



Kerala Governor stands against CM Pinarayi Vijayan over protest

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## Sanjay Raut booked for being vociferous in his criticism against PM Modi

### AV Team

Shiv Sena mouth piece Samna is always vocal about PM Modi and his way of functioning. Recently in his column 'Rokhthok', Raut claimed that the BJP high command left no opportunity to humiliate Shivraj Singh in his home turf in Madhya Pradesh, adding that the aim of PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah was not to defeat Congress but eliminate Chouhan.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut has been charged with sedition for writing an upfront article against Prime Min-

ister Modi 'Saamana', as claimed in the complaint by BJP Yavatmal convener Nitin Bhutad. The article was published on December 11. Raut has now been booked under several sections of the Indian Penal Code.

The case was registered on Monday at Umarched police station against Raut under IPC sections 124 (A) (sedition), 153 (A) (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc) and 505 (2) (statements creating or promoting enmity, hatred or ill-will between classes).

Police officer told Afternoon Voice that

"We have registered the case as per the complaint and will conduct a probe into it.

When asked Sanjay Raut he said "I don't know why the case has been registered against me. In this country press freedom is at stake and government hates criticism."

We also spoke to some of the leaders about the recent controversy over which they expressed their opinion.

UBT Shiv Sena MLA **Sunil Raut** said, "There is lot pressure been put by the ruling government and People in power are scared of MP Sanjay Raut and

this is why there are cases filed against him but it will see in the court"

Shinde faction Shiv Sena Coporator **Samadhan Sarvankar** said, "UBT Shiv Sena MP always comes out with a false statement which is not fact verified so this only showcases as a public stunt".

Congress spokesperson **Sachin Sawant** said, "Situation has become quite terrible at present government's regime as people are not able to voice their opinion and issues faced by people".



## Unbiased media is a Myth in India; if there are BJP workers there are Congress stooges too

### Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

The media was never biased towards BJP, rather there is a big social media and mainstream media group that impatiently attacks BJP and its leaders. The media was always biased towards the Ruling Party of the time. Since BJP is ruling India now, the media naturally supports BJP. BJP does not control "all" media. That can never happen in a democratic country like India. If it did, you would be living in a dictatorship. If we believe we are living under dictatorship I wouldn't be writing this edit. Yes, BJP influences some media outlets who tow the BJP line. Media, whether print or electronic, is a costly proposition which requires a lot of resources. So when they do not toe the line of the ruling party of the day, the government can and most of the time does try to block the

flow of these resources - mostly in the form of advertisement revenue - directly by stopping government advertisements to these non-compliant media, and indirectly by inciting other private industries and trade to follow suit. No media house wants this, or can withstand this for long. When the government changes even the media changes it stands. But in the near future Congress has no such privilege; they really need to fight for their existence by all means.

Most media moguls also have many other business interests, for which they must always need some obligations or support from the governments of the day.

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# Editoritis

# Unbiased media is a Myth in India; if there are BJP workers there are Congress stooges too

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*Same goes with most of the journalists, who feel it convenient to fall in line either to enjoy some inducements, or at least to avoid any harassment in the discharge of their journalistic activity.*

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So it goes against their grain not to be supportive of the ruling party in their media presentations. Same goes with most of the journalists, who feel it convenient to fall in line either to enjoy some inducements, or at least to avoid any harassment in the discharge of their journalistic activity. This applies to all ruling parties, whether the present BJP or the Congress in the earlier decades. Only the inducements/ threats might be sometimes overt but most of the times more covert and subtle.

Very few media houses and journalists show some spine to stand up for their professional independence and courage of convictions. If BJP has dedicated media barons as their flag bearers then we should know that the nexus of congress is also very strong that you can't imagine. They have their people everywhere even the paid historians who have written the history in childhood books of NCERT are in their favour. They too have their nexus with editors and writers who threw the word like ISI for RSS in the media when congress was at high pitch.

When Congress was in power almost all pro-BJP (or even centre-right ideologues) journalists were thrown out of their jobs due to pressure from the ruling party. Many journalists were arrested for the anti-Congress voices. No opposition was ever kind to the media because they blamed them for the ruling party's lap dogs. Remember the great venerable Ramnath Goenka, frustrated and broken by repeated I-T raids and ED investigations ultimately had to fire Arun Shourie twice from the Indian Express, which was once the best Indian newspaper in the 1970s and 80s. That was the team — Goenka the owner, Shourie the editor, and S. Gurumurthy the fearless journalist, that brought political heavyweights like Indira Gandhi down on her knees and even took on corporate honchos like Dhirubhai Ambani.

Very few centre-right ideologues then existed in Indian media, that too in minor publications. Almost all the mainstream media houses were thoroughly infiltrated and coerced into towing the Congress' line, sometimes just through ideology and relationships, and not even money power.

The Congress party essentially owned and controlled every single mainstream media house in India, including Hindustan Times, The Times of India, NDTV, CNN-IBN, The Hindu,

Tehelka, Outlook, etc. When BJP came to power the first thing they straightened was anti BJP campaigners. See I have a small media house which is considered to be a parallel media. We don't fit into mainstream media either by our reach nor by our size, but still the constructive criticism made by us is accepted by BJP and its leaders. We were never under pressure to speak the truth, be it against the BJP. PM Modi rather volunteered saying the media should make constructive criticism so that the ruling party can improvise on various fronts.

There is a stark gap in trust among supporters of political parties in news outlets. Patterns of news consumption differed among supporters of the ruling BJP and opposition parties. It is claimed that the most readers of English newspapers support the Congress, while consumers of Hindi news seem to incline towards the BJP. The proportion of individuals that mostly read the newspaper in English is around 3% but among this tiny segment, the Congress enjoys the most support. This is not the case among readers who read newspapers in other languages.

We have to believe that the Modi government is favourably sought in the Indian news media. Media is made of people who deal a lot with politics or politicians. And it's natural that they are still towards one or the other ideology. We are in a very complicated political environment where deciding what is right and what is wrong is difficult. Every event has multiple facets to it and it depends on the reporter as to what he sees and what he wants to show. But calling journalists a prostitute, Bazaru, bikau, darbaari or party workers is not new in Indian politics. What people need to understand is that they are served what they want to buy, and the media needs to realise that they still need a balance.

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## Make Children more Active



- Jayanthi Subramaniam

In a creative world children are the future of this country and that was fully revealed when 25 children turned curators and proved that the Museum belongs to them totally. In this competitive world, students will work hard to get on in their career at the best by facing tough competition. Awareness to the students has to come from parents as well as teachers who need to make them aware of historical facts of the country, current issues, social issues, international issues, development in science and technology. This makes the students to go through the general knowledge books, magazines, news papers with keen interest to know what it is then and what happens next.

Knowledge is power and by inculcating knowledge the future of children will be at the top of the world. Mall culture has come to stay in India in general and Mumbai in particular. It is high time to have a regular drawing and painting sessions during weekends. Kiosk can be made available for children to play intelligent games. More on physical activity a cricket ball can be hanged in the indoor net arrangement for knocking for 5 minutes for a price of Rs.15. With summer vacation on it is the right time to have more expansive treasure hunt for children. The talent in children will come out in the best way possible with variety of activities.

An hour of physical activity per day is recommended for all children above the age of five, but is commonly lacking in girls aged nine-18. It helps against the early onset of lifestyle diseases like diabetes, hypertension and heart disease, PCOS and menstrual irregularities for girls. Sitting in itself slows down metabolism. When we sit, the large skeletal muscles in the legs and back practically go into hibernation. They do not utilise glucose, as they require very little

energy to be still. That is why fidgety children do not gain weight.

Sitting at home, studying all day, induces cabin fever which reduces productivity, believes Mind. After a long day of sitting, poses such as the ardhha matsyendrasana release compression in the spine. Surya namaskars are also easy to learn and fun to do. These help expend the excess energy in the body, and reduce distractions. Most kids enjoy doing inversions like sirsasana, as it calms them down by reducing the tempo of your breathing, and sends blood to the shoulders, neck and brain, areas that you should be relaxing. This should be done with support, with a parent, against the wall. Simple rhythmic breathing helps increase focus and memory power, and reduces anxiety. One deep breath, followed by one short breath.

Running, cycling, swimming, walking, dancing and playing sports such as cricket, badminton, football, or basketball, all pump up cardiovascular activities, even if children have just 40 minutes for it. On days that they don't have a lot of time, help them find at least 15 minutes for light exercise, whatever they enjoy doing. Stretching at least once every hour is important.

The mere act of moving about, doing whatever eases the mind, whether it's playing games or walking and gossiping with friends, or riding a cycle alone, counts as free play. There is absolute need for children to relax during their study time. Playing few games of chess or playing carrom board for half an hour will provide the children the much needed relaxation. It is time to practice good habits during the summer vacation so that the children can maintain in the same vein when their regular school commences in a couple of months. Mind game for children is the most effective tool to be inculcated by children on regular basis.

## Letters to the Editor

### Teachers akin to Employees?

A Muslim teacher was dismissed for ignoring a student's 'Ram Ram' greeting and reprimanding him for the gesture in Hathras district, Uttar Pradesh. The school principal fired the teacher after the incident sparked an outrage and right-wing group members gathered outside the school to recite the Hanuman Chalisa. The principal apologised on teacher's behalf and promised to take preventive measures.

While appointing any teachers, they should be scrutinized by the managements that the teachers would be suitable for students or not. Having appointed, it's not fair to dismiss abruptly; because it indicates the humiliation of teachers and it displays that the teachers have no value in the sight of students. it is deplorable.

Shahnwaz Champaran

### Corruption in Politics

Rs 351 crore cash haul in I-T raids against business group linked to Congress MP. This is the highest-ever cash

seizure made by an agency in the country as part of an action against a single group and entities linked to it, the sources had said. It discloses that how leaders are dodging, deceiving and crunching money from people. They receive donation on the name of public welfare and setiated themselves. Such leaders must be kicked out. Nation does not need such authorities who commit corruption. His secret has been exposed, but no one knows still how many such leaders are hush-hush behind the white wall.

MT. Farooqi

### Catastrophe Health Situation in Gaza

The impact of the Israel-Hamas conflict on Gaza's healthcare sector has been "catastrophic", the World Health Organization chief said on Sunday at an emergency board meeting, saying conditions were ideal for the spread of deadly diseases. Undoubtedly health system will be worse more and more and new deaseses will take place because of daily bombings. Therefore, all NGOs and Nations must come forward and strive to stop conflict from both sides.

Tauqueer Rahmani

### India's impressive show

The government has taken several steps this year to contain food inflation, such as banning the export of wheat and imposing curbs on the export of sugar, onion and rice. This move bears testimony to India's impressive show as the world's fastest-growing major economy. The index of eight core industries coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity saw a growth of 8.1 per cent in September. With the manufacturing sector back on track, Indian economy will hopefully remain resilient amid global headwinds. Robust growth can also help it withstand inflationary pressures more effectively.

Jahangir Shaikh

### Need to Reduce Inflation

The price inflation of flour, pulses and rice shows no sign of stopping. There are only a few months left for the general elections, so this is a worry for any government. The wakeup call for India's growth a boom in the sale of expensive cars, costly houses and air tickets is that it raises the ire of the middle and lower classes, who spend the bulk of their monthly expenses on food, health and children's fees. On top

of that, the forecast of low production in the last Kharif and upcoming Rabi crops is scaring.

Government reserves began to decline. 45-55 million tonnes of grains are required every year for free ration. The government is considering importing wheat from Russia. On the other hand, the prices of fertilizers have increased wildly in the international market and the government has to give huge subsidies to ensure availability. The biggest problem for the government will be that to stop inflation, FCI will have to release grains in the market. After purchasing at MSP, this wheat costs the government Rs 35 per kg after additional expenditure on transport and maintenance, selling it in the market at almost half the price will give double financial blow to the government. All these expenses will increase the fiscal deficit, which will have a far-reaching negative impact on the economy.

N Ashraf

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)



## Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Danve demands SIT probe into judge Loya's death



Leader of opposition in the Maharashtra legislative council Ambadas Danve on Tuesday demanded a probe

by an SIT into the death of special CBI judge B H Loya if the government was initiating a similar probe into the death of Disha

Salian.

Loya, who was hearing the sensitive Sohrabuddin Sheikh fake encounter case, allegedly died of cardiac arrest in Nagpur on December 1, 2014, when he had gone to attend the wedding of a colleague's daughter.

In the last year's winter session, Deputy Chief minister Devendra Fadnavis said a Special Investigation Team (SIT) will be formed to probe Salian's death on June 9, 2020. According to the Mumbai police, she committed suicide. **PTI**

## PM launches Viksit Bharat@2047 - Connect to alumni, try to become financially self-sufficient: Governor tells universities



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday virtually launched 'Viksit Bharat@2047: Voice of Youth' – an initiative that seeks to involve universities and students in attaining the goal of developed India by

2047. On the occasion, vice chancellors of over 40 public as well as private universities across Maharashtra took part in a discussion organised by Governor Ramesh Bais in his capacity as Chancellor of all state universities.

## Fadnavis raises concern over Instagram emerging as marketplace for drugs



Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday expressed concern over the alarming rise in drug-related

activities on Instagram, saying the platform has transformed into a marketplace for the illicit substances.

Drugs were also being sold

through the dark net, Fadnavis said in the state legislative council here during the ongoing winter session. "Instagram has emerged as the drug marketplace where orders are being placed, payments are made through GPay and UPI and deliveries are being done," he said. Decisive measures are being taken in this connection, Fadnavis said while responding to questions from legislators Mahadev Jankar, Sachin Ahir, Anil Parab and others. **PTI**

## Maharashtra govt forms panel to probe BMC's financial transactions in last 25 years



The Maharashtra government has formed a committee to conduct an audit of the financial transactions of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) in the last 25 years, state Minister Uday Samant said on Tuesday.

Speaking to reporters here, Sa-

mant said the issue was raised during a discussion in the legislative assembly on Monday regarding the functioning of civic bodies.

Legislators expressed concerns about the finances of the BMC, and doubts were raised about its transactions in the last 25 years, he said. **PTI**

## Ajit Pawar says will reconsider his stand against old pension scheme

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar on Tuesday said his earlier stand against the old pension scheme has changed and he would reconsider it positively and added that the state government wants to strike a balance between salaries, pension amount and its burden on the state's finances.



Speaking to reporters in Nagpur, Pawar said Chief Minister

Eknath Shinde, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis and he have already held a primary discussion over the issue of the old pension scheme (OPS).

Notably, several government and semi-government employees in Maharashtra have been demanding restoration of the OPS, which was discontinued in the state in 2005. **PTI**

## 147 people killed in road accidents in Mumbai from January to June this year: Shinde

As many as 147 people have died in road accidents in Mumbai between January and June 2023, the Maharashtra government informed the state assembly on Tuesday.

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde gave the figures in a written reply in the House during the ongoing winter ses-

sion of the state legislature in Nagpur. He was responding to a question raised by Congress legislator Ashok Chavan. "Between January and June, 132 accidents took place in Mumbai and 147 people died in them. The RTO officials have already undertaken vehicle inspection drive to prevent such incidents," the CM said. **PTI**

## Six arrested for committing robbery of Rs 4.05 crore in Kalbadevi

The LT Marg police on Monday arrested six persons for allegedly barging into the office of an

angadia at Kalbadevi in south Mumbai, confining its employees and escaping with Rs 4.05 crore in cash. The police said

the incident took place on Sunday following which the accused were traced and arrested from Gujarat.



# Nation

## Delhi Police has busted an interstate syndicate of firearms traffickers, three arrested



ment of pistols from Khargone, MP, and they had brought the same to Delhi.

As per information, they were supposed to meet one Delhi-based arms trafficker near the Pul Prahladpur underpass, M.B. Road, New Delhi, in the afternoon to deliver the pistols," the special cell of Delhi Police said. Accordingly, a raiding team led by Inspector Ranjeet Singh was constituted, and a trap was laid near the Pul Prahladpur underpass, M.B. Road, New Delhi.

"At about 1.30 pm, Vimal Kumar and Sumit Kumar were spotted coming towards the Pul Prahladpur underpass, and they were overpowered by the police team. During the search, 10 semi-automatic pistols were recovered from the duo," the police further stated. On interrogation, it was revealed that the pistols were procured from an arms supplier in Khargone, MP, and were to be supplied to the members of the Hashim Baba gang in Delhi. ANI

The special cell of Delhi Police has busted an interstate syndicate of firearms traffickers and arrested three of its key members including the manufacturer. 11 semi-automatic pistols were recovered from them.

Arrested persons would procure the firearms from Madhya Pradesh and supply the same to criminals in Delhi/NCR and Uttar Pradesh. A team of SR/Special Cell, led by Inspector Ranjeet Singh and Satvinder Singh, under the supervision of ACP

Ved Parkash, busted the syndicate by arresting three of its key members who have been identified as Vimal Kumar (19) from Prayagraj, Sumit Kumar (19) from Prayagraj and Amarjeet Singh (35) from Khargone, MP. "After sustained efforts for more than four months, some of the members of this interstate firearm syndicate were identified. On December 4, 2023, specific information was received that two members of this arms syndicate, namely Vimal Kumar and Sumit Kumar, had procured a consign-

## Delhi: Overall air quality remains into 'very poor' category



The overall air quality in the national capital continued to hover in the 'very poor' range on Tuesday, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). According to data shared by the CPCB, the AQI was recorded in the 'very poor' range, at 356, in the RK Puram area at 8 am, while Anand Vihar logged 365.

Further, as per the CPCB, the AQI at ITO was also recorded in the 'Very Poor' range at 335

on Tuesday morning. Visuals showed a thick layer of fog shrouding the iconic India Gate on Tuesday, with the visibility reduced significantly. Meanwhile, the AQI in the Ashok Vihar area was also recorded in the 'very poor' range at 298 at 8 am on Tuesday, down marginally from 365 the day before. The air quality in Narela also slipped from 'poor' at 300 on Monday, 8 am, to the 'very poor' range, at 339, on Tuesday. ANI

## Kerala Governor stands against CM Pinarayi Vijayan over protest



Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan on Tuesday hardened his stand against Pinarayi Vijayan over the Student Federation of India's (SFI) ongoing stir against him, reiterating that it was a "conspiracy" hatched by the Chief Minister while the protesters were acting as per his "instructions". Just because the state government is led by the communists, Kerala does not become a totalitarian or a dictatorial state and "law shall prevail" there, he said. Khan was speaking to reporters in New Delhi a day after he accused the CM of 'conspiring' to hurt him physically.

He noted that if anybody tries to overhaul the Governor, it is a cognizable offence and has to be dealt with under section 124 of IPC. The Governor said he has already sent messages to the Chief Secretary and the state DGP making it clear that mere hauling up was not enough. "This conspiracy has been hatched by the Chief Minister. It is as per his instruction, these people are working," Khan charged. "Who's the Home Minister? The Chief Minister... Everything is being done as per his direction. It is he who has hatched this conspiracy and three days before these things happened, he made a public statement..." he said. He further said it is the start of the collapse of the Constitutional machinery in Kerala. Recounting the dramatic protest against him on Monday, Khan said if it was not a high-end car, the windows would have shattered. PTI

## Kerala: MP's staged a protest over security issue faced by people at Sabarimala pilgrims

Kerala MPs held a protest in front of Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Parliament demanding security for Sabarimala pilgrims. The protesting MPs demanded basic facilities, safety and security for pilgrims at Sabarimala.

NK Premachandran, a leader of the Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSP), said, "Sabarimala is one of the prominent pilgrimage sites in the country, with lakhs of pilgrims visiting the shrine every year. Hence, it is unfortunate that no arrangement has been made by the state government to provide necessary facilities for devotees. The pilgrims are forced to wait 18 hours for a darshan (sighting of the deity). No medical facilities, drinking water, and transport facilities are available. Sufficient police protection is also not available for the security and safety of the pilgrims." He added that a girl, aged 8 years, died standing in the queue and yet, the ruling Left Democratic



Front (LDF) government took no proactive step for the protection of pilgrims.

"Only 600 police personnel have been deployed there. We are demanding that sufficient protection be provided to the pilgrims. We demand an urgent intervention by the National Disaster Management Authority. We are also planning to stage a dharna in the House (Assembly) today. We have all given an adjournment notice for the same," he added. Abdul Basheer from IUML said

that the protest was in the interest of the safety of the pilgrims. "Sabarimala is the biggest centre of pilgrimage in South India. However, the government is not taking any steps to ensure the safety of pilgrims visiting the shrine. We have made several requests (to the government to ensure the safety of devotees). We even want to bring it to the notice of the public. The government should take immediate steps to ensure the safety of Sabarimala pilgrims," he added. ANI



# World

## Anti-Semitism case in US: Hundreds of faculty at Harvard University signed a petition in backing the school president



**H**undreds of faculty at the Harvard University have signed a petition backing the school's president following backlash over her appearance at a congressional hearing on rising anti-Semitism in the US, Al Jazeera reported. The petition says that bowing to political pressure to fire Harvard President Claudine Gay would be "at odds with Harvard's commitment to academic freedom". The petition called on the administrators to "defend the independence of the university"

The petition signed by more

than 500 professors said: "The critical work of defending a culture of free inquiry in our diverse community cannot proceed if we let its shape be dictated by outside forces." The petition, which was first reported by The Boston Globe, was delivered on Sunday to the 13-member Harvard Corporation, which is empowered to remove Gay. Gay has faced a lot of criticism since she and two other university heads repeatedly failed to give a definitive "yes" or "no" answer to the question of whether calls for the genocide of Jews

would violate university policy.

During their appearance before a US House of Representatives committee hearing on anti-Semitism on campuses last week, Gay and the presidents of the University of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts Institute of Technology said that whether such calls breached bullying and harassment policies would depend on the context, as per Dawn.

On Friday, Gay apologised for getting caught up in "an extended, combative exchange about policies and procedures" and not more clearly stating that calls for violence against Jews have no place on campus. Recently, the University of Pennsylvania President Elizabeth Magill stepped down from her role after earlier releasing a video expressing regret over her testimony. More than 70 US lawmakers, both Democrats and Republicans, have added their names to a letter demanding the removal of the three university presidents. ANI

## Pakistan: Family members affected by floods are still waiting for relief from the govt



**A** majority of the families affected by floods last year are still awaiting relief from the government, as many are forced to live without houses. The southeastern province of Sindh in Pakistan was one of the hardest-hit areas by the 2022 floods.

According to Jang, an Urdu daily, money has been given to only about 3 lakh people out of 21 lakh victims across the province, while the fourth installment has not yet been released to a single victim.

"Even today, the flood victims in the districts are forced to live under the open sky and in huts," said Jung. According to the details, houses and other structures belonging to lakhs of people were

destroyed due to floods in Sindh province. In this regard, with the support of the World Bank and the federal government, the government of Sindh started a programme to release 3 lakh Pakistan rupees in four installments for building houses for more than 20 lakh flood victims, but due to the negligence of the relevant departments, the said programme was on the brink of failure.

According to the information received by "Jang," in Sindh province, one installment of 75 thousand Pakistan rupees has been issued to 2 lakh victims, the second installment to around 70 thousand victims, the third installment to only 15 thousand victims, and the fourth installment has not been issued to any victim. ANI

## PoK: Teachers, administrative staff staged a protest demanding salary hike

**T**he academic and administrative staff of five universities in PoK are protesting to demand their pending salary hike. The teaching process has been suspended as universities are not being given their due funds. The government has received multiple appeals from the employees, but their demands have not been met. The employees have made it clear that they would continue to demonstrate until their due pay raises are granted.

"We had been given a green signal that our salary would be increased. Then suddenly we were told that a new committee was being formed at the government level which would take the decision. The increase of 30 to 35 per cent is the basic right of the employees which should be given to them. We have waited for

five months on this matter" one of the protesting teachers said.

In June, the Vice Chancellors of the five public sector universities in PoK met with the chairman of the Higher Education Commission in Islamabad. They had voiced their worries about the financial and administrative problems that universities are facing. However, nothing has been done till now. Teachers who are protesting claim they are being discriminated against, while officials in other departments are receiving increased salaries. "Our incentive was stopped and we remained silent, our honorarium was stopped, we remained silent and our publication amount of PKR 5000 was also not given. Now the administration is cutting our relief fund" a woman teacher was heard saying. ANI

## Afghanistan: More than 345,000 citizen have been deported from Iran in two months

**M**ore than 345,000 Afghans have been deported from Iran to Afghanistan in over two months, Afghanistan-based TOLO News reported, citing a senior official of the Taliban-led Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation. Abdul Rahman Rashid, Taliban-appointed Deputy Minister of Refugees and Repatriation, said, "Since the first of Mizan (23rd September) till 17 Qaws (December 8) there were approximately 345,000. Each family has been provided with 10,000 Afs in cash assistance by the Islamic Emirate."

Mohammad Yousuf and Fatih Khan, who left Afghanistan and went to Iran to make both ends meet, have been deported from Iran. They complained about the mistreatment of Afghan refugees by Iranian



forces, according to TOLO News report. Yousuf said, "There was no work here, then we went to Iran through illegal paths. They beat us and detained us." Khan said, "They captured us and beat us. They beat us badly and forced us to return." The deportees raised concerns regarding the lack of employment in Afghanistan and urged the Taliban to make efforts to

create jobs for the citizens.

Shirin Agha, a deportee, said, "We call on our government to provide us with work so the people are not forced to leave." Ahmadullah, a deportee, called on Taliban to provide them with work. This comes as Iranian officials have said that Afghans without legal documents will be deported from Iran, TOLO News reported. ANI

## Expression

# The Hostel Life - Advantages and Disadvantages - I



Vijay Garg

Retired Principal Educational  
Columnist Malout Punjab

A hostel is a place where usually students live and which is supervised by an administration and living in those hostels is called the hostel life. Hostels are aimed at providing budget-oriented, sociable accommodation for students. In a hostel, usually a bunk bed, in a dormitory and share a bathroom, lounge and a kitchen or a mess are provided. Rooms are usually single-sex, although private rooms may also be available for the students who are studying doctorate or PhD level in universities. Hostels are generally aimed at providing an economical and healthy environment for the students that is also safe for them. In a hostel room, it is very important to take care with personal belongings, as other students may share a common living space and things that look alike, so it is advisable to secure your belongings. Most hostels offer some sort of system for safely storing valuables and an increasing number of hostels offer private lockers.

It has been observed that there is less privacy in a hostel room for students as compared to their stay at home, PG or in a private room than in a hotel. Hostels encourage more social interaction between the students due to the shared sleeping areas and communal areas such as lounges, kitchens and internet cafes. Hostels have provision for gymnasium where the hostellers can take morning exercise and building their bodies. There are a reading room and library attached to the hostel to enable the students to study books, newspapers and computer Internet. In a nutshell, the hostel not only cares for the health of the students but also their studies.

The life in a hostel is completely different from that of the home. The greatest blessing of hostel life is an independent life. Students tend to get an independent atmosphere and learn to take decisions of their own. A student may sleep in a hostel



whenever he likes to. You may get up late in the morning but none will question you. During your hostel life, no one is after you repeatedly asking you to study unlike at home, which gives you a great sense of responsibility. Apart from the general rules and regulations of the hostel, which are to be followed necessarily by everyone, one is his own master and learns to control his life. It is due to this reason that many students do not like to go home even on long vacations. Those who love freedom love the hostel life.

### History of Hostel Life

In 1912, in Altena Castle in Germany, Richard Schirrmann created the first permanent Youth Hostel. These first Youth Hostels were an exponent of the ideology of the German Youth Movement to let poor city youngsters breathe fresh air outdoors. These hostels were not like modern day's hostels and youths were supposed to manage the hostel themselves as much as possible. Living students or inmates themselves were doing chores to keep the costs down and build character as well as being physically active outdoors. Because of this, many Youth Hostels closed during the middle part of the day. Very few hostels still require chores beyond washing up after self-catered meals or have a "lockout".

Hostelling spread fast. Thousands of hostels opened over the next two decades. In 1932, the first international hostel conference was held in Amsterdam. At the conference, the Youth Hostel Federation (YHF) was formed to unite hostel groups

from across Europe. Two years after the YHF was established, the first US hostel opened in Northfield, Massachusetts. And from then onwards the concept of modern hostel culture for students begin to pick up and resulted in modern hostels of the present. Hostels haven't changed much in their hundred-plus year history. They remain an empowering, affordable means of accommodation.

### Hostel Life Vs Home Life - Comparison

Hostel life can be a very pleasant journey. In a hostel, many students almost of the same age live together who are studying almost in the same class or year. Thus students of same nature develop great intimacy among themselves while they get their freedom and develop a sense of self-responsibility. Studying and living together develop a great sense of oneness among them and grows a spirit of co-operation and fellow-feeling among them. They help one another in case of need. Also if one needs to study on his own, there are separate study rooms or reading rooms provided where they can study peacefully and in case of any doubt can consult fellow hostellers. To earnest students, it is a better place for studies. They are free here. On the other hand at home, they are for most of the time occupied by some of the other domestic duties which interfere with their studies a lot. But therein hostel students can go on with their studies without any interruption.

It is very obvious that the life at home cannot be compared to the life in a hostel; both are really opposite

face of the coin. Hostel life is full of fun, amusement and youthfulness and an individual are constantly in a touch of people of his age on the other hand at home one has to live as other members of the family live and elders are always there to check the activities of youngsters. At home one has to go on according to the family that includes sleeping time, eating time and time for leisure. One cannot even frame one's own timetable of studies. One has to keep in mind the convenience of others also. One has to study while others keep on talking and gossiping. Whereas in a hostel students discuss their lessons and help one another in the matter of studies. They can remember a thing well by mutual discussion. Moreover, even non-studious students are induced to read when they see that others are reading.

At home, there is no atmosphere for serious studies. There is constant disturbance due to one reason or the other. The life in a hostel is completely different from that of the home on this issue as there is a provision for a separate study room or reading room for those who want to study in peace. The greatest blessing of hostel life is independence. You may sleep whenever you like. Sometimes social functions are also held in hostel and students take part in these. These develop in them a sense of responsibility, culture and refinement. In the hostel, students have to take care of their own things. They don't do this at home. All these develop in them a spirit of self-reliance.



# Entertainment

Actor Jennifer Aniston recalls memories of Matthew Perry, says "He was not struggling with addiction at the time"



Actor Jennifer Aniston says she texted her "Friends" co-star Matthew Perry on the morning of his death and he was "not struggling" with addiction at the time. Perry died at the age of 54 on October 28 at his Pacific Palisades home here. The actor, who had detailed his life-long struggle with alcohol and drug addiction in his 2022 memoir, was found unresponsive in his hot tub and was believed to have drowned. **PTI**

## 'Dry Day' unveils its new poster, Starring Jitendra Kumar and Shriya Pilgaonkar

Makers of the upcoming comedy film 'Dry Day' on Tuesday unveiled the film's new poster and announced its release date. Starring Jitendra Kumar and Shriya Pilgaonkar 'Dry Day' will stream on the OTT platform Amazon Prime Video from December 22.

Taking to Instagram, actor Jitendra shared the film's poster which he captioned, "kranti! kranti! krant! #DryDayOnPrime, Dec 22 only on @primevideoin." Directed by Saurabh Shukla and produced by Emmay Entertainment, 'Dry Day' also features Annu Kapoor in a pivotal role. The film unfolds in the heartland of the country where the protagonist, Gannu, a small-time goon portrayed by Jitendra Kumar, embarks on a journey against the system. Amidst the emotional quest to earn the trust and love of his dear ones, Gannu not only confronts external challenges but also struggles with his own insecurities and issue of alcoholism.

Talking about the film, producer Nikkhil Advani said, "Dry Day marks the beginning of an exciting new journey in the space of Hindi Original movies for us with Prime Video. The film is a social satire presented with a hilarious tragic-comedy of errors with lots of drama and emotions. Dry Day gives an important and relevant message about alcoholism and I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to craft this film." **ANI**



Amarrass Nights said, "Music luminaries like The Aahvaan Project, Jumme Khan, Himali Mou and Guy Velvet Group will bring down the curtain"



Amarrass Nights on Tuesday said that music luminaries like The Aahvaan Project, Jumme Khan, Himali Mou and Guy Velvet Group will bring down the curtain on its last concert for the year 2023. The concert will be held on December 16 at Sunder Nursery, the 16th century park complex that houses three UNESCO world heritage sites and was once called Bagh-e-Azeem. Amarrass Nights is organised by Gurgaon-based label Amarrass Records and Amarrass Society for Performing Arts at iconic locations across Delhi since 2009. **PTI**

Actor Hrithik Roshan introduces Karan Singh Grover, Film 'Fighter' unveils its new poster



Makers of the upcoming aerial action thriller film 'Fighter' on Tuesday unveiled a new poster of actor Karan Singh Grover as Squadron Leader Sartaj Gill. Taking to Instagram, actor Hrithik Roshan shared the poster that he captioned, "Squadron Leader Sartaj Gill, Call Sign: Taj, Designation: Squadron Pilot, Unit: Air Dragons, Fighter Forever."

In the poster, Karan can be seen in the Air Force uniform. Recently, the makers unveiled the official teaser of the film which received a massive response from the fans. The 1 minute 14-second teaser features Hrithik as Squadron Leader Shamsheer Pathania aka Patty, Deepika as Squadron Leader Minal Rathore aka Minni, and Anil as Group Captain Rakesh Jai Singh aka Rocky fighting for the country. Karan was missing from the teaser. **ANI**