

Bangalore Mirror

ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 30 | Min 19 | Humidity 64%

Partly Cloudy



Sensex 82,890 | Nifty 25,356 | Gold 73,510 | Silver 89,244 | Dollar 83.88 | Euro 92.96 | GBP 110.08

Ups and downs of city's commute: Motorists have to juggle a lot — potholes below and dangling cables above — to be able to reach their destinations safely

TRIAL BY WIRE

Motorist escapes with minor injuries after fall caused by wires

Sanjana CS
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaluru's motorists have to have an eye out on the road to navigate its pits and craters, but that is not enough. They need to have an eye on the sky too. Roy Thomas, a 74-year-old, had a close shave on Friday, after his scooter got tangled in dangling wires near a convent on McPherson Road, causing him to lose balance and fall. Though he escaped with minor injuries, the incident shed light on the dangers of this ever-present problem.

"I was on my way to the pool
CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 >>

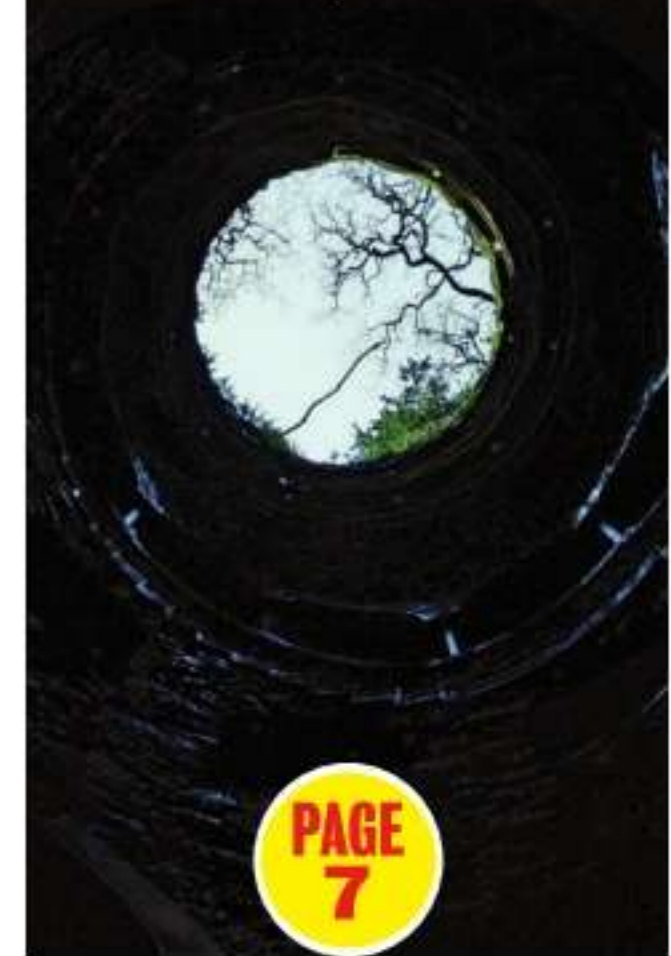


“ Handling these responsibilities falls under BBMP's purview, but whenever we receive a complaint, we make sure to address and resolve the issue

— BESCOM official

ROLLING IN THE DEEP

Plans to levy penalty on those extracting groundwater without permit; experts say rules have no meaning if not implemented



PAGE 7

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3 THINGS TO DO



01 Remembering Rumale

Join in as noted artists of Bengaluru and Karnataka will be offering their tributes to Rumale Chennabasaviah, the master artist from Bengaluru, on his 114th birth anniversary. This event offers the general public of Bengaluru a unique opportunity to view the largest permanent artworks of Rumale Chennabasaviah on display at Rumale Art House. It also gives the public a rare chance to interact with senior artists and not only see them sketch but also own their works.
When: September 15, 11 am to 3 pm
Where: Rumale Art Gallery, Rajajinagar



02 Carnatic music

Spend a lovely Sunday evening with a vocal concert of one of the leading carnatic musicians, Sri Palghat Ramprasad, presented by Nadasurabhi. Ramprasad is grandson of the legendary mridangam vidwan Sri Palghat Mani Iyer. Ramprasad is accompanied by a team of highly talented artists: Trivandrum Dr N Sampath on violin, Tumkur B Ravishankar on mridangam, and ASN Swamy on Khanjira.
Where: St John's Medical College Campus, Koramangala; **When:** September 15, 4:15 pm

03 Healing workshop

Join in for a transformative day dedicated to your emotional and mental well-being in a first-of-its-kind integrated "Healing & Transform Workshop" in Bengaluru, which has 5 healing modalities. Led by certified experts, this workshop is designed to alleviate stress and anxiety, clear chakra blockages, and release fear and depression. Enjoy enhanced sleep, mindfulness, inner peace, patience, and self-confidence. For more details, contact: 9810308533/ 9620520200.
Where: Shangri-La, Bengaluru
When: September 22, 11 am to 6 pm



BBMP drives pawssitive coexistence with strays

Aiming to help citizens coexist with strays, Palike's 6-month-long campaign plans to reach out to schools, malls, stations, residential communities

| Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has found a novel way to help Bengalureans foster empathy and learn coexistence with street animals, mainly stray dogs. The Animal Husbandry department of the civic agency has kicked off a six-month-long campaign, packed with activities such as flash mobs at malls, street plays in crowded areas, and contests for schoolchildren, to mention a few.

"We have nearly 100 activities planned for every month across the city. It is a zonal-level programme, and each BBMP zone is expected to spend around Rs 5 lakh on these activities. With the age group and area-specific activities, we will be reaching out to schools, shopping malls, bus stands, railway stations, and residential communities to help citizens understand the behaviour of street animals and ways to coexist," said Suralkar Vikas Kishore, Special Commissioner (Health), BBMP.

The BBMP says the initiative will also aid in systemic reduction in the street dog population. It will drive home the fact that 'stray dog menace' is a human-made crisis. "These activities will also explain how we are unknowingly forcing stray dogs to become aggressive and hostile," said a senior official, citing



'BBMP's new initiative will drive home the fact that 'stray dog menace' is a human-made crisis'

the recent case of the elderly woman who tragically lost her life in supposedly a stray dog attack at the Air Force campus in Jalahalli.

"When we interacted with Air Force officers at Jalahalli campus, they proudly admitted that the street dogs on campus were not taken care of or fed. We were told they survive on the bare minimum. Animals surviving on small quantities of food will turn aggressive. Our campaign will educate citizens that not feeding stray dogs is not the solution; rather, it would lead to many problems. By not feeding and managing them through the Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme, we are forcing them to become

By not feeding and managing strays through ABC programme, we are forcing them to become aggressive and hostile - BBMP official

aggressive and hostile," said a BBMP official.

The civic agency has taken the initiative in association with some NGOs in the city working towards animal welfare. According to Sadhana Hegde, founder of Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust, while a one-to-one awareness session approach for serious cases works, the Bengaluru landscape is huge. Most of Ben-

galuru's citizens are animal-neutral, and a larger creative reach can help increase awareness at a faster pace. "We want to revive nostalgia of the beautiful practices Bengaluru had that helped us coexist alongside animals and birds in the past, educate about ABC and vaccination programmes, and demonstrate simple and positive community practices that can go a long way in respecting other lives."

Through this campaign, Praani Jhagriti Abhiyana will be taken to the next level. "Every citizen sharing a small portion of their daily meal with one animal, providing clean drinking water and little space for the animal will matter a great deal," said Hegde.

Family struggles as medical bills, school fees pile up

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A family once filled with hope and promise is now caught in a cycle of despair. Anuradha, a former airline employee, and her husband, R Balasubramani, a plumber, began struggling with the closure of Anuradha's airline job in 2009 and her brain tumour diagnosis in recent years.

Balasubramani spent all his savings for Anuradha's surgery treatment at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) last year. Her one eye is damaged due to the tumor. "Doctors have advised her to undergo another

surgery, projected to cost between Rs 85,000 and Rs 90,000, which was scheduled for March this year, which she is yet to receive as we aren't able to cover its fees," said Balasubramani.

With Balasubramani spending all their savings for Anuradha's treatment and struggling to find work post-lockdown, the family's financial situation has become dire, making it impossible to cover the mounting medical bills and the school fees for their son, Sanjay (name changed).

Sanjay, once a bright student with promising grades, is currently in Grade 10 but has been unable to attend school due to unpaid fees. The private school has refused to allow him

back in class until the arrears are cleared. "I want to attend classes and pass the SSLC and help my parents. But the teachers told me I couldn't attend because of the fee arrears of Rs 75,000. I'm also worried about my mother's health," said Sanjay.

It is said that Balasubramani has approached the school management, pleading to allow his son to attend classes, but in vain. "Now, it has become tough for me to make both ends meet. I have no other resources to arrange money for my wife's treatment and pay the school fees for my son. I am in a dilemma and do not know what is in store for my family," he said.

Anuradha told BM that she is worried about her son's fu-

Man spends all savings on his wife's treatment; he struggles to find work. Their son can't attend school due to unpaid fees

ture. "Now, we are neither in a position to pay the school fees nor to admit our son to another school, as it is already September and midterm examinations are expected to be held within a few weeks. If the school management stops him from attending classes, he will lose one academic year. We are hoping to get our problems solved," said Anuradha.



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FREE ENTRY

₹25 lakh fine for slow Ejjipura Flyover work

BBMP Chief Commissioner Nath demands timely completion of flyover project; pothole repairs continue across city even during public holidays

Sridhar Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Despite the inordinate delay in the Ejjipura flyover work, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath has directed the contractors to complete the Ejjipura flyover construction within the stipulated time frame. After inspecting the project on Friday night, he said the pending work would be carried out with the government's approval. The work order was issued to the contractor on November 15, 2023.

Currently, 27 pilings, 3 precast segment constructions, the launching of 9 precast segments, ramp construction, and the development of the road, pedestrian pathways, and stormwater drains beneath the fly-

over are in progress. A fine of ₹25 lakh was imposed on the contractor for the slow pace of work. The land required from the defence department has been acquired, and discussions with St John's Institute were held to request the handover of crucial land needed for the project. It was informed that an advance payment was made to the contractor per the agreement, and the pending bills have also been cleared.

Meanwhile, during an inspection at the Central Silk Board Junction, several potholes were found on the service road leading from Madiwala towards Silk Board Junction. Instructions were given to the metro department to repair the service roads connected to the junction. Proper maintenance of the stormwater drain near the Silk Board Junction was ordered, along with the removal of accumulated

silt. Additional pipeline installations were suggested to prevent flooding in the junction area. It was noted that the drainage work near the metro station was not done correctly, and it was instructed to fix this and ensure water flows smoothly by installing gratings. Officials were directed to ensure the pedestrian walkway near the metro station, including the installed chambers, is in good condition.

Officials will work even on holidays to fix potholes

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said on Saturday that potholes in Bengaluru are being repaired continuously. He has also instructed officials to keep filling potholes, even on public holidays. Speaking to reporters after inspecting the pothole-filling work on 20th Cross, Sahakar Nagar in Yelahanka Zone, he stated that the work to repair potholes is ongoing across the city. Despite the upcoming three-day government holiday, zonal commissioners, joint commissioners, and engineers will continue working on filling potholes. With the cessation of rains in the city, contractors will procure more hot mix asphalt to expedite the repair work, operating day and night. The remaining potholes will be fixed swiftly, he assured.

865 km of roads to be asphalted

He said a plan has been devised to asphalt 5,433 roads spanning 865 kilometres in the Yelahanka zone, and the work will commence shortly. Of the 110 villages in the zone, 14 fall under Yelahanka's jurisdiction, with 89 km of 499 roads slated for development.



Currently work includes 27 pilings, 3 precast segments, launching 9 precast segments, ramp construction, and developing roads, pathways, and stormwater drains beneath the flyover

Karnataka considers milk price increase; farmers to benefit

Cooperation Minister Rajanna hints at value hike, stating discussions are underway to align with other states and boost rural transactions for GDP growth

Karnataka Cooperation Minister K N Rajanna hinted on Saturday at an upcoming milk price hike, stating that a meeting will be held soon to finalise the decision.

"I have brought to the notice of the chief minister that in the entire country there is no state that procures milk from farmers at a lower price than us. Similarly there is no state that sells the milk to consumers at a lower price than us," Rajanna said. He mentioned, "We procure milk at Rs 31 per litre and after installing National Dairy Development Board's (NDDB) software, farmers may be getting Rs 2 per litre more, on an average Rs 31. We sell it at Rs 45 per litre, but no state in the country procures at Rs 31 and sells at Rs 45. In other states, they sell at Rs

58-60 per litre."

"I brought this to the Chief Minister's attention and requested that the procurement and selling prices be aligned with those in other states. In that case, the difference was about Rs 10 per litre. The CM said if the price is hiked so much, people will not keep quiet, but I convinced him to look at the welfare of rural people (largely farmers)," he added. The minister noted that there are plans to raise the milk procurement price for farmers, adding that the CM has directed that the entire increase be passed on to the farmers.

"CM said that a meeting will be called in Bengaluru to decide on this," the minister said. Addressing an event in Magadi on Friday, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had also



A meeting will soon decide on raising milk prices by Rs 5 per litre

hinted at a hike in milk prices.

Noting that there has been a demand for increasing the price of milk by Rs 5 per litre, he said a meeting will be called soon to take a decision on increasing the milk price in the interest of the farmers.

Pointing to criticism in the media about the proposal to hike milk

prices, Rajanna said, if transaction of money increases in the villages, the country's Gross Domestic Production (GDP) could increase. "The hike will not give even Rs 1 profit to the state government, it would rather benefit the Centre as the unions (milk unions) will make a profit and pay higher taxes," he said. — PTI

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Pothole crisis

Kempegowda



The area in front of Kaveri Bhavan near Kempegowda Road is marred by numerous potholes.

Uncleared waste

Adugodu



A large amount of waste remains uncleared on 5th Cross Main Road, Anepalya, Adugodu Post, raising environmental and health concerns in the area.

Building neglect

Palace Road



The Law College building on Palace Road, near Mysore Bank Circle, is in poor condition, highlighting an urgent need for maintenance and repairs.

BJP MLA Munirathna arrested over 'death threats, casteist abuse'

Police detain him in Kolar while he was allegedly trying to flee to AP

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

RR Nagar BJP MLA and former minister Munirathna was arrested in Nangali village in Kolar on Saturday as he was allegedly attempting to flee to Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh. He was detained in connection with two First Information Reports (FIRs) filed against him for threatening a contractor and using casteist slurs.

The legal troubles surrounding Munirathna escalated after contractor Cheluvvaraju filed a complaint accusing the MLA of issuing life threats. The situation intensified when Cheluvvaraju released an audio recording during a press conference in which Munirathna allegedly demanded a bribe and used abusive language. In the audio, Munirathna is heard harassing Cheluvvaraju, which prompted the filing of the FIR under life threat charges.

Additionally, a second FIR was lodged by former corporator Velu Naikkar, accusing Munirathna of making caste-based insults. Alongside Munirathna, three others, VG Kumar (his personal assistant), Abhishek (security), and Vasant Kumar, are also named in the life threat case.

After the audio clip surfaced, Munirathna went missing, prompting the police to launch a manhunt. His mobile phone had been switched off, making it difficult to track him. However, with precise intelligence, police successfully located and detained him in Kolar.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah took to Platform X and criticised the BJP, accusing the party of ignoring caste-based oppres-



File photo of Munirathna's swearing-in ceremony at Raj Bhavan

“In the audio, Munirathna insulted Dalit and Okkaliga communities, demanded money, & even issued death threats” —CM Siddaramaiah

sion after elections and turning a blind eye to Munirathna's alleged behaviour. He wrote, "The BJP's slogan, 'We are all Hindus,' only lasts until the election season. Once it's over, they no longer see the Dalits and oppressed as equals. The insults from Munirathna's mouth in the viral audio are clear evidence of the hatred, jealousy, and impatience

within BJP leaders towards these communities. In the audio, Munirathna insulted the Dalit and Okkaliga communities in the most obscene manner, demanded money, and even issued death threats if it wasn't paid. These are severe crimes. Though the 40% commission government may be gone, its corrupt seeds remain. We are committed to delivering this filth to where it belongs as part of our cleanliness campaign."

The CM's post went on to challenge BJP state president BY Vijayendra and leader of the opposition R Ashoka, demanding that they either stand by Munirathna's statements and reveal their party's stance or publicly apologise to the Dalit community and take action against the MLA.

Don't create fuss over facilities: Jailer tells actor Darshan

The jailer of the Ballari Prison has warned the Kannada actor Darshan not to create any fuss over facilities provided to him inside the prison. "There will be serious consequences if you continue with this arrogant and obstinate attitude," the jailer has reportedly told the actor. Sources said that Darshan has been frequently arguing with the prison staff over facilities, as the jailer informed him that they could only provide what is available within the prison and advised him to submit a petition to the court if he requires additional facilities.

The jailer also reminded Darshan that the court is closely observing his behaviour in custody and his adherence to prison rules. Darshan (he) was also found making inappro-

appropriate gestures toward the media and his family when being brought for a family meeting. Additionally, he made demands for a television of his choice, according to sources. They said that he has become increasingly frustrated in prison as his bail petition has yet to be submitted to the court. In typical cases, murder accused are granted bail after 90 days or after the charge sheet is filed. However, in Darshan's case, with photos surfacing of him receiving luxurious treatment inside the Bengaluru Prison at the time of the charge sheet submission, the bail petition was delayed. Meanwhile, Pavithra Gowda, prime accused in the fan murder case, has withdrawn her bail petition from the High Court. —IANS

3 **ಮಾರ್ಕೆಟ್ ಮ್ಯಾನೇಜರ್ಸ್ ಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ!**
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Jewellery theft attempt foiled

An attempted theft at Rajalakshmi Jewellers in Banashankari on the night of September 5 was thwarted thanks to vigilant neighbours. The incident involved two individuals who attempted to break into the shop by tampering with the gold shaft shutter using a small welding machine. One of the accused was captured on CCTV footage as he attempted to breach the shop's security. The theft was interrupted when the boys from an adjacent shop



noticed the commotion and raised an alarm, prompting the thieves to flee the scene. The Banashankari Police Station swiftly responded to the incident and registered a case and an extensive search for the suspects. —BMB

Congratulations
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Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons of India - Karnataka Chapter

Dr. Girish Gowda
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon

Wishing him continued success in all his future endeavors. May this achievement lead to even greater contributions in the field of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery. His dedication and expertise are commendable, and we are confident that Dr. Girish Gowda will continue to set new benchmarks in patient care and medical excellence.

Best wishes from
Suresh L,
Chairman, Sports committee, JPNC, Bangalore & Cine Artist

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ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿ. ಎಸ್. ಪಡಾಕ್ಷರಿ
ರಾಜ್ಯಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು

ಶ್ರೀ ಸುರೇಶ್ ಸಿ. ಶೇಡಪ್ಪಾಳ
ರಾಜ್ಯ ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
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ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ಸ್ ದಿನದ
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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

TINY TASTERS

Everyone loves mangoes, and during the season everyone gets a share of it as well, rightfully so



The picture was clicked by BM reader **Krish Rajiv Nair**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

All level crossings in state to have grade separators

Karnataka also owes Rs 11,000 crore to railway department, as part of its share for railway projects

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Despite the lack of support from the state government, underpasses and overpasses will be constructed at all level crossings across the state, excluding Bengaluru, within the next two years, announced V Somanna, Minister of State for Railways. He further mentioned that the state government owes Rs 11,000 crore to the railway department, which it is yet to be paid as part of its share for railway projects. He said, "Several projects have been undertaken in the state through the co-operation of the central and

state governments. However, the state government has not paid its share of the funds. Currently, the state owes Rs 11,000 crore to the railway department. Despite this, the railway department continues to provide good services in the state. Even without the state's assistance, underpasses and overpasses will be built at level crossings in districts outside Bengaluru within the next two years."

Third production unit ready in 3 months

In the 2023-24 fiscal year, 1.96 lakh wheels, 83,054 axles, and 94,275 units were produced at the Yelahanka Railway Wheel Factory. A third axle production unit

is being established and will be inaugurated within the next three months. This will boost the factory's production capacity by 30% to 40%, Somanna added.

Major changes in railway services over 10 years

In 2014, the country had only 10,000 kilometres of rail track doubling, but this figure has now increased to 40,000 km. Similarly, electrification of railway lines has gone up from 25% to 92%, except in areas where there are issues with forest land, Somanna informed.

275 km/h high-speed train between Mumbai and Delhi by 2027

The country is witnessing major changes in its railway services, with the Vande Bharat Express in high demand. In the next three months, a new Vande Bharat 'Sweeping Train,' capable of running at 260 km/h, will be introduced. By 2027, a high-speed rail service operating at 275 km/h will be launched between Delhi and Mumbai. To prevent train accidents, a new system will be installed that detects when two trains are approaching each other on the same track and alerts the loco pilot, Somanna added.



DID YOU KNOW?



The Xieng Khouang Plateau in the landlocked country of Laos, Southeast Asia, is dotted with thousands of enormous stone jars. The Plain of Jars is a 2,100 square mile archeological landscape made up of these ancient megaliths strewn across green meadows, steep slopes, and forested foothills. Over 2,000 jars in total are dispersed over at least 80 sites. The largest jars, which can reach heights of nine feet and diameters of six feet, are discovered in highland areas above 3,600 feet, while the majority rest on mountain slopes. Most of them are made of sandstone, and the heaviest are thought to weigh at least 25 tons, according to geologists. Surprisingly, very little is known about the 1,500-2,500 year old individuals who made the jars. They left no household buildings, inscriptions, or written texts. Uncertainty over their identities, and customs has been exacerbated by the lack of body remains discovered and the small number of excavations that have taken place.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAP THE CHATTER

where Bangaloreans speak their mind

How does the city's greenery and parks play a role in making Bengaluru the best place to reside?



Swathi, BM Reader

The city's lush greenery and numerous parks serve as vital lungs amidst urban sprawl. Beyond aesthetics, these green spaces offer residents a peaceful retreat, promoting physical and mental well-being.



Jayashree, BM Reader

Bengaluru is also known as garden city. Even between taller buildings and occurring pollutions, it still manages to keep itself green and motivate the people to create a bond with nature.



Praveen, BM Reader

The greenery and parks play a major role in making Bengaluru for what it is. The parks make a wonderful contribution in terms of entertainment and as places for relaxation. Without parks and greenery, Bengaluru will not be what it's now.



Nayana, BM Reader

The greenery in Bengaluru play a significant role in making it one of the best places to reside. They offer a refreshing aura to the city, which is a welcoming change from the concrete jungle that most cities have become.



Ravi Kumar, BM Reader

The city is home to a plethora of parks and green spaces that offer a serene escape from the hustle of city life. These parks provide a perfect setting for recreational outdoor activities, such as morning strolls, jogging, and picnics.



Divya, BM Reader

The green spaces provide a perfect setting for recreational outdoor activities, which is essential for maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The greenery is a testament to the city's commitment to preserving its natural beauty.

SPEAK TO US

Can you describe a memorable moment that encapsulates the entrepreneurial spirit of Bengaluru?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at WhatsApp us on 9591233247 or mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com



Rolling in the deep

As Groundwater Development Dept plans to levy penalty on those extracting groundwater without permit, experts say rules have no meaning if not implemented

| Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Minor Irrigation and Groundwater Development Department of Karnataka has proposed to levy environment compensation (EC) on those extracting groundwater without the requisite No Objection Certificate (NOC).

The department has also proposed that private tankers or bulk suppliers extracting water from semi-critical and critical assessment units and over-exploited areas shall pay groundwater abstraction charges.

At present these provisions are not part of the Karnataka Groundwater Act. Actions on these proposals are subject to state cabinet approval.

"Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) guidelines provide that all private tankers abstracting groundwater and supplying it as bulk suppliers shall mandatorily seek No Objection

Certificate and such suppliers extracting water from semi-critical and critical assessment units and over-exploited areas shall pay groundwater abstraction charges. There is no such provision in the state Act, however, action will be taken as per cabinet approval," said the secretary to the Minor Irrigation and Groundwater Development Department of Karnataka in a response submitted to the National Green Tribunal recently.

State adopts central rates for groundwater extraction

Nearly a month ago, the National Green Tribunal directed the Groundwater Development Department of Karnataka to file a report explaining considerations that are being taken into account while granting permission for the extraction of groundwater particularly for commercial or industrial purposes in over-exploited, critical, and semi-critical areas.

In its report, the department has also clarified that as per section 18(3) of the state Act Central Groundwater Authority's (CGWA) rates to impose appropriate charges on the quantum of groundwater extracted for industries, commercial and entertainment purposes have been adopted by Karnataka Ground Water Authority (KGWA) and charges are levied as per Central Groundwater Board's (CGWB) guidelines.

Existing rules not being enforced: Experts

Experts say while the proposed rules by

the department are a step in the right direction, the existing laws and rules around groundwater have become paper tigers in the absence of enforcement by the authorities concerned.

Excess groundwater is being extracted by commercial establishments illegally across the city, while authorities such as Karnataka Ground Water Board (KGWB) play mute spectator.

A case in point is that of Mahadevapura. Residents and experts say that public borewells in the area are drying up due to over-extraction of water by commercial users. According to Sandeep Anirudhan of Namma Whitefield, there are locations where intense exploitation by commercial users has driven the groundwater level down by between 500 and 1000 feet in just a year, which is extremely alarming.

If complaints are made to officials of Karnataka Ground Water Authority (KGWA) or Bengaluru Water Supply & Sewerage Board (BWSSB), officials visit the site, stop the drilling and after a few days the drilling is resumed, with the officials claiming that the site owners have obtained permission.

"We have been monitoring borewell drilling in and around Whitefield Ward for the past few months, and almost every single violation is on an empty site proposed for commercial building construction. The contractors or business owners drill borewell/s on empty sites without approval or obtain domestic use approval by providing false information. Some even create forged and fake permission letters. Then they use the bore well water for the con-

struction of buildings and later use the bore well water for commercial use, which is illegal as Bengaluru is a notified over-exploited zone. None of the penalties or punishments as per the Groundwater Act is ever imposed on violators," said Anirudhan.

Corruption and inaction reign supreme

Some residents of the area also allege rampant corruption among officials who pocket bribes and ignore violations or issue false permissions.

"Violation continues with no fear of law or enforcement action. KGWA officials claim that they have devolved powers to enforce to local authorities such as BWSSB, Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM),

Experts say proposed rules are promising but enforcement is lacking and illegal groundwater extraction continues unchecked

and the Police. But none of these authorities has any information, and claim they do not have the authority, and there are no clear circulars or government orders (GO) to this effect. Even KGWA officials are unaware of most laws and rules themselves," alleged a resident.

Experts opine while the Minor Irrigation and Groundwater Development Department's move to impose environmental compensation and groundwater extraction charges will be useful, they have to be supplemented with imposing a ban on the construction industry for using groundwater.

"These rules, if approved by the state cabinet, will be beneficial. However, there should be a total ban on the construction industry from using groundwater for construction purposes. KGWA has been a toothless body, which has not helped the cause so far," said V Ramprasad, Friends of Lakes.

Contractors drill borewells on empty sites without approval or obtain domestic use approval by providing false information. Some even create forged and fake permission letters —Sandeep A, Namma Whitefield

2nd airport may come up near Nelamangala

Nelamangala meets 15 key criteria necessary for establishment of new B'luru airport

Sridhar.Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

With the State Government busy scouting for a second airport in Bengaluru, now the final location may seem to be near Nelamangala. Sources say that after extensive evaluation and consideration, the state government has chosen a site near Nelamangala-Kunigal along National Highway 75 for the construction of a proposed second international airport.

With the aim of addressing the growing development needs of Bengaluru, increasing passenger traffic, and cargo pressure, the state initiated the process of building a second international airport, after Delhi and Mumbai. The government had examined seven to eight locations around the city for this purpose. Based on technical standards set by the Airports Authority of India (AAI), the site between Nelamangala and Kunigal seems to be finalised.

Sources say that the air traffic at the existing Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) has been increasing. Keeping Bengaluru's future needs in mind, the 11th



Kempegowda International airport (File photo)

“Nelamangala's strategic position as a gateway to north Karnataka makes the new airport more accessible to the region

—Official

round of discussions regarding the development of the second international airport was held last Friday. In a meeting chaired last month by Deputy Chief Minister DK

Shivakumar, various sites, including Harohalli on Kanakapura Road, Bidadi, and Nelamangala, were reviewed. While Harohalli near Kanakapura Road was considered for serving passengers in the southern part of Bengaluru, it was found that this area, located near the Tamil Nadu border, lacks scope for significant development. From the perspective of overall development, the Nelamangala area is seen as more suitable. If the airport is established here, it will not interfere with connectivity on Mysore Road and Kanakapura Road. The current NICE Road, along with the proposed Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) and

Satellite Town Ring Road (STRR), will provide better connectivity to passengers from the southern part of Bengaluru.

The site near Nelamangala is about 30 kilometres from the city and starts near the first toll on National Highway 75. It is also well-connected to the national highway and the railway line. Additionally, there is a significant amount of government land available in this area, making the project more feasible, according to a senior official. Once a final decision is made, a proposal will be sent to the Airports Authority of India (AAI). Officials claimed the current location meets 15 key criteria necessary for the establishment of the new airport. The restriction on building a new airport within a 150 km radius of the existing international airport expires in 2035.

An official said, “The presence of the Bengaluru-Hassan-Mangaluru railway line, along with an ongoing doubling project, will enhance port connectivity and facilitate easier cargo transport. Nelamangala's strategic position as a gateway to northern Karnataka makes the new airport more accessible. It will also offer convenience to industrial areas like Dabaspet and Tumakuru, while providing easier connectivity to the existing airport.”

NMC raises bank guarantee for new colleges

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has recently announced a significant increase in the performance bank guarantees (PBG) required for establishing new undergraduate and postgraduate medical colleges, effective from the academic year 2025-26. This marks the first time the commission has implemented a hike, according to experts.

As per a notice issued by the NMC on September 2, medical colleges seeking to admit 50 MBBS students will now need to provide a bank guarantee of Rs 15 crore for a six-year period. Institutions aiming to admit 100 MBBS students will be required to submit a bank guarantee of Rs 20 crore for the same duration. For an additional 50 seats, an extra bank guarantee of Rs 5 crore will be necessary. Colleges intending to admit 150 MBBS students must provide a bank guarantee of Rs 25 crore for the six-year tenure.

For a single Post Graduate degree or higher specialty course, the bank guarantee is set at Rs 2 crore for a four-year tenure. Any additional PG degree or higher specialty course will require a bank guarantee of Rs 25 lakh per course seat, also valid for four years.

The increase in bank guarantees is expected to result in an investment of approximately Rs 350 crore for setting up a new medical college. Experts believe this will make it nearly impossible for smaller trusts to establish new medical educational institutions. They have clarified that this increase will not lead to any fee hike for students. —BMB

NGT questions state on diversion of forest land for mining for last 15 years

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has questioned various state government agencies about diversion of large swaths of forest land for mining over the last 15 years.

The tribunal has registered suo-motu based on media reports stating Karnataka has diverted over 4,000 acres of forest land for mining in 15 years leading to a loss of forest cover and has sent notices to the Central Pollution Control Board, Department of Mines and Geology Karnataka, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ministry of Environment and Forest, and District Magistrate of Ballari.

The report highlighted that in the last 14 years, four districts in Karnataka lost 4,228.81 acres of forest due to mining activities. Ballari accounted for 80% of this loss, with 3,338.13 acres of forest area impacted. Between 2010 and March 2024, 60 mining projects were approved in these four districts, with 39 projects in Ballari alone.

“The above matter indicates a violation of the provisions of the Environment Protection Act, 1986; Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957.



Karnataka has diverted 4,000 acres of forest land for mining for last 15 years

It raises substantial issues relating to compliance with the environmental norms and implementation of the provisions of scheduled enactment,” noted the tribunal.

According to data from Karnataka Forest Department, to date, over 79,000 acres of forest land have been diverted for various non-forestry purposes such as irrigation, wind power, and allied projects, mining, and allied projects, linear infrastructure projects like road and railway tracks, putting up transmission lines, hydel power, quarrying and many other activities.

Nearly 32% of this, a little over 25,000 acres has been diverted for mining and allied work. As many as 145 mining projects on forest land have been sanctioned in the state so far.

On various occasions in the past, ecologists and environmentalists have pointed to the National Forest Policy of India stating that at least 33% of the given geographical area of a state should be under forest cover to maintain ecological stability. Karnataka currently has a little over 20% of its total land under green cover.

NGT also noted that legalised mining has caused twice the forest destruction compared to illegal mining, significantly impacting wildlife and local communities in Sandur. Moreover, iron ore production emits 25 kg of CO2 per tonne, requiring plantations on 400 sq km to offset 2011 emissions, costing Rs 120 crore.

“It (article) asserts the need for inter-generational equity, noting that otherwise, Ballari's mineral deposits may last only 25-30 years,” said the order copy.

F. No. BAN/LANDS/113/E-AUC/AF/1

Defence Estates Office, Karnataka Circle K. Kamaraj Road, Bangalore - 560 042. Ph: 080-25367213

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The intending bidders are requested to visit the above-mentioned E-Auction website and follow the instructions for creating/registering profile for bidding. Terms and conditions of the sale are available in the Public Auction Notice. The participants may download the same from the website mentioned above and submit a Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque for 8,000/- (Rupees Eight Thousand only) in favors of Defence Estates Officer, Karnataka Circle, Bangalore as Earnest Money Deposit to this office for participating the auction on or before 25.09.2024 By 1300 hours, failing which they will not be allowed to participate in the auction. Bid auto extension will be 10 minutes.

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Station: Bangalore.

Dated: 13 Sep, 2024

Sd/- Defence Estates Officer
Karnataka Circle Bangalore.

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All you need to know about...

Low-carb diet

Benefits

A diet low in carbohydrates could be beneficial for children and young adults with Type 1 diabetes, claimed a study.

Type 1 diabetes

People suffering from Type 1 diabetes -- an autoimmune disease that results in the loss of beta cell mass -- have insulin deficiency and hence need lifelong insulin therapy.

Researchers from Charles University and Motol University Hospital in the Czech Republic showed that a short-term low-carbohydrate diet led to an improvement in glycemic parameters.

Metabolic control

To achieve optimal metabolic control, T1D requires frequent insulin administration and daily control of carbohydrate intake and physical activity. While the targets are often missed, especially in children and adolescents, dietary interventions can be a promising way to achieve the goal, said the team.

A low carbohydrate diet (LCD) is defined by American Diabetes Association (ADA) for adults as more than 130 grams of carbohydrates per day or less than 26 per cent of daily recommended energy intake from carbohydrates.

Daily energy intake

The study comes amidst clinical guidelines from the International Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD) recommending against low carb diet for children and adolescents with or at risk for developing diabetes.

Despite ISPAD's recommendation of 45-50 per cent of daily energy intake from carbohydrates for children and young people with type 1 diabetes, there is growing evidence that carbohydrate reduction is a popular strategy, the team said.

Hypoglycemia risk

Children are known to be at risk of hypoglycemia -- a condition when blood sugar levels drop too low -- with a low-carb diet. However, the study results published in the journal Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice showed that short-term LCD led to an improvement of glycemic parameters without increasing time in hypoglycemia. —IANS

ONAM TREATS

Recipes that will add an extra dash of taste to festivities



PARIPPU CURRY



INGREDIENTS

- Moong dal (yellow split gram): 1/2 cup
- Toor Dal: 1/4 cup
- Turmeric powder: 1/2 teaspoon
- Water: 2-3 cups
- Grated coconut: 1/2 cup
- Cumin seeds: 1/2 teaspoon
- Green chillies: 2, chopped
- Garlic: 1 clove (optional)
- Mustard seeds: 1 teaspoon

- Dried red chillies: 1-2
- Curry leaves: 1 sprig
- Ghee or coconut oil: 1 tablespoon
- Salt: To taste
- Black pepper powder: A pinch (optional)
- Asafoetida (hing): A pinch

METHOD

- **Cook the Dal:** Rinse both dal thoroughly under running water. In a pressure cooker or pot, add the dal, turmeric powder, and 2 cups of water. Cook until the dal is soft and mushy. If using a pressure cooker, cook for about 2-3 whistles. If cooking in a pot, it may take 20-25 minutes.
- **Prepare the Coconut Paste:** In a blender, grind the grated coconut, cumin seeds, green chillies, and garlic (if using) with a little water to make a smooth paste. Set aside.
- **Combine Dal and Coconut Paste:** Once the dal is cooked, mash it well with a ladle or whisk to get a smooth consistency. Add the prepared coconut paste to

the dal. Mix well and add more water if needed to adjust the consistency. Bring it to a gentle simmer for 5-7 minutes on low heat. Add salt to taste and a pinch of black pepper powder if using. Turn off the heat.

- **Prepare the Tempering:** In a small pan, heat ghee or coconut oil. Add mustard seeds and let them splutter. Then add dried red chillies, curry leaves, and a pinch of asafoetida. Fry for a few seconds until aromatic.
- **Add Tempering to the Curry:** Pour the tempering over the cooked Parippu curry and mix well.
- **Serve Hot**
- **Serve the Parippu Curry** hot over steamed rice with a dollop of ghee on top. It's usually the first item to be mixed with rice in the Onam Sadhya, accompanied by papadam and pickle.
- **Tips:** For a more robust flavor, roast the moong dal lightly before cooking.

MORINGA RASAM

INGREDIENTS

- Moringa (Drumstick) leaves: 1 cup, cleaned and chopped
- Moringa (drumstick) cleaned and diced - 2no.
- Tomato: 1 medium-sized, chopped
- Tamarind: A small lemon-sized ball, soaked in water
- Toor dal (split pigeon peas): 2 tablespoons, cooked and mashed
- Garlic: 2-3 cloves, crushed
- Green chillies: 1-2, slit
- Rasam powder: 1 tablespoon
- Turmeric powder: 1/4 teaspoon
- Asafoetida (hing): A pinch
- Mustard seeds: 1/2 teaspoon
- Cumin seeds: 1/2 teaspoon
- Black pepper: 1/2 teaspoon
- Dried red chillies: 1-2
- Curry leaves: A sprig
- Coriander leaves: A handful, chopped
- Ghee or oil: 1 tablespoon
- Salt: To taste
- Water: 3-4 cups

METHOD

- **Prepare the Tamarind Water:** Soak tamarind in

warm water for about 10 minutes. Squeeze and extract the juice and keep it aside.

- **Cook the Moringa:** In a pot, add chopped moringa leaves and diced moringa with a little water and cook them for 3-4 minutes until they soften. Set aside.



- **Prepare the Rasam Base:** In the same pot, add tamarind water, chopped tomatoes, crushed garlic, green chillies, rasam powder, turmeric powder, asafoetida, and salt. Bring it to a boil and let it simmer for about 5-7 minutes until the raw smell of tamarind is gone.
- **Add Cooked Dal and Moringa Leaves**
- **Add the mashed toor dal and cooked moringa leaves** to the boiling rasam. Add more water if needed to adjust consistency. Let it simmer for another 5 minutes.
- **Prepare the Tempering:** Heat ghee or oil in a small pan. Add mustard seeds and let them splutter. Add cumin seeds, dried red chillies, and curry leaves. Fry for a few seconds until it is aromatic.
- **Combine and Garnish:** Pour the tempering over the rasam and mix well. Garnish with fresh coriander leaves.
- **Serve Hot**
- **Serve the moringa rasam** hot with steamed rice or enjoy it as a light, nutritious soup.

ELANEER PAYASAM

INGREDIENTS

- Tender coconut water (elaneer): 1 cup
- Tender coconut flesh (elaneer thengai): 1/2 cup, chopped or blended
- Full-fat milk: 2 cups
- Thick coconut milk - 1cup
- Condensed milk: 1/4 cup (optional, for extra creaminess)
- Cardamom powder: 1/4 teaspoon
- Cashews: 8-10, chopped
- Raisins: 8-10
- Ghee: 1 teaspoon

METHOD

- **Prepare the Tender Coconut:** Scoop out the tender coconut flesh and chop it into small pieces or blend it into a coarse paste, depending on your texture preference. Set aside. Reserve 1 cup of tender coconut water.
- **Boil the Milk:** In a heavy-bottomed pan, bring the milk to a boil over medium heat. Lower the heat and let it simmer until it reduces to about 1.5 cups, then add coconut milk and keep stirring occasionally to prevent it from sticking to the bottom.
- **Add Condensed Milk:** Add sugar and condensed milk (if using) to the boiling milk. Stir well until the sugar dissolves completely. Continue to cook for another 5-7 minutes until the milk thickens slightly.
- **Add Tender Coconut Flesh and Water:** Turn off the heat and let the milk cool down slightly. Once the milk has cooled a bit (it should still be warm but not hot), add the tender coconut flesh and tender coconut water. Mix well. Adding these ingredients when the milk is too hot can cause curdling, so make sure the milk is just warm.
- **Flavor with Cardamom Powder:** Add cardamom powder and mix well. This adds a nice aroma to the payasam.
- **Prepare the Garnishing:** In a small pan, heat ghee. Fry the chopped cashews until golden brown. Add raisins and fry until they puff up. Remove from heat and add the fried nuts and raisins to the payasam.
- **Chill and Serve**
- **Elaneer Payasam** tastes best when served chilled. Refrigerate for at least an hour before serving. Garnish with more tender coconut pieces or a few more roasted cashews or pista powder on top before serving.
- **Tips:** Make sure the tender coconut water and flesh are fresh for the best flavor.



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All decked up for big event

Vidhan Soudha was lit up on Saturday night for a government event slated. The longest human chain from Bidar to Chamarajanagar will be formed on Sunday

PIG: KAUSHIK JN

Boycott of Dalits: K'taka Home Minister seeks report

Rape case filed against upper caste youth in Yadgir village has caused ugly fall-out

Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara has sought a report from the authorities regarding the horrific case of people boycotting Dalits for filing a rape case against an upper caste youth in Yadgir district.

Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru on Saturday, HM Parameshwara stated, "I have asked the authorities to submit a report. It is a village with a population of 500 and majority of the people hail from the Scheduled Caste category. There is a report on the incident of a rape. When the complaint was lodged, the people of the village boycotted them as if lodging the complaint itself is wrong."

"Schoolchildren are not getting notebooks, pens and Dalits are also stopped from fetching water in the village. I have directed the officers to move there immediately and initiate action," he stated.



It is alleged that schoolchildren are not getting books

The authorities have also been asked to pacify the people and take complaints from them if required.

"The investigation is at this stage at present and I have asked senior officers to submit further reports," HM Parameshwara stated.

In a shocking incident that came to light on Friday, a Dalit family was boycotted in a Karnataka village for reporting the rape of a minor Dalit girl in Yadgir district. The upper caste

community was enraged after the family of the victim lodged a police complaint under the provisions of the POCSO Act.

The upper caste youth had allegedly raped the minor girl in a village near Hunasagi taluk and the 15-year-old victim had conceived.

The family came to know about the incident when the girl was in the fifth month of pregnancy. The family then lodged a police complaint at Narayanapura police station

on August 12.

The upper caste community leaders had sent messengers and asked the Dalit family to come to a compromise. However, the Dalit family rejected the offer and insisted that police action be taken against the accused.

Following this, the upper caste leaders ordered shop owners in the village to boycott Dalits. The shopkeepers are now refusing to sell basic stationery items such as pens, notebooks and pencils to children belonging to the Dalit community. The Dalit families are not being sold daily rations by the shops in the village and they are forced to fetch all essentials from a distant place.

The Dalits in the village are living in fear over the consequences and have sought assistance from the authorities.

Dalit organisations had raised concerns over the incident and demanded action against the culprits. **-IANS**

Fraud on name of illegal goods sent abroad, ED arrests 4

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has arrested four persons from Pallipattu, Tamil Nadu, in a case related to cyber fraud of Rs 2.6 crore by a fraudster posing as a CBI officer.

The accused were identified as Tamilarasan Kuppan (29), Prakash (26), Aravindan I (23) and Ajith (28) and the arrest was made on September 13.

According to ED, all four accused were involved in incorporation of shell companies and opening of bank accounts, through which Proceeds of Crime (PoC) generated from cyber scams were laundered.

The Special Court, Bengaluru, has granted ED custody of four days to these 4 accused persons. Further, ED has frozen PoC of Rs 2.8 crore in the bank account of a shell company, Cyberforest Technology Private Limited.

ED initiated an investigation on the basis of several FIRs registered by various state police all over the country, including FIR No. 330 dated September 3, registered by the Special Offences and Cyber Crime Police, Jaipur.

The victim in the FIR No. 330 received a call from a mobile number wherein a person was claiming to be calling from Bombay Custom Office. During the call, it was communicated to the victim that illegal goods were being sent abroad under the victim's name. Then the victim was instructed to make a 'fund legalisation' payment as a security to ensure that no money had been illegally earned by the victim. A total amount of Rs. 2.16 crore (approx.) was asked to be transferred by the fraudsters in three separate instalments into three different accounts provided by the caller, under the guise of 'fund legalisation'.

Subsequently, an individual who claimed to be a CBI officer contacted the victim over a mobile phone. The fraudster continued to assert that he was a CBI officer. Furthermore, a call was received by the victim from someone who claimed to be DCP Delhi Police to verify the authenticity of the so-called CBI officer. On the insistence of so-called government officials, the victim was extorted. **-ANI**

HC slams delay in trial in POCSO case

The Karnataka High Court has said that the entire criminal justice system was put to shame as the trial in a case of rape and murder of a five-year-old girl has been pending for the past seven years.

The Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, specifically mandates conclusion of the trial within a year, as far as possible. The High Court observed that delay in such cases, where the offences are heinous based on facts that are 'horrendous', is a sad reflection of the legal and judicial system. It also pointed out that though Section 35(2) of the POCSO Act mandates completion within one year, there are many cases pending before the trial courts concerned.

Justice M Nagaprasanna made these observations while stating that though cognisance in the criminal case was taken against the two accused persons in 2017 itself, the offenders are yet to be brought to justice.

One of the accused, Chandana, had moved the High Court for recalling nine witnesses for cross-examination on the ground that the trial court rejected the application, even though the accused's advocate could not cross-examine the witnesses citing ill health.

However, the High Court noticed from the records that one of the reasons for the delay was due to repeated filing of applications on behalf of the petitioner for recalling witnesses for cross-examination. **-PTI**

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Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas



for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.

Quick

ACROSS

- Veterans (3,5)
- Flavoursome plant (4)
- In an offending or annoying manner (8)
- Advertising catchphrase (6)
- Recompense (6)
- Twice one (3)
- Merges, blends or combines? (5)
- Broken piece of earthenware (5)
- Enjoyment (3)
- Karnataka tourist destination known for its sculptures and red sandstone cliffs (6)
- Rising or upswing; incline (6)
- Showy breed of horse (8)
- Filled pastry crusts (4)
- Rural (8)

DOWN

- To smother by lying on (7)
- Fix a computer programme (5)
- Arrival or coming (6)
- To the right (prefix). (6)
- Pertaining to the sun? (5)
- Response (6)
- Mythical monster (6)
- Company (7)
- Grating, grinding or rasping (6)
- Fourth largest Japanese city (6)
- Astonish (5)
- Island off Naples (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: L EQUALS D
 PSAV GUR XMZA M XYIWMZA,
 MLXYW YW. YE GUR LUV'W, GUR
 UVKG XMZA XMWWAHI PUHIA.



Linemaro

On a scale of 1 to 10 you are 9, and I am the one you need



Mindchow

We don't live in a world of reality, we live in a world of perceptions



Joke of the day

Why didn't the melons get married? Because they cantaloupe!

Loop

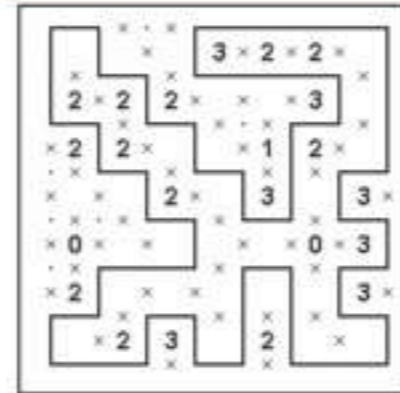
Rules

Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. You can't draw lines around zeros. Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

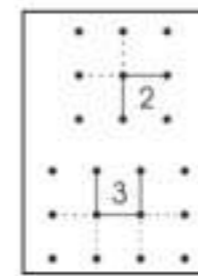
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

Strikeout

This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? On your marks, get set...

ACROSS

- Crops; 6 Value;
- Reb no; 8 It lee;
- To Big

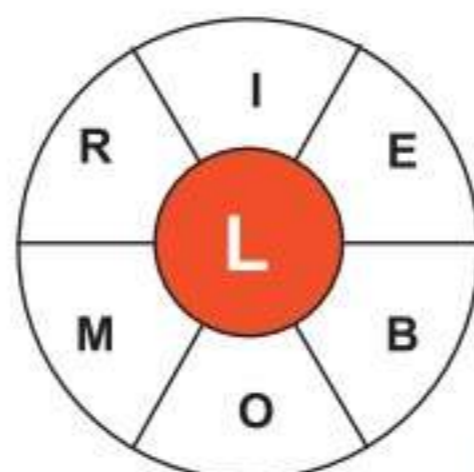
DOWN

- Be cub; 2 Olio V;
- GI err; 4 An opt;
- Steel

Mensapuzzle

Solve this rebus:

LU NCH



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

14 Average; 16 Good; 18 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Easy

= 9

= 9

Medium

= 10

= 10

Hard

= 13

= 13



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Leg is longer. 2. Sleeve is shorter. 3. Strap on golf bag is thicker. 4. Finger is moved. 5. Mirror is smaller. 6. Hair is different.

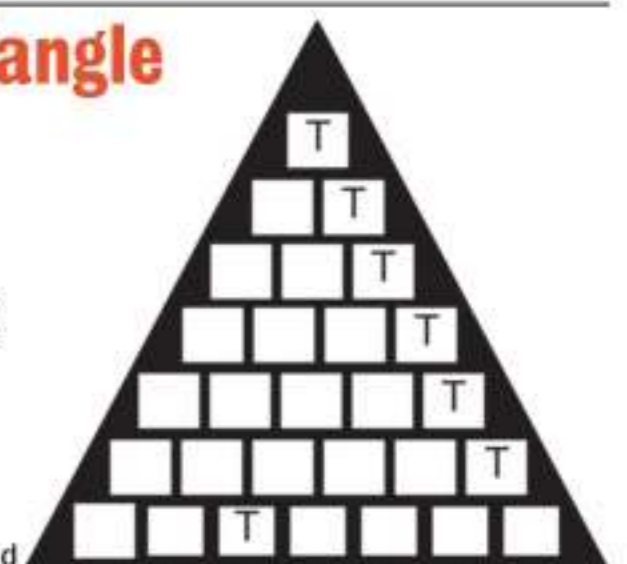
Riddler

Which is the odd one out: croquet, Frisbee, ironing, cello?

Alpha triangle

- 20th letter
- tu Brute ...
- Group
- Avian abode
- Aroma
- A bee or a beetle
- Attracts or lures

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be

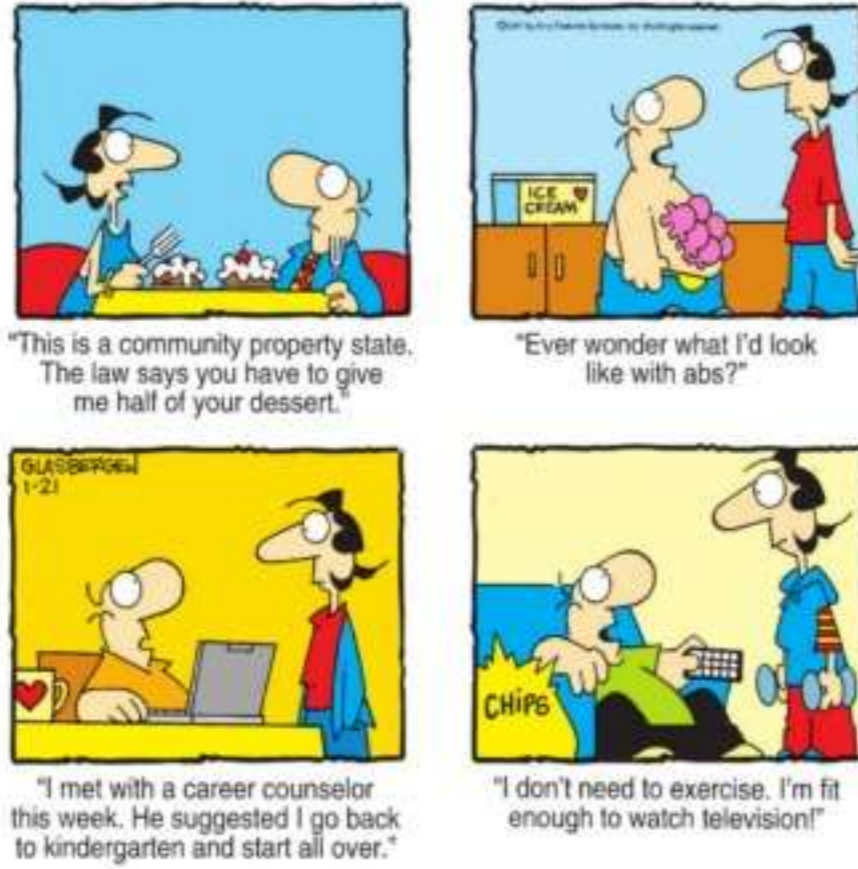


made at each step answering to the clue given.

COMICS



"It's not my fault I keep forgetting to floss. My wisdom teeth aren't as smart as yours!"



"This is a community property state. The law says you have to give me half of your dessert."

"Ever wonder what I'd look like with abs?"



"I met with a career counselor this week. He suggested I go back to kindergarten and start all over."



"I don't need to exercise. I'm fit enough to watch television!"



IT'S YOUR SISTER'S DANCE RECITAL, NOT A HOSTAGE SITUATION!

SAME DIFFERENCE.



BY HOLDING UP THE AMULET, GORDON, YOU JUST RANG THE DINNER BELL!

"AND GUESS WHO'S THE MAIN COURSE?"



THE CREATURE'S STRIKING BLIND SINCE I DROPPED THE AMULET THAT CALLED IT!

I'M ONLY GOING TO GET ONE CHANCE AT THIS! IF I CAN JUST MAKE IT APPEAR I'M AT THE END OF THE CHAIN...

UHHH!



NOW TO FREE MYSELF!

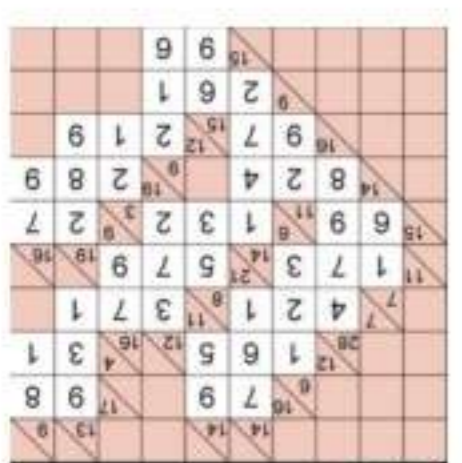
FLASH, NO!

THE FRAME! BY TAO, HE'S SHATTERED THE FRAME!

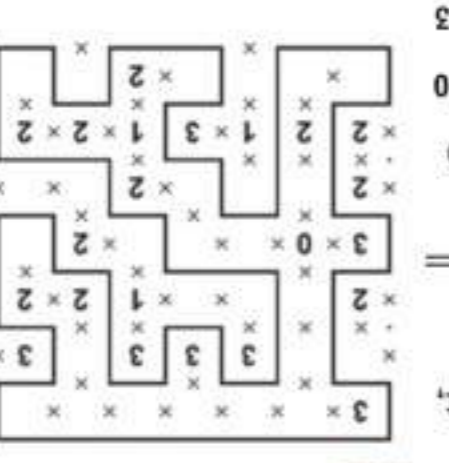
THE DEMON'S UNLEASHED!!!

KRAAC!

PRAAAAH!



KAKURO



ALPHA TRIANGLE



SUDOKU



MENSA PUZZLE



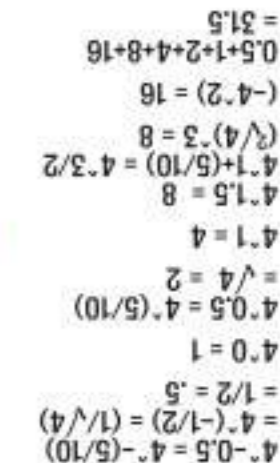
QUICK



STRIKE OUT



BULL'S EYE



SOLVE IN 1M

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20
Today you may feel dull and you may face obstacles in your work front. You should keep patience in making investments. Quick decisions in business are not advisable today. You are likely to spend money on worthless stuff, which may make your family unhappy.

Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23
Today is not a good day due to anxiety and restlessness. You may waste your precious time doing worthless tasks. You may plan to visit some religious places to seek peace of mind. You may get advice from your elders which may show you some direction to manage the messy situation.

Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22
Today, your moon is not in a good position, you may have health issues. You may face losses in the business or investment. It is advised not to invest in business. Your gains will convert into losses. So you are advised to stop making investments in worthless objects. You should avoid being involved in controversies, otherwise it will pull you down negatively.

Taurus Apr 21 - May 20
Today, your hard work may pay you in terms of success. You may plan to go for a short work-related visit. Your subordinates may support you in implementing your business plans. Your opponents may praise your hard work. You may hear good news in terms of siblings.

Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23
Today's social get-together, you will re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in near future. Natives related to glamour, art, and fashion will plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students will perform better today in terms of study. Love birds will enjoy their happy moments.

Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20
You are blessed by the moon today, you may expect to hear some good news in terms of profession. Domestic life may likely be in full swing of joy. You are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics. Over-excitement may test your patience. You can make important decisions in making investments in real estate. Students may be focused on their studies.

Gemini May 21 - Jun 21
Today you may be able to control your expenditures on worthless things. You may likely plan to invest capital in the business. You may invest your savings into some real estate projects, which will boost your financial health shortly. You may be polite with others. You may be able to focus on domestic affairs but your spouse will become upset or will have some health issues.

Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22
Today you may be busy on the work front, which may make you tired and may be not able to properly time family get-togethers. You may be able to create some overseas networks too. You should be careful in terms of investments. Natives in the job may get a promotion.

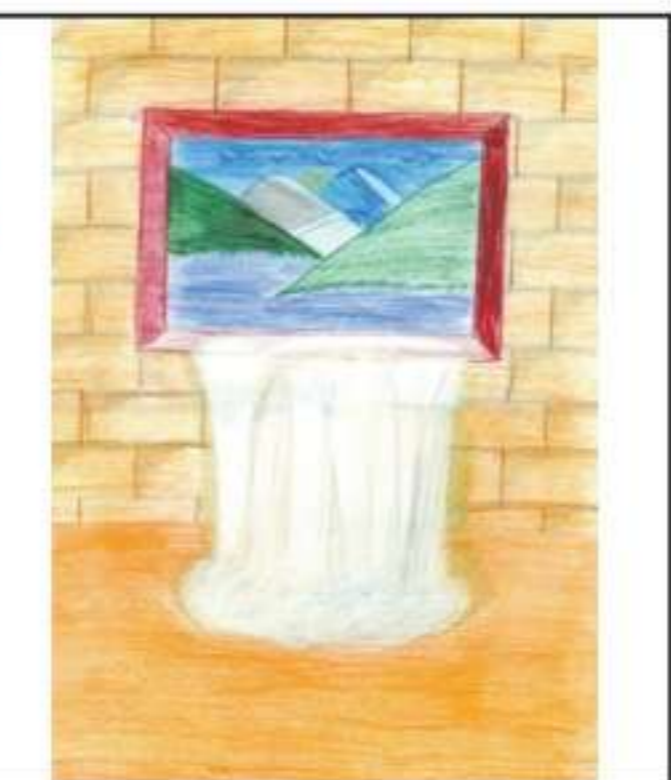
Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19
You will feel some dullness but somehow you may likely get back to your work. You may pay extra attention to the kid's academics. You may likely be in the winning position against your enemies and opponents. Investors should be careful while making difficult decisions. Job seekers may find suitable jobs.

Cancer Jun 22 - July 23
Today may have good vitality and inner strength. You may likely make good plans and implement them efficiently. But you might carefully read documents before putting a signature. Due to being over-enthusiastic, you may invest capital into the family business. Love birds shall avoid discussing worthless topics.

Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22
Today, the situation is under control now. Your destiny may likely be with you in terms of gains in business. You may get some rewards for your hard work. It may be a good time to reinstate your postponed projects. You may expect peaceful religious travel. You may also plan to donate an amount to any religious place or some charity.

Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20
Today you may find negative vibrations around you, which may make you unhappy, should avoid making investments in worthless assets. You may notice that friends may not be supportive today. So you should not expect more from them for help, otherwise, it may make you more upset. You should make independent decisions today.

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SOLUTIONS

QUOTE UNQUOTE
Frisbees, the others can all be types of 'extreme' activity.

RIDDLER
Lunch break
When you make a mistake, admit it. If you don't, you only make matters worse.

FAST FIVE
btle, bolt, boiler, bole, broil, EMERIL, lmb, limber, limbo, lime, lobe, lore, mill, role, mobile, mole, rifle, roll.

FAST FIVE
4-0.5 = 4-(5/10)
= 4-(1/2) = (1/1/4)
= 1/2 = .5
limber, limbo, lime, lobe, lore, mill, role, mobile, mole, rifle, roll.

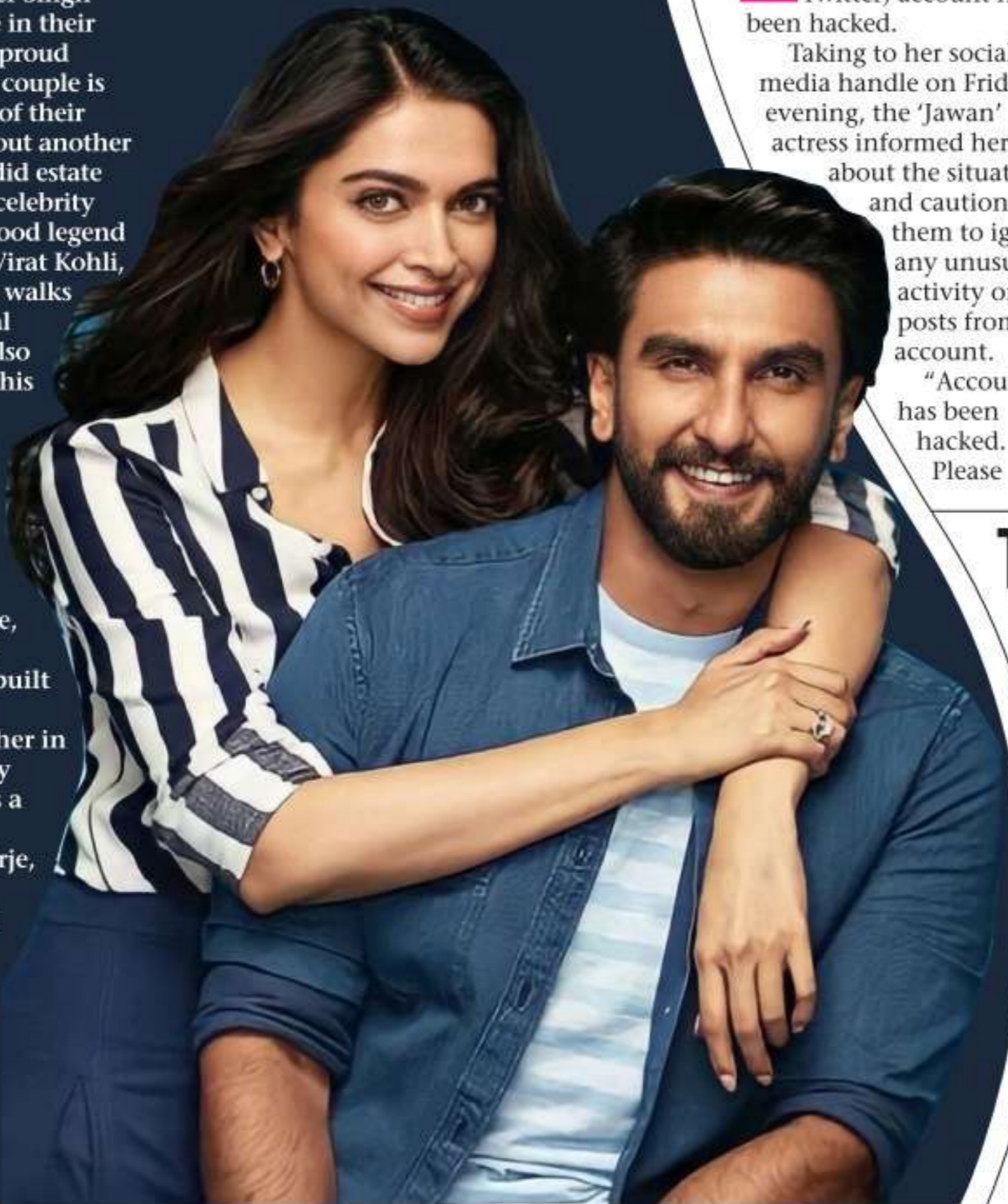
Home, splendid home

All you need to know about Deepika-Ranveer's Alibaug bungalow

Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh recently touched a milestone in their personal life as they became proud parents to a baby girl. As the couple is navigating through this new phase of their lives, let's take a moment to talk about another aspect of their lifestyle - their splendid estate at Alibaug. Alibaug is a hotspot for celebrity property investments. From Bollywood legend Amitabh Bachchan to cricket icon Virat Kohli, notable personalities from different walks of life have invested in Alibaug's real estate. Now, Deepika and Ranveer also have bought their second home at this hotspot.

The bungalow

Located in Maapgaon village, about 10 minutes away from Kihim Beach, the Alibaug bungalow was purchased by Deepika and Ranveer at Rs 22 crore, reports Money Control. It is a 2.25 acre property for a 18,000 sq ft of built up area. Reports suggest that four different plots were brought together in a single patch of land. This holiday home for the new mom and dad is a 5BHK ground-plus-first-floor construction and is located in Satirje, which is also known as the billionaires' street in Alibaug. The bungalow was previously owned by Rajesh Jaggi of The Everstone Group. As per registration details from Zapkey.com, the purchase was made through KA Enterprises LLP, where Deepika is a partner, and RS Worldwide Entertainment Pvt Ltd, with Ranveer as a director. —ETimes



Nayanthara's X account gets hacked

Lady superstar Nayanthara has revealed that her X (formerly Twitter) account has been hacked.

Taking to her social media handle on Friday evening, the 'Jawan' actress informed her fans about the situation and cautioned them to ignore any unusual activity or posts from her account.

"Account has been hacked. Please

ignore any unnecessary or strange tweets being posted," read her tweet.

The announcement came after her last tweet, which was shared earlier this month to mark the one-year anniversary of the Shah Rukh Khan-starrer Jawan.

In the post, Nayanthara celebrated the film's success, writing, "#1YearOfJawan A complete Massy from the chief @Atlee_dir #Jawan Makes it Huge @iamsrk @VijaySethuOffl #SuperFans made it all Big."

The actress made her Bollywood debut in Jawan alongside Shah Rukh Khan



last year. Released on September 7, 'Jawan' marked the first collaboration of SRK with director Atlee. The film received massive responses from the audience. —ANI

Thanks to fans

Nicole Kidman has expressed her gratitude to fans and friends for their overwhelming support as she continues to cope with the loss of her mother, Janelle Ann Kidman.

Taking to her Instagram account, Kidman shared an emotional post featuring throwback family photos. She also added a caption expressing her gratitude for the outpouring of kindness and support during this difficult time.

"My sister and I along with our family want to thank you



for the outpouring of love and kindness we have felt this week," Kidman wrote.

"Every message we have received from those who loved and admired our Mother has meant more to us than we will ever be able to express. Thank you from our whole family for respecting our privacy as we take care of each other." — IANS

25-year celebration



Kareena Kapoor Khan has completed 25 years in Indian cinema and is receiving widespread admiration for her latest release, 'The Buckingham Murders', which hit theaters on September 13, 2024.

According to Pinkvilla, a film festival is being planned in Kareena's honor to celebrate her remarkable two-decade-long journey in Bollywood. This festival will showcase some of her most memorable performances across various genres, making her the first Indian actress to have a festival dedicated entirely to her work.

Previously, such festivals have only been organized for legends like Dilip Kumar and Amitabh Bachchan.

The Kareena Kapoor Khan Film Festival will be a multi-city event, offering audiences the unique opportunity to revisit her iconic films on the big screen. This celebration comes at a perfect time, coinciding with the release of 'The Buckingham Murders', a crime thriller that also marks Kareena's debut as a producer. On the release day of 'The Buckingham Murders', Kareena shared a heartfelt post on social media, expressing pride in her role as both actor and producer. She wrote, "As an actor, it's the choices one makes... And I am very proud of this choice," encouraging fans to watch the film and explore her world of crime and drama.

Directed by Hansal Mehta, Kareena plays the role of detective Jasmeet Bhamra, investigating the case of a missing child. The film also features Ranveer Brar, Ash Tandon, and Assad Raja in key roles. —ETimes

Start-spotting at mall

Pan-India superstar Yash recently made an appearance at a local mall in Bengaluru, where a routine visit quickly escalated into a fan frenzy.

As Yash stepped into the mall, he was met by a throng of enthusiastic admirers who surrounded him, passionately chanting "Rocky Bhai" (referring to his 'KGF' character) in unison.

Dressed in a casual yet stylish ensemble, the Kannada actor exuded his trademark charisma, drawing fans from all corners of the mall. The actor, who has become a household name across India, took the time to wave at his fans, visibly moved by the overwhelming support.

The videos which have gone viral on social media shows Yash making his way through the crowd, with fans eagerly trying to catch a glimpse or snap a selfie.

The chants of "Rocky Bhai" echoed through the mall, reminding everyone just how deeply the KGF character has resonated with audiences.

A fan took to X and wrote: "Rocky Bhai Chant at Mall of Asia, Bengaluru."

On the work front, Yash debuted in



2007 with a supporting role in Priya Hassan's 'Jambada Hudugi', which saw him play a man whose infertile wife seeks uterus transplantation.

He has appeared in 'Moggina Manasu', 'Rocky', 'Kallara Santhe', 'Rajadhani', 'Jaanu', 'Raja Huli', 'Mr. and Mrs. Ramachari', 'Santhu Straight Forward'.

—IANS