



Karnataka: 48 private schools in Bengaluru receives bomb

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# Afternoon

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## Administrative Reshuffle: Anilkumar Gaikwad appointed as new MD of MSRDC, replaces Mopalwar



**Anilkumar Gaikwad has been asked to hold an additional charge as MSRDC MD until the state government makes a full-time appointment.**

AV Team

In a significant administrative reshuffle, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has relieved Radhesham Mopalwar of his additional duties as the Managing Director (MD) of the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC). Anilkumar Gaikwad, a Joint Managing Director, has been appointed as the new MD of MSRDC. According to reliable sources, Chief Minister Shinde approved Gaikwad's appointment on Wednesday, with the official order set to

be issued on December 1.

Radheshyam Mopalwar, an experienced officer, was appointed as the Managing Director of MSRDC in 2017. Following his retirement, he received a significant seven-year extension, beginning in February 2018. During his tenure, Mopalwar played a crucial role in overseeing numerous infrastructure projects, including the Nagpur-Mumbai Prosperity Corridor. His multiple extensions, spanning both the Fadnavis and Thackeray administrations, make him the first officer to receive such frequent

renewals. Despite stepping down from additional responsibilities at MSRDC, Mopalwar will continue to play an important role as the Principal Secretary for Infrastructure.

Anilkumar Gaikwad has been asked to hold an additional charge as MSRDC MD until the state government makes a full-time appointment. Following his retirement, the government retained Gaikwad's services with a formal appointment as the Joint Managing Director. Now, with his direct appointment as the Managing Director, he assumes greater

administrative responsibilities.

As the completion of the Samrudhi Mahamarg, a flagship project under the leadership of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, nears its end, discussions have arisen about extending Mopalwar's term in government decisions, prolonging his tenure until August 31, 2022.

The state government's decision to appoint Anilkumar Gaikwad as the Managing Director of MSRDC has been made public, underscoring its commitment to ensuring smooth administrative transitions within the organisation.

## We are okay with corruption

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

We need to agree, we are all selfish in nature, and we want all the luxury and sophisticated luxuries but also want to wear a mask of modesty! We talk about being liberal and open in thoughts but, when it comes to anyone talking about religion, we suddenly shut those open thoughts and get our brains to stop working. Corruption has a bigger meaning in our lives. It has become our lifecycle and we are so much influenced by it that we have raised it and raised it to an extent that is beyond our control now.

If corruption never existed, you would need to forgo a lot of your 'bad habits' for example, you would have to eradicate the way you teach your children, while getting admission in the college, the first thing you

teach your child is 'donation'. The art of a sophisticated donation, why not straightaway call it bribery? Forgery of a good word is corruption, giving a new meaning to a very pious word. As a blood bank would say "The power of donation", much of it has been seen by the upcoming stars already. We have created violence and promoted it. Consider this, what if any man who strives to be your leader and also talks about democracy, teaches you to be away from a certain group of people or be strong as a group of people? I am not talking about being Hindu or Muslim, or point at any of their leaders.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

# Editoritis

# We are okay with corruption

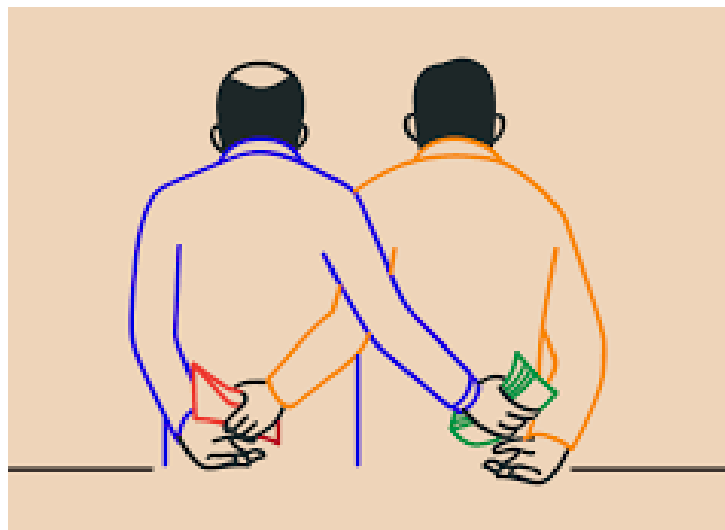
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*It is just a general statement, what if we 'actually' had the courage to live and proclaim as an individual and not as part of any group? It all begins right from the time we narrate our rituals*

*yet another word is 'extremist', it means someone who holds extreme political bias towards a particular faith that can mould the norms set by people.*

*The problem is, we are selfish by nature, if money comes flying from the sky, we gather to pick it up rather than asking whose money it is or thinking if you really deserve it.*

It is just a general statement, what if we 'actually' had the courage to live and proclaim as an individual and not as part of any group? It all begins right from the time we narrate our rituals, a major example is, marriage, we want our children to get married to the same caste/religion which we have been following and yet fancy calling ourselves as 'liberal'? Another word is 'secular', it actually sides with the word, liberal. Secular has got many urban variations like sickular, sectular, etc. Secularism is being treated as a 'bad word' by 2 sides of the same coin. It only means, it has someone who indulges into activities which does not have religious, caste or spiritual base. For example, Modi created dams for Gujarat state and developed infrastructure which instructs people of which particular sect should get benefit from it. So that is a secular approach. Building hospitals is a secular approach, building roadways, Facebook, etc. Oh well, Facebook, we all love Facebook, it is secular in nature, it is not biased towards any religion or cancels an account for anyone being of any particular religion. If you are a person who does not like being secular, in the context that I have just mentioned then, you fairly don't deserve to live anymore with the technology invented by Jew and promoted by a Christian. It would also be unfair for such people to have vada-pav, vada being widely made by Hindu and pav widely manufactured by Muslims, a good combination of both! Moving forward in today's lesson, yet another word is 'extremist', it means someone who holds extreme political bias towards a particular faith that can mould the norms set by people. For example, people who tend to speak for the welfare of the people in their own sector faith. Such people may or may not turn rebellions. However, they are still a hot edged sword. Going forward in the same direction comes the word 'fanatics'. Fanatics are not crusaders, big difference. Crusader is someone who wants to bring about change or reform in the society which gives a fair justice and tolerance to their sect of people, for example, Thich Quang Duc who committed self-immolation as a sign of protest against the government for prosecuting Buddhists during the Vietnam War. Crusaders do not intend to put down other faiths but just bring social reforms in the norms for treating a particular sect of people. So fanatics are not crusaders, fanatics are harmful, they strive on ego and group thinking, they are cowards who come in herds and can do anything to be part of that herd. Fanatics are one of those people, who, if you see in your neigh-



bourhood, you should call upon them and buy them some common sense. So over and over, we have covered most of the things which have changed the meaning of a few words in the due course of history.

The problem is, we are selfish by nature, if money comes flying from the sky, we gather to pick it up rather than asking whose money it is or thinking if you really deserve it. We want to be social and be our own herd of society. We want to talk about bringing social reforms and eradicate corruption but then also expect traffic police to leave you when you pay him 100 rs for breaking the traffic signal or expect a ticket checker to give you a reserved seat for a few hundred while others in the waiting list are still suffering their inconvenience. We want corruption, no, we 'need' corruption in our lives, from saving taxes via chartered accountants to getting admission in college, want the government to bring about change but hardly think about changing ourselves, and we want to be in the herd of community yet wish to be recognized as an individual. What is funnier, the way we speak and think or actually the way we live?

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# Voices



## Where did technology lead?



- Vijay Garg

Those who used to walk everywhere before, they must have felt something different when the technology of bicycles came, but if they refused to get on a bicycle or learn to ride it, would they be able to go from one place to another today. Similarly, when the motor vehicle was invented - the people who say that we should not ride on it, are they called the inhabitants of today's era? What the technology of writing did was take speech and our oral history elsewhere. Stopped, our farming forever. Instead, he moved us forward. As a child, I developed an affinity for old things - old doors, chests, long keys, the rotary telephone and the even older hand-held and hand-held speaker phone. Old pots, toys, old hair dyes made from native flowers, old food, instruments, folk songs-stories and most of all old people, listening to these stories took me on a journey to that world.

Technological development has blessed us with immense progress, but also our background, which no It had nurtured us like water for hundreds of decades, taken away from us. The high speed of the motor vehicles took away from us our sense of purpose. We lost our autonomy. We used to walk two, four, ten hills without thinking. They would take off the fatigue of the journey under the shade of trees and then start walking. Fall on the way and contact with the seeds and look up to attend the trees. Going in a two-wheeler or a motor vehicle, where does one salute the trees and where does one meet someone's existence? Yes, as many works can be completed in one day today they are, of course they can never be. Technology has certainly made us faster but has left our health far behind. What used to be our way of life, the same is what people do today in the state or in the locality by spending time, which is also known as 'Saur'. Where are the roads left to

walk now? Roads were paved everywhere and vehicles have the first right on the roads. You will say that you can't go backwards, the wheel of life only moves forward, you can't walk all the time, without electricity and internet. Can't live Well, but with new discoveries we got new roads but we lost clean air, quiet and peaceful mornings, smells of wet soil and trails. The high flush seats in the west gave us comfort, but our stomachs refused to be cleared. For several years now, major companies in the West have been producing flush seats with footrests in the native style of the East.

It has now been established that to completely cleanse the stomach, all you have to do is to sit in the old rustic way is better than It is also true that not everything was golden and pure in our background. Discrimination, high and low, casteism, oppression and oppression of women and the weak are the bitter truths of our background, with which we are still struggling today.

Technology has given us a lot in the past two hundred years, giving us newspapers, printing presses, books, electronics, telephones, the Internet, telescopes, tractors, new methods of farming, and countless medical discoveries. But this development also has a dark side. Forgetting home prescriptions, today we use paracetamol, we started taking painkillers. Traditional and native remedies that go to the root of the disease have been replaced by pills that drive away the pain at a fast pace.

These fast-paced treatments made us lose caution and patience. No matter how much you eat fried things, drink tea, smoke tobacco or alcohol, the bullets have to pass through. Timely invitations, walking around, insisting on a diet of salads and fruits, and getting plenty of sunshine and eating with patience and contentment are no longer an issue for anyone.

## Letters to the Editor

### National Pollution Day

Every year on December 2, National Pollution Control Day is observed in India to commemorate the thousands of people who lost their lives in the Bhopal Gas Tragedy in 1984 and raise awareness about the problems of increasing pollution.

The history of National Pollution Day in India dates back to the heart-wrenching Bhopal Gas Tragedy in which thousands of people lost their lives. The incident happened on the night of 2 and 3 December 1984, and that is why the National Pollution Control Day is observed annually on December 2.

Jubel D'Cruz

### A glance over the Telangana assembly elections

Telangana sees a triangular contest between the BJP, Congress and Bharat

Rashtra Samithi (BRS). BRS has fielded candidates in all 119 seats. As per the seat sharing agreement, BJP and actor Pawan Kalyan-headed Jana Sena are contesting in 111 and 8 seats respectively, while Congress has given one seat to its ally CPI, and fighting from 118 others. Meanwhile, Asaduddin Owaisi-led AIMIM has put up candidates in nine segments in the city.

The key candidates include Chief Minister KCR, his minister-son K T Rama Rao, state Congress president A Revanth Reddy and BJP Lok Sabha members Bandi Sanjay Kumar and D Arvind. Ahead of the polls, the state saw top national leaders including PM Modi, Rahul Gandhi and ruling BRS supremo K Chandrasekar Rao wooing voters. The saffron party's campaign stressed on the necessity of electing a "double engine government" and pointed to the "family rule" of KCR and alleged corruption.

The BRS's campaign centered around the previous Congress regime's failures and ongoing welfare measures for farmers and women and other sections of society,

and his struggle to achieve Telangana statehood. Congress's campaign focused mainly on the alleged corruption of the BRS government while highlighting its six poll guarantees.

Ashraf Hussain

### Deepfake politics

There is no end to the problems of the Election Commission as deepfake established its deep rooted design. The truth is distorted, and deception reigns supreme. As India gears up for its upcoming elections, a sinister weapon has emerged, threatening the very fabric of democracy. Enter the world of deepfakes, where artificial intelligence (AI) crafts hyper-realistic videos that manipulate and mislead voters. From Telangana to Madhya Pradesh, deepfake videos have infiltrated the campaign landscape, spreading fabricated messages and distorting reality. Voters are bombarded with doctored clips, featuring politicians making false appeals or participating in fictitious events.

What's more alarming is that political

parties themselves are complicit in this high-tech propaganda game. Campaign agencies, hired by these parties, exploit the power of deepfake technology to sway public opinion. Caught in this web of deception, social media platforms and tech giants face an uphill battle in combating deepfakes. As the 2024 elections draw near, the bonus falls on the Election Commission of India (ECI) to safeguard the democratic process. Stricter regulations, enhanced monitoring, and public awareness campaigns are imperative to mitigate the influence of deepfake politics. The clock is ticking, and the stakes have never been higher. Will India rise to the challenge and protect its democracy?

C.K. Subramaniam

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)



## Nagpur: Bombay HC directs authorities not to cause any man-made damage at Futala Lake through construction activities

The state is duty bound to protect and preserve the environment, the Bombay High Court said while directing the authorities in Nagpur not to cause any damage to the man-made Futala Lake with their construction activities.

A division bench of Justices A S Chandurkar and Vrushali Joshi, on Thursday, noted that resources such as air, sea, water and forests are a gift of nature and should be made freely available to everyone. "Preservation of the Futala Lake is of paramount importance, and the authorities are duty bound to act responsibly in a manner consistent with Articles 480A and 51-A (g) of the Constitution of India," the court said. The bench was hearing a public



interest litigation (PIL) filed by 'Swachh Association, Nagpur', which claimed that the musical fountain, viewing gallery and other installations on the banks of the lake were illegal.

The plea sought the demolition of these structures and the restoration of the banks of the

lake to their original state. The Bhonsale kings of Nagpur built the lake in 1799 to supply water to Telangkhedi Garden. It has now become a tourist spot in Nagpur.

Noting that the lake was not a wetland but a man-made water body, the court said that it is still

important to protect and preserve the lake from any permanent construction. "Article 48-A of the Constitution of India requires the state to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forest and wildlife of the country," the court said in its order.

According to Article 51-A

(g), every citizen must protect and improve the natural environment, including lakes, it stated. "Thus, even if the Futala Lake is not a declared wetland, the duties and responsibilities imposed by the aforesaid provisions would have to be adhered to in true letter and spirit," the high court said. It further held that the construction being carried out on the banks of the lake has the requisite permissions and sanctions but it will be necessary to ensure that no permanent construction is undertaken. "The authorities shall ensure that their activities do not result in causing any ecological damage to the water body and that the quality of aqua life is not adversely affected," it said. PTI

## Woman files complaint of "cruel treatment" against Doctor and his mother, case registered in Navi Mumbai



The Navi Mumbai police in Maharashtra have registered a case of cruelty against a doctor and his mother on the complaint of his wife, who is also a doctor, an official said on Friday. The NRI Sagari police, which registered the case on Thursday, identified the accused as Dr Vivek Yadav (49) and his mother Mahadevi Jaipalsingh Yadav (70), both from Bhopal.

According to the complainant, who is from Navi Mumbai, she was subjected to "cruel treatment" by the accused duo in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh between 2009 and Au-

gust 2022. The woman doctor told the police that her mother-in-law abused her when she delivered a girl child and even insulted her parents, the official said. The FIR does not mention why the woman approached the police late.

The case has been registered under Indian Penal Code sections, including 498A (husband or relative of husband of a woman subjecting her to cruelty), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt) and 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace). No arrests have been made so far, the official added. PTI

## Navi Mumbai: 29-year-old woman has been duped of Rs 10 lakh through online "task" fraud

A 29-year-old woman from Navi Mumbai in Maharashtra has been duped of nearly Rs 10 lakh through a "task" fraud, an official said on Friday. In her complaint to the police, the woman from the Kamothe area said two persons contacted her through phone and the Telegram app

in August about some "online tasks". The woman said the two promised to pay her "good" money if she completed a few simple tasks online. However, they allegedly extracted Rs 9.85 lakh from the woman on some pretext or the other while assuring her that she would receive all the payments. After

she did not receive any money for a long time, the woman approached the police on Thursday, said the station house officer of Kamothe police station. The police have registered a cheating case under the Indian Penal Code and the IT Act, he said, adding that the probe is underway. PTI

## Police registers case against owner of the company, duping 11 people of Rs 62 lakh in exchange of attractive rent for their vehicle

The Navi Mumbai police in Maharashtra have registered a case against the owner of a company for allegedly duping 11 car owners of nearly Rs 62 lakh after taking their vehicles with the promise of "attractive" monthly rent, an official

said on Friday. Accused Satyaprakash Varma, who claimed to run a financial services company, allegedly cheated the car owners between April and August this year, the official said. Varma allegedly not only failed to pay the cumulative rent of Rs 10.97 lakh,

but also did not give back the cars worth Rs 51 lakh to the respective owners, the official said. Acting on the car owners' complaints, the Rabale MIDC police on Thursday registered a cheating case against Varma, the official said, adding that no arrest has been made yet. PTI

## Datta Dalvi objectionable remarks case: Court grants bail to former city mayor, claims "innocent and falsely implicated"

A court in Mumbai on Friday granted bail to Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and former city mayor Datta Dalvi, two days after he was arrested for allegedly making objectionable remarks against Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.



His bail plea was allowed by Metropolitan Magistrate (Mu-

lund court) M R Washimkar after it heard arguments from both defence and prosecution. In the bail application, filed through advocate Sundeep Singh, Dalvi claimed that he was "innocent and falsely implicated" in the case. PTI

# Nation

## Unnao rape case: Delhi HC grants anticipatory bail to victim and her mother in forgery case



The Delhi High Court has recently granted anticipatory bail to the victim of the Unnao gang-rape case and her mother in a forgery case. This case was transferred to Delhi on the order of the Supreme Court. This case pertains to an alleged forgery of the date of birth. An FIR was registered under sections IPC 419/420/467/468/471 at Makhi

police station, Uttar Pradesh, based on the complaint made by Haripal Singh. He is the husband of a woman accused who was acquitted in a gang rape case.

Earlier, the Delhi High Court had granted protection and directed not to take any coercive action against the victim. The expelled BJP MLA, Kuldeep Singh Sengar, was convicted un-

der the POCSO Act for the rape of a minor victim. He is serving a life sentence and his appeal is pending before the Delhi High Court. Justice Sudhir Kumar Jain granted anticipatory bail to both the victim and her mother after recording the submissions by the Additional Public Prosecutor (APP) that the charge sheet has been filed and petitioners shall not be arrested until the court order for the same.

The Additional Public Prosecutor for the State stated that the charge sheet has already been filed after the conclusion of the investigation without the arrest of the petitioners and the petitioners shall not be arrested in the present case by the investigating agency unless and until it is directed by the trial court in Saket, New Delhi. ANI

## Jammu and Kashmir: Security forces recovers incriminating materials, along with arms and ammunition from a terrorist at an encounter

Security forces neutralised a terrorist associated with the proscribed terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in an encounter in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district and recovered incriminating materials, along with arms and ammunition, an official press release said on Friday. As per the official press note, "In the ensuing exchange, the terrorist, identified as Kifayat Ayoub Alie son of Mohd Ayoub Alie resident of Pinjoora Shopian, associated with the proscribed terror outfit LeT, was neutralized, and his body was recovered from the encounter site".

Police records indicate his involvement in several terror-related crimes including in Case FIR



No. 123/2021, FIR No. 294/2021 and case FIR No. 180/2023 of PS Shopian, it added.

Acting on specific intel regarding the presence of a terrorist in Arihal village, Pulwama, a joint cordon and search operation was launched by Pulwama Police, Army (44RR), and CRPF (182Bn) in the area. "Significant incriminating materials, along with arms and ammunition including 01 pistol, 02 magazine, 05 RDS, 02 grenades, were seized from the encounter site," the officials release said. ANI

## Tamil Nadu: IMD predicts cyclonic storm to cross South Andhra Pradesh and adjoining North Tamil Nadu coast



The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast a cyclonic storm to cross South Andhra Pradesh and adjoining North Tamil Nadu coast between Chennai and Machilipatnam in Andhra Pradesh around December 4 evening. A well-marked low-pressure area concentrated into a depression over the Southeast adjoining Southwest Bay of Bengal on Friday.

According to the IMD bulletin Yesterday's well marked low-pressure area over Southeast Bay of Bengal moved west-northwestwards during past 12 hours. It concentrated into a Depression and lay centred at 5:30 am on December 1 over Southeast adjoining Southwest Bay of Bengal near Latitude 9.1degree North and Longitude 86.4 degree East,

about 790 km east-southeast of Puducherry, 800 km southeast of Chennai, 990 km southeast of Bapatla and 970 km southeast of Machilipatnam.

The IMD further said that the deep depression was likely to convert into a Cyclonic Storm over Southwest Bay of Bengal around December 3. "It is likely to continue to move west-northwestwards, intensify into a Deep Depression by December 2 and further into a Cyclonic Storm over Southwest Bay of Bengal around December 3. Thereafter, it would move northwestwards and cross South Andhra Pradesh and adjoining North Tamil Nadu coast between Chennai and Machilipatnam around evening of December 4 as a Cyclonic Storm," the IMD further said. ANI

## Karnataka: 48 private schools in Bengaluru receives bomb threat, police suspects hoax

Forty-eight private schools in Bengaluru on Friday morning received an email with a bomb threat on its premises, triggering panic among the staff and parents, police said. The school authorities immediately alerted police, who reached the institutions concerned with the bomb disposal squads and anti-sabotage check teams, they said.

The students and staff were immediately evacuated from the school premises, police said, adding no suspicious objects have been found yet and prima facie, it looks like it's a hoax message. "So far, 48 schools in Bengaluru have received an email about bomb threat. The message about a bomb threat was received from an email id. Search operations are almost over and so far, our teams have not found any suspicious objects on any of the school premises. Prime facie, it appears to be a hoax message. We are also in the process of registering a case in this regard and a thorough investigation is underway," a senior police officer said. Students had already reached schools when they got to know about the



email threat. Parents rushed to schools from their respective offices and homes in panic to get their children back home safely. Some of these students from different schools which received bomb threats said they had exams scheduled for the day. "The email claimed that explosives had been planted on school premises. We received a call from the command centre and immediately rushed our teams to schools which are located in different parts of the city. All students and staff have been safely evacuated from the school premises and a thorough search operation was carried out," another senior officer said. Parents need not panic, our teams

are on the ground, he said. Earlier in the day, City Police Commissioner B Dayananda said, some schools in Bengaluru received threat emails. Bomb detection and disposal squads were sent to all these schools, and most likely it seemed to be a hoax. "Earlier, also similar threat letters and emails had come to schools and they were found to be a hoax for mischief and police had identified those behind it. Police are verifying today's mails too... officials and personnel have gone to all these spots. I appeal to people not to worry, as most likely all these are hoax calls (mails)," he said. PTI



World

## Russia: SC declared the international LGBT movement as an "extremist organization" and ban its activities in the Russian territory



In a major ruling, the Russian Supreme Court declared the international LGBT movement as an "extremist organization," and issued a ban on its activities in the Russian territory, Al Jazeera reported. The court ruling stated that "the international LGBT public movement and its subdivisions" were extremist, and issued a "ban on its activities on the territory of Russia".

The move is the most drastic step in the decade-long crackdown on LGBTQ rights in Russia unleashed under President Vladimir Putin, who has put

"traditional family values" at the cornerstone of his rule, according to Al Jazeera. The judge said that the order would be effective immediately, but didn't specify whether certain individuals or organisations would be affected. The hearing took place behind closed doors and without any defence present, Russian media reported ahead of the verdict. Reporters were allowed in to hear the decision. The representatives of gay and transgender people fear that the Thursday order will lead to arrests and prosecutions, Al Jazeera reported.

"One day, it will be over but for now, we need to try to continue to live and save ourselves," the Feminist Anti-War Resistance", which is critical of Russia's war in Ukraine, said on social media in response to the verdict. Other NGOs, including transgender rights group 'Center T', said they would publish safety guidelines for members of the LGBTQ community. Yan Dvorkin, the director of the organisation, who fled Russia citing security concerns, called the legal proceeding a "new low point of insanity". He further said that the LGBTQ people were being used as "scapegoats" by Russian authorities.

Amnesty International called the ruling "shameful and absurd". It also warned in a statement that the ruling might result in a blanket ban on LGBTQ organisations and violate freedom of association, expression and peaceful assembly, and lead to discrimination, Al Jazeera reported. ANI

## US: 20-year-old Indian student viciously beaten, forced to work, 3 charged with offences

Authorities in the US have rescued a 20-year-old Indian student, who was held captive for months without access to a bathroom, viciously beaten, and forced to work at three homes by his cousin and two other men in an incident described as "absolutely inhumane and unconscionable." The victim, whose name was not disclosed, spent months trapped in three homes in the US state of Missouri.

On Wednesday, police descended upon a home on a rural highway in St Charles County. They later arrested Venkatesh R Sattaru, Sravan Varma Penumetcha and Nikhil Verma Penmatsa, and on Thursday charged them with offences including human trafficking, kidnapping and assault.

Police were dispatched to investigate the home after a concerned citizen became aware of his situation and called 911. The victim is safe and being treated at a hospital for multiple bone fractures, as well as lacerations



and injuries covering his entire body, said prosecutor Joe McCulloch. Over seven months, the men locked the student in a basement and forced him to sleep on an unfinished floor without access to a bathroom, charges say. He scavenged for scraps in nearby restaurant dumpsters and was beaten with electrical wire, PVC pipe, metal rods, wooden boards, sticks and a water supply hose for a washing machine, St Louis Post-Dispatch, a major regional newspaper, reported. "It's absolutely inhumane and unconscionable that one human being could treat another human being like this," said McCulloch at a news conference Thursday. PTI

## Iraq: A group armed with explosives and guns attacks civilians, 11 killed



Eleven people were killed in an attack by a group armed with explosives and guns in eastern Iraq, security officials said Friday.

The attacks took place Thursday night in the area of Muqdadiah in Diyala province. A roadside bomb exploded and gunmen then opened fire on rescuers and bystanders at the scene, two security officials said. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to speak to the media.

The victims were all civilians, the officials said. The gunmen fled and no group immedi-

ately claimed responsibility for the attack. Diyala province has seen periodic attacks by Islamic State cells and sporadic violence due to sectarian tensions between Shiites and Sunnis, as well as fighting between rival militias and their tribal and political allies struggling over influence and lucrative racketeering networks. Diyala, bordering both Iran and Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region, is a prime conduit for smuggling. Diyala governor Muthanna al-Tamimi vowed in a statement to "pursue the perpetrators of the terrorist attack". Nechirvan Barzani, president of the Kurdish region to the north, said the attack "proves the fact that terrorism still poses a real threat and challenge, and that we must confront them with all our force and ability". He called for greater cooperation between the Iraqi army, Kurdish peshmerga forces and other security forces, as well as with the US-led international coalition against IS. PTI

## USD 250 million civil fraud trial case: New York appellate court reinstates gag order against Donald Trump

A New York appellate court reinstated the gag order against former President Donald Trump in the ongoing USD 250 million civil fraud trial, CNN reported. The gag order prohibits Trump and attorneys from making public statements about the courtroom staff in the ongoing trial.

Judge Arthur Engoron originally issued the order barring Trump from making public statements about his court's staff after Trump made numerous comments about a clerk accusing her of being "biased" against him.

Hundreds of threats against Engoron and the law clerk were made public last week. Engoron's clerk has received 20 to 30 calls per day to her personal cell phone and 30 to 50 messages daily on social media platforms and two personal email addresses, according to court papers, accord-



ing to CNN. "Now, upon reading and filing the papers with respect to the motion, and due deliberation having been had thereon, it is ordered that the motion is denied; the interim relief granted by order of a Justice of this Court, dated November 16, 2023, is hereby vacated," the appellate ruling stated. The appeals court paused the gag order earlier this month, but on Thursday said it should be restored while the official appeal is pending. "It is a

tragic day for the rule of law, but we're aware," Trump's attorney Chris Kise said. "It is what it is," Engoron responded.

Notably, the USD 250 million lawsuit was brought by the New York attorney general's office and alleges that Trump and his co-defendants committed repeated fraud in inflating assets on financial statements to get better terms on commercial real estate loans and insurance policies, CNN reported. ANI

## Expression

# Rajendra Babu's message to Students & Teachers



Er. Prabhakar Kishore

The Author is a technocrat and educationist

**D**r. Rajendra Prasad was the first President of the Republic India and served the country in that capacity for the longest period i.e. from 26th January 1950 to 13th May 1962. He was a freedom fighter, three times party President of Congress, first food & agriculture minister in Interim Cabinet, Chairman of the Constituent Assembly and disciple of Gandhi & Patel; but the most noteworthy is that he was a great scholar too. His message to teachers and students paves the way for success as well as nation building.

Rajendra Babu believed that some kind of training and discipline should be introduced in the educational curriculum of our schools & colleges to enable the young people to be ready to meet any emergency situation prevailed in the country. It will give the youth a sense of discipline and enable them to work in comradeship with others. These are qualities that are essential not only for soldiers but also among people if they wish to progress in their civil life as well.

He stressed that the educational institutions have to equip their pupils with health of body, mind and spirit so that they may be able to cope with all kinds of difficulties in life. General and specified knowledge of different subjects to obtain a university degree is not enough. No system can be said to be successful unless it is able to help in the growth of a full man. The pupil has to contribute a lot from his side. The teacher can only sow the seed, but there must be the capacity



in the person to whom the seed is sown to make it sprout, grow, blossom & fructify. Teacher is only a gardener; he can sow the good seeds and evil habits by his own sloth, ignorance or bad habits.

Rajendra Babu recalled that in ancient times, the teachers were not man of wealth, but they were highly respected. They were man of learning & character, before whom the rich & the poor, the prince & the peasant, sat with folded hands and received knowledge of not only reading, writing and studying books, but also in building up good character and a disciplined life. This contact between the teacher & the student has now growing thinner & thinner every day resulting in lack of discipline amongst students. There is neither atmosphere nor opportunity for teacher & student for acting & reacting on each other for good, which ultimately has led to domination of evils. Such students, who have received indifferent training, when becomes teachers then the system collapses. So, the close contact in some form or the other between teacher & student is absolutely necessary for improving the

standard of education for preparing the type of person the society require.

Rajendra Babu lamented that the mushroom growth of institutions without necessary equipment does more harm than good. No institution can serve its purpose without sufficient preparations and equipment. The country is in a hurry to carry advantages of education to largest number of people and in fact our aim is to make everyone at least literate in the shortest possible time. There has not been corresponding depth and that quality has suffered on account of exclusive attention towards quantity resulting in lowering of standard at secondary & university level. In course of time this deterioration in the standard of education will affect the standard in all aspects of our life and ultimately the country will be a loser in long run. There should be certain diversification at the early stage so that those who are considered fit for higher qualifications, whether in general or technical, are selected out and rest are allowed to take to the lines for which they are fitted instead of crowding the higher educational institutions from which they can not

derive the benefits that is intended, and thus only serve to lower the standards for all.

Rajendra Babu remarked that in colonial days, foreigners were interested only in turning out men & women for the work of running their administration, especially in the lower grades, and character building had no place there. In the absence of moral education in educational institutions, there has been a decline in moral values in the society. All religions have been given equal status in country. But that does not exclude the inclusion of those fundamental principles on which rest right & wrong and which are acceptable to all. Young men & women who have received degree from universities should conduct themselves as models, by spreading good ideas & laying down better standards by their conduct, for those who have been less fortunate. Difficulties will come in life and the scholars should face them with determination and character to meet them squarely & boldly. Succumbing to one temptation would invite a hundred more temptations to come in the way and the task would become more difficult. But if one refuses to succumb to temptations, the success will not elude all the time.

Rajendra Babu urged the student that they should remember that they have to fulfill the expectations of not only their near & dear, but also the society & country. Honesty & efficiently both equally are necessary to make the country progress. Students after completing their education close one chapter in their life and open a new one. Scholars should make the new chapter as bright as they can, and in spite of all difficulties, a determined will can succeed.

Rajendra Babu was a boon to the soil of India. Throughout his life, he follows the path of truth, non-violence, patriotism and human values. He will remain a symbol of nation building not only for students and teachers, but for all sections of the society. His ideas and thinking will continue to illuminate the country for years.



# Entertainment

## Filmmaker Karan Johar praises Vicky Kaushal's performance in 'Sam Bahadur', says "Absolute master of his craft.."



Actor Vicky Kaushal has come up with his new film 'Sam Bahadur'. His portrayal as India's first Field Marshal, Sam Manekshaw has garnered him praise from fans and members of the film industry. Filmmaker Karan Johar, too, heaped praise on Vicky via a post on Instagram.

"He is Sam Bahadur and he is absolute master of his craft. Vickykaushal09 embodies the legend like a bonafide veteran with genius ease! From body language to tonal shifts his is an outstanding portrayal! Salute to his performance! Big chops to Ronnie and team @rsopmovies for making this polished product and taking a leap as content creators," he wrote.

Karan also gave a shoutout to director Meghna Gulzar. "My dearest @meghnagulzar is on top of her game and committed to telling the story with researched precision and ultimate conviction! Biggest hug to her !!! My love to the entire cast and crew," he added. **ANI**

## Comedian Amy Schumer will be soon starring in comedy film "Kinda Pregnant"

Actor-comedian Amy Schumer is set to produce and star in comedy film "Kinda Pregnant", with Tyler Spindel attached to direct for Netflix. According to entertainment website Deadline, Schumer is attached to produce alongside Adam Sandler, Tim Herlihy, Judit Maull, Kevin Grady and Eli Thomas for Happy Madison. Molly Sims is producing for Something Happy Productions. Julie Paiva has penned the movie. The story follows Lainy (Schumer), who is jealous of her best friend's pregnancy and begins wearing a fake baby bump, then accidentally meets the man of her dreams.

PTI



Acce filmmaker Zoya Akhtar is gearing up for her upcoming film, 'The Archies', which got the limelight since the release of its trailer. Bringing back the nostalgia of 1960s when teenagers used to enjoy reading Archie Comics rather than surfing the internet, Zoya has attempted to recreate the magic of that era in her movie.

Drawing inspiration from the beloved Archie Comics, the director shared her love for the comics, reflecting on her childhood experiences and the challenges involved in bringing this dreamy world to life through the film. While talking about the film, Zoya told ANI, "My love is for the comic. I grew up reading the comic. That was a pre-liberalised India and there wasn't access to everything like today in the early 80s. It was a dreamy escape and that dream escape is what I've tried to capture with this film." Opening up about the casting of the film and how it happened, she shared, "The casting took eight months to a year. We knew that the characters are so iconic. They are known globally. We didn't want to take any established stars because they come with their own image and baggage. We needed people who the audience will believe to be Archie, Veronica, Reggie, and Dilton. We knew we wanted new comers. They had to be 17 years old. So, they had to be very young. We tested everyone." **ANI**

**Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar talks about the film 'The Archies', says "My love is for the comic.."**

## Animal: Actor Vivek Oberoi wishes father Suresh Oberoi best of luck after his grand comeback



Actor Vivek Oberoi praised father and actor Suresh Oberoi and entire cast of film 'Animal' team. Actor also wished them good luck for the film and expressed grand comeback made by his father through this film.

Actor took instagram and wished all the best to his father and entire team of animal. Recently on the social media actor also posted some pictures of his father working in the film and captioned "Role Model" and He also stated on the post that "To my forever role model, my idol, and my favourite actor ever @oberoi\_suresh , wishing you the very best of luck on your grand comeback @animalthefilm . May Animal roar even louder with success this december. After you successfully teamed up in #kabirsingh with the rockstar @sandeepreddy. vanga can't wait to see this masterpiece on the big screen, here's to the entire cast of #animal". **ANI**