks to the DMK government in Tamil Nadu.

Why can't the Dravidian parties let the decision be made by the people of TN? People who want to learn will learn, others won't. Why are they imposing that TN people must learn only Tamil? These parties are just doing this to create an unfavorable impression of the central government. Karunanidhi's children and grandchildren all go to private and international schools and learn a multitude of languages.

What does 'imposed' mean? When there is a choice, it cannot be imposed. There are students of many communities in the Schools of TN. They should have the option of learning Hindi. DMK cadre need not learn it, because their job description is to oppose Hindi. But those Tamils seeking jobs in the North, may want to learn Hindi. Dravidian parties should stop their non-sense on preaching against Hindi. Why did the DMK party agreed to introduce Urudu in school. Creating fear that Tamil becomes extinct from daily usage like Latin or Sanskrit is totally absurd.

The message loud and clear. People in Tamil Nadu do not want to learn Hindi at any cost. The Educational Framework Policy in 2016, submitted the report for follow up means in implementation. It requires common sense, deep consultations, discussions and then arriving at a decision. There are no takers for Hindi in Tamil Nadu but the Hindi films are highly successful from the days of Aradhana film. Why then this Kolaveri di.

## Letters to the Editor

never talk about such incidents in India.

Dr. Jyoti Kale

### What did the Foreign Ministry do during the year?

When our country has good relations with the Gulf countries, suddenly Qatar sent death sentence to eight naval officers is a numbing news for the country. Prior to this, the case of Kulbushan Jadhav, who was imprisoned in Pakistan, has been pending for many years. Many attempts were made for their release; the Indian government had appealed to the International Court of Justice at The Hague. The hanging of the eight naval officers is a matter of great seriousness, as laws in the Gulf are strict and enforceable immediately. It is unexpected that these eight naval officers have a background of war between Israel and Hamas and that Qatar has used it to take unilateral action against the eight retired naval officers. Because these officers were working for "Al Dahra" company.

The owner of this company was also ar-

rested along with them. The owner bailed eight officials within two months is facing the death penalty. If this case was going on for the last year, the Indian Ministry of Foreign Affairs did not take it as seriously as it should have? These and many other questions will not come to the minds of Indians. Because even today more than seventy thousand Indians are working in Qatar. The execution of eight high-ranking naval officers is a shock to all Indians in a world where death penalty is less or less.

Dattaprasad Shirodkar

### Renouncing citizenship

In 2021, four lakh Indians acquired citizenship of rich OECD countries. Obviously, these are people who have done well in the country as well. The country has world-class airports, a \$3.75 trillion economy, and a democratic constitution. So why do people want to say goodbye to their families, language and ancient advanced culture and settle in a foreign country? Deep social investigation is essential. It is true that a person moves from

a village, region, state or country with a lower economy to a place with a higher economy to improve his life. For centuries, the work of indentured laborers, Bihar laborers in Kerala, Delhi and Punjab, and the employment of educated youth in America and Europe has depended on this principle. But immigration does not mean forgetting your country of origin forever. Migration also brings with it many untold problems But if an educated person renounces his or her citizenship, governments will have to look at it seriously. Perhaps the reason is not only economic. Lack of confidence in law and order, corruption and social evils are perhaps the main reasons for this.

N Ashraf

Readers are requested to mail  
Letters to the Editor only at

[afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com](mailto:afternoonvoicedesk@gmail.com)

**No postal letters will be entertained**

(The views expressed are authors' own)

### Place of sexual abuse

Over 200,000 minors are estimated to have been sexually abused in Spain by the Roman Catholic clergy since 1940, according to an independent commission published Friday. The report did not give a specific figure but said a poll of over 8,000 people found that 0.6 percent of Spain's adult population of around 39 million people said they had suffered sexual abuse by members of the clergy when they were still children.

In 2018, an investigation by a Spanish newspaper uncovered 2,206 cases of sexual abuse dating back to 1927, with 1,036 accused identified. Such incidents are increasing because such pastors are backed by the Church, but the important point here is that no one is trying to stop them! Atheists, progressives, Women's Organisations, Human Rights activists

## Maratha quota issue: Fadnavis says CM looking into quota issue; Patil not to backtrack



**E**VEN AS his condition deteriorated further on the fifth day of his fast-unto-death seeking reservation for Maratha community, activist Manoj Jarange Patil on Sunday told the state government to hold discussions with him till he is able to speak. In response, Deputy

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said efforts to ensure reservation to Maratha community are underway and the Chief Minister himself is looking into the issue.

The Deputy CM said the government has taken the Maratha community's demand for Kunbi as well as Maratha caste certifi-

cates into consideration and quota to the community was its "top priority".

"People from the Kunbi community cannot be denied their status. Even if they have not been Kunbis for four generations, we cannot deny them the status. People from the community have pointed out that in old Nizam-era records, they were all Kunbis. To collect related documents, we set up a five-member committee headed by retired Chief Justice Sandeep Shinde. After the committee submits the report, the chief minister will take a decision in the matter," he said in an interview to a Marathi news channel on Sunday.

## CM Eknath Shinde to chair Maratha-quota reservation row

**M**aharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde will chair the Maratha-quota reservation row, a cabinet sub-committee meeting today will be held at Mumbai's Sahyadri guest house.

Minister of Higher and Technical Education Chandrakant Patil who is also the Chairman of the Cabinet Sub-Committee informed that the committee will submit a report on the work done so far during the meeting.

In the meeting, Justice Sandeep Shinde (retd) will discuss the statutory and administrative examination of the mandatory evidence and documents required in the process of giving the Maratha-Kunbi, Kun-

bi-Maratha caste certificate to the Maratha community in Marathwada and also to prescribe the procedure for giving the Maratha-Kunbi, Kunbi-Maratha caste certificate to the Maratha community after the inspection, the release mentioned.

Manoj Jarange Patil, who has been on a hunger strike unto death demanding reservation for the Maratha community. Jarange Patil has demanded a change in the ordinance issued by the state government regarding Maratha reservations. At the meeting, the government is likely to make a decision on Jarange-Patil's demand to issue the Kunbi certificates to all Marathas. This move will enable Marathas to get benefits under the OBC quota.

## Maharashtra farm leader Raju Shetti calls off padyatra to support Jarange Patil

**S**wabhimani Shetkari leader and former Maharashtra MP Raju Shetti decided to temporarily halt his 300-plus km padyatra to support Maratha leader Manoj Jarange Patil.

Speaking to The Indian Express, Shetti said he had called off his yatra near Islampur in Sangli district's Walwa taluka to support Jarange Patil and would take a call on resuming it after taking stock of the situation in the next few days. "I was getting a rousing welcome

in each and every village I went to, with people hiring cranes to shower flowers on my way...it did not suit me that I was getting such a welcome while Jarange Patil was fasting," he said.

Asked if he would travel to Jalna to meet Jarange Patil, Shetti said he would decide soon. While Shetti is from the minority Jain community, his major follower base is among the cane-growing farmers of the Maratha community.

## Violent mob torches several vehicles in Solanke amid 'Maratha reservation row'

**T**he Maratha quota agitation took a violent turn on Monday. Maratha community members from Beed district allegedly pelted stones at the residence of NCP MLA Prakash Solanke in Majalgaon taluka of Beed district. The violent mob also torched several vehicles of Solanke which were parked outside the residence.

Hundreds of Maratha community members also gathered at the Dhule-Solapur highway



on Monday morning and blocked the highway by burning tyres on the road. Due to stone pelting on Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) buses

in a few districts, the MSRTC decided to stop the services in nine districts of the state which are mostly in Marathwada.

Several politicians including MLAs and MPs were stopped from entering the villages by Maratha activists and questioned them over the reservation. The tours of several politicians including MP Shrikant Shinde (son of CM Eknath Shinde) and Minister Dada Bhuse were cancelled on Monday.

▶▶▶ PAGE 1

## Maratha agitation: Government lacks will Manoj Jarange Patil refuses...

We also asked some of the activist and veteran leaders over the recent protest for 'Maratha reservation' over which they have expressed their views.



Shinde faction Shiv Sena MLA **Prakash Surve** told Afternoon Voice, "CM Eknath Shinde government is serious about the issue and they are working on it also they have mentioned to activist Manoj Jarange Patil and other activist to not commit any suicide as present government is working on it but we need time for this procedure to be completed".



Shiv Sena UBT MLC, **Anil Parab** said, "When Uddhav Thackeray was CM of the state he kept this issue of reservation at the Supreme court so that this issue can be handed over to the parliament and later bill of reservation can be passed".

"Even in today's protest of the reservation our Shiv Sainiks are also in support of it and it seems present government is not serious about giving reservation as compared to previous government" **Parab** further added.

"Government should first

give the reservation to Maratha's and then let people decide whether people from other communities want the reservation or not" he further continued.



Shiv Sena UBT MLA **Sunil Shinde** said, "People are demanding reservation they are correct but it is divided into two parts as some are demanding that Kunbi community should be added into reservation while some have mentioned not to include it".

"As the government has the imperial data then should give away the reservation. Also everyone knows that to pass any

bill the proposal should be given to the parliament but it seems that this government is not serious about this matter" **Shinde** further added.



Social Activist **Dr Vaishali Patil** said, "People are demanding for the reservation but there are other factors involved in it as people are coming from various caste and communities. Now in this situation there are many political parties who trying to apply their own political strategies to gain benefit out of it as we all know that there is panchayat, Lok Sabha and oth-

er polls coming nearby".



When we asked is the government serious about this issue over this, Veteran Congress leader **Ratnakar Mahajan** said, "People who have committed suicide in this ongoing protest which is not correct as the reservation has a huge procedure. There can't be reservation on the basis of the agitation as it requires lot of things to be checked. Also agitator should also end the fast. The government is also playing hide and seek with the agitators which is not correct".

# Nation

## Women's wrestler's case: Delhi rouse court pulled up counsels for repeating the arguments on charges in the alleged sexual harassment against BJP MP Brij Bhushan Singh



Delhi's Rouse Avenue court on Monday pulled up the counsels for repeating the arguments on charges in the alleged sexual harassment case against BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. The matter pertains to complaints filed by six women wrestlers alleging sexual harassment. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Harjeet Singh Jaspal asked the counsels for all parties to file written submissions. The matter was listed in the fourth week of November.

On a lighter side, the judge

referred to an old English saying, "When not able to clarify, just confuse. "You are confusing me, Mr Counsel," he pointed out towards the defence counsel. ACMM Jaspal said in the order that after hearing the arguments for a while, this court encourages the three counsels to file a written compilation of the arguments, so that the arguments can be concluded in a systematic manner. The court said, "At the request of counsels two weeks' time is granted. Let the matter be listed on November 22, 23, and 24." The court noted that it is ar-

gued by the defence counsel, Rajiv Mohan, that this court has no jurisdiction to try any offence allegedly committed outside India as the sanction under Section 188 Cr. PC has not been obtained. It is also argued that no sanction is required when the offence is partly committed in India and partly outside India, the court noted.

The court also noted the defence counsel's arguments that the alleged offences, as per their prosecution, have happened in Tokyo, Mongolia, Bulgaria, Jakarta, Kazakhstan, Turkey etc. and cannot be tried by this court. The court asked the question of whether sexual harassment can be called a continuing offence. Multiple offences separated by date, time and place can be covered. The court also noted the submissions made by the Additional Public Prosecutor (APP) that the act of sexual harassment was a continuing offence as it didn't stop at any particular time. ANI

## Centre clarifies to SC that, "citizens do not have the right to information under Article 19(1)(a) over source of political funds

Holding that the electoral bond scheme for political funding of parties contributes to clean money, Attorney General R Venkataramani has told the Supreme Court that citizens do not have the right to information under Article 19(1) (a) of the Constitution regarding the source of funds. In a statement filed before the top court, Venkataramani said there can be no general right to know "anything and everything" without being subjected to reasonable restrictions.

"The scheme in question extends the benefit of confidentiality to the contributor. It ensures and promotes clean money being contributed. It ensures abiding by tax obligations. Thus, it does not fall foul of any existing right," the AG told the apex court. The top court law officer said the power of judicial review is not about scanning state policies for the purposes of suggesting better or different prescriptions.



"A constitutional court reviews state action only if it impinges upon existing rights and not because State action has not provided for a possible right or an expectation howsoever desirable," he said. "That contribution to political parties has democratic significance and a fit subject for political debate and demand of governance accountability free from influences does not mean that the court will proceed to declare on such matters in the absence of a clear constitutionally offending law," Venkataramani said. A five-judge constitution bench of the Supreme Court is scheduled to commence hearing from October 31 a batch of pleas challenging the validity of the electoral bond scheme for political funding of parties. PTI

## Krishna Janambhoomi land case: SC adjourns, gives next date of November 10



The Supreme Court on Monday adjourned the matter for November 10 relating to Mathura's Krishna Janambhoomi land dispute. A bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Sudhanshu Dhulia adjourned the matter.

In the early hearing, the Supreme Court asked the registrar of Allahabad High Court to provide details of the suits that are being dealt with in the court relating to the land dispute case. The Committee of Management Trust Shahi Masjid Idgah filed an appeal in the top court challenging the Allahabad High

Court order, which transferred to itself all the petitions relating to Mathura's Krishna Janambhoomi land dispute from District Court Mathura, Uttar Pradesh. The plea was moved by Committee of Management Trust Shahi Masjid Idgah through advocate RHA Sikander. The Committee of Management Trust Shahi Masjid Idgah challenged the order dated May 26 passed by the Allahabad High Court, whereby it transferred all such cases relating to the Krishna Janambhoomi dispute from the District Court in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh, to itself. ANI

## Uttar Pradesh: School van collided with bus kills 3 children

Three children were killed on Monday after the school van they were travelling in collided with a bus in Uttar Pradesh's Badaun district. The van's driver was also killed in the incident in which 16 students were injured, authorities said.

Badaun District Magistrate Manoj Kumar said, "The road accident took place when both

the bus and van carrying school students collided with each other on Mayun Nabiganj Road in the Usawan police station area of Badaun district."

"The school driver and a student died on the spot, while two other school students died during treatment. Both these school vehicles were carrying children from rural areas to SRPS Eng-

lish Medium School in the town of Mayun," the Badaun District Magistrate said. Shortly after receiving information about the incident, a team of Uttar Pradesh police reached the scene and started an investigation. Meanwhile, all the students injured in the incident were sent to a nearby hospital for medical treatment. Further details are awaited. ANI

## Jammu and Kashmir: Migrant labourer was shot dead by terrorist at Pulwama

A migrant labourer succumbed to his injuries after being shot by terrorists in Tumchi Nowpora area of Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama on Monday, police said. According to the Jammu and Kashmir police, the deceased has been identified as Mukesh who hailed from Uttar Pradesh.

The entire area has been cordoned off by police. Further details are awaited. Meanwhile, a terrorist was killed after the army and police foiled an infiltration bid along the Line of Control



(LoC) in the Keran sector of north Kashmir's Kupwara district, police said today.

"In a joint operation that commenced yesterday, Army and Kupwara Police have success-

fully foiled an infiltration attempt in Jumagund area of Keran sector in which one terrorist has been killed. Search operation continues," posted Kashmir Zone Police on X. ANI

World

## Mexico: Hurricane Otis reaches Guerrero state of southern area, At least 43 people killed



At least 43 people have died after Hurricane Otis hit Guerrero state of southern Mexico as a devastating Category 5 storm last week, CNN reported citing Guerrero's Governor Evelyn Salgado Pineda. In a statement shared on Facebook, Pineda stated that the deceased victims include 33 men and 10 women. She said that Mexican authorities have rescued 340 people,

according to CNN report.

Shortly after midnight on Wednesday, the storm brought winds of 165 mph ashore near Acapulco, leaving the southern Mexico tourist destination in ruins. As many as 220,035 homes have been affected and 80 per cent of the region's hotels have been damaged due to Hurricane Otis. The health sector reported ground-floor flooding at one hos-

pital, according to CNN report. Meanwhile, electromechanical equipment and the medicinal gas supply were affected at another hospital, according to the statement released by authorities on Saturday. Trees have fallen and landslides Multiple roads were closed due to falling trees and landslides caused by Otis.

Mexico's Seismic Alert System (SASMEX) has reported damage to 27 sensors in the Pacific Ocean region. According to officials, Acapulco International Airport also suffered damage. However, it has now resumed operations. The devastation caused by Otis left many buildings, including some high-rises, in ruins with exposed concrete blocks, scattered pieces of wood, and nonexistent roofing. Rain and storm surges caused several feet of murky floodwaters on roads, according to CNN report. ANI

## US: A gunman shoots, leaves around 15 killed and 2 injured at Chicago



At least 15 people were shot, including two who were critically injured, when a gunman opened fire during a Halloween celebration in Chicago, CNN reported on Monday. The victims, as reported by Chicago police in a news release, consist of six women and nine men aged between 26 and 53. Two of them are still in critical condition.

Shortly after 1 a.m. (local time), Chicago officers responded to a report of gunfire and found a man firing a weapon into the location where a gathering was taking place, as stated in the news release. "The offender fled on foot and was

placed into custody by responding officers a short distance away," police said. The alleged shooter was found in possession of a handgun when he was apprehended by the police and was subsequently taken in for questioning, CNN reported, citing a news release.

The release mentioned that detectives are continuing their investigation into the shooting, and as of Sunday morning, "there is no further information" available. Earlier on Sunday, at least one person was killed and two more were left injured after a shooting incident in Laurel, Delaware in the US, informed the police. ANI

## Uzbekistan's Minister of Economy calls for peace and stability in Afghanistan

Uzbekistan's Minister of Economy and Finance Jamshid Kuchkarov has called for peace and stability in Afghanistan, saying it is important for the region, TOLO News reported. TOLO News is an Afghan news channel broadcasting from Kabul.

Kuchkarov visited Afghanistan on Sunday and met with several Taliban officials including the Taliban's appointed Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar and the acting Minister of Industry and Commerce. "The ministers of agriculture and water resources of Uzbekistan are among the delegation and want to use their experiences in Afghanistan," Kuchkarov told a gathering held at Afghanistan's Presidential Palace. The Taliban-appointed deputy PM's office said that the two sides discussed trade, transit and economic relations as well as cooperation in railways, trans-

port, the extraction of mines, water management and the facilitation of educational opportunities for Afghan youth.

"The visits of the senior delegation show that the contacts between the two sides are strengthening. We hope we have good improvements in this meeting, particularly in the field of trade and transit," Mullah Baradar said, as per Tolo News. Afghanistan's Taliban-appointed acting Minister of Industry and Commerce, Nooruddin Azizi, said that efforts are underway to increase trade between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan to USD 3 billion and that the Hairatan port will be operating 24/7 from next month. "The decision has been taken that our trade will be boosted from USD 600 million to USD 3 billion because the President has said to increase the trade rate to USD 2 billion but we are happy that we will increase it to USD 3 billion," he said. ANI

## Amid ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, Russian Defence Minister says, "ready to discuss "post-conflict resolution"

Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said that Moscow remains ready for discussions on the "post-conflict resolution" of the Ukrainian crisis and further "coexistence" with the West, the Russian News Agency TASS reported. Shoigu made the remarks during the 10th Xiangshan Security Forum in China.

"In case the necessary conditions are created, we remain ready for political discussions on a realistic basis - both on the post-conflict resolution of the Ukrainian crisis and on the further coexistence with the West as a whole," Shoigu said at the event.

He further said that Russia is determined to continue military and military-technical cooperation with interested countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including the supply of equipment and joint exercises "We are determined to continue military-technical cooperation with interested states,



including the supply and maintenance of military equipment, personnel training, joint exercises, ship visits, and other relevant events," TASS quoted Shoigu as saying.

The Russian Defence Minister also said that Moscow's withdrawal of ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) does not mean the dismantling of this mechanism of military-strategic balance. "As for our country's withdrawal from ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, this is

only a desire to ensure balance with the United States of America, which has never ratified this treaty. Dismantling it is out of the question," Shoigu said. Shoigu arrived in Beijing on Monday on a working visit, during which participated in the Xiangshan Security Forum. "The head of the Russian military department will make a report at the plenary session on the topic 'Responsibility of large states and cooperation in the field of global security'," the Russian Ministry of Defense said. ANI

## Expression

# Economic policy of Sardar Patel



Er. Prabhat Kishore

The Author is a technocrat and educationist

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man, has been the foremost among the national heroes of India. In 1946, in view of the possibility of getting independence soon, 13 out of 15 provincial committees of the Congress proposed the name of Sardar Patel for the national president, so that he could become the first Prime Minister of independent India. But despite the proposal of an invincible majority, this could not happen due to the insistence of Gandhi in favour of Nehru and the country was deprived of a strong and practical leadership. This adversely affected the policies of the nation in various domestic and foreign matters, for which we are suffering till date.

Sardar's view towards the economic affairs of the country was very practical. It was full of humanity and the need of the hour. More production, equitable distribution, and fair treatment of all the means of production were the mainstays of his economic policy. He made it clear that achieving industrial dexterity and self-reliance through progressive development would be the first goal of the nation, which would increase the prosperity of the common mass and ensure a high standard of living for them. In a speech given in Kolkata on January 5, 1948, he stressed that before nationalization of industries it is necessary to first establish them properly and such people cannot be patriots who believe that workers should reduce production, but they should be given more money.

Sardar Patel had realistic views on the planning and economic policy of India. He had emphasized on the co-operation between the three stakeholders, the government, the industrialist and the workers, to counter the economic sickness spreading in the country. He was a staunch supporter of the abolition of control and supported the government's plan to decontrol food and clothing and provide industrial relief. He was opposed to the planning framework which went beyond the country's capacity and resources.

He wanted to organize the country's economy on the basis of villages. He firmly believed that once the facilities were provided to the villagers, they would take care of themselves and then their grain production would increase much more than we expected.

Patel was against instilling in the people such hope which would never



be fulfilled. He was not against taking foreign loans when needed, which could be spent on production related plans and industrialization. According to Shri N. G. Ranga, in 1936, Rajaji and Sardar Patel had rehearsed that Jawaharlal's socialism would create problems for the social economy of India, so he presided over the Congress and opposed their campaign of socialism from a favorable position. As a result of which Nehru had to wait till the year 1951 i.e. Sardar's death before launching his campaign against the economy of the Indian peasantry and the enterprise of its people.

In a meeting of Chief Ministers and heads of provincial Congress Committees, Patel clarified that the plan for this country would be different from that of industrialized countries, which were either small in extent or highly developed. Machine is not the complete solution to the problem of this country. Millions of useless hands cannot get work from the machine, because the machine itself displaces man. He emphasized on the expansion of cottage industries, but at the same time called for rapid industrialization in the country to generate sufficient resources, so that the country does not face a serious crisis.

Sardar Patel was accused by the so-called socialists of being a friend of the capitalists. He made it clear that on the basis of Gandhiji's teachings, he behaves workers, industrialists, princes, farmers and landlords in equal measure and lovingly inspires them to do the right thing. In the current situation, he was against nationalization. He said that it is necessary to establish industry and increase production in the country before nationalisation. Socialism in England has come there rightly by following the path of industrialization. In India, socialism in true sense lies in the development of cottage industries, which can provide employment to crores of people. By making the spinning wheel more ubiquitous, the concept of

Swadeshi can be developed through Khadi.

Patel urged the traders not to import foreign clothes and urged the citizens not to wear it. In order to take a step towards self-reliance, he wrote a letter to the then Industries and Supplies Minister Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookherjee to manufacture the necessary equipments and weapons for the army in the country itself and his idea was supported by the eminent scientist S.S. Bhatnagar. He was of the clear opinion that the pharmaceutical manufacturing industries in India should flourish and there should be no excise duty applicable on inter-provincial trade. He stressed the importance of improving livestock and increasing agricultural production in the country.

Sardar Patel wanted to have a good relation between industry and labour, because the differences arising at that time could turn out to be a severe blow to India's industrial future. He insisted on adopting the policy of mediation to solve the problem prevailing between industry and labour, as he had done earlier in Ahmedabad. Although there was a labour government in England and they were far ahead in the field of industrialization, they were moving very slowly towards nationalization. This was likely to lead to industrial peace and good conditions of production. He was strongly against the strike and criticized the organizers who resorted to strikes merely to give importance to their leadership & politics. A strike stops production and less production means promoting poverty. He inspired those who wanted to break this endless cycle.

Patel tried to allay the apprehensions of the industrialists regarding nationalization and assured them that since the industry is yet to be established and expanded, the question of nationalization does not arise. He appealed to the resourceful businessmen to come forward and help the government in improving the condition of the poor and said that

when there are crores of people in the country who are hungry, it is a sin to eat comfortably twice a day.

Patel fixed a certain amount for the salary and allowances of the ministers and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and suggested to the Prime Minister that there is no need to deploy more than two security personnel apart from a few policemen to them from the point of view of security. He refused the demand for increase in the allowance payable to the Governor of Odisha. He praised those, who gave up their luxuries to serve the country as a minister or speaker.

In the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Central Advisory Council of Industries, Patel told that there is a lot of foreign capital in the country, but after independence it has decreased significantly due to post-World War II inflation, which has increased the prices and taxes have become high. He advised the Finance Minister to re-evaluate the entire taxation according to the current situation in the next budget.

Sardar Patel insisted that a committee of experts should be constituted, consisting of industrialists, economists and representatives of the government, who should be entrusted with the task of implementing the framework and policies laid down by the government. The then Prime Minister, Nehru, who had earlier decided to create a separate ministry for social and economic affairs, changed his mind after hearing Sardar's views and agreed to set up a board or special advisory committee, which will monitor the economic situation at every step and submit its suggestions to the government for consideration.

Sardar Patel's advice on the economic policies of the nation was not followed after his death. India adopted a so-called socialist framework, due to which there were dire consequences and the country had to pay a heavy price. Communist Russia, which Nehru regarded as the ideal state, had to face unimaginable difficulties and eventually due to its disintegration, it had to return to a free economy in mid-Ninety.

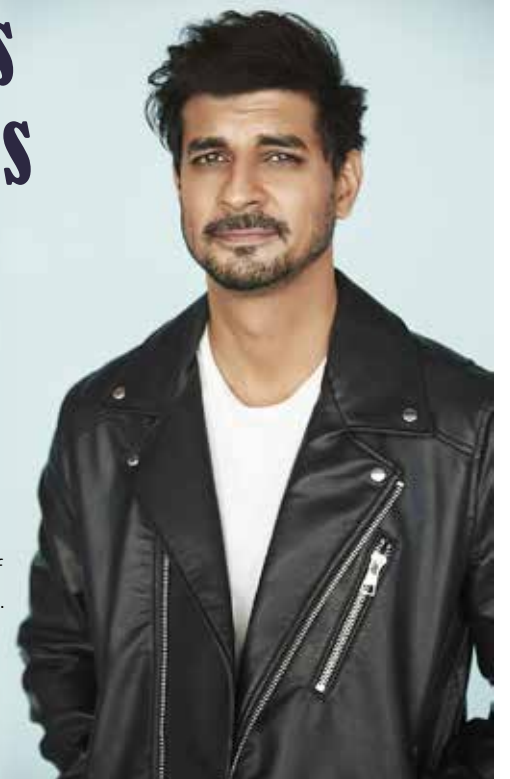
The liberal steps taken by the Narsimha Rao government shortly before the disintegration and economic ruin of Soviet Russia confirms Patel's foregoing thought and realistic approach. Nehru's socialism had brought the country to such a place that the Congress Government at the Center had to reverse the policies and liberalize the economy, which was not thought of forty years ago.

## Entertainment

# Actor Tahir Raj Bhasin talks about his performance in 'Sultans of Delhi', says "I have always been awed by the magnetism of Amitabh Bachchan!"

Actor Tahir Raj Bhasin is a huge fan of megastar Amitabh Bachchan and his role in the web show 'Sultans of Delhi' is his way of paying homage to him. "I have always been awed by the magnetism of Amitabh Bachchan! For me, the most impressionable film of his is Deewar. Growing up, I used to watch the film over and over whenever I got a chance. Bachchan Sirs 'Vijay' in Deewar was everything that I idolised a hero to be on screen. I was fascinated by it because it presented a hero, who was unabashedly grey! He was anti-establishment, he believed in living life on his own terms and had a towering ambition to rule the ground he walked on! I was inspired by this spirit of rebellion and had an instant flashback to Bachchan sir's Vijay when I first read the script for Sultan Of Delhi," Tahir said.

"My character Arjun in Sultan of Delhi is me living out my childhood moment of emulating the one and only Amitabh Bachchan! It is my homage to the incredible mega-star that he is and I'm so glad that my series has become a hit. I do hope Bachchan sir manages to see Sultan of Delhi and I hope he likes it. Fingers crossed!" the actor added. 'Sultan Of Delhi' follows the story of Arjun Bhatia (Tahir Raj Bhasin), who works with Delhi's biggest illegal arms dealer, Jagan Seth (Vinay Pathak). **ANI**



## Tiger 3: Actor Katrina Kaif talks about movie, says "There's nothing a women can't do"



Actor Katrina Kaif will be seen in an action-packed avatar in 'Tiger 3'. Interestingly, she prepped for around two months before pulling off extensive action sequences in the film, in which she reprises her character of spy Zoya.

Excited to present powerful traits of her character among the audience, Katrina in a statement said, "Tiger 3 shows that there is nothing that a woman can't do when it comes to saving her family or a nation or humanity. A character like Zoya is important and necessary to tell people that girls can be nurturers as well as fierce protectors. Zoya is one of the most cherished roles of my career!"

She added, "I love how she can match anyone with her grit and courage. She doesn't back down from a fight and she can be as good as if not better than a man when it comes to doing action! Zoya's style of action is also unique and she can pull off some very complicated action sequences with ease like the one you see a sneak peek of in the trailer! Zoya is pitted against an army of enemies and she fights all by herself."

Katrina further said that she has given her 200 per cent to the franchise. "I love action as a genre and playing a spy is a dream come true! I knew that this was going to be a part of my legacy, so I always give my 200 percent for this franchise. Every Tiger film has taken Zoya's character a notch above, and she has fought harder, and it has been bloodier. That's the USP of the character, which I love!" "For Tiger 3, my action prep was at least for about two months. We wanted Zoya to look agile, have more speed, and greater strength. I really had to go through the grind and it was definitely the toughest training of my career so far, when you see the kind of action that Zoya has done, you will realise that such sequences may not have been attempted by a woman before," she emphasised. **ANI**

## Suhana Khan pens a sweet birthday wish for her best friend

Birthdays call for pampering and receiving special treatment from your loved ones. Actress Ananya Panday's fans, friends and family members are also making sure to make her birthday extra special with a lot of love. Her close friends Suhana Khan and Shanaya Kapoor took to their respective social media handles and dropped adorable pictures with Ananya, who turned 25 on Monday.

Suhana Khan wishes her "bestie" Ananya Panday on birthday in adorable way, check out."Love you forever and ever," she added in another story, which consists of a picture of Suhana with Ananya and her little sister Rysa Panday. In the image, the trio can be seen eating sushi. The third image shows Suhana, Ananya and Shanaya twinning in black. **ANI**

