

Short stories

New Guj HC CJ sworn in

Gujarat governor Nawal Kishore Sharma administered the oath of office of Chief Justice of Gujarat high court to Justice KS Radhakrishnan at Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar. Acting chief Justice MS Shah, speaker of the assembly, Ashok Bhatt, cabinet ministers and judges of the Gujarat high court were present at the occasion. Justice Radhakrishnan was chief justice of the Jammu & Kashmir high court and transferred to Gujarat after Justice YR Meena retired from service.

Consider JGS demand: HC to cops

A division bench of the Gujarat high court has asked the city police to consider the application of the Jagega Gujarat Sangharsh Samiti (JGS) to conduct a symbolic 72 hour fast to protest the death of two boys at the Asaram Gurukul. The JGS has again filed an application before the Gujarat high court after police had shown reluctance to decide the application for permission to conduct symbolic fast at Income Tax cross roads despite last month's high court order. The JGS, fathers of two deceased kids along with 50 members of NGOs is willing to conduct symbolic fast to show protest against Asaram Ashram and failure of police investigations to crack the case.

Animal activist threatened

Animal activist Rahul Sehgal, head of the Animal Help Foundation has filed a police complaint against the founder of Asha Foundation, Harmesh Bhatt and his friend Jagdish Waghele at Navrangpura police station. Sehgal has stated in his complaint that Bhatt and Waghele have threatened to kill him on Thursday at his office at Ashram Road. They have also said that if Sehgal wants to save his family and himself, he will have to stop all the activities of AHF and leave the city.

GU students allege malpractice

Serious allegations of malpractice in the admission process of M Phil at the physical education department of Gujarat University have been made by students. Mahesh Desai, member of Gujarat University Students Welfare Board has given a memorandum to the Vice Chancellor and Registrar of GU in this regard. He has demanded that the M Phil entrance exam should be reorganized.

Rape incident at Kalapur

A 42 year-old woman who is a Gomitpur resident has lodged a complaint with the Kalapur police station against four people including a woman and alleged that they raped her on September 2 night until the next morning. She said that Shardaben Angwel, Pravin alias Bhuriyo Parmar, Dinesh Dantani and a young fat man in a yellow shirt raped her against her wish. The young man had also kicked her on her private parts.

Case of kidnapping at Satellite

Laxmiben Raval, mother of Sonal Raval, 15 and a resident of Unava in Gandhinagar district lodged a complaint with the Satellite police station against one Parbat Thakor and alleged that he kidnapped her daughter Sonal on the evening of August 8 from the Ramdev Nagar Char Rasta area.

Darpana to help Bihar women

Goonj, a Bihar-based NGO, appealed to the Darpana Academy of Performing Arts to contribute one lakh Saris for women in the flood-affected areas of Bihar. The clothes that have reached the affected areas are primarily western, which the rural women are not accustomed to wearing. Darpana has appealed to public to donate Saris for the flood affected and have set up five collection centres in Ahmedabad: (1) Darpana Academy of Performing Arts, Usmanpura (24 hours), (2) Mahatma Gandhi International School, Mithakhali Gam (5pm to 7pm), (3) Dipti Shah Institute of English Public Speaking & Self Development, Asopalav, 132 ring road (10am to 7pm), (4) Seva Café, CG road (10am to 10pm), (5) Vyakti Vikas Kendra (Art of Living), Mayur Pankh, near Umiya Vijay, Satellite road (whole day).

# New screening system at city airport soon

Will enable passengers to collect the boarding card after loading baggage

Santosh Chowdhury

Waiting endlessly in a queue for your baggage to be X-rayed and cleared by the security staff at the Sardar Vallabhai Patel International Airport (SVPI) would be history within the next six months.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) is getting a hi-tech in-line baggage screening system installed at the airport which would enable a passenger to walk in straight to the check-in area and collect the boarding card after putting their baggage on a loading platform just beside the counter for security checks. The Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) at Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi

recently got this system installed for faster screening of baggage besides offering a faster check-in convenience for the passengers.

The in-line baggage screening system, which is part of the fully-integrated passenger terminal system, enables faster movement of baggage and screening processes with virtually no manual interference by airport staff in the screening process until the baggage gets segregated by an automated system for closer scrutiny. These hi-tech systems also comprise an in-built explosives-detection mechanism to detect any kind of substance not allowed to be carried by the passengers to the aircraft. The system uses an advanced



three-tier module which lets passengers deposit their baggage at the check-in counter where it gets weighed, bar coded and transported automatically onto a conveyor belt leading to a micro-processor-based screening area. The bar coding on the baggage generated in the check-in

Days of endless waits may be over

System already in place at New Delhi airport All US airports also use the system

The current level of alertness after a series of blasts incidents in Bangalore, Jaipur and Ahmedabad had prompted the AAI and the private players now managing some metro airports to go in for hi-tech baggage screening and sorting systems.

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baggage through the bar coding process for loading in the aircraft but also automatically screens them repeatedly and segregates those baggage from the system where it feels closer scrutiny is required by the security staff, airport sources here informed.

The unique bar coding system used during the screening process is expected to help the airport staff & ensures that the baggage is loaded for the right destination and in the right aircraft.

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The in-line baggage screening systems are widely used in all US airports to prevent terror attacks.

## Loud noise could lead to auditory, stress problems

Such problems can affect one's state of mind, having an adverse effect on sound

Mitaaly Naidu

Workers in factories who are exposed to loud noise for extended periods of time often face auditory and psychological problems. The auditory problems include temporary and permanent loss of hearing, while it is believed that psychological problems such as stress, irritability, headaches, migraines, disrupted sleep patterns etc are also caused.

According to Dr SR Tripathi, a scientist at the National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH), "A person working in a heavy motor or compressor factory who is exposed to loud noise for a long time, will suffer from stress. Headaches and migraines lead to irritability and a short temper. Negative emotions enter the individual's mind and he or she experiences greater fatigue



Sound that harms

Long exposure to loud noise can lead to problems such as temporary and permanent loss of hearing, stress, irritability, headaches, migraines, disrupted sleep patterns etc

than others. These have an adverse effect on one's personal life."

Dr Tripathi said that a person exposed to high frequency noise of around 4,000 hertz for around five hours will suffer from temporary threshold shift (TTS), commonly known as temporary hearing loss. Continued exposure over a period of five to six years may lead to permanent threshold shift (PTS), or permanent hearing loss.

"A worker in a factory exposed to noise of over 90 dBA for more than four hours may be affected by noise-initiated hearing loss (NIHL)," said Dr Tripathi. (In

dBA, 'dB' refers to the unit of loudness, i.e. decibel; while 'A' refers to A-weighted sound level, which means that noise above and below the range of human hearing has been filtered out.)

Regarding the ill effects of such noise, Dr Tripathi said: "Factories where noise of more than 90dBA is produced should take precautionary measures to reduce the negative effects of the noise. Such measures could involve the use of double walls, which would reduce the noise level by a considerable extent. Also, factory workers should wear earmuffs while working. If these measures are enforced, then the hazards of loud noise can be reduced by a great degree."

## Paldi Vikas Gruh girl attempts to end life

The 11-year-old was beaten by her hostel warden

DNA Correspondent

An 11-year-old student of Paldi Vikas Gruh attempted suicide on Wednesday evening. According to Ellisbridge police, the girl has been admitted to VS Hospital, where her condition is said to be critical.

According to the sources, Kajal Parmar, a Class VI student, was beaten by the hostel warden of the Vikas Gruh on Wednesday. She could not tolerate the warden's behavior



and tried to end life by consuming five expired pills.

On Wednesday, Kajal had defied the instruction of hostel warden Daksha Patel of not playing near the boundary wall of the Gruh.

Patel reportedly slapped Parmar and hit her head on a wall.

Sub-inspector at Ellisbridge police station CB Sisodiya recorded the statement of the girl in which she alleged she was beaten by her hostel warden and the humiliation forced her to take the extreme step.

## Couple tries suicide; wife dies

Man suspected his wife of having illicit affair

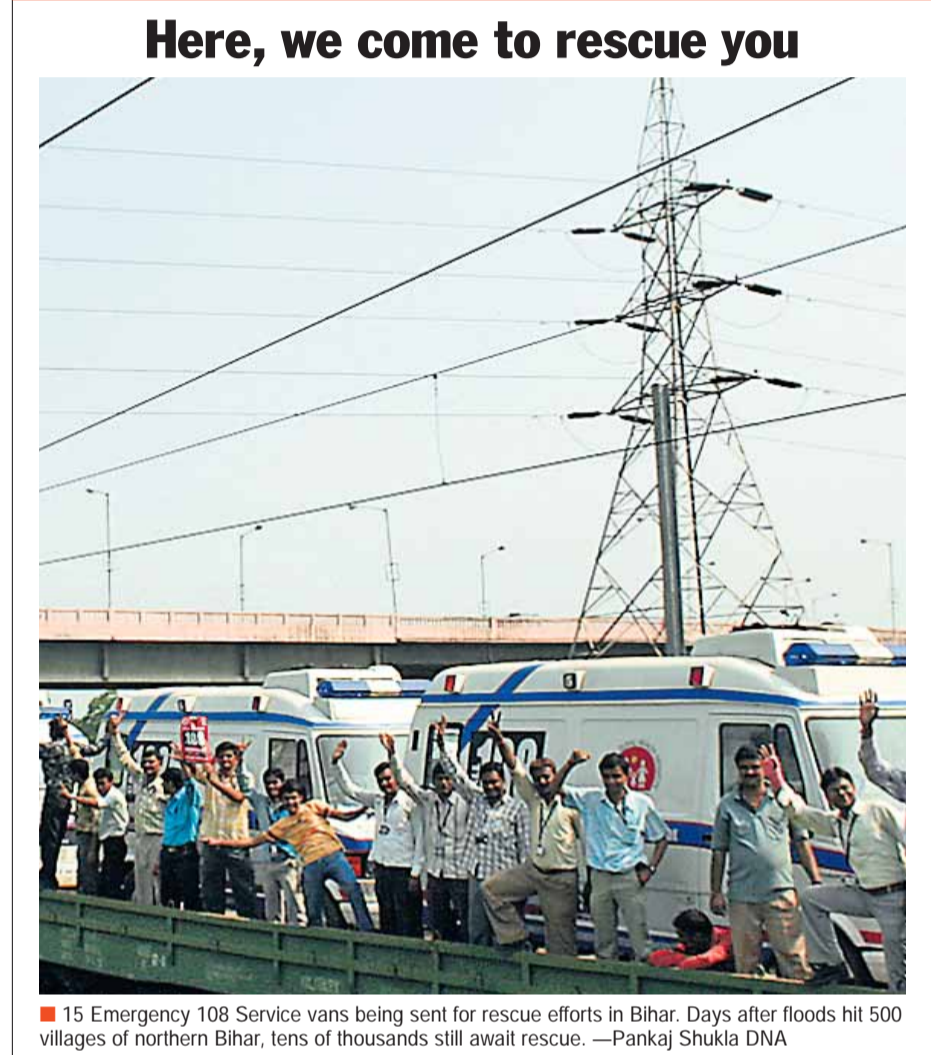
Ritesh Shah

A woman died on Wednesday night in what was termed a collective suicide attempt by a Bapunagar-based family. The woman's husband is alive though and undergoing treatment for serious burn injuries. The husband was reportedly suspicious of his wife having illicit relations with another man. On Wednesday night, following a quarrel, his wife reportedly set herself on fire after pouring kerosene on herself. According to sources, Dilip Valmik has been living in a joint family in Bapunagar for 10 years,

"We feel that since he had cast such strong aspersions on his wife's character, he may have himself set her on fire following which he may have attempted to kill himself."

—KP Gazipara, PI

where he works as a flower vendor. Valmik got married to Gauri seven years back. The couple had two kids - a son and a daughter. His wife assisted him in his trade. For quite sometime now, he had been suspecting his wife of having illicit relations with another man. They had been quarreling frequently. According to what Valmik told the police, on Wednesday night, they had another big quarrel, following which Gauri poured kerosene and then set herself on fire. Valmik and their 8 year-old son attempted to save her. The boy was injured in the attempt. Meanwhile, neighbours gathered on the spot and called emergency services. The three were taken to the Shardaben Hospital. Gauri died on the way, said sources. Valmik and his son are being treated for burn injuries in the hospital. But, police doubt Valmik's version. "We feel that since he had cast such strong aspersions on his wife's character, he may have himself set her on fire following which he may have attempted to kill himself," KP Gazipara, PI with the Bapunagar police station said.



15 Emergency 108 Service vans being sent for rescue efforts in Bihar. Days after floods hit 500 villages of northern Bihar, tens of thousands still await rescue. —Pankaj Shukla DNA

Police constable Bimal Desai's poems are based on common man's suffering and anguish

## Communal riots bring out the poet in a cop

Prakash Jalal

People often believe that police personnel are short on creativity and sensitivity. This notion is based on the perception that they are awfully busy in dealing with criminals and evil people in the society and get little time to indulge in anything else, leave alone pursuing creating excellence. But, one meeting with Bimal Desai 'Naraj', and you know how wrong is the popular notion.

Desai, a constable at Ghatlodia police station, is a poet who composes his creations under the pen name 'Naraj'. He also writes his blog 'Kasumbal Rang No Vaibhav' on the internet.

"Kon Vasant ne odkhe chhe, kon Rajab ne odkhe chhe? Aapna aa shaher ma dosto, kon mazhab ne odkhe chhe?"

(Who recognizes Vasant and Rajab, Friends? Who recognises religion in our city?)

This poem Desai 'Naraj' composed while attending the bandobast in the riot-torn Khadia in 2002. In fact, he composed several poems when communal riots had broken out in the state and he had the onerous task of handling the irate crowds.

Desai (30), a native of Sitwa-



Bimal Desai 'Naraj' (right) enjoys some relaxed moments with colleagues —Dhaval Bharwad DNA



da village of Sabarkantha, lives at Shastrinagar police line quarters.

"I joined Gujarat police as a constable in 1999 even before I completed my MA," he says, adding that Radheshyam Shar-

ma, a prominent Gujarati poet, his teacher Dineshchandra Trivedi and others motivated him to pursue his hobby of writing poems. "I do not write my poems with meters, but I want to learn them," says Desai.

"Mareez, Shunya Palanpuri and Dafan Visnagari are my favourite poets in Gujarati," says Desai who began writing poems when he was in class XI. He said Dafan also worked as a constable with Mehsana district police.

## Artist Harshil Patel bids good-bye to A'bad

The exhibition at Marvel Gallery will be Patel's final show in city before he joins the Slade School of Fine Arts in UK

Harmony Sigantoria

Much has been said and written about Harshil Patel, one of Ahmedabad's most promising contemporary artists, if the appreciation in the value of his artworks over the past couple of years is any indicator to go by.

The artist, a diploma holder from CN Vidyalaya, had applied to the prestigious Slade School of Fine Arts, University College London, for a Bachelor's in Fine Art degree. But, the university, which was very impressed with Patel's work, suggested that he apply for a Master's degree directly.

The artist, on the eve of his departure, is about to exhibit his latest series of work at Marvel Art Gallery from September 6 onwards. However, in keeping with his uniqueness of style, this exhibition is all set to be one with a difference.

"The traditional 'art exhibition' as it is understood in Ahmedabad comprises a series of paintings hung on a wall at some gallery. The 'concept' and thinking, which are so obviously a part of the artistic



process, end with the creation of the works," says the exhibition's curator, director, Marvel Art Gallery, Chaitya Shah.

"We want to challenge this, and use the dynamism of space to weave narratives of its own. To this end, our exhibition is going to consist of a couple of pieces, an installation and videography. The series of 30-odd canvases Patel has been working on recently will all be showcased in a catalogue; but even this will be a different showcase from anything people conceive of when they think of catalogues," Shah said.

Of his latest series, which includes Patel's 'visions' of London and Banaras alongside his native Ahmedabad, the artist says, "The quasi-realistic style that marks my earliest work was a necessary stage in my development as an artist. Once one can get at the essence of a form, structure or thing, it becomes possible to depict it with a mere stroke, hence allowing for the artist to play with abstractions and modernism."