



Mulund adopts Chipko to save 300-yr-old tree

Mulund residents will enact the famous Chipko Movement of the 1970s to save a local 300-year-old banyan tree at a silent protest on Thursday in Mulund Colony. The members of IGO Shree Sai...

Pratishtha, supported by Congress activists, will hold protests and rallies for the tree that has been visibly injected with chemicals to shrivel over a period of time. -Shirine Raj

Only 4 Jumbo Covid centres to continue

The BMC says only 1% of the 16,473 Jumbo centre beds are occupied as COVID numbers have dropped to early-December 2021 level

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With coronavirus cases dropping to under 400 in the city, the BMC, going forward, plans to operate only four Jumbo Covid centres - Richardson & Cruikshanks in Dyculla, NSCI Dome, BMC and the Madad Jumbo Covid centres. All the remaining Jumbo centres will be shut by next week. According to the BMC dashboard, currently there are 4,783 active patients in the city of which 432 are symptomatic and 265 are critical, who are mostly being treated at the SevenHills Hospital in Andheri.



without any occupancy but we have to be extremely cautious as we may need them later," he said. In Rajesh Dera, the Dean of BMC, Jumbo Covid centre said, "Currently we have 20 patients and the same situation is being witnessed at all other Jumbo centres. The decision, however, of shutting down Covid centres is taken by the Taidore and the BMC administration. It is not as if we are getting very few patients and most of them are getting discharged in three to four days," Kakani said during the third...

CASES REPORTED ON FEBRUARY 9

Table with 4 columns: Category, Cases, Deaths, Recovered. Mumbai: 441 Cases, 9 Deaths, 1,115 Recovered. Total cases: 10,52,617. Total deaths: 16,676. Total recovered: 10,29,006.



MAHARASHTRA

Table with 4 columns: Category, Cases, Deaths, Recovered. Maharashtra: 7,142 Cases, 92 Deaths, 20,222 Recovered. Total cases: 78,23,385. Total deaths: 1,43,247. Total recovered: 75,93,291.

Table with 4 columns: Category, Cases, Deaths, Recovered. Vaccinated: 39,777 Total vaccinated, 35,075 Civic centres, 1,317 State centres, 3,386 Private centres.

OVERALL VACCINATED TILL DATE

Table with 4 columns: Category, 1st dose, 2nd dose. Total: 1,96,32,878. 1st dose: 1,05,26,142. 2nd dose: 88,25,003.

Precautionary dose | 2,81,733 | Pic: Shubhan Koyande

Sero-survey of frontline workers next month

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To check the antibody level amongst healthcare and frontline workers (HCWs and FLWs), the BMC is planning to conduct a sero-survey by the end of this month or first week of March. For this, 1,000 samples of HCWs and FLWs will be collected and the exercise will continue at an interval of six and nine months. Civic officials said that during the pandemic many HCWs and FLWs were infected and retreated due to which their antibody levels had dropped. There is also a need to understand the current antibody level despite taking three doses, including a booster.

Additional municipal commissioner Suresh Kakani said this time the civic body has roped in the survey as frontline and healthcare workers are more prone to Covid infection.

Full report on www.freepressjournal.in

Amid falling cases, 23 dists report high positivity rate

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The department has said it was a matter of relief that between February 4 and 6, no new Omicron variant cases were detected in the state. Anuragati kept the list with positivity rate of 27.1 per cent, followed by Nagpur (24.2 per cent), Warananagar, Nanded, Aurangabad, Yavatmal, Hingoli, Nashik, Washin, Dahanu, Akola, Gendla, Sangli, Latur, Bhamburda, Kolhapur, Satara, Solapur, Chandrapur, Ahmednagar, Buldhana and Nanded (8.4 per cent). Interestingly, Mumbai has the lowest positivity rate of 2.1 per cent.

MUMBAI

TARDEO GETS A GREEN PATCH WITH SELFIE-POINTS

The Vasantnagar Milk Chowk in Tardeo has received a unique facility from the BMC, making it one of the few green islands for citizens amidst traffic chaos and thick vehicular smoke.



Earlier... It was a neglected area, with overgrown bushes and anti-social elements dotting it. Area 1,400 sqft. Work began in July 2021. Total beautification cost Rs 97 lakh. Total illumination cost Rs 10 lakh. Theme Maratha architecture.

To benefit... Nearly 80,000 people. Mostly residents of Bhaiji Gali to Bhatia Hospital area and Tardeo junction to Sanjay Central railway station. Timings 6 am to 10 pm.

- Features: Three arches and a pond, Amphitheatre for live performances, 700-mt walkway, Big porch shell as selfie-point, 80 new trees have been planted, A fountain and a sculpture have been installed, Illumination under benches.

"There is no garden available for the Tardeo area. The temple of Tardeo has a garden, which is used by local residents. The theme of the garden is based on Maratha architecture and promises a unique experience for citizens."

Prashant Galwade, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, D-ward. Report: Kalpesh Mhamankar. Pic: Salman Ansari

Traffic on Sion flyover to be diverted for repairs

STAFF REPORTER

Mumbai. Vehicular traffic on Sion flyover will be diverted every weekend from 11 am to 5 pm on Saturday to Monday morning for repair works that will be undertaken by the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC).

According to a traffic notification issued by the police, new traffic regulations were made effective February 5 on a temporary basis. The traffic diversions have been made on the northbound arm of the Rajabai Ambedkar Road, where heavy vehicles coming from south Mumbai will have to take a right turn from Arera Junction to work the four-lane road and then take a right turn for Wadala bridge and proceed towards Arera Bridges. Heavy vehicles coming towards Arera Junction will be allowed a right turn till this week. Vehicles coming from south Mumbai via BPT Road will have to go from Sewri Link Road towards Ahuja Bridge.

Similarly, vehicles coming towards Sion Hospital Junction will have to take a left turn at the junction and go from Sulechana Shetty Marg towards Malim and Bander.

Aaditya Thackeray inaugurates viewing deck at Dadar Chowpatty

KALPESH MHAMANKAR

Mumbai. With an eye on the upcoming BMC election, State Environment Minister and Guardian Minister of Mumbai Suburbs, Aaditya Thackeray on Wednesday inaugurated a viewing deck at Dadar Chowpatty, offering a beautiful view of the Arabian Sea and the Bandra-Worli Sea Link. During the inauguration, Thackeray directed the BMC administration in name the deck as 'Mata Ramabai Ambedkar Smriti Viewing Deck'.

With the BMC elections scheduled to be declared any moment, the Shiv-Sena-led BMC is on a spree to showcase new projects and Thackeray's pet concept of 'Bhaktal Urbanism, where unused spaces are converted into beautified urban spaces for the citizens. Accordingly, beautification works like construction of these parks, beautification of grounds and places under the flyover have been conducted throughout the year. As a part of this beautification drive, the BMC has now built a 10,000 sq. ft. elevated platform over a storm water drain at Dadar Chowpatty near Chaiya Bhawan. The viewing deck has been built 10 feet high from the sea level. The construction started in March 2021 and was completed within ten months.

Subsequently, Thackeray also inaugurated a 'Suvaidh' in Dhuravi, Asia's largest urban climate. The BMC claims it is India's biggest toilet single block with 111 toilet seats. The centre will have 6.5 million litres of fresh water every year and will benefit over 30,000 residents of Dhuravi.

Thackeray tweeted, "We are committed to improving the living standards of the residents by providing them easy access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation. The centres will provide nearly two lakh women, children, men and people with disabilities access to water, hygiene and sanitation services. BMC is going to build 10 more Suvaidh Kendras in areas including, Chhatkhar, Chembur, Bandra, Santacruz and Govandi."

Defamation suit a garb, Salman wants my land cheap, NRI tells court

STAFF REPORTER

Mumbai. Actor Salman Khan's Parmel farmhouse neighbour Ketan Kakhad, an NRI, against whom the actor has filed a defamation suit, told a city court during a virtual hearing on Wednesday that Salman wanted his land at cheaper price and the defamation suit is only a garb to make him stop fighting for his land.

Arguing for the NRI, Advocate Abha Singh said, "This is a land issue, under the garb of a defamation suit, they don't want me to fight for my land," she told the court. There were disputes relating to the land between the two neighbours. Singh informed the court stating that the actor has not come to court with clean hands and hence the suit should be dismissed. Singh said Kakhad was hounded to be frustrated as he had approached a minister regarding the issues he was facing and shortly after he found a photo of Salman sitting with the same minister to whom he had approached to leave India. Advocate Singh said, Kakhad was only escalating his unhappiness and speaking the truth. "Truth is the biggest defence of Ketan Kakhad," she emphasised and asked what is defamatory to the land between the two neighbours. Singh said that the actor had not come to court with clean hands and hence the suit should be dismissed.

Full report on www.freepressjournal.in

Cabinet decision paves way for appointing administrator in BMC, nod to amendments

Move necessary as the term of the present body ends on March 7, says Nawab Malik

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Mumbai. In a major decision, the state cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Uday Thackeray on Wednesday approved the amendments to the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act, 1948 for the appointment of an administrator in the Brihan-Mumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). This was informed by NCP Minister Nawab Malik, who said that the amendment was necessary as the term of the present body ends on March 7, 2022 and as per the Supreme Court judgement, the term cannot be given for a civic body after expiry of its term. "There are provisions in the laws applicable to other civic bodies for the appointment of an administrator, but such a provision does not exist in the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act, 1948. Therefore, the cabinet gave its nod to amend the Act so that an administrator will be appointed in the BMC after March 7. The cabinet decision will be communicated to Governor B S Koshiyari and thereafter an order-in-council will be promulgated," said Malik. The Chief Minister's Office in a statement said, due to the coronavirus pandemic and increase in the number of BMC members following the reorganisation of the wards (from 227 to 239), it was not possible to hold elections at this juncture. "The appointment of the administrator will be valid till the date of the first meeting of the civic body to be held after the forthcoming general elections," it added.

As reported by the Free Press Journal, the BMC polls are expected in March or April as the BMC has suggestions and objections till February 14 from political parties and citizens on draft notification of increase in number of wards and changes in their boundaries.

The State Election Commission (SEC) will appoint a committee, which will give recommendations to the BMC on February 15 to 26. After this, a detailed report with committee recommendations will be submitted to the SEC on March 7.

Prez to inaugurate new hall at Raj Bhavan on 11th

AGENCIES

Mumbai. President Ram Nath Kovind will inaugurate the new Darbar Hall at Raj Bhavan here on Friday an official statement said. President's wife Sushila Kowind, Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, his deputy A H Pawar, state's PWD Minister Ashok Chavan and selected invitees will attend the event, the statement issued on Wednesday said. The President was scheduled to inaugurate the hall on December 8 last year, but the event was put off following the death of the then Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat that day, it said. The new hall has a seating capacity of 750 individuals at an expense of 225 crore. The heritage features of the hall have been retained while a policy has been constructed to give a new hall being in 2018 and was completed in December last year after facing a few delays due to the Covid-19 outbreak, it added.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUB : Inviting Competitive Offers for Redevelopment of Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd. Reg. No. THA/19/15-HSG/TC/40289/1-90. Add. - Survey No. 765, Plot No. 04, Village-Achole, Achole Road, Opposite Capital Mall, Nallasopara (East), Tal-Vasai, Dist. Palghar. PIN No. 401 209. On behalf of its members of Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., the members issued offers for Redevelopment of Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., Reg. No. THA/19/15-HSG/TC/40289/1-90. Add. - Survey No. 765, Plot No. 04, Village-Achole, Achole Road, Opposite Capital Mall, Nallasopara (East), Tal-Vasai, Dist. Palghar amounting to 205.85 aqm from the required experienced, technically and financially sound developers having their establishment in Mumbai and Vasai. Vice City Municipal Corporation. Collection of tender documents: Interested participants may purchase the tender packet from 11-02-2022 to 17-02-2022 between 11:00 am to 1:30 pm & 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm from the office of Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd. on payment of non-refundable cost of Rs.20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand only) by cash/understanding draft in favour of Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd. located at Nallasopara with bank confirmation letter in original. The tender packet should be collected by a person authorized to do so and on submission of duly signed authority letter on the interested participant's behalf. Pre-bid Meeting: A pre-bid meeting will be held on 20/02/2022 10:00 am onwards at the office of Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., Near Dabur Medical College, Opposite Capital Mall, Nallasopara (East) Tal-Vasai, Dist. Palghar. PIN No. 401 209 to clarify any concerns bidders may have with the solicitation of documents, scope of work and other details of the requirement of the tender bidding process. Submission of Offers: Duly filled sealed offers along with annexure should be submitted in the prescribed manner to the office of Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., Near Dabur Medical College, Opposite Capital Mall, Nallasopara (East) Tal-Vasai, Dist. Palghar. PIN No. 401 209 to clarify any concerns bidders may have with the solicitation of documents, scope of work and other details of the requirement of the tender bidding process. Validity of offers: The submitted offer should be valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of the tender. The Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd. on behalf of the society members reserves the right to extend the validity under intimation of all participating developers. Point to be Remembered: Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd. reserves the right to reject any or the offers without assigning any reason whatsoever. Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd. reserves the right to accept any offer with modification and its decision in this regard shall be binding on all. DATE : 10/02/2022. Hon'ble Secretary Nadbrahma Awaraj Co-operative Housing Society Ltd.,

