



STAR DEBUTS, REAL DEAL
Production houses have morphed into managers, marketers of new kids on the Bollywood block



REAL, BARCA CLASH TONIGHT
SPORTSMAX | Mourinho's team are 8 points behind leaders Barcelona > P19



think!
50 YEARS OF THE INDIA-CHINA WAR
As we observe the 50th anniversary of the Sino-India war this month, a look at the conflict – and beyond
> THE BIG STORY P11



PLAYING MOTHER
Nurses are replacing untrained nannies as governesses in homes
> WELLNESS P12

short stories

STUDENT COMMITS SUICIDE ON STUDY TRIP TO GUJARAT

MUMBAI: A first year BMS student died after jumping from the third floor of a hotel building while on a college trip in Gujarat on Friday. Harsh Mangtani, 21, a resident of Ulhasnagar and a student of CHM College, was staying at Khandveli resort while on an industrial visit from his college.

KFA must submit detailed plan to DGCA: Ajit Singh
MUMBAI: Kingfisher Airlines would have to submit a detailed plan to DGCA before they are allowed to resume flights, civil aviation minister Ajit Singh said. Asked whether the DGCA was likely to suspend the carrier's flying license, he said it was for the regulator to decide.

Spectrum auction: Govt may not raise ₹40,000cr
NEW DELHI: The government may fail to achieve its target of raising Rs40,000 crore from spectrum auction and fee in this financial year as the attorney general (AG) GE Vahanvati has opined that the telecom operators should not be charged for excess spectrum retrospectively from the date of allocation of spectrum.

Oshiwara residents win back playground plot
MUMBAI: At a time when citizens are struggling to save the city's open spaces, residents of Oshiwara have succeeded in removing illegal structures from a plot reserved for a playground. Incidentally, the reserved plot had been allotted by Maharashtra Housing and Development Authority to a private trust for constructing a seven-storey international school.

Man held for killing wife, mother, daughter in Pune
PUNE: Police arrested Vishwajeet Masalkar, 25, for killing his mother, wife and two-year-old daughter on Thursday. He killed the three to allegedly to marry his girlfriend.

Oppn may scuttle plan to extend term of judges
NEW DELHI: The government's clash with the opposition over appointing retired judges in tribunals seems to have created hurdles for its plan to raise the retirement age of around 900 judges across 21 high courts in the country. The bill has been pending in the Lok Sabha for more than two years now.

Was snoop unit part of cross-border ops?
NEW DELHI: Was the Technical Services Division (TSD), a controversial military intelligence unit set up by General VK Singh, carrying out special operations in neighbouring countries. Operations of the kind were formally shut down by IK Gujral when he was the Prime Minister in 1997.

weather today

FORECAST: Rain activity would increase over the commercial capital and suburbs. Generally cloudy sky through the day.

HIGH 31°C HOTTEST IN INDIA CHURU 39°C
LOW 25°C COLDEST IN INDIA SHYOK -7°C

India weather P4
World weather P10

TODAY: 58 pages, including 12 pages of HT Cafe (for Mumbai only), 24 pages of HT Brunch & 4 pages of HT Live Navi Mumbai (for readers from Vashi to Panvel)

₹12 hike in LPG cylinder; petrol, diesel rates to rise

MORE PAIN Govt hikes dealer commission; non-subsidised cylinders also to cost more

HT Correspondents
hmetro@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI: After setting a limit of six subsidised 14.2-kg liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders annually per household late last month, the petroleum ministry has again made cooking a more expensive proposition for the common man.

Additional cylinders, which would have to be sourced at market rates, also have become dearer.

Effective from Saturday, the price of subsidised LPG cylinders has been hiked by Rs12 a cylinder, following orders by the ministry to raise the commission paid to dealers by Rs11.42 from Rs25.83 per 14.2-kg cylinder to Rs37.25, government officials said. The added expense will be passed on to the consumer.

Subsidised LPG in Mumbai will now cost Rs435 a cylinder, up from Rs423. In Kolkata, the new price is Rs412.42; in Delhi Rs410.42; and in Chennai Rs397.92.

The Rs11.42 or 44% commission increase per cylinder is sure to further burden an already overstretched average household budget.

Petrol and diesel prices will

COOKING GAS BECOMES DEARER

FOR SUBSIDISED LPG

₹12	₹435
Rise in price per LPG cylinder	New cost per LPG cylinder

FOR NON-SUBSIDISED LPG

₹12.50	₹906.50
Rise in price per LPG cylinder	New cost per LPG cylinder

NEW COST IN OTHER METROS*

DELHI:	₹410.42
KOLKATA:	₹412.42
CHENNAI:	₹397.92

* Price per subsidised cylinder

PETROL, DIESEL NEXT?

Officials confirmed that a move is underway to raise commission paid to petrol-pump dealers on the sale of petrol and diesel. "The petroleum ministry proposes to raise commission paid on petrol by 23 paise to **₹1.72**

and that on diesel by 10 paise to **₹1.01** per litre," they said.

The hike being considered for petrol and diesel is less than 67 paise and 42 paise, which was being demanded by dealers due to substantial increase in working capital costs.

PRICE RISE DUE TO HIKE IN DEALER COMMISSION


On Saturday, the petroleum ministry raised the price of subsidised LPG cylinders to hike the commission paid to dealers from **₹25.83** per 14.2-kg cylinder to **₹37.25**.

The commission was also raised by **₹12.17** to **₹38** per non-subsidised cylinder.

CAP ON CYLINDERS

Late in September, the government, in an effort to pare down its oil subsidy bill by **₹20,300 crore**, limited the supply of subsidised cooking gas cylinders to six annually per household and increased the price of diesel.

Opposition parties, such as the BJP and the Communist Part of India (Marxist), and also some of the UPA government's own allies, criticised the move as inflationary and anti-people.



also go up marginally as the petroleum ministry is considering increasing dealer commission by at least 23 paise and 10 paise per litre, respectively.

Even the commission on market price or non-subsidised LPG too has been raised by Rs12.17 to Rs38 a cylinder. Accordingly, a non-subsidised LPG cylinder price will go up

from Rs894 to Rs906.5.

The government has also raised commission paid on 5-kg cylinders by Rs5.33 to Rs18.63.

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>> CONTINUED ON P9

Auto union refuses meter recalibration for revised fares

HT Correspondent
hmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: A section of auto-rickshaw drivers has opposed demands to recalibrate meters as per the new tariff structure, complicating matters for transport authorities and commuters.

The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Transport Authority has hiked the minimum fare for rickshaws by Rs3 and for taxis by Rs2. It also hiked fare for each subsequent kilometer. However, in a rare move, the MMRTA has reduced the minimum fare distance from 1.6km to 1.5km. The meter changing stage for subsequent distance has also been reduced to 100 metres.

This change requires that all meters — digital and analogue — be recalibrated to ensure that the meter ticks as per the new distance structure. If not, it allows rickshaw and taxi drivers to fleece commuters with arbitrary estimation of distance and fare.

At least one rickshaw union, however, is opposing the change saying it doesn't want drivers

WHY RECALIBRATE

DUE TO THE change in the minimum distance and subsequent changes, all meters in taxis and autos will need to be calibrated, which will be a major challenge for the transport department. The Hakim panel has recommended a 45-day deadline for recalibration after fare hike

THE MINIMUM fare distance has been revised from 1.6km to 1.5km for the Mumbai Metropolitan Region

AFTER 1.5KM, the meter will change every 100m as against the current 167.7m for taxis and 200m for autos.

incur the recalibration cost, as they will have to readjust their meters in May, when the fare is slated to go up again.

"Therefore, we have told the government that instead of forcing recalibration of meters in 45 days, it should allow drivers to use a tariff card till the next fare hike," said Shashank Rao of Mumbai Automen's Union.

>> RELATED REPORT, P5

Pride at stake on finals day at WT20



■ Captains Darren Sammy (WI), Mahela Jayawardene (SL), Jodie Fields (Aus) and Charlotte Edwards (Eng).

AJAY AGGARWAL/HT

THE CHALLENGE
A SL win will make them the first host team to claim the title
WI are eyeing revenge after being thrashed by SL in the Super 8s

THE TACTICS
SL: Spin to fox WI batsmen
WI: Overpower SL bowlers

THE KEY MEN
WI: Chris Gayle, Kieron Pollard
SL: M Jayawardene, R Herath

DEFENDING TITLE
In the ICC Women's WT20 final, reigning champions Australia will aim for their second successive title when they take on 2009 winners England

TOURNAMENT RECORD
Eng: Have been undefeated
Aus: Have lost only one match

WOMEN'S FINAL TODAY: Eng vs Aus (1.30pm) Live on Star Cricket

MEN'S FINAL TODAY: WEST INDIES vs SRI LANKA (7pm) Live on Star Cricket

ht20
ICC WORLD TWENTY20
LAST BIG VICTORY
SL: Joint winners of Champions Trophy in 2002 with India
WI: Winners of Champions Trophy in 2004.
>> REPORTS ON P17 & P18

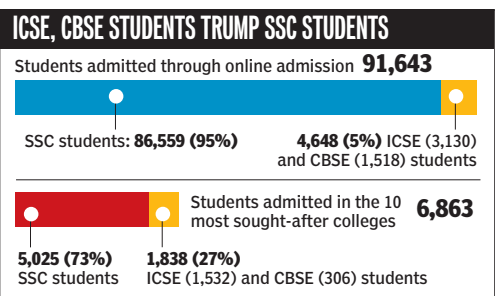
ON THE WEB
hindustantimes.com/WCT20

SSC students lose out at city's top colleges

Bhavya Dore
bhavya.dore@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: State board students make up the majority of those admitted to junior colleges in Mumbai, but they represent a small percentage in the 10 most sought-after city colleges.

Data accessed from the state's school education department shows that while 95% SSC students took admission through the online process this year, the state board representation in the top 10 colleges was 73%. In case of CBSE and ICSE students, who made up for just 5% of the total students admitted to colleges, the percentage in the 10 most sought-after colleges was much high-



er at 27%.

"In the last two years, SSC students had done well. But this time, the ICSE numbers have grown and SSC students have lost out in the premium South

Mumbai colleges," said Jyoti Thakur, vice-principal, Jai Hind College at Churchgate.

Though students from all board are eligible for the best-five scheme, which was intro-

duced in 2010, and additional sports marks for a level-playing field, state board students performed poorly. The number of students scoring 90% and above fell to 7,459 from 14,523 last year.

In 2008, the state government introduced a percentile formula for normalising scores across boards followed by introduction of the 90:10 reservation policy in 2009.

The data collected from the education department covered all streams and the colleges that were considered the most sought-after were KC College, Jai Hind College, St Xavier's College, SIES College, Sathaye College, NM College, Mithibai College, Ruia College, Ruparel College and HR College.

IRRIGATION SCAM: CM NOD TO PROBE 45 OFFICIALS

HT Correspondent
hmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan on Saturday cleared a departmental probe against 45 officials of Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation (VIDC), who had been indicted in the ND Vadhane committee report in 2010. The department inquiry had been pending for two years.

Sources in the government said that the water resources department, cornered over the irrigation scam, finally sent the file for go-ahead. It is also being said that through the departmental enquiry, the government hopes to buy time to issue the white paper on irrigation and deflect attention from the politicians involved in the scam.

>> FULL REPORT, P2

Anna asks Cong to probe Vadra; FM calls it pvt deal

HT Correspondents
hmetro@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI: Social activist Anna Hazare on Saturday came out in support of his estranged associate, activist-turned politician Arvind Kejriwal, asking the Congress to probe the corruption charge against party president Sonia Gandhi's son-in-law Robert Vadra.

On Friday, Kejriwal alleged that Vadra took an "unsecured interest-free loan" of Rs65 crore from realty major DLF to buy property worth Rs300 crore between 2007 and 2010 from that company.

Hazare said the Congress shouldn't shy away from announcing a probe if it was sure that the allegations were wrong. But finance minister P Chidambaram told a press conference in Mumbai that there was nothing wrong in the Vadra-DLF deal, as it was struck between two pri-

"Thank you so much for your concern. I am fine and can handle all the negativity. I have lost people I loved, what can be worse."
ROBERT VADRA, posted on Facebook

"These transactions..." (Vadra-DLF) have been disclosed in the appropriate IT and other returns. Nobody has alleged any quid pro quo or any corrupt motive."
P CHIDAMBARAM, FM

"Many Cong leaders say these allegations are due to electoral compulsions and are baseless. If they are untrue, why not order a judicial probe."
ANNA HAZARE

vate individuals.

He said, "These transactions ... have been disclosed in the appropriate income tax and other returns. And nobody has alleged any quid pro quo or any corrupt motive, beyond that I cannot say anything."

The Congress party also rejected the demand for a probe. Party spokesperson Manish Tewari said, "An inquiry into what? Is a business transaction between two private entities duly reported to the statutory

Sebi for simplifying investor paperwork, foreign fund norms

HT Correspondent
hmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The capital market regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), on Saturday announced a string of measures aimed at boosting fund flow to equity markets amid indications that more such measures were coming.

Finance minister P Chidambaram, who flew down to Mumbai, had a busy day with separate brainstorming sessions with India's top financial administrators — Reserve Bank of India governor D Subbarao and the Sebi board, headed by chairman UK Sinha — to discuss ways and means to keep the momentum going on the recent burst of bold reforms initiatives to reverse a slowdown in an economy, which until recently, was driving global growth.

Sebi allowed investors to maintain their investment records across various assets— bank fixed deposits, insurance products, post office deposits—in a single digital (demat) statement.

SINGLE DEMAT STATEMENT

SEBI ALLOWED investors to maintain their investment records across various assets — bank fixed deposits, insurance products, post office deposits — in a single digital (demat) statement.

"This will enable the investor to view the details of his holdings and transactions across all asset classes through a single consolidated statement," the regulator said in a statement.

This is seen as a precursor to eventually allow investors to avoid the lengthy process of filling up know-your-customer (KYC) registration forms each time they buy a financial product or a service, such as a mutual fund scheme, equity shares insurance policies and bank accounts through a common KYC registration that contains information about personal details, address, permanent account number (PAN) and photographs, to name a few.

>> CONTINUED ON P5

Now, conspiracy theorists crash Obama's party

Yashwant Raj
hmetro@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: Former GE CEO Jack Welch introduced a new category of anti-Barack Obama conspirators on Friday morning: 'Jobbers', who cooked up job numbers to make the US president look good.

Welch spoke for the entire Republican establishment when he tweeted: "Unbelievable jobs numbers...these Chicago guys will do anything...can't debate, so change numbers."

Bloggers and the Twitterverse picked it up soon enough, whipping up an online frenzy about a conspiracy by the Obama campaign.

The reason for this outburst was the unemployment update released by the bureau of labour statistics, which shows that the US private sector added 114,000 jobs in September.

That drove the unemployment rate to under 8% — the magical benchmark — to 7.8%, the lowest in four years, going right back to the month Obama took office in January 2009.

The state of the economy is the single most critical issue in the presidential election, with Mitt Romney telling voters he deserves a chance because Obama failed to fix it.

The Friday morning report was bad news for Team Romney,



BOOST FOR US PREZ

US PRESIDENT Barack Obama's campaign and its Democratic allies raised a record \$181 mn in September for the president's re-election effort, adding to a fundraising haul that could prove crucial

THE CAMPAIGN hoped this success would shift attention from Obama's lacklustre debate performance against Republican Mitt Romney.

which responded to the announcement much faster than the Obama campaign, deriding it as "not a real recovery".

But the narrative of the campaign had changed, the second time this month. The first change came with Romney resurrecting his campaign after comprehensively beating Obama at a debate in Denver.

On Friday, it was Obama's turn to taste victory. "This morning, we found out that the unemployment rate has fallen to its lowest level since I took office," Obama said.