



Chhattisgarh: CM Vishnu Deo Sai talks about cabinet

PG 04 >>



# Afternoon VOICE

VIEWES & VISION OF CITY

Volume: 16, Issue: 109

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023 MUMBAI

08 PAGES, ₹ 2/-

RNI No. MAHENG/2009/29332

www.afternoonvoice.com

## Karnataka: "Beta Padhao, Beti Bachhao" says HC on Belagavi stripping and assault case



While continuing to hear the suo-moto petition on the stripping and assault case in Belagavi district, the High Court of Karnataka on Monday called for fixing collective responsibility on the society. "It is not 'beti bachhao, beti padhao'. It is 'beta padhao', to save the girl child. Unless you tell the boy child, you will not be achieving it. The girl will naturally be respectful to the other lady. It is for the boy to be told to respect

and protect the lady," the HC division bench headed by Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale said.

The HC on December 12 took suo motu cognisance of news reports of the incident of 42-year-old woman in Hukkeri Taluk allegedly tied to an electric pole, stripped and assaulted after her son eloped with a girl from the same village and ST community.

The HC in its hearing called for the need for fixing collective responsibility

in such cases. "Some collective responsibility measures have to be taken, which Lord William Bentinck took in history. It is not the action of offenders, but the inaction of those standing at the spot that is more dangerous. These people standing mute spectators will make the assailant a hero," the HC said. The HC orally observed that Lord William Bentinck imposed collective fines on villages that harbored criminals.

The HC noted that only one person in the village came to the rescue of the woman. The village has a population of 8,000 and during the incident there were "around 50 to 60 in addition to 13 assailants. And to the misfortune of the victim, only one person namely Mr Jehangir showed the courage to assist the victim and made an attempt to save the victim from assailants. In that process, he was subjected to physical assault.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 04

## People have no choice then continue to live dangerously fragile buildings

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

There are thousands of buildings in Mumbai that are more than 70 years old. Due to an archaic law which limits raising rents, many tenants pay as low as \$1-\$20 (65 pence-£13) a month, leaving the landlords with little money to invest in repairs and maintenance. No wonder then that 959 buildings have been branded as "dilapidated and dangerous" by the city's municipality. And every year, a number of these buildings collapse, leading to many deaths.

In a densely populated city where quality, affordable housing is scarce, realtors often cut corners to make what many call substandard buildings, putting the buyers at risk. Though there are nearly half a million pricey apartments which lie vacant as sellers look for rich buyers,

millions of middle class residents get squeezed out to the suburbs and outskirts to live in these hazardous new buildings. The corruption in the housing sector - complex regulation leading to complicity between a section of builders and government workers - worsens matters and leads to poor quality buildings coming up in the city. Corrupt builders build homes without taking mandatory permissions using poor construction material. In many cases, residents get a structural audit done and approach the court to get a stay delaying the demolition further. According to the data, 145 cases are pending with the court and 21 cases are pending with an internal committee.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

# Editoritis

# People have no choice then continue to live dangerously fragile buildings

▶▶▶ PAGE 1

*A structural audit is mandatory for any building, which is more than 30 years old. With limited availability of open land parcels in Mumbai, major developers are now looking at venturing into the redevelopment space.*

*Housing redevelopment refers to the process of reconstruction of a residential premise by demolition of the existing structure and construction of a new one as per approvals from the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM).*

*Almost in every monsoon, some people give up their lives under the wreckage of old buildings. Between 2001 & 2015, an average of 7 people died per day in Collapse of Structures in the city.*

A structural audit is mandatory for any building, which is more than 30 years old. With limited availability of open land parcels in Mumbai, major developers are now looking at venturing into the redevelopment space. Dilapidated buildings on the verge of collapse are a grim reality for thousands of housing societies across Mumbai. Developers, as an incentive to owners of older buildings, offer additional area, money, and the promise of a new flat with a better amenity. But owners should keep a few things in mind before opting for redevelopment. Housing redevelopment refers to the process of reconstruction of a residential premise by demolition of the existing structure and construction of a new one as per approvals from the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM). It ideally works best when a society is in dire need of extensive repairs but is starved of the necessary funds for it. Developers, on their part, are also on the lookout for properties with unused development rights where they can build a new and higher structure where the additional floors can be sold for a tidy profit. But redevelopment can only take place if 75 percent of the members tender their consent. Over 20,000 housing societies, 17,000 abandoned buildings and over 3,000 MHADA (Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority) structures are waiting for redevelopment proposals.

However, while redevelopment may be the latest buzz, citizens argue that developers often tear down old colonial mansions to build luxury towers for the rich. And more often than not, it is often haphazard and done without the consent of society members. The redevelopment process also causes inconvenience to the residents, as they will have to look for alternative places to stay in while the builder demolishes the old building and constructs a new one. Redevelopment is usually burdened with bitterness and complaints of high-handedness and corruption against the Managing Committee of the society, which is why people choose to live in whatever space they have.

Almost in every monsoon, some people give up their lives under the wreckage of old buildings. Between 2001 & 2015, an average of 7 people died per day in Collapse of Structures in the city. Data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) indicates that a total of 38363 people lost their lives

due to the collapse of various structures between 2001 and 2015. From 2015 to 2021 the ratio has not changed much. The saga of such tragic deaths continued till 2022, this year Mumbai has many challenges, from sudden rise in COVID19 cases to recent building collapse just after one strong rain.. Most people lost their lives because of the collapse of residential houses. There are hundreds of people forced to live in these dangerous buildings in spite of everyday building fall incidents.

The building walls have deep cracks and the paint is peeling, much of the building just sliced and some are standing on temporary supports. But still the people are forced to live here in danger, because they cannot buy or rent a new flat in the neighborhoods because they are very expensive. Property prices and rent in Mumbai are among the highest in Asia. Many citizens are forced to live in old, dilapidated properties in a land-scarce city where an estimated 60% of its 18 million people live in slums and purlieus.

In the western suburbs, Andheri (west) or the K/West ward has 50 buildings in the C-1 category. As part of its pre-monsoon preparedness, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) had identified 791 buildings in the C-1 category — the most dangerous. Of these, it has demolished 186 (23%) buildings and evacuated 117 (14%) buildings as of March-end. Buildings as C-2 and C-3. While C-2 buildings require major structural repairs, C-3 needs minor repairs. The largest numbers of dilapidated buildings are in L ward or Kurla (113) followed by N ward or Ghatkopar, where 80 buildings are in the C-1 category. However, the BMC demolished only two buildings in L ward and evacuated around 19 others. It is yet to initiate action on 92 buildings. The F/North ward (which includes Matunga, Dadar and Sion) also has 77 structures in the C-1 category.



Volume No. 16 | Issue No. 109

**Afternoon**  
VOICE  
RNI No. MAHENG/2009/29332  
VIEWS & VISION OF CITY

Editor

**Dr. Vaidehi**

Vaidehi has received several Awards like Icongokarmavir 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.

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

[www.afternoonvoice.com](http://www.afternoonvoice.com)      [www.newsmakers.co.in](http://www.newsmakers.co.in)  
[www.beyondthenews.biz](http://www.beyondthenews.biz)      [www.nbcaaward.com](http://www.nbcaaward.com)  
[www.mumbaimanoos.com](http://www.mumbaimanoos.com)      [www.hackers5.com](http://www.hackers5.com)

Email- 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



## Afternoon Voice - A Catalyst of Writers



- C.K. Subramaniam

Let's face it. Sometimes we could all use a little motivation, encouragement, inspiration, or support. Sometimes our prospects don't seem very exciting. Sometimes we lose sight of what matters. Writer's receive unfingable support and encouragement when they see their write ups get published. Afternoon Voice has created a page to motivate, encourage, and inspire you. We know the writing life can be tough, but this page can help. Here's a free resource that offers: Motivation for writers, Encouragement for writers, Inspiration for writers and voices for all seasons and occasions.

There are a lot of things that stop us from writing. Fear of failure, discouragement, and exhaustion are my big three. Sometimes, what we need to push through those barriers is a reminder of who we are and why we do what we do. We need someone to come alongside us and speak encouraging words for writers. Afternoon Voice, headed Dr. Vaidehi is a source of inspiration and a stepping stone to success. As a freelancer, I got maximum exposure through Voices, Opinion, Different Strokes and Book Reviews before and after pandemic. And I feel comfortable writing and reporting for my favorite news daily.

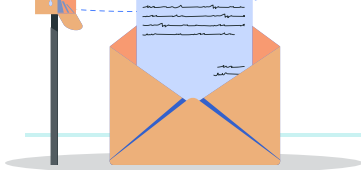
I have a publisher and an editor I adore. I have found my path. And it would not have happened at least not like this- if I had not got a big break through Afternoon Voice. After my

retirement in the year 2010, I cherish writing for Afternoon voice and look for my piece of writing at mid-night. My wife Jayanthi Subramaniam joined me and shared her ideas in a most easy way to understand and translate it into a good article.

All strong writers have something in common: they understand the value of word choice in writing. Strong word choice uses vocabulary and language to maximum effect, creating clear moods and images and making your stories and poems more powerful and vivid. The meaning of "word choice" may seem self-explanatory, but to truly transform your style and writing, we need to dissect the elements of choosing the right word.

Just as writing can heal you, it can heal others as well. Depending on what you're writing about, there is a good chance that people are going through similar situations. Sometimes people are left in difficult positions and need a guide to help them make decisions. A piece of paper, a few paragraphs, or merely just one sentence can change someone's life, from giving people hope to saving a life. Afternoon Voice paved the way for a bright future and a good hobby after retirement and during the pandemic it proved as a morale booster to revamp my dying spirits. Thank you Afternoon Voice and editor Dr. Vaidehi for all the encouragement all these years. A revelation indeed.

## Letters to the Editor



### Goa's Liberation Day

Goa's Liberation Day is celebrated on 19 December and has its importance in the history of Goa. This is the day when Goa got freedom from the dominant rule of the Portuguese with the help of the Indian armed forces and the navy.

The Liberation of Goa was rather a historic event. The fight for Goa's freedom was dual -- inside Goa and outside Goa -- which was performed by the Indian Government. Towards the end of 1961, after various unsuccessful talks, the Indian government deployed armed forces. But there were a few issues, as it was assumed that the Portuguese have supersonic interceptors. The dearth of the power of their air force also became a fright. Consequently, the Indian Air Force was advised to offer reinforced support to the ground force.

Lastly, in the words of the late Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, the army conquered Goa on December 17, 1961.

On December 17, 1961, more than

30,000 Indian ground troops with the help of the Indian Air Force and the army, conquered the 3,000-member ill-prepared Portuguese navy. There was a few more armed act following that. The rest of the Portuguese colonies of Daman and Diu were even overpowered. The complete buildup of the Portuguese colonies shaped the Union territory of Goa, Daman, and Diu. The total army operation -- "Operation Vijay" was performed almost without any violence. Finally, the Portuguese Governor General Vassalo da Silva freed Goa on 18 December. After three days of the operations, on December 19, 1961, Goa, at last, became a part of India.

The day is observed with so many celebrations in Goa. The festivity showcases a torchlight parade that is conducted from three diverse places in Goa. The three parades eventually gather at the Azad Maidan. At this location, the members of the parade pay their honour to the freedom fighters.

Jubel D'Cruz

### A cloud system should be used

Many companies use the cloud system to store personal information and view it anytime in the future. Companies like Google, Samsung are providing this service, and many companies are providing cloud facili-

ties to their employees. However, our country is still in its infancy in using cloud facilities. Such a spread has not happened in the case of cloud systems. It has been reported from an observation. If cloud systems are not adopted or implemented. Also, if the mindset of businessmen about using cloud systems is not changed, the loss of GDP of 118 billion dollars by 2026 and the possibility of losing about five crore jobs in the country is predicted. Cloud systems like Arogyasetu, Kovin, Curfew e Pass, Covid-19 Repository have been used during the Corona period. It is necessary to increase the use of cloud system, but the 1.40 crore direct and indirect jobs generated by it are important. It's possible to create fast service jobs by doing this.

Dattaprasad Shirodkar

### Rap on the knuckles

It is a matter of shame for the Union Government and several State governments that the Supreme Court has had to remind them of their "consistent failure" in the past five years to act against the lynching of and mob violence against Muslims and marginalised sections by "cow vigilantes" in particular. In 2018, the Court, in Tehseen S. Poonawalla vs Union of India, had held that it was the "sacrosanct duty" of the state to protect the lives

of its citizens and that the authorities have the "principal obligation" to prevent "vigilantism" of any kind.

It does not take deductive powers to note that the ideology of the Bharatiya Janata Party at the Centre and in many of these States that allows for the stereotyping and demonising of the minorities has also played into this. Besides vigilantism, social and economic boycott of the minority community have also taken root in States where they receive political patronage. The Court is right in issuing orders to agencies of the state in holding them to account for the non-implementation of the guidelines in the 2018 judgment. However, it requires no less than concerted civil society action to tackle the menace of mob violence and "vigilantism" by sensitising people towards fraternal relations with other communities and avoiding typecasting them as the "other". Preventing atrocities of the kind that mob violence wreaks on ordinary citizens cannot be left to just judicial fiat.

G. Champa

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)

## Dharavi redevelopment project: UBT Sena leader Uddhav Thackeray slammed for terming their protest as "settlement morcha"

The way Dharavi is being redeveloped is bad for Mumbai and Maharashtra, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray said on Monday. He also slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party for calling Saturday's protest march by Shiv Sena (UBT) against the project as a "settlement morcha" (agitation to extort money).

The Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) and other opposition parties like the Congress and the NCP have alleged the Maharashtra government is bestowing favours on the Adani Group, which was chosen through a tender to undertake the ambitious project. "Decisions like Dharavi redevelopment are bad for Mumbai and Maharashtra. Our protest march was not a settlement morcha be-



cause the BJP was not part of it. Only the BJP indulges in settlement," Thackeray said.

On Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis' claim that Saturday's morcha comprised people from other areas and not Dharavi, Thackeray hit back saying the participants were brought from the moon on board Chandrayaan that Prime Minister Narendra

Modi had sent. He also hit out at Maharashtra Navnirman Sena chief Raj Thackeray's criticism of Saturday's morcha by stating "we are not getting to know who are the chamchas of Adani". On the Maratha quota issue, Thackeray said the community must get reservation without it affecting benefits of other groups.

Without naming Chief Minis-

ter Eknath Shinde, the Shiv Sena (UBT) chief those who had taken oath to give reservation by touching the feet of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj must now go ahead and fulfil the demand. He also said a Special Investigation Team (SIT) should be formed to probe the links between Salim Kutta, a 1993 Mumbai serial blasts convict and aide of fugitive gangster

Dawood Ibrahim, and minister and senior BJP leader Girish Mahajan. "The pictures of Mahajan and Kutta are with us. Mahajan attended the marriage of Kutta's kin in 2017. But Fadnavis has given him a clean chit. It is the height of hypocrisy. The BJP attacked Praful Patel over links with Iqbal Mirchi and is now working with Patel," Thackeray alleged. Queried about the inauguration of the Surat Diamond Bourse by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday, Thackeray wanted to know if the former was PM of India or CM of Gujarat. "You are taking away businesses from Mumbai to Gujarat. Is mother India so weak that she will be strong only when Gujarat gets strong," Thackeray asked. **PTI**

▶▶ PAGE 1

### Congress Shinde govt over Dharavi redevelopment....

In this situation, out of 50 to 60 people only one person could gather the courage and rush to the rescue of the victim whereas others were just mute or silent spectators of the incident," the HC noted. Referring to a book on the Roman Empire, the HC said, "Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire", read it. Unless you build a good society you cannot build a nation. Unless we instill these values in the next generation nothing will happen. There will be other judges and advocates and other spectators but things will go on," the HC said.

During the arguments, the HC asked why the villagers remained mute spectators and whether they were "afraid of the police?" The HC said that it may be because the police did not treat witnesses properly. "Sometimes witnesses are picked up and not treated friendly. It makes them apprehensive. Police stations, subject to exceptions, don't differentiate between witness and accused," the HC said. Suggesting new laws for collective responsibility, the HC said, "So many bystanders. But nobody did anything. It is collective cowardice. That is to be addressed.

Police are not of British Raj. Something needs to be done.

Some factors should be collected and provided to the Law Commission and they may come out with the law. This is how law marches. The law should have pace with people's lives. How will you ensure that such incidents are not repeated? This also needs to be addressed."

In its order on Monday, the HC noted that the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) had awarded an interim compensation of Rs 50,000 for the rehabilitation of the victim of which 50 per cent was allowed to be withdrawn and another 50 per cent kept in fixed deposit. After consulting with the medical officer, the HC noted that the women needed treatment for six to eight months and modified the DLSA order and ordered the release of the entire compensation amount unconditionally.

The HC also noted that Rs.5 lakh has been deposited in the woman's account by the Chief Minister relief fund and the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Schedule Tribes Development Corporation had allotted 2 acres 3 guntas (40 guntas are one acre) of land to the victim at Chulki village, Belagavi. "We appreciate these steps taken by the State of Karnataka as a solace to the victim," the HC said. **ANI**

## Assembly 2023: Oppn staged a protest against govt for shielding drug racketeer Lalit Patil

Leaders from the Opposition parties staged a protest against the Maharashtra government over the drug menace in the state, and alleged that some ministers were shielding drug racketeer Lalit Patil. Leaders from the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), comprising the Shiv Sena (UBT), Nationalist Congress Party's Sharad Pawar faction and the Congress, gathered on the steps of the Vidhan Bhavan here and raised slogans against the government.

Leader of opposition in the legislative assembly Vijay Wadeti-

tiwar, leader of opposition in the council Ambadas Danve, MLC Satej Patil and several other legislators took part in the protest. "The youth of Maharashtra is getting addicted to drugs, and the state is on the verge of becoming 'Uda Maharashtra' like 'Uda Punjab'," said Wadetiwar, referring to the 2016 Bollywood film about a drug crisis in the northern state.

Talking to reporters, the Congress leader alleged that some ministers were shielding drug racketeer Lalit Patil and demanded action against them. Lalit Patil emerged as the kingpin of a

drug racket that was busted by the Sakinaka police in Mumbai in a two-month-long operation, which included the seizure of mephedrone worth about Rs 300 crore and a raid at a drug manufacturing unit in Nashik.

Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis had last week informed the legislative assembly that the police have seized drugs worth about Rs 50,000 crore in the state in the recent past and discretely tracked 2,200 small shops (selling drugs) in Mumbai and removed them to curb the menace of drugs. **PTI**

## Maratha Reservation: CM Eknath Shinde to chair a meeting of the Cabinet Sub-Committee

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde is scheduled to chair a meeting of the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Maratha reservation here on Monday. The meeting of the Cabinet Sub-Committee constituted for Maratha reservation and facilities will be held this evening.

Maharashtra is witnessing protests by the Maratha community led by activist Manoj Jarange-Patil, founder of Shivba Sang-



hatana, who is seeking reservation in government jobs and education under the OBC category. Jarange-Patil withdrew his indefinite strike in the second phase on November 3 after setting the December 24 deadline for the government to

take a decision on the Maratha reservation. The Maratha community agitation gained momentum after Jarange sat on an indefinite hunger strike on October 25. The agitation has witnessed violence, suicides and the resignation of legislators in support of reservations.

The process of issuance of Kunbi certificates has already begun in Maharashtra. The Kunbi community is eligible for reservations in the OBC category. **ANI**

Nation

# Chhattisgarh: CM Vishnu Deo Sai talks about cabinet expansion



Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Monday said the state cabinet will be expanded soon and it will comprise both old and new faces. Sai took oath as the state's chief minister on December 13. He was talking to reporters at the Swami Vivekananda Airport in Raipur after returning from New Delhi. "Yesterday evening I went to Delhi. I met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Bharatiya Janata Party president J.P. Nadda there and held some discussions. The state cabinet will be expanded very soon," Sai said.

Asked about the induction of

new faces in the cabinet, the CM said, "It will be a mixed bag of old and new faces. We will have to wait for a bit for the cabinet (expansion) but it will be done soon." On the BJP's promise to procure 21 quintal paddy per acre at the rate of Rs 3,100 per quintal as the paddy purchase exercise is underway, Sai said the promise made under 'Modi ki Guarantee' (referring to his party's poll manifesto) will be fulfilled. "The payment and procurement will be done as per the promise," he added.

Sai took oath as the state's chief minister last week along with two deputy CMs Arun Sao and Vijay

Sharma. Ten more members can be inducted into the cabinet. As per constitutional norms, Chhattisgarh, which has a 90-member assembly, can have a maximum of 13 ministers, including the CM. The names of Brijmohan Agrawal and Amar Agrawal (both from general category), Dharamlal Kaushik and Ajay Chandrakar (OBC), Kedar Kashyap and Vikram Usendi (Scheduled Tribe), Dayaldas Baghel (Scheduled Caste) and Rajesh Munat (Jain community) are doing the rounds as probable ministers in the Sai cabinet. Except Dharamlal Kaushik, all these leaders served as ministers in the previous BJP governments in the state.

The names of IAS officer-turned-politician O.P. Chaudhary, Gajendra Yadav (both OBC) and Domanlal Korsewada (SC) have also been discussed in political circles as potential fresh faces. Among women leaders, the names of former Union minister Renuka Singh, ex-MP Gomti Sai and former state minister Lata Usendi are doing the rounds. All three hail from tribal communities. PTI

# Winter Session 2023: 30 Opposition MPs have been suspended from the house



On Monday as parliament began with its winter session at Lok Sabha there was ruckus seen in the parliament after which announcement came out from the parliament where it suspended around 33 opposition MPs for the rest of the winter session.

Members who are suspended for this current session are Some of the names are: Kalyan Bannerjee - A Raja - Dayanidhi Maran - Apurupa Poddar - E T Mohammed Basheer - G Selvam - C N Annadurai - Adhir Ranjan Choudhary - Dr. T Sumathy - K Navas Kani - K Veeraswamy -

NK Premachandran - Sougata Ray - Shatabdi Roy - Koushendra Kumar - Anto Antony - Protima Mandal - Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar - K Muralidharan - Sunil Kumar Mandal - K Suresh - Amar Singh - Gaurav Gogoi - T R Baalu.

MPs were suspended as they were carrying placards inside the parliament. Also it mentioned a Committee will be formed to enquire about the matter as their behaviour was not appropriate and other MPs will be suspended till the enquiry is not submitted. It also includes name such as - Jayakumar, Abdul Khaleque, Vasanth.

## Suspension of MPs issue: WB CM Mamata Banerjee says, "BJP-led Centre is running a mockery of democracy"



Following the suspension of 46 opposition MPs in two days from Lok Sabha for the remainder of the Winter Session, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday said that the BJP-led Centre is running a "mockery of democracy."

A total of forty-six Opposition Members of Parliament (MPs) were suspended for the remaining part of the winter session for "misconduct" and not obeying the directions of the Chair. "It is not that collectively they have to suspend everybody...If they think

that the House is supreme, why are they afraid? If they suspend all the members, how will they raise their voice? They are passing three important bills, even the law bills. It is a very important criminal law bill. We all said that letting a new government come as elections is left out for only three to four months. Why are they taking the decision right now? Even a new government can review all this. There is a system in democracy...Who will raise the voice for the people?" the West Bengal CM said.

She further asked who would raise the voice of the people and if they would suspend all opposition from the House. "The voices of the people have been choked. Let them suspend the House first. They have no moral right to run this House to suspend the opposition fully...They will run a mockery, nothing else. It is a mockery of democracy," she said. ANI

## TRAI amendment bill was introduced in Lok Sabha, Amid ongoing protest by oppn over security breach discussion

A bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to development, expansion and operation of telecommunication services and telecommunication networks, the assignment of spectrum and to amend certain provisions of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act (TRAI), 1997, was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Monday. The Telecommunications Bill, 2023, was introduced by Communications, Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw amid protests by opposition parties over their demand for a statement from Home Minister Amit Shah over the parliament security breach incident on December 13.

BSP MP Ritesh Pandey opposed its introduction, saying the government is bringing it as "money bill" so that Rajya Sabha



is not able to have a decisive say. He said the bill also raises concern over the privacy of data. The new bill seeks to repeal the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 and the Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1950. According to the statement of objects and reasons of the bill, there is a need to create a legal and regulatory framework that focuses on safe and secure telecommunication network that provides for digitally inclusive growth. It said that the telecommunications sector is a key driver of economic

and social development, is the gateway to digital services and the security of our country is vitally dependent on safety of telecommunication networks. The current legal framework is governed by three laws enacted in 1885, 1933 and 1950.

"The nature of telecommunication, its usage and underlying technologies have undergone massive changes, especially in the past decade. Therefore, there is a need for enacting a legislation for telecom sector that serves the needs of our society," the statement said. ANI

World

# European Commissioner confirms, European Union is investigating Musk's X over social media breaches



European Union are looking into whether Elon Musk's online platform X breached tough new social media regulations in the first such investigation since the rules designed to make online content less toxic took effect. "Today we open formal infringement proceedings against @X" under the Digital Services Act, European Commissioner Thierry Breton said in a post on the platform Monday. "The Commission will now investigate X's systems and policies related to certain suspected infringements," spokesman

Johannes Bahrke told a press briefing in Brussels. "It does not prejudge the outcome of the investigation." The investigation will look into whether X, formerly known as Twitter, failed to do enough to curb the spread of illegal content and whether measures to combat "information manipulation," especially through its Community Notes feature, was effective.

The EU will also examine whether X was transparent enough with researchers and will look into suspicions that its user interface, including for its blue

check subscription service, has a "deceptive design." "X remains committed to complying with the Digital Services Act, and is cooperating with the regulatory process," the company said in a prepared statement. "It is important that this process remains free of political influence and follows the law. X is focused on creating a safe and inclusive environment for all users on our platform, while protecting freedom of expression, and we will continue to work tirelessly towards this goal."

A raft of big tech companies faced a stricter scrutiny after the EU's Digital Services Act took effect earlier this year, threatening penalties of up to 6% of their global revenue — which could amount to billions — or even a ban from the EU. The DSA is a set of far-reaching rules designed to keep users safe online and stop the spread of harmful content that's either illegal, such as child sexual abuse or terrorism content, or violates a platform's terms of service, such as promotion of genocide or anorexia. PTI

# US: Former President Donald Trump says, "Migrants are poisoning the country"



Coming out hard at US President Joe Biden over "economic woes" and border security, his predecessor Donald Trump said that the influx of migrants is "poisoning" the blood of the country, New York Post reported. Trump's 90-minute speech focused heavily on America's "economic woes" and its "dire border crisis," which the former President pledged to end on his "first day back in the White House" by terminating the "open border policy of the Biden administration."

"The massive flow of migrants is poisoning the blood of our country," he added. He was addressing a raucous crowd of about 5,000 in a hockey arena at the University of New Hampshire in Durham, New Hampshire, on Saturday, five weeks ahead of the Granite State's first-in-the-nation

Republican primary, according to the New York Post. "As long as Joe Biden is in the White House, the American Dream is dead," Trump said. He called the incumbent president "truly the worst, most incompetent, and most corrupt president in the history of our country" and further claimed that the second Trump term will "bring our country back from hell." The former president made similar comments on the Truth Social platform about immigrants and President Biden.

"Illegal immigration is poisoning the blood of our nation. They're coming from prisons, from mental institutions -- from all over the world. Without borders & fair elections, you don't have a country. Make America Great Again!" Trump posted on Truth Social. "Joe Biden is a threat to democracy!" he added in a subsequent post. ANI

# US car incident: A collision between a car and an SUV, president's motorcade

US President Joe Biden and the First Lady emerged unharmed following a collision between a car and an SUV, which was part of the president's motorcade, while stationed in downtown Wilmington, Delaware, on Sunday night. POTUS and FLOTUS emerged from the Biden-Harris 2024 headquarters in downtown Wilmington at 8:07 am (local time). FLOTUS entered the vehicle first, saying "Happy Holidays" to the pool. POTUS then emerged and his exit was interrupted by a car that hit a motorcade SUV.

Before this, in response to a shouted question about why he's losing to Trump in the polls, Biden says You're reading "the wrong polls. Moments after responding, a silver copper sedan with Delaware plates hit what seemed to be a motorcade SUV

shielding the motorcade at the intersection across from the entrance of the campaign headquarters. There was a loud bang and POTUS was standing outside the vehicle with a surprised expression on his face.

A man walking by loudly said, "Oh my gosh," when this happened. Agents quickly sprung into action, cornering the car and pulling weapons on the driver. He held his hands up and swiftly shuffled back to the van. Before the incident, the pool was allowed to wait outside the van on the street corner next to the building housing the campaign headquarters. On a restroom break in the lobby of the building, your pooler could hear people singing a holiday song. They joined the motorcade, which began rolling at 8:09. Potus arrived at the residence at 8:20 pm. ANI

# Pakistan: Over thousands of people staged a protest against genocide in state terrorism and brutality in Balochistan

Thousands of people from Dera Ghazi Khan participated in the protest against the Pakistan government's genocide against state terrorism and brutality in Balochistan.

People were seen participating in the ongoing rally by the Baloch Unity Committee in Dera Ghazi Khan. Ghayur Baloch of Makran, Jhalawan, Sarawan, Kohistan, Koh-e-Sulaiman and Dera Ghazi Khan were raising their voice against state terrorism, Baloch Yakjahti Committee - Kech said.

The protestors held placards and banners with slogans like Stop your terrorism in the state of Balochistan. The Protestors said the the Baloch nation will no longer accept the process of kidnapping, killing and killing people in fake encounters. The rally saw



massive gatherings despite the blockade, arrests, torture, intimidation and threats by the Punjab Police, thousands of people from Dera Ghazi Khan participated in the rally and raised their voices against state terrorism and brutality in Balochistan.

"From Makran to Dera Ghazi Khan, all the Baloch have now become one voice and a force against state oppression and oppressive policies. The state has

set fire to Balochistan for the last two decades, there is not a single house where someone has not gone missing or their mutilated body has not been dumped and now every other house a youth is being targeted in a fake encounter. Is. The Baloch nation is organized against this state killing and will remain so organized", Baloch Yakjahti Committee - Kech said.

Mehrang Baloch a political worker in her post on X said, "Our brave mothers are our source of strength and courage in this struggle, such brave mothers are with us and these wise people want to discourage us from arrests, FIRs and violence. It is naive to try to stop the caravan of Balochs dedicated to the spirit of resistance with their unsuccessful tactics." ANI

## Expression

# Architects of Hindi Journalism



Er. Prabhat Kishore

The Author is a technocrat and educationist

'Udant Martand' was the first Hindi weekly paper, which was published on 30th May 1826 from Kolkata. Shri Yugal Kishore Shukla single-handedly carried out the work of extracting this first paper of Hindi in a resourceless state for the benefit of Indians. The notable verse printed on this paper was as:

**Dinkar Kar Pragat Dinhin Yah Prakash Ath Yam**

**Aiso Ravi Aab Ugaun Mahi, Jehi Sukh Ko Dham.**

**Aant Kamalani Vigsit Karat Badhat Chav Chit Vaam**

**Let Nam Ya Patra Ko Hot Harsh Aru Kam.**

Born in Kanpur in the year 1788, Shuklaji was the Proceeding Reader in Diwani Kacheri of Kolkata and published 'Udant Martand' for the Hindi loving people. Then its price was two rupees per annum. Looking at the news and other materials published in the paper, it appears that the foundation of journalism in those days was laid on struggle, sacrifice and fearlessness. Apart from domestic, foreign and local news, comments and articles on humor and satire were also published. It contained the appointment of government officials, fortnightly letters, time of arrival and departure of ships and the market rates of Kolkata. He was confident that this newspaper would get the full support of the government and the public and would continue its journey uninterrupted. But his hope was not fulfilled. As a result, due to his limited resources and meager capital, he had to close down the paper after one and a half years with its last issue of December 4, 1827. In its concluding issue, he expressed his anguish as follows:

**Aaj Diwastau Ugi Chukyon Maratand Udant.**

**Astachal Ko Jaat Hai Din Aab Aant.**

Even after the closure of 'Udant Martand', the spirit of journalism continued to strike in Shuklaji's heart. As a result, in 1850, after collecting some money, he started the publication



of another paper named 'Shamyadant Martand'. This was a shining symbol of Shuklaji's vibrant journalism. But misfortunes follow him again and due to lack of capital, it has to be closed after two years. It was the courage of Shuklaji's hardworking personality that he took the initiative to publish the Hindi newspaper without any kind of government assistance. The self-respecting nature of Shuklaji was never acceptable to bow down to the British bureaucracy. This remarkable man, who single-handedly inaugurated the door of Hindi journalism, died in 1853 in Kolkata.

The first two decades of 20th century is famous as the 'Dwivedi Yug' in the history of Hindi journalism. Acharya Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi, the promoter of literary and cultural journalism, took the editorship of 'Saraswati' in 1903 and continued to edit it till 1920. In this period, he gave new direction and dimension to journalism, due to which this period is termed as 'Dwivedi Yug'.

The publication of 'Saraswati' started from the Indian Press, Prayag in January 1900. Initially, its editorial board consisted of Babu Kartik Prasad Khatri, Kishori Lal Goswami, Babu Jagannath Prasad Das B.A., Babu Radhakrishna Das and Babu Shyam Sundar Das B.A. The motto of the magazine was: Saraswati Sriti Mahati Na Diya Tam.

There were essays on 59 subjects in the first issue of 'Saraswati'. The last lines of its editorial are worth praising: "Due to the immense compassion of the

Supreme Karunik Almighty Jagdishwar such a unique opportunity has been received that today we are excited with new enthusiasm in the service of the spiritual people of Hindi and have come with a new gift whose Name is Saraswati.

In the issue of 'Saraswati', an essay by Babu Radhakrishna Das was related to Bharatendu Harishchandra. In this sequence, the author has discussed the motto of 'Kavi Vachan Sudha', whose opening lines are as: "Khal Gagan Se Sajan Dukhi, Mati Rohi, Hari Param Tir Hai. Up Dharma Chhutai Swat Nij, Bharat Gahai Kar Dukh Bhai".

Unnayak Prasad Vajpayee, the exclusive of modern journalism, has written in relation to 'Saraswati' in the history of newspapers: - 'In 1900, the President of Indian Press of Prayag, Babu Chintamani Ghosh published 'Saraswati'.

In those days a message printed on 'Saraswati' was as - 'Kashi Nagari Pracharani Sabha Dwara Anumodit'. This meant that Saraswati had the support of the Sabha. Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi used to send articles and poems in 'Saraswati' even from his service period as Telegraph Inspector in GIP Railway in Jhansi (probably 1901 or 1902). In the year 1903, when he became the editor of 'Saraswati', the line 'Kashi Nagari Pracharani Sabha Dwara Anumodit' was removed from the paper. During the editorship of Dwivedi, 'Saraswati' made great progress and in the Hindi world, his essays became fierce. He became a source of inspiration for Hindi writers and journalists. He wrote

many comments in Saraswati on the ability to edit and the education system of editorial arts.

In the year 1907, with the efforts of Mahamana Madan Mohan Malaviya, one of the propagator of Indian journalism, the publication of a Hindi weekly named 'Sahitya' was started from Prayag. Initially Malaviyaji himself was its editor, but when he became busier in public works, Rajarshi Purushotam Das Tandon took over its editorship. During the First World War it was briefly converted to a daily, which was again made a weekly.

Around 1907, 'Hind Keshri' came out from Nagpur in the editorship of Madhav Rao Sapre, which contained Hindi translation of Lokmanya Tilak's writings. In the year 1909 Tilak and Sapre were tried for sedition, but surprisingly Sapre apologized. Unhappy with this happening, the publication of Hind Keshri was stopped.

Many Hindi papers came out during the First World War (1914-1918), but most of them were discontinued after the end of the war. Only 'Vishwamitra' which came out from Kolkata in 1915 with the effort of Shri Moolchand Agrawal, is still being published today. It was also published from Mumbai, Delhi and Pataliputra, but later it was closed. In contemporary or later dates, literary journalists like Baburao Vishnu Paradkar, Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi, Bharatendu Harishchandra and others gave a new direction to journalism with their writings.

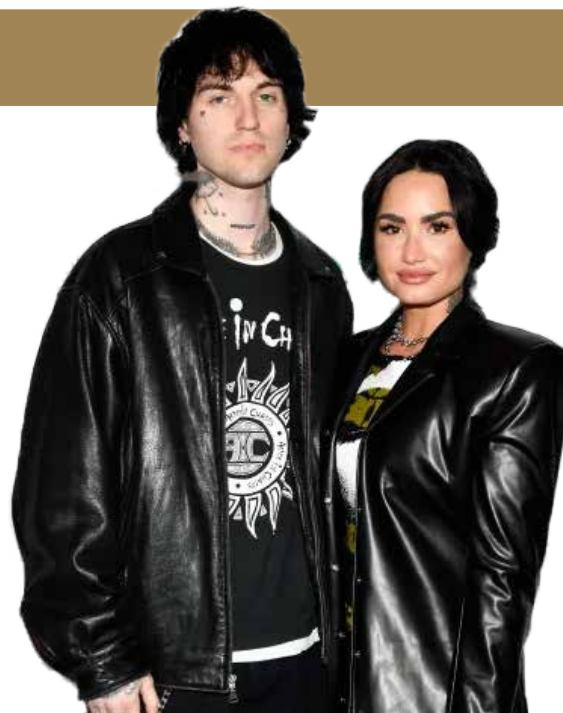
## Entertainment

### Parineeti Chopra drops new pictures, says "Hate road trips"



Making Monday brighter with her smile, actor Parineeti Chopra shared a selfie from her road and revealed that she hates such trips. Taking to Instagram, Parineeti treated fans with a picture of herself while flaunting her big smile for her Insta family.

In the picture, Parineeti is seen wearing a printed white- oversized t-shirt and black Sharing the picture, she wrote, "A girl who hates road trips but smiles for the gram." As soon as the picture was uploaded, fans and followers chimed in the comment section. One of the users wrote, "Your smile that what matters to us." Another user commented, "I hate road trips too" **ANI**



### Pop singer Demi Lovato and musician Jordan Lutes gets engaged

Pop singer Demi Lovato and musician Jordan Lutes got engaged over the weekend after a little over a year of dating. The couple made the announcement on Instagram. "I'm still speechless... last night was the best night of my life and I can't believe I get to marry the love of my life. My love, I'm beyond excited to marry you.. "Every day I've spent with you has been a dream come true and I can't wait to love and cherish you forever. Here's to the rest of our lives. I love you baby @angelokritikos @shutterstock," Lovato wrote in the post on Sunday. In his post, Lutes said he is the "luckiest man alive right now". "Yesterday i asked my best friend to marry me and she said yes. i can't imagine my life without you and thank god now i'll never have to. feeling like the luckiest man alive right now. i'm so in love with you @ddlovato @angelokritikos @shutterstock (sic)" he wrote. The duo first met in January 2022 when they co-wrote Lovato's song 'Substance' and went public with their relationship in August of the same year. **PTI**

### Shah Rukh Khan praises Vicky Kaushal's performance during film promotion



Shah Rukh Khan is super excited as just three days are left in the release of his much-awaited film 'Dunki'. During film promotion in Dubai, the superstar heaped praises on his co-star Vicky Kaushal. One of the videos of SRK surfaced on social media from the event, where he can be seen praising Vicky Kaushal's performance in 'Dunki' and saying that the audience is going to love him in the film as he has done a great job.

In the video, Shah Rukh was heard saying, "Vicky Kaushal is a great friend. I feel he is one of the finest actors I have worked with. And jab aap Dunki mein Vicky Kaushal ko dekheinge toh aapko bohat pyaar aega unpar. He has done well and I got a lot to learn from him." He also lauded director Raj Kumar Hirani and encouraged fans to watch the movie in theaters. "The best director in the country, we all respect him and love him and we need to give the love back because we give so much to cinemas," he said. **ANI**

## Ranveer Singh shares pictures with wax figures at Madame Tussauds London



It's a special moment for actor Ranveer Singh as he got his wax figures displayed at the iconic Madame Tussauds museum in London. Taking to Instagram, Ranveer shared a few pictures from the museum as he posed alongside his wax statues.

"Growing up, I was fascinated by old photos of my parents alongside some of the world's most famous & prominent personalities, only to realize that they were wax figures at London's famed Madame Tussauds. The allure of that mythical museum stayed with me, making it surreal to now have my very own wax figure there. Gratitude fills me as my figure stands amongst the most accomplished personalities in the world. An unforgettable moment, compelling me to reflect on the magical cinematic journey that has led me to this moment," Ranveer captioned the post.

Ranveer also shared a photo of his mother posing with his wax statue and wrote, "My whole universe #Maa. See how proud she is. God is kind. I am truly blessed." Ranveer's wax figure is seen in a colourful sherwani. Another wax figure shows the actor in a black suit with a white pattern and a bow.

The actor's post is filled with congratulatory wishes. "Apna time aa gaya," Ranveer's sister-in-law Anisha Padukone commented. "[?][?]," Actor Anil Kapoor commented. **ANI**