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Page No. 1

AGRICULTURAL BILLS REPEAL Further Directions

- Professor R.P. Singh



When any law is enacted, its advocates always describe that law is very useful, but in practice it does not happen in the absence of preparation for a favourable system.

Many people feel that the repeal of agricultural bills is taking back a reasonable and necessary step. But, if the Farm Bills were the right step, why did first the gover-

ment and later the Courts stay implementing them? So many measures seem right in a bookish or cursory look, but without creating a proper environment, such measures eventually prove to be disastrous, razors in a monkey's hand. Contract farming has been prevalent in South and Central India for decades. Lakhs of farmers have been forced to commit suicide in the last 30 years under the burden of usurious loans and companies. In contrast, there has been no Contract farming

(... Contd... on Page 4)

MMRDA TO BEGIN AUCTION OF WADALA CBD PLOTS AS BKC LAND BANK RUNS OUT



Staff Reporter - The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) will launch auctions for commercial plots in Wadala within the next 2-3 months, aiming to establish the city's third central business district as Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) reaches capacity. Wadala's 156-hectare land bank, previously earmarked for a truck terminal, is being repositioned for large-scale commercial and mixed-use development, supported by strong transport connectivity and inclusion in Mumbai's economic master plan Real

estate experts anticipate robust interest from developers and investors, with the new CBD expected to attract multinational companies and help decongest Mumbai's existing business hubs while generating significant revenue for ongoing infrastructure projects. The development of Wadala has been incorporated into the Mumbai Metropolitan Region's economic master plan, jointly prepared by NITI Aayog and MMRDA. This plan positions Wadala as a future growth corridor, intended to sustain commercial expansion.

Navi Mumbai Airport Ready For Launch Yet Infrastructure Around Remains Incomplete

Staff Reporter - Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) is edging closer to its proposed inauguration on 30 September, but the ambitious project remains burdened by incomplete supporting infrastructure that risks undermining its promise of world-class air travel. While the terminal structure is nearing completion, roads, transport facilities, hotels, and even dedicated police infrastructure remain unfinished, casting doubts over whether the airport can truly deliver a seamless passenger experience in its initial months of operation. Mumbai is set to join the league of global cities with dual airports once NMIA begins

(... Contd... on Page 4)

ALUMIL INDIA OPENS NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART OFFICE IN NAVI MUMBAI



Staff Reporter - Alumil India, the fully-owned Indian subsidiary of Alumil Group – one of the global pioneers in designing and manufacturing of high-quality window and door architectural aluminum systems has strengthened its commitment to the Indian market with the inauguration of its new 10,000 sq. ft. corporate office in Navi Mumbai. The space includes a 5,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art

experience centre, currently under development, designed to showcase innovative aluminum solutions for architects, developers and fabricators. The new office marks a significant milestone in Alumil India's journey. It reinforces our dedication to the Indian market and enhances our capabilities to serve large-scale projects with agility and innovation. Once completed, the experience centre will allow clients to interact directly with our systems, enabling more informed and inspired design decisions," says **Mr Theodoros Axouristos**,

(... Contd... on Page 4)

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Editorial

WHY DO WE GIVE GIFTS AT CHRISTMAS

The tradition of giving gifts to people during Christmas has its roots that dates back as far as the Nativity story, whereupon the three wise men gave gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the infant Jesus.

The Romans had their own tradition of giving gifts during Saturnalia, which was a festival that began on December 17 and lasted until the December 23.

St. Nicholas was perhaps one of the most famous gift givers in the history of Christmas, as he delighted children and adults alike in the surprise presents he left behind in the shoes and stockings that were left outside their homes.

In the 13th century, many French nuns made and gave gifts to the needy on the eve of the feast of St. Nicholas which is celebrated on December 6.

But it was in the 18th century that gift-giving became a central tradition of the Christmas festivities. The gifts that were given were to remind those of the wise men's journey and of God's selfless gift to humanity, and to help those who were unfortunate.

A great source of misery is-worrying

TOGO

Swami Vivekananda said this in 1900 A.D. Does it mean that we just give 'worry' a miss and live with gay abandon? The thing with worry is that it is like ***t on a blanket. It does not go away easily. Meaning of worry is : To think that something bad is going to happen OR has happened. The common parlance meaning of worry is 'passive' thinking that is not followed by a positive action. And to that extent, worry will cause misery. As soon as we act on the worry, the predicated situation is managed and worry has no

further role.

Worry on past actions is a total waste. If there is possibility of redemption, act accordingly. Worry on future events can be mitigated if timely action is initiated.

In both situations, use of discrimination is essential. Strong will power is needed to execute a given plan of action. Discrimination and resultant confidence are functions of a virtuous mind. A mind mired in vices/ negative thinking, finds itself powerless to decide / act correctly. Worry is for the weak. Strong people quash nascent worries with decisive action.

ONGC PLANT FIRE: CNG availability may be impacted in Mumbai, says MGL

Staff Reporter - A fire at an ONGC gas processing plant at Uran in neighbouring Navi Mumbai has impacted MGL's gas supply to its city gate station at Wadala, while the supply to CNG stations may also be affected, officials said. The Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) is ensuring the supply to its domes-

tic PNG (piped natural gas) consumers is maintained as a priority without interruption, the officials said on Monday. Fire broke out at the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation's Uran plant around 3 pm on Monday. It was doused by the ONGC's fire brigade service after around two hours, police said.

HUMAN RIGHTS

FREEDOM OF PRESS

Publication of illegal and false matter - Effect on Newspaper. - In the instant case, neither printer, publisher nor the editor and reporter took the necessary care in evaluating the correctness and credibility of the information published by them. An editor is a person who controls the selection of the matter which is to be published in a particular issue of the newspaper. The editor and publisher are liable for illegal and false matter which is published in their newspaper. Such an irresponsible conduct and attitude on the part of the editor, publisher and the reporter cannot be said to be done in good faith, but distinctly opposed to the high professional standards as even a slightest enquiry or a simple verification of the alleged statement about grant of petrol outlets to the two sons of a senior Judge of the Supreme Court, out of discretionary quota, which is found to be patently false, would have revealed the truth. But it appears that even the ordinary care was not



Adv. Sosamma Varghese

B.A., LL.B, PG (Human Rights)

resorted to by the contemnors in publishing such a false news items. This cannot be regarded as a public service, but a disservice to the public by misguiding them with a false news. Obviously, this cannot be regarded as something done in good faith.

Imposition of restrictions in interest of Public Order.- In Ramji La! v. State of U.P., the Supreme Court observed that restriction can be imposed on the rights guaranteed in the public order.

Taking photographs of Court proceedings. - The proceedings in a Court cannot be photographed without the permission of the High Court. A member of the public has no right to take pho-

tograph of the proceedings in a Court. The Court hall is a place of sanctity and the proceedings there are under the control of the Presiding Officer. A person may come and watch the proceedings. But further than that he has no right to take photograph or video tape of the proceedings.

Pre-censorship and restriction on Liberty of Press. - In Brij Bhushan v. State of Delhi, the majority Judges of the Supreme Court while dealing with an order issued by the Chief Commissioner of Delhi under Section 8 (1) (a) of this East Punjab Public Safety Act, against the printer, publisher and editor of the English Weekly of Delhi, called the Organizer directing them "to submit for scrutiny in duplicate before publication till further orders, all communal matter and news and views about Pakistan including photographs and cartoons other than those derived from official sources or supplied by the news agencies reiterated the views in Romesh Thappar's case.

INDIA'S 79TH INDEPENDENCE



C.K. SUBRAMANIAM - Independent India completed her 79th year as a free nation on 15th August. Seventy nine years in the life span of a nation is a reasonable though not long period to assess its independent nation journey. Any assessment should be generous and optimistic. Anniversaries are rarely the best occasions to make honest as-

sessments. The spirit of the event can make you either indulge in celebration or sink into cynicism. During these seventy nine years India has evolved from a conglomeration of more than 500 princely states into the world's biggest and vibrant democracy.

The period marked three revolutions. It can be named as White, Green and IT. Have they catapulted India to be counted amongst the league of developed and the developing nations in the world. Have we graduated from being fringe, outside the ring to a major player in world affairs? Seventy one years on, we still are not fully awake to the realities of changing the world despite undergoing unearthing surges of political, cultural and

social change. Seventy percent of India 2030 is yet to be built. Yet the nation has renewed confidence in its people. There is a new surge of optimism that the India of our dreams will soon unfold. Vast changes are taking place in the country. Indians abroad are reconnecting with the motherland. It is time to celebrate our independence.

India is a secular country and after getting Independence on 14th August 1947, we have the right to express your views and nobody can stop you from giving valuable suggestions. Newspapers play a positive role in bringing the views of the readers by including them in Letters to the editor column. It gives an opportunity

(... Contd... on Page 3)



From an
Easychair

Jubel D'Cruz

DIWALI, THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Diwali (also spelt / pronounced as Deepavali, is a festival of lights that brings joy in the hearts of people. It is a festival of fun, laughter, mouth-watering sweets, new outfits and fireworks. It is one of the most beautiful seasons of the year. It is a time filled with light and love; a time when Indians all over the world rejoice. It is the darkest night of the darkest period, yet it is a celebration of light. The meaning of Diwali, its symbols and rituals, are the reasons for the celebration. Diwali celebrates Lord Rama's glorious and long-awaited return to his kingdom at Ayodhya after his 14 years of exile in the forest. It commemorates Lord Krishna's victory over the demon king Narakasura, who had kidnapped and terrorised the gopis of Vrindavan. It is also celebrated as the day Lord Vishnu married Goddess Lakshmi. Diwali is also associated with the story of the fall of Bali, a demon king, who was defeated by Lord Vishnu. In general, Diwali signifies the triumph of good over evil, of righteousness

over treachery, of truth over falsehood, and of light over darkness. However, Diwali is not just a festival of lights in order that we may burn diyas, fireworks and sparklers. Sure, these are wonderful ways of expressing our gaiety. Diwali is a festival of light that dispels the darkness of our ignorance; it is a festival of the light which shows us the way on our journey through life. The purpose is not to glorify the light of the candle or the firecrackers. The purpose is to glorify the light of God. It is God who bestows the real light, the everlasting light upon the darkness of this mundane world. A candle burns out, a firework is a momentary visual experience, but the candle of a still mind and the fireworks of a heart-filled with devotion are divine and eternal -- these are what we should be celebrating. We decorate our homes with lanterns. But what is the symbolism behind that? Those lanterns signify God's light, penetrating through the ignorance and sins of our daily lives. They signify

the divine light, shining its way through this mundane world. A home bathed in light is a home in which anger, pain and ignorance are being dispelled; it is a home that is calling to God. However, too many people turn this into a domestic beauty contest, spending days and a great deal of money to purchase the costliest diyas and the most beautiful candles. This is only the light of glamour, it is not the light of God. The light of Diwali should be within us. It should symbolise our personal relationship between God and our families. Let the light penetrate inward, for only then it will have a lasting benefit. A piece of cotton soaked in ghee lit with a pure heart, a conscious mind and a desire to be free from ignorance is far brighter than a 100 expensive electric bulbs or earthen lamps. But sadly, today people are forgetting the real meaning of Diwali. For them, it is not a festival of lights, but a festival of crackers. With every household burning crackers, noise pollution and air pollution increases.

(... to be contd...)

(Jubel D'Cruz is a freelance writer and the author of several books for children. He also writes letters to the editor for newspapers and magazines all across India on various social, national and environmental issues. He lives in Dombivili, Mumbai)

Digital Engineering at L&T: The Power of BIM, AI & Smart Construction | AEC Forum 2025

Staff Reporter - At AEC Forum 2025. Satish MV, Executive Committee Member & Advisor to CMD, Larsen & Toubro, explores how digital technologies are redefining construction and infrastructure worldwide. From automated generative design at Navi Mumbai Airport to common data environments

that eliminate version chaos, L&T has embraced BIM at every dimension-3D, 4D, 5D, 6D, and 7D. These innovations enable budget certainty, time optimization, safety-by-design, sustainability planning, and real-time facility management. Beyond BIM, L&T leverages geospatial technology for mega EPC projects, AI

for contract analysis and cost estimation, and digital twins for smart operations. Satish MV shows how construction is no longer about pouring concrete - it's about integrating intelligence, data, and digital foresight into every structure. This is the future of infrastructure-smarter, faster, and more sustainable.

NAVI MUMBAI NEWS

BULLET TRAIN MAY ZOOM INTO NMIA, TRANSFORMING AIRPORT ACCESS FOREVER

Staff Reporter - In a move that could boost regional connectivity, there is buzz that the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project may get a spur line to the upcoming Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA). According to highly placed sources, a proposal has reportedly been submitted to the Railway Board for consideration. If approved, the spur would connect the country's first bullet train corridor with the new international airport, potentially reducing travel time for passengers travelling between Navi Mumbai and Gujarat. Railway officials, however, have not issued any formal confirmation. The National High Speed Rail Corporation (NHSRCL), the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set up to develop and manage high-speed rail corridors in India, is currently focused on completing civil works on the main corridor, which is targeted to start partial operations in Gujarat by 2027. If cleared, this spur could make NMIA a major

intermodal transport hub, integrating air, rail, and road travel for faster passenger movement. Work on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail corridor is progressing steadily, with several key milestones achieved in recent months. In Maharashtra, excavation for the Bandra Kurla Complex station — the only underground station on the 508 km route — is nearly 75 per cent complete. In Gujarat, construction of viaducts and steel bridges continues at pace, with nine of 17 major bridges already launched, and noise barriers being installed along long stretches of the alignment. The project, estimated at over Rs 1.08 lakh cr and funded by Japan through JICA, has already seen over R78,000 crore spent. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw confirmed that the first phase — between Vapi and Sabarmati — is on track to open by December 2027, with the full corridor from Mumbai to Ahmedabad expected to be commissioned by December 2029.

INDIA'S 79th INDEPENDENCE DAY

..... Contd. from Page 2 to the reader to give his/her frank opinion. Freedom of speech assumes greater importance.

The flag is the symbol of India's sovereignty. It is quite imperative that all the residents of India and that includes city residents too, respect the National Flag. Further, the Union Ministry in its notification, has instructed that plastic flags should not be used at all. We must respect that and prevent usage of plastic flags. Once the celebrations are over it is our utmost duty and see that the flags

should not lie on the roads. It is also quite imperative to stand in silence for the National Anthem.

There is a need for pay respect to the National Anthem. There may be modifications in the rules but we feel proud to respect our flag when the National anthem is played at various places. The tricolour instills in us a sense of great pride, no matter what the platform and the confidence level take you to the skies. India is my country and all the Indians are my brothers and sisters - ring in my mind throughout the day and the year around.

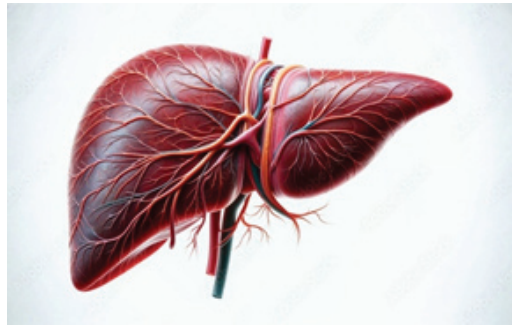
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HEALTH LET YOUR LIVER LIVE

Liver is one of the silent organs in our body and everyday liver care doesn't require complexity, just consistency. When it comes to health care, your liver health may not be your highest priority, but the day it breaks down there wouldn't be any other crucial thing on your mind. It doesn't cause any visible warning sign till in its advanced stage. Ahead of World Hepatitis Day (July 28), let's find out what we can do to improve liver function.

Understanding hepatitis - Hepatitis means 'inflammation of the liver'. Hepatitis viruses (A, B, C, D, E) are the most common causes of hepatitis. Dr Paritosh Baghel, Senior Consultant-Internal Medicine, S L Raheja Hospital Mahim, throws light saying, "Hepatitis A and E are food and water-borne infections that cause acute hepatitis, typically presenting with jaundice. Hepatitis B and C virus infections are transmitted through blood contact, needle injuries, and from mother to child during pregnancy. Most of the other forms of hepatitis are non-contagious." For early detection, one needs to be on the lookout for symptoms of hepatitis like fatigue, weakness, malaise or fever in the acute stage, all of which can be very vague. "Jaundice is the most common symptom of hepatitis. Simple blood tests, such as liver function tests can detect hepatitis. Sonography of the abdomen and various specialised tests can identify its cause," informs Dr. Baghel. "Hepatitis A and E resolve with supportive treatment and do not lead to long term complications. Both hepatitis B and C are treatable. However, regular monitoring is essential to prevent complications. Auto-immune hepatitis is also treatable. It is



important to remember that early diagnosis and treatment can prevent the progression of hepatitis.

Silent strain The initial red flags of liver problems can hold sustained exhaustion, nausea, loss of appetite, and jaundice. Other early pointers might include abdominal pain or swelling, easy bruising, and dark urine or pale stools. Hepatitis, particularly chronic Hepatitis B and C, is often dubbed a "silent disease" because symptoms may not appear until the liver is significantly damaged. In India, with over 40 million people living with HBV and up to 12 million with HCV, many patients remain undiagnosed until cirrhosis or liver cancer develops. "But the notion that one must dramatically change their lifestyle to protect or support liver health is misleading. Micro-adjustments in routine behaviour can offer substantial protection," observes Dr Amey Sonavane, Consultant Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Apollo Hospitals Navi Mumbai, adding, "The biggest oversight remains vaccination — despite being preventable, HBV continues to spread in adults due to poor adult immunisation uptake. A three-dose Hepatitis B vaccine series is over 95% effective when completed, yet remains under-prescribed in routine clinical settings."

NAVI MUMBAI AIRPORT READY FOR

..... *Contd. from Page 1* operations. The first phase, spread across 58 acres, is designed to handle 20 million passengers and 0.5 million tons of cargo annually. Full capacity is expected to reach 90 million passengers and 3.2 million tons of cargo. However, operations will start modestly, with only 8 to 10 flight movements per

hour, gradually ramping up to 30 movements during peak hours by mid-2026, according to officials. Yet, the most pressing challenge is connectivity. Despite extensive plans, many of the critical access corridors remain under construction. The six-lane Ulwe Coastal Road, connecting directly to the Mumbai Trans Harbor Link,

is unlikely to be ready before 2026. Similarly, the Thane-Airport elevated corridor is still in the planning phase, while upgrades to existing highways such as the Sion-Panvel route are progressing slowly. Officials note that although multiple interchanges and expressways are in the pipeline, passengers will face road bottlenecks during the early years.

ALUMIL INDIA OPENS NEW

..... *Contd. from Page 1* **Managing Director, Alumil India.** In addition to the new corporate office, Alumil India's market presence is further strengthened through a network of eight dealer-

owned standalone stores located in key cities including Mumbai, Nagpur, Coimbatore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolhapur and Indore. These stores expand Alumil's reach and provide localised

support to regional clients. Alumil India's growing focus on large-scale projects and customised window and door architectural systems is supported by the company's robust supply chain from manufacturing hubs in Greece, Dubai and Egypt.

TWO LUXURY PENTHOUSES SOLD FOR NEARLY RS. 16 CRORE AT LODHA PALAVA

Staff Reporter - Two luxury penthouses, spread over 9,500 sq ft, have been sold for nearly ₹16 crore at Lodha Palava City on Shil Phata Road in Dombivli, near Mumbai, according to property registration documents accessed by Zapkey. The units, sold at ₹16,400 per sq ft, set a new record for the

locality, local brokers said. The documents show that the two penthouses, located on the 35th floor of Lodha Hanging Gardens by Lodha Developers, measure 4,754 sq ft each and were sold for ₹15.59 crore. The documents show that the two units were sold along with 10 car parking spaces.

AGRICULTURAL BILLS REPEAL

..... *Contd. from Page 1* (Punjab being a recent exception since 2013), and the trend of suicide among farmers has been significantly low. The problems of the farmers are not going to be eliminated by enacting or removing the law. When any law is enacted, its advocates always describe that law is beneficial, but in practice, it does not happen in the absence of preparation for a favourable system. Take the example of Cooperatives. Due to capitalist and communist manoeuvres, cooperatives failed in India because they did not create a proper environment. In contrast, the same cooperative has successfully worked in the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Israel, etc. Farmer's mindset of these countries is

also not much different from that of the farmers of India. But when these farmers saw that the Corporate's dominance would suppress them, their voices were not heard - they followed the Cooperatives as their institution. The agricultural laws enacted in India also raised fear in the farmers' minds that even if we become free somehow from the individual brokers and middlemen, what would be left for us if even the well-educated people cannot stand up before the dominance of companies? The government has failed to ensure that the farmers develop Coordinated-Cooperatives properly as their institutions instead of Cooperatives subordinated to Babu-dom of the government departments.

(... to be Contd...)

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