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SUNNY NEWS

WE BELIEVE IN FREEDOM OF SPEECH

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Page No. 1

DEATH SENTENCE



Lethal chamber Gurney in Alabama, USA

Bhupendra Singh -

NITROGEN Execution in USA

Killing convicted murderers to lighten the burden caused by their lives is certainly not indicative of a developed civilization.

Kenneth Eugene Smith was convicted of the murder-for-hire of a preacher's wife in 1988. As a death row inmate he was originally scheduled to be put to death with lethal

drugs in November 2022. Prison staff inserted one intravenous line, but two lines were required to administer the lethal injection. After they struggled for an hour to insert the second IV, the execution was called off. He was eventually executed on January 25, 2024 in Holman Correctional Facility, Alabama, USA, using nitrogen gas instead. He was 58.

This was a controversial method used for the first time and represents the latest step in the search for a new way

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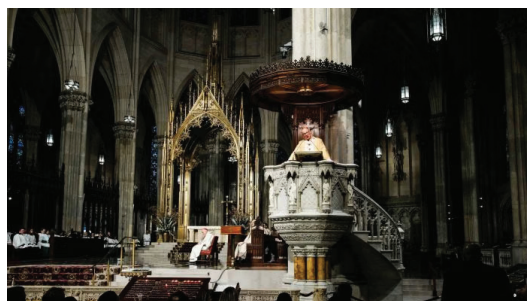
MAHARASHTRA'S LARGEST DIALYSIS CENTRE OPENS IN VASHI, NAVI MUMBAI

Staff Reporter- The Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) has started Maharashtra's largest 50-bed dialysis centre, free-of cost, at the Vivekananda Cultural Center building in Vashi Sector 14, officials said. The cost of dialysis, around Rs 3,000 to Rs 3,500 per session, made it unaffordable for many patients, if done two to three times a week. Municipal commissioner Kailas

Shinde directed officials to spread information about the dialysis centre as much as possible so that needy citizens could benefit from the facilities available there.

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

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE TO PAY \$800 MN TO SETTLE 1.300 NY SEX ABUSE SURVIVORS



Staff Reporter - The Catholic Archdiocese of New York has agreed to pay \$800 million in a settlement with 1,300 sex abuse survivors, one of the largest payouts in a wave of lawsuits over clergy sex abuse in the U.S. The settlement is second only to the \$880 million deal reached by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in 2024.

(Contd... on Page 4)

NAVI MUMBAI RAILWAY STATIONS TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM CIDCO TO CR

Staff Reporter - The maintenance and management of railway stations in Navi Mumbai that are currently under CIDCO are set to be handed over to Central Railway within the next six months, according to recent discussions between the two authorities. The move comes after long-standing issues regarding poor upkeep, lack of coordination, and repeated complaints from commuters over station conditions. At present, several stations on the Harbor and Trans-Harbor lines are managed by CIDCO,

(Contd... on Page 4)

AFRICA INDIA ZONE IN NAVI MUMBAI: CIDCO SIGNS DEAL

Staff Reporter - The City and Industrial Development Corporation and Africa India Economic Foundation on Thursday signed an agreement to form a Special Purpose Vehicle for the development of Africa India International Development Zone in Navi Mumbai, an official said. The agreement, inked in the presence of Chief Minister, seeks to position Maharashtra as a global hub for India-Africa collaboration, a CIDCO release informed. "The Africa India Business Centre (AIBC) will be situated on a 20-acre plot within the International Corporate Park in Kharghar.

(Contd... on Page 4)

AMITY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FOUND COCKROACHES, INSECTS IN THE FOOD



Staff Reporter- Students of the Amity University, Panvel found cockroaches, insects etc., in the food served by the canteen of Amity. Many students have been suffering from various illness such as jaundice, malaria, stomach problems as a result of consuming food supplied by the canteen of Amity, it is reported.

The student's association met the Governor, Maha-

rashtra, as he is the chancellor of universities & has assured to look in to the matter, it is learnt. The drinking water can be another culprit. It is to be seen whether Amity has any water purification plant through which water is supplied to hostel inmates. Source of water supply also has to be checked. If sourced from borewell whether purity of such water is checked?

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

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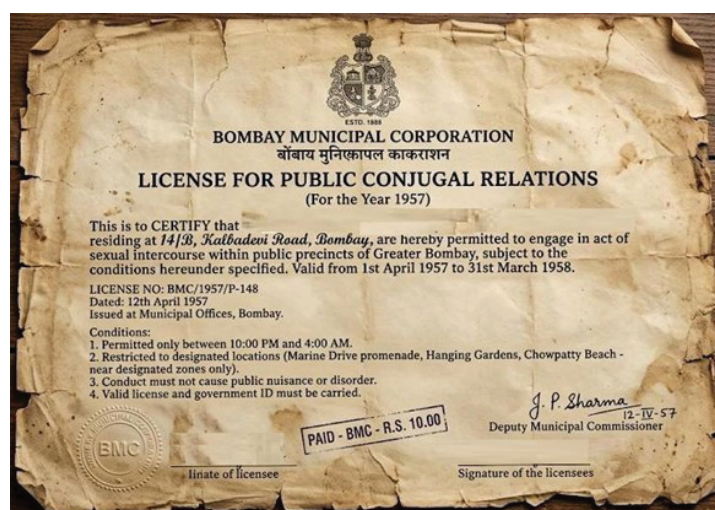
Editorial

A CALL FOR RESPECT AND FOCUS ON PEACE

The recent remarks by Donald Trump directed at Pope Leo XIV are both condemnable and unacceptable. At a time when Trump's popularity appears to be at a low point, and amid mounting frustration over setbacks in the conflict with Iran, such statements seem misplaced and unnecessary. Rather than engaging in criticism of moral voices, Trump should concentrate on resolving the ongoing tensions and working toward a lasting end to the conflict, while preserving diplomatic credibility. The Pope's position is neither political nor provocative—it is rooted in a fundamental moral duty to advocate for peace. Pope Leo XIV has consistently emphasized the need for global harmony, opposing war, violence, and destruction. This is not a controversial stance but one that reflects the aspirations of people worldwide. Speaking out for peace is not an act of interference; it is a universal responsibility. In light of this, Trump would do well to retract his remarks and offer an apology, demonstrating respect for voices that seek unity and peace in a time of conflict.

LICENSE TO HAVE SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP

Staff Reporter - *Those days particularly in the year 1957... license was issued by BMC for the public to have Sexual relationship openly at Marine Drive Promenade, Hanging Garden & Chowpatty during night time between 10 pm to 4.00 am after following some certain conditions without causing Public Nuisance or Disorder*. Here it is. Shocked!



MANGROVE SOLDIERS TO MARK 300 WEEKS OF COASTAL CLEANUP IN NAVI MUMBAI

Staff Reporter - Environment Life Foundation's Mangrove Cleanup Drive is completing 300 consecutive weeks the coming Sunday, marking a milestone in its weekly coastal clean-up effort in Navi Mumbai. The forest department and Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation have joined hands with the drive. The initiative that began on Aug 15, 2020, with

three volunteers went on to engage nearly 1.3 lakh people, who have over the years removed more than 1,200 tons of waste from the coastlines in Navi Mumbai, Panvel and Mumbai. The drive started after environmentalist Dharmesh Barai saw crabs trapped inside plastic waste at Nerul jetty during the Covid-19 lockdown.

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

HUMAN RIGHTS

FREEDOM OF RELIGION

Imparting of education and religions in educational institutions.- The national curriculum is prepared on the basis of report submitted to the Parliament on 22nd January, 1999 by the S. B. Chavan Committee which was appointed by the Parliament in 1996. The report of the Committee is based on earlier reports submitted by various Committees.

None can dispute that past five decades have witnessed constant erosion of the essential social, moral and spiritual values and increase in cynicism at all levels. We are heading for a materialistic society disregarding the entire value based social system. None can also dispute that in secular society, moral values are of utmost importance. Society where there are no moral values, there would neither be social order nor secularism. Bereft of moral values, secular society or democracy may not survive. As observed by the Committee, values are virtues in an individual and if these values deteriorate, it will hasten or accelerate the break down of the family, society and nation as a whole. In a society where there is constant evaporation of social and moral values for getting property, power or post, it is advisable to have solid social foundation from base level so that a grown-up



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

person would fight against all kinds of fanaticism, ill-will, violence, dishonesty, corruption and exploitation. Further, for controlling wild animal instinct in human beings and for having civilized cultural society, it appears that religious have come into existence. Religion is the foundation for value based survival of human beings in & civilized society. The force and sanction behind civilized society depends upon moral values. Philosophy of co-existence and how to co-exist is thought over by the Saints all over the world which is revealed by various philosophers. How to co-exist, not only with human beings but all living beings on the earth, may be animals, vegetation and environment including air and water, is thought over and discussed by Saints and leaders all over the world which is reflected in religions. If that is taught, it cannot be objected as it is neither violative of constitu-

tional or legal rights nor it offends moral values. Further, no one can dispute that truth (satya), righteous conduct (dharma), peace (shanti), love (prem) and non-violence (ahimsa) are the core universal values accepted by all religions. Committee has also pointed out that religion is the most misused and misunderstood concept. However, the process of making the students acquainted with basics of all religions, the values inherited therein and also a comparative study of the philosophy of all religions should begin; students have to be made aware that the basic concept behind every religion is common, only the practices differ. If these recommendations made by the Parliamentary Committee are accepted by the NCERT and are sought to be implemented, it cannot be stated that its action is arbitrary or unjustified. Further, it appears to be totally wrong presumption and contention that knowledge of different religious would bring disharmony in the society. On the contrary, knowledge of various religious philosophies is material for bringing communal harmony as ignorance breeds hatred because of wrong notions, assumption, preaching and propaganda by mis-guided interested persons.

CHILDREN'S CHOICE OF LOVE



C.K. SUBRAMANIAM-

Staying in a prestigious housing society bring everlasting memories and that includes a human touch by a five year

old girl. The daily walking round continued near the vicinity of my first floor flat. After touching a 1000 steps mark I felt little bit tired and sat for few minutes of relaxation. As I saw the movement in front of me. the little girl came to my view as she was riding a cycle and passed through me and I just put up my hand as an acknowledgement. Then came the real surprise she came down running and hugged me as I was sitting in a bench. I was flabbergasted to get the warmth

of the young girl and she uttered some words enquiring why I am not seen in the balcony as she used to see me while going to school. I did make a mention that my balcony is now closed and hence the difficulty in seeing her. Before signing off she made yet another loving hug and requested to sit in the same place for a regular chat as my balcony is not the right place for her pet talk. It was an unforgettable experience for retired person at 76.



*From an
Easychair*

Jubel D'Cruz

A TIMELESS ECHO: THE LEGACY OF ASHA BHOSLE AND AN ERA THAT LIVES ON

The passing of Asha Bhosle on April 12, 2026, marks not just the loss of a legendary voice, but the quiet closing of an extraordinary chapter in Indian music. Revered as the “Queen of Versatility” and lovingly known as “Asha Tai,” she leaves behind a legacy that shaped generations and redefined the art of playback singing. With a career spanning over eight decades, Asha Bhosle recorded more than 12,500 songs across multiple Indian and international languages, earning a place in the Guinness World Records as one of the most recorded artists in music history. Her voice—remarkable in its range and adaptability—flowed effortlessly across genres, from classical and semi-classical compositions to cabaret, ghazals, pop, and folk. Whether delivering a soulful melody or a lively, peppy number, she infused every performance with unmatched emotional depth and authenticity. Her collaborations with some of the most celebrated composers in Indian cinema produced countless timeless songs that continue to resonate

across generations. Fearless in her artistry and open to experimentation, she constantly broke conventions, redefining the boundaries of playback singing and setting herself apart from her contemporaries. Despite receiving numerous prestigious awards and global recognition, she remained deeply humble and devoted to her craft. Her journey—marked by resilience, passion, and unwavering dedication—became a source of inspiration for aspiring artists around the world. In her final days, she was hospitalized at Breach Candy Hospital in Mumbai due to exhaustion and a pulmonary chest infection, eventually passing away at the age of 92 due to multiple organ failure. Her departure, coming just a few years after the loss of her elder sister, Lata Mangeshkar, closes a monumental era in Indian musical history. Together, Asha Bhosle and Lata Mangeshkar defined the golden age of Indian playback singing. While Asha was celebrated for her versatility, boldness, and ability to adapt across musical styles, Lata Mangeshkar

was revered for her pure voice, emotional depth, and profound contribution to film music. Each brought something uniquely powerful to the world of music—Asha embodying variety and experimentation, and Lata representing grace and emotional resonance. For millions, Asha Bhosle’s voice was more than music—it was a companion through life’s many moments of joy, sorrow, celebration, and reflection. There was magic in her voice—it could make you smile without reason and bring tears without warning. She was not just a singer; she was a feeling, a memory, a timeless echo of love and life. Though she is no longer physically present, her voice will continue to live on—in old cassettes, late-night playlists, and in the hearts of millions who grew up listening to her. Her melodies will keep breathing, rich with emotion and meaning, offering comfort, inspiration, and harmony. Legends never truly fade—they live on in the hearts they touch. And Asha Bhosle will forever remain one such eternal voice. ●

(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)

WHAT IS A VERTICAL PROPERTY CARD?

Staff Reporter - The Government of Maharashtra today announced the country’s biggest property reform. Now every flat owner will receive a ‘Vertical Property Card’, in which the flat as well as the owner’s individual share of the land beneath the building will be permanently recorded. “From today, a flat

means not just a roof, but also ownership of the land!” said Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. This card will include the building’s total area, your exact proportional share (for example, 1/150 share), and a QR code with a digital signature. Most importantly, your name will appear on the 7/12 land record

just like a landowner in a village. For new flats, this card will be mandatory from 1 January 2026, while existing 20 million flat owners can get it for just ₹500 by 2027. Bank loans, redevelopment permissions, inheritance transfers—all will be completed within 48 hours. ●

MAHARASHTRA’S LARGEST DIALYSIS CENTRE

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Shinde said, keeping in mind the increasing need for dialysis, the municipal corpora-

tion provided dialysis facilities with a total of 85 beds, including 50 under one roof in this special dialysis centre,

10 in the corporation’s Vashi Public Hospital, 11 in Nerul Hospital, 11 in Airoli Hospital and three in the centre in CBD Belapur. ●

DEATH SENTENCE

...Contd. from Page 1

to execute convicted criminals - even as the death penalty has become less popular over time. Around half of US states still have death penalty laws. Execution methods vary, but some states still allow execution by hanging, firing squad or the electric chair. “Tonight Alabama causes humanity to take a step backwards,” Smith, said in a final statement. “I’m leaving with love, peace and light.” The execution took about 22 minutes from the time between the Opening and closing of the curtains to the viewing room. Smith appeared to remain conscious for several minutes. For at least two minutes, he appeared to shake and writhe on the gurney, sometimes pulling against the restraints. That was followed by several minutes of heavy breathing, until breathing was no longer perceptible. Smith’s spiritual adviser, the Rev. Jeff Hood, said the execution did not match the state attorney general’s prediction in court filings that Smith would lose consciousness in seconds followed by death within minutes. The European Union and the UN Human Rights Office expressed regret over the execution. The 27-nation EU and the Geneva-based UN rights office say the death penalty violates the right to life and does not deter crime. Justice Sonia Sotomayor, who along with two other liberal justices dissented, wrote, “Having failed to kill Smith on its first attempt, Alabama has selected him as its ‘guinea pig’ to test a method of execution never attempted before. The world is watching.” According to the Death Penalty Information Center (DPIC), an organisation that is critical of how executions are administered, no method has been found to violate the U S Constitution’s ban on “cruel and unusual punishments”, although some state courts have outlawed some

methods. In recent decades, however, most states have converged on lethal injection - the administration of intravenous drugs that sedate and kill the convict - as the main execution method. Texas was the first state to execute a convicted criminal with lethal injection, in 1982. Last year, 24 people were executed in the US - most of those in Florida and Texas, and all by lethal injection. The process, however, is not always straightforward. Several months prior to Smith’s previous botched execution, Alabama authorities failed to put to death another death row inmate, Alan Miller, also because of difficulties inserting an IV needle. Several other lethal injection executions have also not gone according to plan. And states have recently had difficulty in obtaining lethal injection drugs. In some cases, drug manufacturers won’t sell them, or no longer produce them. The UK and the European Union banned exports of the chemicals in 2011, and five years later American drugs giant Pfizer, the last open-market source of lethal injection drugs, announced it would no longer sell them to be used in executions. This caused states to find other means to execute prisoners. Texas got its deadly chemicals from private sources - a secret list of private “compounding pharmacies”, which mix their own drugs. Prison officials strapped a mask to Smith’s face and administered the pure nitrogen gas. The gas itself is not poisonous - nitrogen makes up more than three-quarters of the earth’s atmosphere. But in pure concentrated form, breathing in the gas chokes off oxygen to the brain, a process called nitrogen hypoxia. The use of nitrogen gas in executions has been approved by three states, including Alabama in 2018, and has withstood various legal challenges since. (.... Contd. on next issue)

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HEALTH

TYPE 2 DIABETES DRUG
FOUND TO WORK VIA BRAIN

Staff Reporter - Cheap, effective and widely trusted, met for min has long been the first choice for treating type 2 diabetes. Now, scientists say the drug works in a way few had imagined by acting directly on the brain. A study published in Science Advances by Baylor College of Medicine has uncovered a hidden brain pathway that helps explain how metformin lowers blood sugar, offering fresh insight into a medicine used for over six decades. For years, metformin was believed to act mainly on the liver and gut. The new research shows it also works through the ventromedial hypothalamus – a small but crucial brain region that

controls hunger, thirst. At this site, the drug energy use and glucose be switches off a protein called Rap1 and activates nerve cells that regulate blood sugar, effectively using the brain's control system. When this pathway was blocked, metformin stopped working while other drugs like insulin remained effective. Even tiny amounts acting directly in the brain were enough to significantly lower blood sugar. Lead researcher Makoto Fukuda said the discovery challenges long-held assumptions. "It's not just working in the liver or gut-the brain plays a key role," he said. Experts said the findings add clarity, not concern.

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE TO PAY Contd. from Page 1

The Catholic Church has paid billions of dollars in settlements across the U.S. in the past several years, after New York and other states enacted laws that temporarily enabled victims of child sexual abuse to file lawsuits over decades-old crimes. Jeff Anderson and Mike Finnegan, attorneys who represent 300 abuse survivors with claims against the archdiocese, said the settlement was a triumph that would end nearly six years of legal battles with the Church and its insurers. The proposed settlement is subject to final documentation and full survivor agreement before it is complete, Anderson said. Archbishop Ronald Hicks said in a Friday letter to parishioners that he is "cautiously optimistic" that all of the sex abuse claimants will support the deal. Hicks, who became the archbishop of New York in February, said the Church had cut spending on staff and operational expenses to fund the settlement. "This has

been a painful process - most significantly so for the victim-survivors and their families and loved ones who have suffered, in most cases, for decades," Hicks said. In addition to the \$800 million payment, the Archdiocese agreed to release documents pertaining to sexual offenders in the Church. "It is far from full accountability, but it is a measure of responsibility," Anderson said in a Friday statement. The settlement will allow abuse survivors to litigate against the Church's insurers for additional payouts. The settlement also avoids a bankruptcy by the archdiocese. New York's Child Victims Act, passed in 2019, and similar laws in other states have driven many large Catholic organizations to seek bankruptcy protection around the U.S. In New York state, every diocese except for the New York archdiocese and the Brooklyn diocese has filed for bankruptcy to finalize similar settlements of sex abuse lawsuits.

NAVI MUMBAI RAILWAY STATIONS TO BE Contd. from Page 1

but maintenance responsibilities have remained unclear due to unresolved administrative arrangements. Officials have indicated that the transfer is aimed at resolving this deadlock and improving passenger facilities across key stations in Navi Mumbai. Once the handover is completed, Central Railway is expected to take full responsibility for maintenance, repairs, and overall station manage-

ment. The decision is also expected to speed up pending repair work and infrastructure upgrades, which have been delayed due to the division of responsibilities between CIDCO and the railways. The process is likely to be completed in phases over the next six months, following which all affected stations will come under Central Railway's direct control.

MANGROVE SOLDIERS TO MARK Contd. from Page 1

Barai, along with friends Shriram Shankar and Rohan Bhosale, launched the mission at Karave Jetty. The volunteers, known as 'Mangrove Soldiers', continue the cleanup every Sunday without a break, regardless of the weather, from 7 am to 10 am. The participants remove solid waste from marshes and

mangrove areas. The waste includes mattresses, medical waste and plastic packaging, and even sofas. According to the foundation, the weekly cleanup focuses on preventing further damage to mangrove ecosystems and nearby wetlands by clearing accumulated waste from sensitive coastal zones.

AMITY UNIVERSITY ...

However, the student's union sought a high level enquiry in order to redress their grievances. In the meantime, the student's asso-

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ciation claimed that the collage is collecting huge amounts promising world class facilities which they are lacking, it is alleged. •

MGL HIKES MUMBAI CNG
PRICE TO RS 84/KG

Staff Reporter- Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) has increased compressed natural gas (CNG) prices across the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) by Rs 2 per kg, taking the retail rate to Rs 84 per kg from May 14. The earlier price was Rs 82 per kg. The revised rate will apply in Mumbai, Thane, Navi Mumbai and nearby MMR areas. The announcement comes at a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called for a voluntary nationwide "austerity" drive aimed at saving fuel and conserving foreign exchange amid global disruptions linked to the Iran conflict. Reasons Behind Price Hike. MGL said the increase

was caused by rising gas procurement costs, higher crude oil prices, rupee depreciation and disruptions in the global energy supply chain due to tensions in West Asia. "Starting midnight tonight, the price of CNG will increase by Rs 2 per kg, bringing the revised rate to Rs 84 per kg in and around the city. According to MGL, around 1.28 million vehicles in the MMR run on CNG. These include nearly 470,000 autorickshaws, more than 160,000 taxis and over 500,000 private cars. The hike is also expected to affect BEST and state transport bus operations, adding pressure on transport services already dealing with rising fuel expenses.

AFRICA INDIA ZONE IN NAVI MUMBAI:

...Contd. from Page 1

It aims to strengthen a partnership currently valued at approximately USD 96 billion. Under the approved model, AIEF will hold a 74 per cent stake in the SPV, while CIDCO will retain 26 per cent," it said. AIBC as

a "transformative initiative" that will create a dedicated ecosystem for trade and investment. This initiative reflects our commitment to enhancing Maharashtra's global standing and contributing to India's expanding role in the Global South.

Quotable Quotes

"I don't listen to what people say, I only observe what they do. Behavior never lies"

Winston Churchill
Statesman