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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 09, 2012

NIFTY 5,676.0 -71.0 SENSEX 18,709.0 -229.5 DOW JONES 13,610.2 +34.8 NASDAQ 3,136.2 -13.3 RUPEE/\$ 52.5 -0.6 RUPEE/EURO 68.0 -0.5 GOLD/10G 31,480.0 +0 SILVER/K 60,500.0 -500


WANT SALMAN KHAN? PAY HIS CHARITY

HT CAFE | After footwear brand, actor now gets cola giant to aid Being Human



CHARGED CLASICO ENDS IN A DRAW

SPORT | Ronaldo, Messi score 2 goals during the Real Madrid-Barcelona match > P17



BUSINESS FISCAL CORRECTION

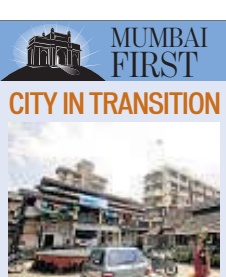
Govt to unveil roadmap soon > P14

CARIBBEAN PARTY

West Indies' World T20 victory dance trends worldwide hindustantimes.com/windies



MUMBAI FIRST CITY IN TRANSITION



Vadra row fallout: DLF shares tank

MORE TO COME? Kejrival says will reveal fresh details today

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Social activist-turned-politician Arvind Kejrival's charge on Friday that realty major DLF had struck a "corrupt" deal with Congress president Sonia Gandhi's son-in-law Robert Vadra hit the company hard on Monday, with its share tanking 7% to Rs223 on the Bombay Stock Exchange.

Kejrival alleged that India's biggest property developer had given an interest-free loan of Rs65 crore and also sold property at cheap rates to Vadra. But the company on Saturday termed the allegation baseless and untrue.

The India Against Corruption activist, Kejrival, announced on his twitter page on Monday that he would further disclose how DLF benefitted through its association with Vadra. "DLF granted favours to Robert Vadra. What favours did Haryana government grant DLF? How is DLF reply a bunch of lies? Will speak tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5pm."

Meanwhile, the 30-stock Sensex of the BSE lost 229.48 points or 1.2% to close at 18,708.98 points on Monday on global concerns and profit-booking. Monday's close is well below the 19,000 mark it touched last week

SHARP DROP

Shares of DLF on Monday tumbled by over 7%, eroding nearly ₹3,000 crore from its market value

Thirty-stock Sensex of the BSE lost 29.48 points to close at 18,708.90.


THE ALLEGATION

Last week, Arvind Kejrival and Prashant Bhushan had alleged that Vadra bought property worth crores of rupees between 2007 and 2010 with an "unsecured interest-free loan" given by DLF.

DLF rejected the allegations that it had given unsecured loans to Vadra as a "quid pro quo" for favours and said it had transparent dealing with Vadra as an individual entrepreneur.

IN THE LINE OF FIRE


Businessman Robert Vadra on Monday shut down his Facebook account, following a controversy over his status message that read: "Mango people in a banana republic."



Before shutting his account, Vadra wrote: "Obviously, it seems I have people on my Facebook account who do not have a sense of humour. Everything I write becomes news and further debates on television?? (sic). I have decided to delete my account."

Arvind Kejrival responded on Twitter: "Mango men would prove to be nemesis for the 'powerful.'"

"Transactions between two private individuals cannot be questioned on the basis of some imputed or implied act of corruption. Nobody has alleged any quid pro quo or corruption" - P CHIDAMBARAM, Union finance minister



Asha Bhosle's daughter commits suicide

HT Correspondent
hmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Varsha Bhosle, 56, daughter of singer Asha Bhosle, committed suicide on Monday morning at her residence at Prabhukunji, Peddar Road, by shooting herself with a licensed pistol of Belgian make.

She had made two suicide attempts earlier, in 1998 and 2008.

Gamdevi police said Varsha was found lying in a pool of blood



Screen grab of Varsha Bhosle (right) from IBN Lokmat.

BROTHER'S PISTOL?

THE POLICE suspect that the pistol used by Varsha Bhosle is in the name of her brother, Anand.

THEY WILL record statements of family members to ascertain the ownership of the firearm. >>P5

door linking the flat to Late Mangeshkar's house next door.

Her body was sent to JJ Hospital for a post-mortem.

No suicide note was found. However, police said Varsha had been in a state of depression and also suffered from acute pain in her legs.

A writer, Varsha was divorced in 1998.

Asha Bhosle was in Singapore at the time of the incident and returned to Mumbai late Monday night.

short stories

CABINET TO DECIDE ON GOVT LAND LEASE TODAY

MUMBAI: After losing revenue, the state cabinet may decide on the policy to increase the lease rent and facilitate the transfer of various government lands in greater Mumbai region on Tuesday. The government has leased out around 1,200 plots. >> P3

Memorial at Golden Temple will reopen Sikhs' wounds

MUMBAI: Lieutenant General (ret'd) Kuldip Singh Brar, the only surviving commander of Operation Bluestar, fears that the upcoming memorial to the army action in Harmandir Sahib in Amritsar may not only become a rallying point for radicals but also reopen the Sikh community's wounds of the past. >> P11

Chavez re-elected Venezuelan president


CARACAS: Incumbent Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez won the presidential election on Monday, getting another six-year mandate. He vowed to deepen his self-styled socialist revolution that has polarised the nation. >> P12

Japanese, Briton share medicine Nobel Prize

STOCKHOLM: British researcher John Gurdon and Shinya Yamanaka of Japan have won this year's Nobel Prize in medicine. The two won the award "for the discovery that mature cells can be reprogrammed to become pluripotent". >> P12

Politically Incorrect

You have all your city news in your favourite paper's Metro section. Now, tune into some insightful views as well. On Tuesdays, read Shailesh Gaikwad's Politically Incorrect on P6.



weather today

FORECAST: A comfortable morning turns warm and humid as the day advances. Possibility of rain and thundershowers.

HIGH 31°C HOTTEST IN INDIA CHURU 38°C
LOW 24°C COLDEST IN INDIA CHUSHUL -08°C

India weather P4
World weather P12

TODAY: 24 pages, including 6 pages of HT Cafe (for Mumbai only).

Mumbai taxi rides costliest in India, autos 2nd highest

Kailash Korde
kailash.korde@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Once the revised tariffs come into effect on Thursday, taxi rides in Mumbai will become the most expensive among all the metros, while auto fares will be the second highest after Bangalore.

From Thursday, the minimum taxi fare will rise to Rs19 from Rs17 and the minimum auto fare from Rs12 to Rs15. The transport department has also hiked each subsequent kilometre (km) fare — the basic fare — of taxis from Rs10.50 to Rs12.35 and for autos, from Rs7.12 to Rs9.87. The basic fare hike determines how much more a commuter will really have to pay.

In Delhi and Kolkata, the per-km taxi fare is Rs11 and Rs10 respectively compared to Rs12.35 in Mumbai.

Similarly, the per-km auto fare of Rs9.87 in Mumbai is only lower than the per km auto fare in Bangalore (Rs11). In Delhi, Ahmedabad and Hyderabad,

PINCHING THE POCKET

FOR TAXIS

City	Distance fare	Per-km rate
Delhi	₹20 (2km)	₹ 11.00
Mumbai	₹19 (1.5km)	₹ 12.35
Kolkata	₹22 (2km)	₹ 10.00

FOR AUTOS

City	Distance fare	Per-km rate
Delhi	₹19 (2km)	₹ 6.50
Mumbai	₹15 (1.5km)	₹ 9.87
Bengaluru	₹20 (1.8km)	₹ 11
Hyderabad	₹16 (1.6km)	₹ 9

the per-km fare is Rs6.50, Rs7.50 and Rs9 respectively. >> CONTINUED ON P3 >> RELATED REPORTS, P3

ROADS UNDER REPAIR CAN'T CHARGE TOLL

Moushumi Das Gupta
moushumi.gupta@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Fed up of shelling out high toll for a highway ride slowed down by ongoing construction work?

Commuters may soon get some relief.

In the face of mounting public anger over having to pay hefty toll on highways, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is planning to either freeze or reduce toll on all future highway projects that are set to be expanded from four- to six-lane, if the developer fails to complete the work on time.

"We are considering such a proposal. The move to reduce or freeze toll on highways that are being upgraded from four- to six-lane will discourage developers from delaying the project," RP Singh, NHAI chairman told Hindustan Times.

Under the existing rule for upgrading a highway, developers are allowed to charge full toll.

Irrigation scam: IAS officer will oversee investigation

HT Correspondent
hmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Chief minister Prithviraj Chavan has decided to depute a senior IAS officer to ensure an impartial inquiry against officials of the Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation. Though the CM has reportedly asked chief secretary JK Banthia to head the probe, the latter may

ask one of the additional chief secretaries to do the job.

In Pune, whistleblower Vijay Pandhare attacked the state's irrigation policies, saying they were drafted by people who had "lost consciousness". He alleged that the projects were unsuccessful as the irrigation department was run by "corrupt and greedy people".

Meanwhile, the Bombay high court has agreed to hear a PIL

IMPARTIAL PROBE

CHIEF MINISTER Prithviraj Chavan initiated a probe against 45 engineers of the Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation. >>P6

seeking a probe into some projects undertaken at public places to extend the deadline for another day. >> RELATED REPORTS, P4

CM allows societies to play dandiya till midnight

garba groove



only rider — traditional instruments should be played and no loudspeakers can be used.

Chief minister Prithviraj Chavan on Monday told a delegation of Navratri mandals, led by Congress MP Sanjay Nirupam, that the noise norms would be relaxed for housing societies during the nine-day festival.

As per the current rules, no instruments or speakers are allowed after 10pm. "The chief

minister assured us that the existing rules would be verified, amendments would be made and the police would be instructed," Nirupam said.

The MP said they decided to approach the CM after the government allowed similar relaxation of rules during Ganeshotsav.

Environment minister Sanjay Deotale told HT that he would have to study the proposal.

Chavan turned down a request by mandals organising functions at public places to extend the deadline for another day. >> RELATED REPORTS, P4



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