

RAHUL GANDHI AT CONGRESS MEET AS KARNATAKA CHIEF MINISTER DILEMMA DEEPENS

SIDDARAMAIAH VS DK SHIVAKUMAR: MALLIKARJUN KHARGE, RAHUL GANDHI AND KC VENUGOPAL ARE CURRENTLY HOLDING TALKS ON THE KARNATAKA CHIEF MINISTER ISSUE.

New Delhi: Congress leader DK Shivakumar made it clear today that he would not back down in a tense rivalry with Siddaramaiah over the Karnataka chief minister's post after the party's big win in the state on Saturday. But he said he would not resort to "backstabbing or blackmail", regardless of the party's decision.



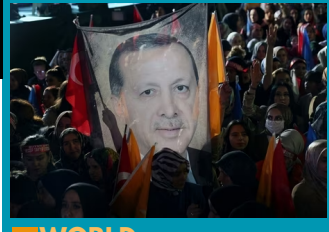
Siddaramaiah spent much of yesterday in Delhi, where he met with the Congress leadership amid reports that he was closer to the finish line than his younger colleague. "Let's wait and see. I don't know," he told reporters cautiously, asked when there would be an announcement.

Party president Mallikarjun Kharge and senior leaders Rahul Gandhi and KC Venugopal are currently holding talks on the Karnataka chief minister issue. Mr Kharge will then hold talks with both Mr Shivakumar and Mr Siddaramaiah.

The party's leadership was yesterday briefed by a team of observers on the views of the newly elected Karnataka MLAs. The Congress held a secret vote on Sunday, the results of which have reportedly been presented to the party president, who will take the final decision. The party could announce the name of the next Karnataka Chief Minister in the coming 24 hours, sources said. The biggest challenge is to bring Mr Shivakumar on board.

Mr Shivakumar arrived in Delhi this afternoon after canceling his visit last night at the last minute citing a stomach infection. "The party is my god... We have built this party, I am a part of it and I am not alone in this," he said before flying out of Bengaluru.

"We have built this party (Congress), we have built this house. I am a part of it... A mother will give everything to her child," he added, indicating that he expected the party to reward him for his role in Congress's Karnataka victory. But he repeated that he would not rebel. "If the party wants, they can give me the responsibility... Ours is a united house, our number is 135. I don't want to divide anyone here. Whether they like me or not, I am a responsible man. I will not backstab and I will not blackmail," Mr Shivakumar asserted. In polls held last week, the Congress won a clear majority in Karnataka, finishing.



WORLD Erdogan falls short of outright win, round 2 next: Top updates on Turkey polls

Turkey Elections: The main opposition party led by Kemal Kilicdaroglu were unable to beat Erdogan. As Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan faced his toughest election test in two decades, he defied pollsters coming within a fraction of a percentage point of winning the presidential ballot. The process moves to a runoff on May 28 between Erdogan and his much-touted rival Kemal Kilicdaroglu. Amid Turkey's most dire economic crisis since the 1990s, Erdogan.

THE KERALA STORY ACTRESS ADAH SHARMA THANKS MUMBAI POLICE FOR SENDING THEIR TEAM WITH HER TO THEATRES. HERE'S WHAT SHE SAID

ADAH SHARMA HAD ASKED THE MUMBAI POLICE TEAM TO EXTEND THEIR SUPPORT BY SENDING A COUPLE OF COPS FROM THEIR TEAM TO ACCOMPANY HER TO THEATRES. The Kerala Story is unstoppable. The safety of the film's team has been compromised. documentary film has effortlessly. Despite that Adah Sharma ventured into theatres crossed Rs100 crore at the box but asked the Mumbai Police team to extend their office. Amid the controversy support by sending a couple of cops from their surrounding the film, it appears that team to accompany her. the movie will hold the audience's The cops promptly sent a posse of policemen to fancy for some time now, just like in ensure her safety. Taking to her official Twitter The Kashmir Files. handle, Adah shared a photo with the cops and While the news of theatres running expressed her gratitude towards them for their houseful keeps pouring in, the film's gesture. However, she later deleted the tweet, the lead actress, Adah Sharma, was so reason for which is still unclear. beside herself in excitement that she Adah Sharma and Sudipto Sen's recent accident wanted to experience live the On Sunday (May 14, 2023), Adah and The Kerala Story director Sudipto Sen met with a road accident in the response the movie evoked in city As per reports, the team of ' theatres first hand. The Kerala Story' was travelling to Karimnagar for a promotional event for their film but met with an accident on the way. The report also stated that Director Sudipto Sen was injured in the accident.



Police. With enough controversies, However, later in the day, Adah took to her Twitter handle and clarified that everyone was safe and that it was not a major accident.



STOCK Buy or sell: Vaishali Parekh recommends three stocks to buy

Following strong global cues on cautious optimism ahead of this week's deliberations over the US \$31.4 trillion debt ceiling, Indian stock market ended higher on second day in a row. NSE Nifty gained 84 points and closed at 18,398 whereas BSE Sensex shot up 317 points and closed at 62,345 levels. Bank Nifty index climbed to a new peak of 44,151.80 but the banking index finally settled 278 points higher at 44,072 levels. Broad market indices rose in line with the Nifty even as the advance decline ratio was positive at 1.24:1. Both mid-cap and small-cap index went up to the tune of near 0.50 per cent on Monday session. Vaishali Parekh, Vice President - Technical Research at Prabhudas Lilladher believes that Nifty ending above 18,350 levels indicates further strong upside movement. Prabhudas Lilladher expert went on to add that Bank Nifty closing above the psychological 44,000 levels indicate further extension of the positive movement. On intraday stocks for today, Vaishali Parekh recommended three stocks to buy today and those three day trading stocks are Bank of Baroda, GNFC and BEML. On outlook for Nifty today, Vaishali Parekh said, "Nifty has moved further strongly above the 18,350 barrier zone.

MAHA WOMEN'S COMMISSION SEEKS SETTING UP OF PANEL TO FIND MISSING WOMEN

Between January 1 and March 31 secretary Rahul Kulkarni, MSCW this year, 3,594 women went deputy chairperson Deepa Thakur missing and some of them were and legal expert Virendra Neve. A traced. It is a serious matter that statement issued by the MSCW women and girls were going said Chakankar has instructed the missing from the state, Chakankar home department to set up a said on Monday search committee for the missing Maharashtra State Commission women and the department should for Woman (MSCW) chairperson submit its report every fortnight Rupali Chakankar has asked the about the panel's progress. She said no police officials are part a panel to find out women missing of the existing search committees from the state and submit a report for missing women. "Between January 1 and March 31 every fortnight on its progress. this year, 3,594 women went missing and some of them were traced. It is still a serious matter. Two agents from Sakinaka area of Mumbai have been booked for luring women and sending them abroad. However, the cartel is huge and strong action is needed," Chakankar said. The barhosa cell Inspector General of Police and missing cell are active only on (women and child crime paper, she said. It is a serious prevention) Deepak Pandey, state matter that women and girls are home department's assistant, going missing from the state.

COVID-19: MAHARASHTRA LOGS 22 NEW CASES, THREE DEATHS

On Sunday, Maharashtra Other circles of the state like recorded 75 cases. Presently, Akola, Aurangabad, Amaravati, there are 809 active cases in the Kolhapur, Latur and Nagpur did state not report any case, as per the On Monday, Maharashtra data shared by the health department said. Maharashtra reported three Presently the Covid-19 cases deaths on Monday one each tally is 81,68,425. The death toll in the state has increased to 1,48,545 after three persons were reported died on Monday due to complications, the state public health department said recoveries in Maharashtra rose to On Sunday, Maharashtra 80,19,071, as per the report. The recovery rate in the state is recorded 75 cases. Presently, 98.17 per cent and the fatality rate is 1.81 per cent. Besides this, Mumbai reported 18 A total of 2,276 tests - 1,668 at new covid-19 cases on Monday. government laboratories, 570 at The Mumbai circle reported the private labs and 38 by self-testing highest number of new cases on kits - were conducted in the last Monday. This was followed by 24 hours in Maharashtra, taking three cases in the Pune circle and one in the Nashik circle. so far to 8,70,97,380, the health department said.

STATE OKAYS FELLING OF 5,000 TREES FOR THE BULLET TRAIN, MUMBAI-VADODARA E-WAY

These are terrestrial trees and in addition to them, several thousands of mangroves will go because of these developments.

Mumbai: The environmental impact of major infrastructure projects continues to grow in the state, with the Maharashtra State Tree Authority recently allowing 5,032 trees to be felled in Palghar and Thane districts for the Mumbai-Vadodara Expressway (MVE) and the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train.

These are terrestrial trees and in addition to them, several thousands of mangroves will go because of these developments.

Moreover, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) in April had also sought public comments on the proposed felling of an additional 1,687 trees in Vikhroli East for the bullet train, permissions for which are yet awaited.

Of the 5,032 new trees earmarked for felling, 3,747 are located in the Palghar district, of which 3,066 are located within the Vasai Virar Municipal Corporation (VVMC) limits. They include 38 heritage trees, which are at



at least 50 years old or more. Another 681 trees are located in Gholvira, Veevor, Navali and Morivali villages, which will go for the National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited's 508-km long bullet train.

Finally, another 1,285 trees in Thane district will go for the Mumbai-Vadodara Expressway, in the Kulgaoan Badlapur Municipal Council (KBMC) limits, of which 776 trees will be transplanted as per the minutes of the MSTA's last meeting on April 13 - a copy of which was accessed by Hindustan Times this week.

BMC POLLS COULD BE HELD IN OCTOBER-NOVEMBER, SAYS DEVENDRA FADNAVIS

MUMBAI: Amid speculation that the Shinde government is keen for the BMC polls to get delayed to next year so that the effect of the Karnataka assembly polls dissipates, deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis gave an indication on Monday that municipal polls in the state could take place around October-November.

He also said there is no possibility of both assembly and Lok Sabha polls being held together.

"The first battle will be for the municipal polls. We don't know when they will be held. Perhaps in October-November. It depends on the court verdict," he said, addressing party workers in Pune.

The terms of 24 municipal corporations including Mumbai, Pune, Thane, Nasik and Nagpur have expired and they are being run by administrators.

The Maharashtra high court's decision to reduce the electoral wards to election commissioner U P S Madan also 227, then the delimitation exercise will have to be emphasised that the dates for the poll redone. Then the process of ward reservation, lottery will depend entirely on the outcome of and updating of the electoral roll will take place. This could take 3-4 months," Madan said.



In March, the Bombay high court upheld the decision of the Eknath Shinde government to reverse the delimitation of BMC wards by the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government by which the electoral wards of the civic body had been increased from 227 to 236.

However, the decision of the Bombay high court to reduce the wards to 227 has been challenged in a series of petitions before the apex court. The Supreme Court is currently on vacation and will resume in July.

"Until the apex court takes a decision, the status quo and they are will have to be maintained. If it decides to confirm the delimitation exercise will have to be emphasised that the dates for the poll redone. Then the process of ward reservation, lottery will depend entirely on the outcome of and updating of the electoral roll will take place. This could take 3-4 months," Madan said.

IN INDIA'S BIGGEST DRUG BUST, CRYSTAL METH WORTH \$1.45BN SEIZED FROM KERALA COAST, PAKISTANI HELD



In India's largest drug bust so far, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) confiscated approximately 2,500 kg of high-purity methamphetamine or crystal meth worth around 12,000 crore rupees (approx \$1.45 billion) from the southern Kerala coast and detained a suspected Pakistani national, the anti-drug agency said on Saturday.

The retrieved bags, the suspected Pakistani national, the speed boat, and some other goods seized from the "mother ship" were taken at Mattancherry Wharf in Kochi and given to NCB for further action.

This major operation was conducted jointly by the Indian Navy and the NCB officials. The Indian authorities were alerted after receiving a tip-off, which led to the identification of a vessel that was intercepted by the Indian Navy. The suspected Pakistani was apprehended during "Operation Samudragupt". The NCB has now made three big drug trafficking-related seizures in the last 18 months, all involving the southern route.

Operation Samudragupt was launched in January 2022 to combat the maritime trafficking of heroin and other drugs in the Indian Ocean region. Launched by NCB director general Satya Narayan Pradhan, Operation Samudragupt is headed by Sanjay Kumar Singh, deputy director general (Ops).

According to a senior officer, ongoing intelligence gathering and analysis allowed for the identification of a very likely path that the mother ship would travel in order to distribute contraband.

The Indian Navy received the information, and a ship of the Indian Navy was stationed nearby.

"A total of 134 sacks of suspected methamphetamine was recovered from the ship and one person [who] is suspected to be a Pakistani national was detained, who was on a speed boat and contraband was loaded on it," said an official.

There have been several recent drug busts in India related to crystal methamphetamine, also known as "ice".

In one major seizure in January 2022, the NCB and the Indian Coast Guard intercepted a vessel off the coast of Gujarat and seized approximately 300 kg of crystal meth. In another significant bust, the NCB earlier seized over 300 kg of crystal meth in Hyderabad and arrested several individuals.

Authorities in India have been working to crack down on the trade and use of the drug through increased enforcement and awareness campaigns.

MUMBAI: GUJARAT CM BHUPENDRA PATEL'S SON ANUJ OUT OF COMA



MUMBAI: Juhu police have booked a merchant navy employee, Adhvaryu Bhandekar (27), who was driving the car that crashed into a stationary BMC dumper in the early hours of last Friday, killing an air hostess who was seated next to him.

Bhandekar and two other friends seated in the rear seat, Ankit Khare (38) and Bharati Rai (24), suffered injuries in the crash.

"The preliminary report does not show that the four were drunk. We are waiting for Bhandekar's recovery before arresting him. Bhandekar has been booked under the Indian Penal Code sections 279 (rash driving), 304-A (causing death due to negligence), 337 (endangering life) and 338 (grievous hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others)," said Juhu police senior inspector Ajitkumar Vartak.

About the victim, Pallavi Bhattacharya, a police officer said, "Through her friends, we learnt that she worked as an air hostess and had switched to another airline which asked her to remove her tattoo as per company policy. She came to Mumbai for a laser tattoo removal procedure. She was Bhandekar's friend who works in the merchant navy. She decided to stay with Bhandekar and his family."

The survivors said they were returning home to Andheri from a party in Saki Naka in Bhandekar's mother's car when he lost control upon entering a narrow lane.

The speeding car flung into the air after Bhandekar missed spotting a speed-breaker and it crashed into a stationed BMC garbage truck near Juhu police station," said a police officer.

The officer said Bhattacharya who was seated in the front died in the crash while the three others survived with injuries.

Bhattacharya's parents arrived from Kolkata where she lived before moving to Delhi, and took custody of her body. They registered a complaint against Bhandekar.

Senior inspector Vartak said they have sent a notice to Bhandekar regarding the case against him. They are waiting for him and the other two to get better to collect their statements.

Anuj Patel was initially shifted to KD Hospital in Ahmedabad after suffering a brain stroke on April 30, 2023. The local neurosurgeons had performed a surgery to stabilize his condition. He was later shifted to P. D. Hinduja Hospital in Mumbai for an operative procedure.

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel's son Anuj Patel who had suffered a brain stroke has come out of coma, official sources said on Monday.

Anuj Patel was initially shifted to KD Hospital in Ahmedabad after suffering a brain stroke on April 30, 2023. The local neurosurgeons had performed a surgery to stabilize his condition. He was later shifted to P. D. Hinduja Hospital in Mumbai for an operative procedure, sources added.

On May 1, Anuj was shifted from Gujrat to Mumbai via an air ambulance. Neurosurgeon Dr. B.K. Misra performed the procedure on May 1 after which he had been under constant treatment and observation and had been admitted in the ICU, sources said.

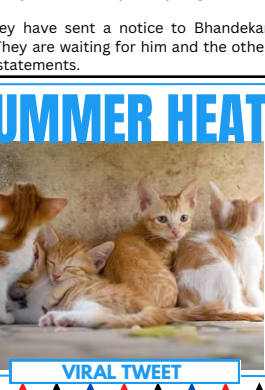
According to the Statement released by Hinduja Hospital, "After the surgery and treatment, Anuj B. Patel is now better. He communicates, is out of a coma, and off the ventilator. The CT scan done today is satisfactory. His vitals are stable. Though, there is still a long road to recovery, it is indeed a satisfactory progress from the condition he was brought in. Anuj B. Patel will be shifted shortly to an alternative facility for prolonged rehabilitation."

TIPS TO KEEP YOUR PET SAFE FROM SUMMER HEAT

The searing heat of summer is now upon us. Even though many people appreciate the warmth and sunshine, our animal pals may face danger during this time. Your pet and you might have a great summer together. Unfortunately, however, warmer weather also increases risks for our furry friends, including an increased risk of heat stroke, more injuries, and skin and ear infections. In this article, Brindha Prabhu Gandhi Kumar, the co-founder of TABPUS PETS, discusses six tips to keep your pet safe from the summer heat:

Use sunscreen: Pets can get sunburns even if their coats are short or light in colour. It hurts and may even cause skin cancer, precisely as with people. So to keep your pet safe outside in the sun, apply sunscreen to his belly, ears, and nose every three to four hours. Use only sunscreens intended for animals. Dogs tend to lick it, and sunscreen designed for people may contain poisonous ingredients to animals (like zinc), which could result in an emergency.

Provide lots of water and cover: Dehydration in dogs and cats is a genuine concern throughout the summer. Our pets get more thirstier than we do when they get hot. Symptoms of dehydration include dry gums and frequent drooling. Therefore, you should always provide fresh, clean water to your pet inside the home and take a bottle of water outside for your pet. The majority of the time, keep your pet in the shade.



VIRAL TWEET