



DALAI LAMA'S VIDEO ASKING MINOR BOY TO "SUCK HIS TONGUE" TRIGGERS ROW

DALAI LAMA'S VIDEO: THE VIDEO, WHICH HAS GONE VIRAL ON SOCIAL MEDIA, SHOWS THE DALAI LAMA PLANTING A KISS ON THE BOY'S LIPS WHEN HE LEANED IN TO PAY HIS RESPECTS.

New Delhi: A video showing the Dalai Lama kissing a child on his lips and then asking him to "suck his tongue" has triggered a row. The video, which has gone viral on social media, shows the Dalai Lama planting a kiss on the boy's lips when he leaned in to pay his respects.

The Buddhist monk is seen sticking his tongue out as he asked the child to suck it. "Can you suck my tongue," he is heard asking the minor boy in the video. The venue and date of the event were not immediately clear. The video evoked angry reactions from Twitter users, terming the act as "disgusting", "outrageous" and "condemnable".

Sharing the video, Twitter user Joost Broekers wrote, "So the Dalai Lama is kissing an Indian boy at a Buddhist event and even tries to touch his tongue. He actually says 'suck my tongue'. Now why would he do that?"

"This is unbecoming and no one should justify this ill-conduct of @DalaiLama," wrote another Twitter user Deepika Pushkar Nath.

"What am I seeing? Is this Dalai Lama? Needs to be arrested for pedophilia. Disgusting," tweeted Jas Oberoi.

In 2019, the Dalai Lama had sparked a huge controversy for saying that if his successor were to be a woman, she should have to be "attractive". "If a female Dalai Lama comes, she should be more attractive," he said. The comments, which attracted criticism around the world, were made in an interview with the BBC in 2019 from the Nobel peace prize winner's exile in Dharamsala.

He had later apologised for his controversial comments.

Last month, the Dalai Lama had named a US-born Mongolian boy as the 10th Khalkha Jetsun Dhampa Rinpoche, the third highest rank in Tibetan Buddhism.



NMMC SCHEDULES 24-HOUR WATER SUPPLY CUT IN NAVI MUMBAI FROM TODAY; CHECK DETAILS

Navi Mumbai: Water supply to several areas of Navi Mumbai will be disrupted for 24-hours on Monday, April 10. The water supply will be stopped from 10 am on Monday to 10 am on Tuesday, April 11, affecting areas from Dighe to Kamothe.

The water cut has been scheduled by the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) due to works on Panvel-Karjat double railway line at Chikhale and the pipeline at Kalamboli under the Expressway bridge and water purification centre at Bhokarpada and maintenance of Morbe-Dighe pipeline. Once restored, the water supply is likely to be available at low pressure on Tuesday evening. The water cut comes at a time when citizens are reeling under the scorching heat.

Meanwhile, the civic body has appealed to the residents of NMMC, Kamothe and Kharghar area to cooperate by using water sparingly during the period. Citizens should store sufficient water as per their requirement beforehand.

APPLE PICKS UP 1.16 LAKH SQ FT SPACE IN BENGALURU FOR USE AS 'GLOBAL CAPABILITY CENTRE'

Apple has rented multiple floors of a commercial building in Bengaluru, Karnataka, for approximately Rs 2.43 crore per month.

Prestige Estates Projects has built the property on Cubbon Road that will serve as a global capability centre.

Reports citing registration documents, made available by data analytics company Propstack, reveal that the iPhone maker will occupy the entire seventh, eighth, and ninth floors as well as a part of the fourth and sixth floors of the office building.

The space is said to be spread over an area of 116,888 (or 1.16 lakh) square feet.

Apple India has signed a lease agreement with private Musa Sait Wafk, per which they will pay Rs 195 per feet rental and a monthly car parking fee of Rs 16.56 lakh, starting from 1 July this year.

The technology giant is obliged to a five-year lock-in period and a 15 per cent rental increase every three years under the lease agreement. It can renew the lease for up to 15 years, divided into three additional terms of five years each.

As per the lease terms, the building owner cannot offer tenancy to any of Apple's rivals, reportedly including competitors Amazon, Samsung, Microsoft, and Alphabet.

This news comes close on the heels of Apple revealing the look of its first retail store in India.

The company has signed a 133-month lease with the option to extend it by 60 months for a 20,806 sq ft store in Mumbai's Jio World Drive mall.

The monthly rent for the property is Rs 42 lakh, totalling to over Rs 5 crore annually. The rent will increase by 15 per cent every 36 months, according to data from CRE Matrix.

CHINA CARRIES OUT SIMULATED "SEALING OFF" OF TAIWAN

A SEPARATE REPORT FROM STATE BROADCASTER CCTV SAID DOZENS OF PLANES HAD PRACTISED AN "AERIAL BLOCKADE" OF THE SELF-RULED ISLAND.

Beijing: China was Monday carrying out a simulated "sealing off" of Taiwan in maritime drills, a military statement said.

A separate report from state broadcaster CCTV said dozens of planes had practised an "aerial blockade" of the self-ruled island.

Earlier, China said its fighter jets carrying "live ammunition" had conducted "simulated strikes" near Taiwan and that its Shandong aircraft carrier was involved in the ongoing exercises.

"Multiple batches of H-6K fighters carrying live ammunition... carried out multiple waves of simulated strikes on important targets on Taiwan Island," the Chinese military's Eastern Theatre Command said in a statement, adding that the Shandong also "participated in today's exercise".

MUMBAI: CM EKNATH SHINDE STEPS IN TO HALT 'DADAGIRI' OF HOUSING SOCIETY COMMITTEE

QUARRELLING MEMBERS OF 43 BUILDINGS OF SPRAWLING MALAD SOCIETY FORCED TO APPROACH EKNATH SHINDE TO MEDIATE IN WAR OVER REDEVELOPMENT OF THEIR PREMISES; MANAGE TO GET INDEPENDENT AUDIT THAT QUASHES CIVIC BODY'S DEMOLITION SCARE

An independent structural audit of a Malad West CHS has raised questions on the BMC's report that ordered residents to vacate the "dilapidated" premises immediately for demolition. An inspection by Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute, following Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's intervention, found that the buildings only need repairs. Several residents alleged that a builder along with a handful of society office-bearers got the BMC to issue the demolition notice to Ujjwal Nandadeep CHS.

On January 13, P North ward office of the BMC issued a notice under Section 353 of the Mumbai Municipal Corporation (MMC) Act to Ujjwal Nandadeep CHS. Section 353 states that if the BMC feels that a building is in dangerous condition, it can also ask for a structural audit at any time.

Over a month later, on February 17, the BMC issued another notice under Section 354, which empowers the civic commissioner to issue notice to the landlord/tenants/occupants to vacate and pull down the dilapidated. According to the notice, the BMC declared all the 13 buildings in the society, divided among four sectors named Swaroop, Sanket, Sankalp and Sumant, as dilapidated and ordered the residents to vacate the premises.

However, a section of the society sensed some mischief in the entire process, as they believed that their building only needed repairs. Of the 208 families of the society committee, 130 decided to oppose the BMC's C1 notice (immediate evacuation and demolition) and get an independent audit done.

CM intervenes

Residents alleged that P North ward officials refused to give them time and insisted that they vacate immediately.

"We had no choice then, hence we approached the chief minister. At the meeting, we explained to the CM the entire case and he was convinced by our stand that an independent audit was needed to ascertain whether the buildings can be repaired," Rajaram Malvankar, a society member, said.

Following the CM's intervention, the society approached the Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI) in March. A team of experts from VJTI, under the supervision of Dr Abhay Bambole, conducted the structural audit on March 19.

VJTI audit report

Ten days later, residents against the demolition were on cloud nine, as VJTI had contradicted the BMC's order. "In the report submitted by the engineering institute, the buildings at Ujjwal Nandadeep CHS were tagged as C2B (requires structural repairs without residents vacating the building)," Vipul Sawant, another society member, said.

VJTI's audit report prepared by Dr Bambole and Professor Sandeep Ranshur, a copy of which is with mid-day, reads, "Service life of the building structure after repairs and rehabilitation is expected to be more than 10 years provided four points are taken care of. One: the building is repaired as per the repair methodology submitted; two: the building structure is maintained on a regular basis for routine as well as structural maintenance if any; three: structural audit of the building is carried out every three years and suggestions and/or findings of the same are implemented with immediate effect and lastly: no structural changes are made during this period without prior technical sanction from a competent authority."



Members of Ujjwal Nandadeep CHS society posing for a group photo at the UNS Navnirman Forum.

HARYANA MAN KILLS WIFE, TWO CHILDREN BEFORE ENDING HIS LIFE IN JHAJJAR VILLAGE

A man reportedly committed suicide by hanging himself after killing his wife and two children at their house in Madana Khurd village last night. Reason behind the crime is yet to be ascertained while the deceased have been identified as Naresh (44), his wife Suman (40), Anushka (16) and Naman (14). Naresh was working in a plywood factory in Rohad village here. "Information about the crime came at around 8 am. We rushed to the spot and found bodies of Suman and Naman in a room of the house, while Anushka's body was lying in another room. Prime facie, it seemed that Suman and Anushka were killed by using any sharp-edged weapon. However, the exact cause of deaths will be ascertained after the post-mortem report," said Sunil Kumar, SHO, Dujana Police Station, adding that Naresh's body was also found hanging in the house. He maintained a case under section 302 of the IPC had been booked against the deceased Naresh on the complaint of his brother Ramesh Kumar who also disclosed that he was taking medical treatment for some mental-health related ailment. Dr Arpit Jain, Superintendent of Police, said investigation was underway to find out the exact reason behind the incident.

MUMBAI MAN ARRESTED FOR SEXUALLY ASSAULTING MINOR DAUGHTER WHILE SHE WAS ASLEEP

THE POLICE HAVE INVOKED SECTIONS OF THE STRINGENT PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL OFFENCES (POCSO) ACT AGAINST THE FATHER, WHO, IF CONVICTED, WOULD HAVE TO FACE A MINIMUM SENTENCE OF 20 YEARS.



The Mumbai police Sunday arrested a 36-year-old man for allegedly sexually assaulting his 13-year-old daughter while she was asleep. The police have invoked sections of the stringent Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act against the father, who, if convicted, would have to face a minimum sentence of 20 years. The girl is a school student and lives with her younger sister and parents in a chawl. According to the area police station, when the minor girl was asleep with her family on Friday night, the father allegedly touched her inappropriately. She woke up and when resisted him, he started assaulting her mercilessly. The girl's mother too tried to help her daughter but in vain. The commotion awakened neighbours, who then came to her rescue and also called the police. However, the father left home. The girl then narrated her ordeal to a woman police officer. Based on her complaint, the police filed an FIR against the accused and arrested him from the area late in the night. The accused was booked under sections 354 (molestation), 376-3 (rape of a woman under the age of sixteen years), 323 (assault) of the Indian Penal Code, and 4 (penetrative sexual assault), 8 (sexual assault), and 12 (sexual harassment) of the Pocso Act, a police officer said. The police will soon record the girl's statement under Section 164 of CrPC before a magistrate, the officer added.

7 KILLED, OVER 26 INJURED AFTER TREE FALLS ON DEVOTEES AT THE TEMPLE IN MAHARASHTRA'S AKOLA

THE ACCIDENT TOOK PLACE WHEN A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE HAD GATHERED AT THE BABUJI MAHARAJ MANDIR IN THE PARAS VILLAGE FOR THE EVENING AARTI SUNDAY EVENING. Seven people were killed and more than 26 others were injured after a tree fell on a shed inside a temple premise in a village in Maharashtra's Akola district. The accident took place when a large number of people had gathered at the Babuji Maharaj Mandir in the Paras village for the evening aarti Sunday evening. The area was lashed with heavy rain and the group of people gathered under a shed to avoid getting drenched. Around 50 people were said to be under the shed when a neem tree was uprooted due to the heavy winds that accompanied the rain and fell on the shed trapping people under it. Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis condoled the deaths and announced financial assistance of Rs. 4 lakh each to the families of the deceased and free medical treatment for those injured in the Akola tree-falling incident. "It is painful to report that some devotees were killed when a tree fell on a tin shed when some people had gathered for a religious ceremony at Paras in Akola district. I pay my humble respects to them," Fadnavis said.

INDIA'S ACTIVE COVID CASELOAD CROSSES 35,000-MARK



India has been witnessing a spike in daily Covid-19 cases as the country reported 5,880 new infections in the last 24 hours, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Monday. With this, the country's active caseload has gone up to 35,199. So far, a total of 5,30,979 people have succumbed to the coronavirus infection in India, while 4,41,96,318 persons have been discharged since the pandemic began in 2020. According to epidemiologists, the increasing number of covid cases is not doubling every 4-5 days. This has now led to the reporting of over 5000 covid cases each day. With an uptick in the trend of covid cases, scientists said that XBB.1.16 is the covid-19 variant responsible for present surge in covid cases. However, scientists say that people in India have developed hybrid immunity (due to vaccination and natural infection), therefore, the present covid-19 variants will not be able cause hospitalization and severity as it is mild in nature. However, government has suggested people to wear masks in crowded places and complete their vaccination doses if not done yet. Meanwhile, the union health ministry directed the state/UT government to follow a risk assessment-based approach to prevent and contain the infection. The health ministry advised to the state governments to examine the situation of covid-19 at micro level (district & sub-districts) and maintain focus on implementation of necessary measures for prompt and effective management of covid-19 duly ensuring effective compliance. "The five-fold strategy, i.e., Test-Track Treat-Vaccination should be followed with continued focus on adequate & proactive testing as per guidelines, monitoring new and emerging clusters of new Covid-19 cases along with monitoring the trend of Influenza-like illness (ILI) & SARI cases in all health facilities or through dedicated fever clinics on a regular basis for detecting early warning signals of the spread of infection," the health ministry stated.

6,6,6,6,6: ALL YASH FOR RINKU AS HE SHOWS NO DAYA' L IN LAST OVER



Five sixes off the last five balls to win a game of cricket. That actually happened. And in the spotlight was Rinku Singh doing all the unbelievable hitting. KKR needed 29 runs to win in the final over and on strike was Umesh Yadav. Here's how it all transpired during the final six deliveries bowled by Yash Dayal, who finished with 0 for 69, the second worst IPL bowling figures. 19.1 Yash Dayal to Umesh Yadav, 1 run, slower bouncer outside off, Umesh looks to pull and top-edges it in the air. It falls well short of deep midwicket 19.2 Yash Dayal to Rinku Singh, SIX, full toss outside off, and Rinku latches onto it! He reaches out and hammers it over extra cover for six! Just need four more of these! 19.3 Yash Dayal to Rinku Singh, SIX, well, it's not over yet. Dayal offers another full toss, this time on the pads and Rinku whips it over backward square for six more 19.4 Yash Dayal to Rinku Singh, SIX, oh Rinku Singh! Is this on or what! Another full toss from Dayal and Rinku whacks it over the long-off boundary 19.5 Yash Dayal to Rinku Singh, SIX, unbelievable stuff from Rinku! Extraordinary! Dayal tries a slower one now off the back of his hand, and it sits up from a short of length. Rinku waits for it and flat-bats down the ground over long-on. It's down to 4 off 1! 19.6 Yash Dayal to Rinku Singh, SIX, would you believe this! He has done it. He has actually done it! 6, 6, 6, 6, 6 from Rinku Singh when the game looked gone! He knew it immediately after making contact that it was going out of the ground! Oh what scenes out there in the middle as the IPL witnesses one of the most dramatic finishes in its rich history. Slower short ball again, Rinku waits for it and just like he did the previous ball, flat-bats it down the ground for six!