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PERESTROIKA AND GLASNOST



Adv. Sivasankaran A.V. - These are the two words, which changed the borders of the USSR forever, thanks to Mr. Gorbachov who presided over the disintegration



of the Soviet Union. Transparency assumed international attention and the deeds of Government in power came under close scrutiny, be it

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PRESTIGE GROUP INK RS 12,500-CR INVESTMENT PACT FOR LOGISTICS, DATA CENTRES, GCC PARKS

Staff Reporter - The government of Maharashtra has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with real estate developer Prestige Group for investments worth over Rs 12,500 crore in development of logistics, data centres, and Global Capability Centre (GCC) parks in and around Navi Mumbai. Of the total investment, Rs 5,000 crore will be deployed to set up a large data centre campus along with commercial, residential and allied facilities in Taloja locality of Mumbai's

satellite city. This investment will commence in 2026 and is expected to create 1,200 direct jobs. The company will invest Rs 5,000 crore to develop a Global Capability Center spread over 100 acres in Navi Mumbai. This investment will also commence next year and is expected to create 5,000 direct jobs. Prestige will also invest over Rs 2,500 crore to develop a mega logistics and industrial center along with residential, commercial and allied facilities on 250 acres in

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CABINET COMMITTEE CLEARS THANE-NAVI MUMBAI AIRPORT ELEVATED ROAD METRO LINE-11

Staff Reporter - The Maharashtra government on Tuesday approved the construct-

ion of a 25-km-long elevated corridor to link Thane with the upcoming Navi Mumbai

international airport and also underground Metro Line 11 from Wadala depot in Mumbai to the iconic Gateway of India. The decisions were taken at a meeting of Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure chaired by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. The panel cleared several major infrastructure projects aimed

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CIDCO PLANS 667 ACRE AEROCITY NEAR NAVI MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Staff Reporter - CIDCO is advancing plans for a 667-acre Aerocity near the soon-to-open Navi Mumbai International Airport, expected to begin operations in September under Adani Group. Bids have been invited to appoint a master planner and transaction advisor for the project, which will allocate 123 acres each for residential, commercial, and retail zones, alongside offices, warehouses, hotels, hospitals, and entertainment spaces. Strategically connected to the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link, Navi

Mumbai Metro, and suburban rail, the Aerocity aims to offer Mumbai a rare, fully planned urban hub. Rising property demand, particularly from aviation professionals, signals strong interest ahead of the airport's launch. The City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) is moving ahead with its plan to build a 667-acre Aerocity in the vicinity of the new Navi Mumbai International Airport, which is now expected to become operational in September. The corporation, which is lead-

ing the development, has invited bids for a consultant to create a Master Plan for the project, which aims to capitalize on the new airport and create a planned urban center with various commercial and residential uses. The new airport will be operated by Adani Group. The development, for which bids have been invited to appoint a master plan consultant and transaction advisor, will allocate 123 acres each for residential, commercial, and retail developments.

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MUMBAI SRA SETS TARGET OF 5 LAKH NEW HOME FOR SLUM RESIDENTS IN 5 YEARS

Staff Reporter - Mumbai's Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA) has set a target of building 500,000 new homes for slum dwellers in the next five years, aiming to double what it achieved in nearly three decades since 1996.

The authority has already accelerated delivery with more than 16,000 homes completed in just 100 days and close to 17,000 in the past year. New measures such as drone surveys, biometric

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Editorial

HUMAN RIGHTS



SHOW RESPECT FOR OUR NATIONAL FLAG, ANTHEM, SONG

It's a pity that after every Independence Day and Republic Day celebrations, the country's national flag is strewn on the streets and people irrespective of caste, creed and colour blithely walk over them. Even when the national anthem is played on radio or telecast on television, people don't respect it by standing to attention and singing it. They are busy talking to people on their mobile phones or chatting with their friends who are standing beside them. As Indians, we should show respect for our country's national flag, national anthem and national song. It is only through the sacrifices made by our freedom fighters that we have managed to gain independence; otherwise we would've still been living under the British dominion. The Constitution of India urges all the people to honour the national flag. People pin national flags upside down as well. On the other hand, the August 15 Independence Day celebrations were full of colour and pride. However, I could not help but think how much more meaningful it could have been if we added a tradition of planting trees. With our climate challenges growing each year, India needs practical acts of love, not just symbolic ones. If each one of us had planted even one tree on August 15, we could have added millions in a single day. A green India is the best gift we can give to the generations who will celebrate this day after us.

MUMBAI SRA SETS TARGET OF

..... *Contd. from Page 1* verification, and stronger laws against defaulting developers are driving this shift. By restarting stalled projects and enforcing overdue rent recovery, SRA is moving faster than ever before. Mumbai's Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA) has drawn up plans to deliver 500,000 new homes for slum residents within the next five years, a figure that would outpace the 275,000 homes constructed in the nearly three decades since the authority was established in 1996. This marks the most ambitious target set by the agency so far. In recent months, the SRA has accelerated its pace of construction, completing more than 16,000 homes in just 100 days and delivering 16,673 units last year. Officials said that new technologies such as drone mapping and biometric surveys are being used to identify eligible households and streamline approvals. A dedicated project implementation unit has also been created to ensure timelines are

met and projects are monitored closely. At the policy level, the Maharashtra government recently amended the slum areas redevelopment act, granting the SRA greater enforcement powers. Under the revised. The agency has also taken steps to address stalled projects. In several cases, defaulting developers have been replaced, with 86 projects recently reassigned to new builders. Authorities estimate that rent arrears amounting to INR 279 crore remain outstanding, while SRA has managed to collect INR 1,386 crore from builders over the past three years. These actions come against the backdrop of high-profile projects like the Dharavi redevelopment, which after years of legal hurdles, was revived through a public private partnership led by an Adani consortium. The renewed push highlights how slum rehabilitation in Mumbai is entering a phase of stricter accountability, technology-backed tracking, and more ambitious delivery targets.

FREEDOM OF PRESS

Importance of P.I.L. to control administrative actions - At the instance of a social action litigant or public interest litigant, administrative actions have been controlled, such as misapplication or misappropriation of public funds by a public authority, breach or abuse of a statutory duty, preventing the destruction of the scenic river area by the construction of a highway, to enforce the law against gambling, to make TV Programmes conformable to fair programme requirements of law, remedies to victims of State violence or violations of constitutional and legal rights of large number of people who are poor, ignorant, or in a socially or economically disadvantaged position, to get in a proper case a direction for proper investigation in a dowry death, allowing children of prostitutes to mingle and become a part of the society, that medical treatment be given instantaneously to injured persons in medico-legal cases to save the life of the persons and to avoid negligent death before criminal law procedures operate, and in many other cases where attempts were made by the executive to hush up the cases, such as Border Road Organisation's case.



Adv. Sosamma Varghese
B.A., LL.B, PG (Human Rights)

There is no doubt, that what a P.I.L. can do, could equally be done by a journalist or media practitioner. However media could be guided well by Justice V.S. Deshpande's doctiner :

i) that the direction of law has such a real public significance that it involves a public right and an injury to the public interest; or
(ii) has a sufficient interest on his own over and above the general interest of the members of the public In such actions.

Legal literacy—A pre-condition to maintain rule of law. – Legal literacy is a pre-condition to maintain the “rule of law”. The media has been rendering significant service to educate the people about the laws, their rights and benefits flowing out of the various schemes and measures. Programmes such as “know your rights”, “Law

for laymen”, T.V. Serials and Cinemas featuring on legal concepts, apart from being educative, created legal awareness.

Justice achieved through Newspaper. - When individuals can address

letters to Judges seeking justice to a helpless woman detained illegally or in violation of law, there can be no impediment for a media representative or professional in writing a story in the newspaper columns drawing the attention of courts to serious infractions of law. In fact, as noticed in many cases, this has been done; for instance a story appearing in daily newspaper (September 1985) under the heading ‘SAINIK P A T N I CHALIS SAL SE PENSION KE LIYE BHATAK RAHI HAI’ (Widow of a havildar denied pension for the last 40 years). The Chief justice of Rajasthan took cognizance of the report and was able to decree that she was entitled to concession and benefits which were to be given to a person's family and directed the Government to pay the widow all the arrears of pension within one month and in default interest at the rate of 12% on the arrears.

MAJOR BOOM IN SOLAR ENERGY ADOPTION



JAYANTHI SUBRAMANIAM - While Indore is

gy adoption, it's not accurate to say it leads the way. Rajasthan, with its vast desert and abundant sunlight, has the highest installed solar capacity in India. However, Indore is actively promoting solar power through various initiatives and policies, positioning itself as a strong

contender in the renewable energy India's energy future has four pillars - Energy access, energy efficiency, energy sustainability and energy security. Thus we go along this line to make our country self-sufficient in solar energy. Solar capacity has increased sharply in recent years, but rooftop solar needs a policy boost. India's renewables transition has so far been a success story, with the share of renewables capacity increasing sharply in recent years. Rooftop solar is decentralised, it empowers ordinary people and



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From an Easychair
Jubel D'Cruz

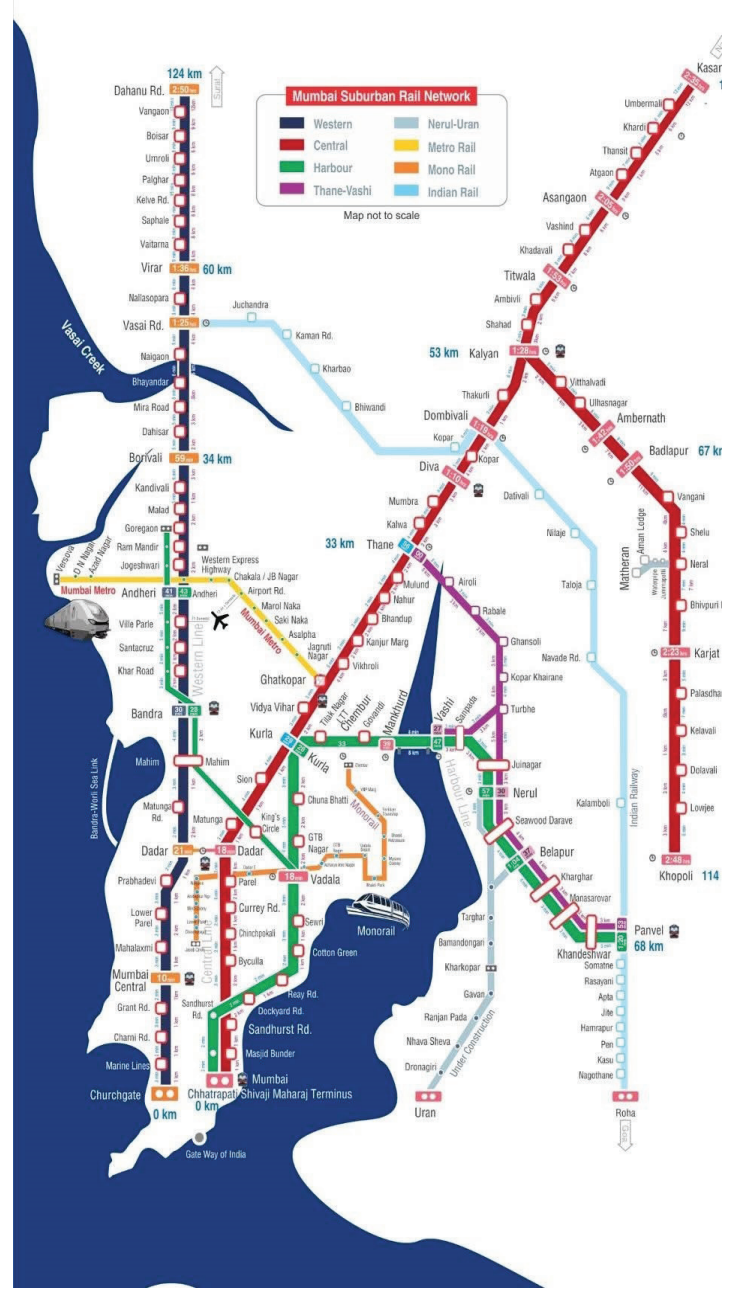
KUTTE WALI BAAT

Street dogs, also known as stray dogs, have become a menace to people all over the world. These dogs are those who roam freely on the streets, abandoned by their owners or born on the streets. While some people may see stray dogs as harmless creatures, their presence poses several dangers to both humans and other animals. From the spread of diseases to the occurrence of violent attacks, it is crucial to address this issue and find suitable solutions to tackle the menace. One of the significant concerns with street dogs is the spread of diseases. Street dogs are often carriers of various diseases, such as rabies, distemper and mange. Rabies, in particular, poses a severe threat to human health, as it is a deadly virus that can be transmitted through bites and scratches. According to World Health Organisation, approximately 59,000 people worldwide die from rabies each year, with the majority of cases attributed to dog bites. The uncontrolled population increases the likelihood of encountering such diseases, making it imperative to tackle this issue urgently. In addition to health risks, street dogs are also responsible for a significant number of attacks on humans and other animals. These dogs often form packs and

defend their territories aggressively. It is not uncommon to hear stories of pedestrians being chased or bitten by street dogs, particularly in areas with high stray dog populations. These attacks can result in severe injuries, especially for children and vulnerable individuals. Moreover, street dogs often attack and kill smaller domestic animals like cats, causing economic and emotional hardship for their owners. Furthermore, the presence of street dogs also contributes to the degradation of public spaces and environmental health. Stray dogs often scavenge through garbage bins and litter the streets, contributing to the spread of pathogens and adding to the overall pollution. Their excrement can pose a significant threat to public hygiene, as it contains various parasites and bacteria harmful to humans. The unpleasant odor and mess left behind can also deter people from using public spaces and can affect the overall quality of life in communities. To address the issue, several measures can be taken. First and foremost, a comprehensive sterilization and vaccination programme should be implemented to control their population and reduce the spread of diseases. Encouraging responsible pet ownership

and promoting spaying/neutering programmes can also help prevent the abandonment of dogs, thus reducing the number of strays on the streets. Additionally, education and awareness campaigns are vital to inform the public of the risks associated with street dogs. People should be educated on how to avoid confrontations with stray dogs and the necessary steps to take in case of an encounter. Reporting systems should be established to enable people to notify the authorities about their presence in their neighborhoods. Local municipalities should develop and enforce regulations pertaining to the welfare and control of street dogs. Collaborative efforts between government agencies and Animal Welfare Associations are crucial in finding humane solutions, such as establishing shelters or rehoming programmes for stray dogs. In conclusion, the menace of street dogs is a significant issue that needs to be addressed due to the risks they pose to public health, safety, and the environment. By implementing comprehensive sterilization, vaccination programmes, and raising public awareness, we can take significant steps towards reducing the population of street dogs and minimizing the risks associated with their presence.

MUMBAI AND MUMBAI SUB URBAN RAILWAY



MAJOR BOOM IN SOLAR ENERGY

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communities, and does not require land acquisition. It will provide smaller units in particular with a cheap, reliable source of electricity. Solar energy is a power saver and since the Government at the centre has assumed the importance of providing electricity to every nook and corner of the country, a number of new projects are coming up. Instead of wasting gas or electricity, the Solar Water Heater can save energy. Solar Water heater is a device that can heat the water upto a temperature of 80 degree

centigrade. The system consists of a flat plate collector, a Water Tank, pipes and fittings. The solar water heater can be used both for commercial as well as domestic purposes. You can harvest abundant solar energy through the Solar Water Heating system, which can reduce your electricity as well as gas bills. Windmills are also providing an additional source of energy in rural surroundings. The cost saving measures of Solar Water Heating system and providing electricity for common cause will be a boon to this country.

CABINET COMMITTEE CLEARS THANE-

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at boosting transport connectivity and urban development across key cities, including Mumbai, Pune, Thane, Navi Mumbai and Nagpur. A statement from CM office said Fadnavis hoped the initiatives would accelerate the state's development and modernise public transport systems. The

committee approved the construction of additional railway lines to strengthen the Pune-Lonavala corridor. This will improve regional connectivity and ease traffic congestion in Pune, while also supporting industrial, residential, and commercial growth along the route, it said. Under phases 3 and 3A of the Mumbai Urban Trans-

port Project (MUTP), the state approved the procurement of 268 fully air-conditioned local train coaches. These trains will feature metro-style automatic doors and upgraded amenities. The new rakes will replace the old open-door trains in phases. Notably, ticket fares will remain unchanged.

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HEALTH

HICCUPS: SYMPTOMS, RISK FACTORS, TREATMENT AND PREVENTION

Acute hiccups- They are often of short duration, lasting for less than 48 hours. The most common causes of acute hiccups are gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) and associated hiatal hernia. Acute hiccups are linked to eating heavy meals, irritation caused by spicy foods, drinking carbonated beverages or alcohol. It is estimated that 10 percent of GERD patients have acute hiccups. **Persistent hiccups-** They last for more than two days. One in four patients with oesophageal tumours tends to have persistent hiccups. **Intractable hiccups-** They last for a month or longer. Persistent and intractable hiccups have been associated with a number of medical conditions, which include the following: Cardiovascular disorders such as atrial pacing, aortic aneurysm (thoracic or abdominal), catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation, myocardial infarction, pericarditis and temporal arteritis. Disorders of the central nervous system (CNS), which include encephalitis, meningitis, multiple sclerosis, neuromyelitis optica, neoplasms, Parkinson disease, seizure, stroke, aneurysms (especially posterior inferior cerebellar artery), lateral medullary syndrome, syringomyelia and vascular malformations. ENT disorders like cough, goiter, laryngitis, neck cyst, neoplasms, pharyngitis, and recent intubation. Infections caused by helicobacter pylori, herpes simplex, herpes zoster, influenza, malaria, neurosyphilis and tuberculosis. Gastrointestinal disorders such as aerophagia, bowel obstruction, gastric distention, oesophageal cancer, oesophagitis, gallbladder disease, gastric distention, hepatitis, neoplasms, pancreatitis, peptic ulcer disease, and stomach volvulus. Metabolic disorders like hypocapnia, hypocalcemia, hypokalemia, hyponatremia,

diabetes mellitus, and uremia. Psychological reactions including excitement, stress, distress and hyperventilation. Asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, diaphragmatic tumour or a hernia, empyema, mphenopathy, mediastinitis, neoplasms, pleuriti and pulmonary embolus. Surgeries such as bronchoscopy, gastrointestinal endoscopy and tracheostomy. Medications such as alpha-thyldopa, aripiprazole, chemotherapy drugs, azithromycin, morphine, benzodiazepines, ethanol, donepezil and dexamethasone, to name a few. **Persistent and intractable hiccups-** Chlorpromazine is a well-known drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to treat persistent hiccups. If hiccups are associated with GERD, nantacids, antihistamines or proton pump inhibitor may help treat this kind of hiccups. Other medications used for the treatment of persistent hiccups are amantadine, antipsychotic drugs, nimodipine, amitriptyline, atropine, benzonatate, midazolam and valproic acid. **Prevention of hiccups-** One can't prevent hiccups, but the susceptibility of hiccups can be lowered by following these tips: Don't overeat Avoid eating hot or spicy foods Try to keep yourself Calm Don't eat too quickly **Risk factors of hiccups** Older males with increased height and weight are susceptible to intractable hiccups. Patients with central nervous system disorders and GERD are at a risk of getting persistent hiccups. Dehydration Consumption of excess alcohol Stress, excitement and anxiety. **Complications of hiccups-** Severe and continuous hiccup can lead to dehydration, weightloss, exhaustion, fatigue, malnutrition, insomnia, despair, depression and even death in extreme cases.

CIDCO PLANS 667 ACRE AEROCITY

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The broader plan includes the creation of dedicated zones for corporate offices, financial services, warehousing, and export oriented services, as well as hotels, hospitals, and entertainment facilities. The project is expected to integrate with existing infrastructure, including the Mumbai Trans Harbor Link, Navi Mumbai Metro lines, and expanded suburban railway networks. Developers note that this initiative offers a rare opportunity for a meticulously planned development that Mumbai has

historically lacked. Past efforts to create new urban centers in the region, such as the Navi Mumbai Airport Influence Notified Area (NAINA), have faced various challenges. However, the Aerocity project is now gaining momentum as the new airport readies for launch. Across India, there are at least nine other Aerocity projects either completed or in progress, providing a precedent for similar developments. Notably, the Adani Group will manage both the new Navi Mumbai Airport and the existing air-

port in Mumbai. Since the announcement of the new airport, there has been an increased demand for properties in the area. Experts report that pilots and other aviation professionals have shown a particular interest in purchasing homes nearby, anticipating a rise in property values similar to that experienced around Mumbai's current airport hubs. The strategic location of the new airport, which is equidistant from Mumbai and Pune, has also attracted prospective buyers from West Pune.

PERESTROIKA AND GLASNOST

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clandestine nuclear proliferation. In our country the Government is sitting on a volcano called RTI Act. Information suppression in the name of confidentiality and security have been a regular game-practised by successive Governments which preferred-keeping many decisions and the rational behind it a secret. Today the people having realized the power of information is craving for it and the future could be revealing. Misinformation and disinformation substituted factual information and the highest court of the land is also unfortunately involved in a controversy with regard to the disclosure of assets of the sitting judges. It everything

is disclosed, then what is left behind and what privacy means in this context. Do we have no right over privacy? It is worth remembering that it was the very same Supreme Court which in the year 2004 made the declaration of assets by the elected members to the legislatures and parliaments mandatory. A case of privileged prerogative? There appears to be a sinister design to tarnish the image of the highest judiciary, the only organ managed to survive and safeguard its name and integrity which is also relatively more efficient and less corrupt. The transfer of power to the people of India shall never be complete with such provisions for withholding of information under one pretext or other.

PRESTIGE GROUP INK RS 12,500-CR

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Khalapur. This is expected to create additional 2,500 direct employment opportunities. According to Kaustubh Dhavase, Chief Advisor for Investment and Strategy to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, the deal would accelerate the state's growth in key sunrise sectors. "Our focus on logistics, data centres, and GCC parks aligns with the State's strategic priorities

and will drive transformative growth," said Zayd Noaman, Executive Director, Prestige Group. The collaboration is expected to catalyse global capital inflows, improve industrial competitiveness, and generate thousands of direct and indirect jobs. It also reinforces Maharashtra's ambition to emerge as a hub for technology enabled services and advanced supply-chain infrastructure.

WHO IS
THIS
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