



Green Flag for Pune Metro



PUNE: The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the Pune Metro Rail project on December 24, 2016, that was languishing for last so many years. The Pune Metropolitan Region Development Authority (PMRDA) had proposed to take over the Metro project, which was initially declined by the PMC and the PCMC. The project finally saw the light of the day and it was flagged off with great pomp and gaiety at the hands of the Prime Minister in the city amidst the presence of the governor of Maharashtra Vidyasagar Rao, the chief minister, Devendra Phadanavis,

guardian minister Girish Bapat, Pune Mayor, Prashant Jagtap, NCP Supremo, Sharad Pawar and many other dignitaries and thousands of citizens. Speaking on the occasion, Modi said, "During Assembly polls in 2014, I had said that, the wheel of Maharashtra is stuck in the mud and it needs a double engine; one in Delhi and the other in the state. Now you can say that the double sided engine has shown its power and impact. The metro rail is a reality." The first phase of the project is expected to be completed by 2019, while the deadline for the completion of second phase is

2021. Pune needs a robust public transport. The project is going to be implemented by a Special Purpose Vehicle. Also present on the occasion were PMRDA Commissioner Mahesh Zagade, PMC Commissioner, Kunal Kumar, Principal Secretary Urban Development Department, Nitin Karir and CM's Secretary Milind Mhaikar. Describing the traffic situation in Pune, Girish Bapat said, "There is an imminent need for upgrading basic transport infrastructure".

- Compiled from Reports

Actor Nirmiti to award degrees

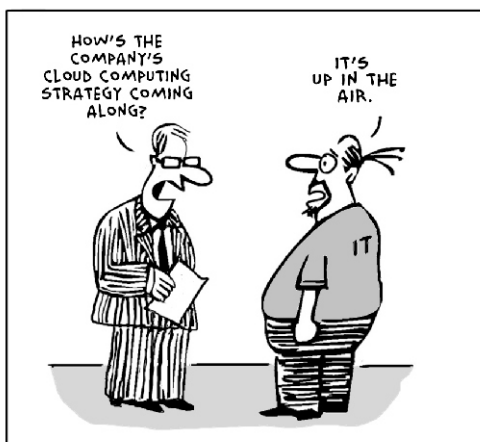


PUNE: The Indira School of Communication celebrates its 11th convocation ceremony on January 18, 2017. Students of Post-graduation get their degrees in Masters of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication and Acting Academy students will be awarded diplomas in acting.

The programme takes place in Dhruv Auditorium, IGI Campus. Renowned Marathi actress, Nirmiti Sawant, is the Chief Guest.

Getting degrees from a celebrity is sure to be a lasting memory for the students. Dr. Tarita Shankar, Chairperson of Indira Group of Institutes, Prof. Chetan Wakalkar, Group Director, Renu Garg, Director, ISC, shall also grace the ceremony. A theatre play, Bose is Coming directed by Prof. Subhadip Raha will be performed on the occasion.

(Nirmiti profile on Pg. 5)



THANKS

Our heartfelt thanks to the Chairperson of IGI, Dr. Tarita Shankar and Group Director of IGI, Prof. Chetan Wakalkar, for their encouragement and motivation. Thanks, also to Prof. Renu Garg, Director, ISC, for her constant support and Prof. Surhuda Kulkarni, faculty incharge for conceptualising I-View, Ms. Supriya Kutty for her support in making this product a success.

- Team I-View

Ain't got cash?? No Problem

Small vendors shift to cashless transactions finds out reporter Dania Rehan

There has been a great buzz in the country about demonetisation post November 8, the day on which Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced his demonetisation move. Modi announced the historic ban on rupee 500 and 1000 notes with a view to curb the menace of black money generation and for a corruption free economy. In the initial days after demonetisation, people in the city went berserk and found it difficult to cope up and adjust with cash crunch. However, as time passed, plastic money soon



Rajendra, a tea stall owner in Wakad. Pic: Dania

replaced cash and people started using alternate forms of currency like credit and debit cards, Paytm, freecharge and other digital apps for transactions.

"Excessive crowds at

banks and long queues at the ATMs in the city led to a mayhem. But after few days of difficulty, we got used to it and it actually turned out to be beneficial for us. We have now

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Awards for Pune in Smart Cities' race



Pune appears to be on the right road of evolution by winning three awards for the Smart Cities project in a competition organised by Business-World Awards 2016. "Pune reinforced its supremacy at executing Smart City in India, winning three awards, highest by any Smart City in India," stated the release.

The first award for 'Innovative Smart Solution - Knowledge and Intellectual Category' was awarded to Pune Lighthouse Project, while the second award for 'Innovative Smart Solution - Infrastructure' was given to Pune Smart City 24x7 water supply initiative. The Pune Care App got the third award of 'Innovative Smart Solution -

Social' The Pune Municipal Corporation has launched 15 projects under the Smart Cities Mission. They have given special attention to transport, water, road and solar systems. Projects include slum rehabilitation and steps to improve and expand public transport. A special purpose vehicle formed for smart cities

mission is running these projects.

"The board gave its nod to start the process of implementing 15 projects, known as quick win projects, by the company. The tender process for the projects would be initiated with immediate effect," said PMC municipal commissioner, Kunal Kumar, who was officially appointed as chairman of the company. He said they have selected 51 projects under quick win initiative to be treated on priority basis and would initially start with 15 projects.

PCMC in Smart Cities list

Also, in a recent development, twin cities Pimpri Chinchwad are also declared to be part of the Smart cities project. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis requested the urban development ministry to include PCMC in the Smart Cities project.



- Compiled by Dania Rehan

For the Young and Zealous

Pune is the city of the youth. This upcoming metro is all about novelty and creativity. People from all over the world come here; yoga enthusiasts, music lovers, science buffs, theatre and arts connoisseurs et al. The student community loves it the most.

Students living in the city find it just the right place to live in, learn and enjoy the energetic vibes, says Ronak Bhatia

Says Meghna Shom, a student from Odisha who lives in Pune and is a music lover, "Pune is one of the most suitable places to live in as it has a character of its own which is out of the box and alluring. The refurbishing vibes of the city make it a hub for the best and largest music festivals". This year, Pune hosted the most happening music festival, The Sunburn. For the



past few years, it has been hosting NH7 Weekender, EVC and VH1 Supersonic based on the same lines. These international festivals with robust line-ups are choosing this city because of its vivacity and youth audience. Mahee Srivastava, a student from UP says, "With its eateries, outing joints, night life and an aura of its own, I love the city". The weather, the crowd, and the aesthetic and

scenic locations surrounding it are some of the factors that make it a preferred city amidst the youth. Adds Meghna, "It is a city of enthusiasm and has talented people from all walks of life. The energetic and motivating crowd here makes every event; musical or otherwise, a big hit". The city, always considered as an ideal mix of a metro and a town has salubrious weather and exotic surroundings.

Civic bodies gear up for polls

PUNE: The Pune Municipal Corporation and Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation elections are on the anvil and the preparations are in full swing. The elections for the civic bodies are to be held in February 2017. The PMC election department has started the administrative preparations for the civic polls. According to press releases from civic authorities, it is decided to hold the civic polls in a new system of four ward electoral panel. The press release stated that, "The number of seats have also increased to 162 from existing 152. There is 50 percent reservation for women in local civic bodies".

It is for the first time that the PMC civic body will have four members in a single panel, which simply means that the voters will be able to cast votes to elect four corporators. The estimated number of voters is between 70,000 and 84,000, the release stated.

- Compiled by Oshin Waugh

Demonetisation, some facts

The demonetisation of 500 and 1,000 banknotes was a policy enacted by the Government of India on November 8, 2016, ceasing the usage of all 500 and 1,000 banknotes of the Mahatma Gandhi Series as legal tender from November 9, 2016. The Prime Minister made the announcement in an unscheduled live televised address on the evening of November 8.

It was an audacious move taken by the PM and it startled the entire country.

My View

Huge amounts of cash in the form of new notes were seized all over the country after the demonetization. As of December 2016, over 4 crore in new banknotes of 2000 were seized from four persons in Bangalore, 33 lakh in 2000 notes were recovered from Manish Sharma, an expelled BJP leader in West Bengal, and 1.5 crore was seized in Goa, 900 notes of the new 2000 notes were seized from a BJP leader in Tamil Nadu. Around 10 crore in new notes were seized in Chennai. In Gujarat, Delhi and many other major cities, sales of gold increased on 9 November, with an increased 20 to 30% premium surging the price as much as 45,000 rupees (US\$670) from the ruling price of 31,900 rupees per 10 grams. Income Tax officials raided multiple branches of Axis Bank and found bank officials involved in money laundering acts, exchanging old notes for gold.

Apart from gold purchases, donations, multiple bank transactions, railway bookings, municipal and local tax payments and backdated accountings were some methods used for the purpose of evasion.

Delhi enveloped by thick smog

While India is proving to be a major powerhouse economically, its environment is suffering in a major way. India's most prevalent environmental problems are air and water pollution, land damage and over rising population. With a country of more than a billion people, it is really difficult to oversee the environmental concerns.

Recently, Delhi witnessed smog enveloping the city in the first week of November. Nothing was visible beyond a few metres. A mix of smoke and fog generally known as SMOG is highly toxic. It can cause serious health hazards and even death. The quality of air in Delhi had become the worst in two decades taking it to the severe zone.

According to the pollution index 2016, mid-year, Delhi stands at the 13th position of the most polluted cities in the world with a pollution index of 92.80. According to Delhi CM, Arvind Kejriwal, the biggest reason of the smog is burning of crops and straws in the agricultural fields of Haryana and Punjab in huge quantities. Other than this, the burning of fire crackers on the day of Diwali added to the smoke in the air.

Syria burning; a sad saga



Five years after the civil war in Syria began, more than 450,000 Syrians have been killed in the fighting, more than a million injured and over 12 million Syrians - half the country's prewar population - have been displaced from their homes.

When it started

In 2011, what became known as the "Arab Spring" revolts toppled Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. That March, peaceful protests erupted in Syria as well, after 15 boys were detained and tortured for having written graffiti in support of the Arab Spring. One of the boys, 13-year-old Hamza al-Khateeb, was killed after having been brutally tortured.

What caused the uprising?

Initially, lack of freedom and economic woes fuelled resentment of the Syrian government and public anger was inflamed by the harsh crackdown on protesters. Successful uprisings in Tunisia and Egypt energised and gave hope to Syrian pro-democracy activists. Many Islamist movements were also strongly opposed to the Assads' rule.

Foreign involvement

Foreign backing and open intervention have played a large role in Syria's civil war. An

international coalition led by the United States has bombed targets of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as ISIS) group since 2014.

Although the US has stated its opposition to the Assad government, it has hesitated to involve itself deeply in the conflict, even after the Assad government allegedly used chemical weapons in 2013, which US President Barack Obama had previously referred to as a "red line" that would prompt intervention.

The situation today

On November 26, 2016, the Syrian army launched a military offensive on Aleppo. In less than a month, Syrian troops, with unfettered Russian air support, were able to recapture 90 percent of the eastern part of Aleppo. On December 13, 2016, the Syrian army claimed that 98 percent of east Aleppo was in the hands of Syrian government forces.

Besides, Aleppo, the Syrian government currently controls the capital, Damascus, parts of southern Syria and Deir Az Zor, much of the area near the Syrian-Lebanese border, and the northwestern coastal region. Rebel groups, ISIL and Kurdish forces control the rest of the country.

Empower the mind with meditation



The kind of solace we attain in solitude has a lot of significance in our lives. Trapped in the hustle and jostle of the world, we neglect the fact that we all need some time for ourselves, not just to recuperate but also for the peace and space our mind needs. Human beings usually under-estimate the power of human brain by not giving it what it needs, we fail to realise that we can do wonders if we feed our minds properly.

Vietnamese Buddhist Monk Thich Nhat Hanh says "Meditation is not an escape from society but to come back to ourselves and see what is going on. Once there is seeing there must be acting with mindfulness, we know what to do and

what not to do to help."

There are a lot of energies present around us and they can help us in ways we cannot imagine. To connect with those energies and inculcate them within self, mental stability and tranquility are essential. Meditation is that practice which can help us reach there. It defines a state of consciousness, when the mind is free of disseminated thoughts and different patterns. It is another term for self-discovery, it lets you unleash your soul and explore it and the more you discover yourself the stronger you become.

Students gather lessons from NDA cadets



The National Defence Academy (NDA) is the Joint Services academy of the Indian Armed Forces, where cadets of the three services, the Army, the Navy and the Air Force train together before they go on to pre-commissioning training in their respective service academies. The NDA is located at Khadakwasla near Pune, Maharashtra. It is the first tri-service academy in the world.

The students of Acting Academy at ISC visited the NDA to gather various facts, observe how things work and listen to the experiences of cadets at the academy in order to prepare for the play, Bose is coming.

The NDA visit brought in oodles of zeal and inspiration amidst the visiting students. Says Bhushan Chaudhari, one such

visitor, “It was an amazing experience. The discipline and determination of the Army men inspired me to the core. There is a lot we can learn from them, it will definitely help us to achieve great things in life”.

The most interesting part

Students of the Acting Academy of ISC visited NDA to prep up for the theatre show based on Subhash Chandra Bose

of the NDA visit seemed to be the place where the Army men train their horses and the horse riders to ride horses with confidence. The NDA cadets are also given training for games like polo. Also, the students were shown an Audio Visual clip about the Army training and their top three

candidates. It depicted the level of patience that is required to keep working hard and not lose focus. “After watching this AV, I sincerely want to salute them and tell them they are the real heroes of our country” says Vedika Karpe, an ISC student who was part of the trip.

“We loved the experience and cherished the time spent there. We are so grateful to Prof. Subhadip Raha for making this invigorating visit happen. We are even more excited to act in the play now,” says a student. “It is a brilliant way of making the students understand the theme better and make them more enthusiastic for the play” signs off Kalyani Thorat, a first year BAJM student who is also learning acting at the Acting Academy.

- Siddesh Shete

‘BOSE IS COMING’



Come January and the biggest happening at the ISC is the Convocation Ceremony. Awarding of degrees apart, students are thrilled about the routine practice of staging of a play directed by ISC's talented theatre Director, Prof. Subhadip Raha.

ABOUT THE PLAY

Prof. Raha is known for choosing a distinctive theme and displaying a sterling show every time. Immense curiosity, great pride and limitless zeal are some adjectives that can best describe the experiences of ISC students during the event that keeps them busy round the clock.

This year, the play is centred on the Indian National Army and it reminisces the valiant saga of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, one of the country's bravest fighters.

The play revolves around the steps taken by Netaji during the fight for independence, the roadblocks he faced and everything he had to go through during the struggle. It demonstrates the famous Red Fort trial. The play named “Bose is coming” is definitely going to enthrall the audience and might make them want to study history all over again!

- Ashiya Guha

Fun & Learn at IYF Camp



ISC students enjoy the International Youth Fellowship

IYF is a youth organization headquartered in Seoul, South Korea. The Indira School of Communication partnered with IYF and organized a one- day Mind education camp for all the students. In the camp, the journey traversed through music, mind lecture, dance and mind

recreation. The participants put their thinking caps on and discussed about the most subtle human emotions of love, anger, hatred, depression and anxiety on how best to handle these emotions.

When you live for others, you truly live for yourself was the message that was sent across when the official Korean dance team, Righteous Stars of IYF enthralled the audience with dances based on Indian music. Nikhil Shedge, a student of ISC says “I have attended many programs that elevate young people as leaders but IYF was unique. The people of IYF were united. We could see selflessness and integrity. I believe that IYF will foster leadership amidst the young generation”.

The camp closed with the most important take away, 'Live in a cohesive group with your roots strongly intertwined and live to make the world a happy place'

- Siddesh Shete

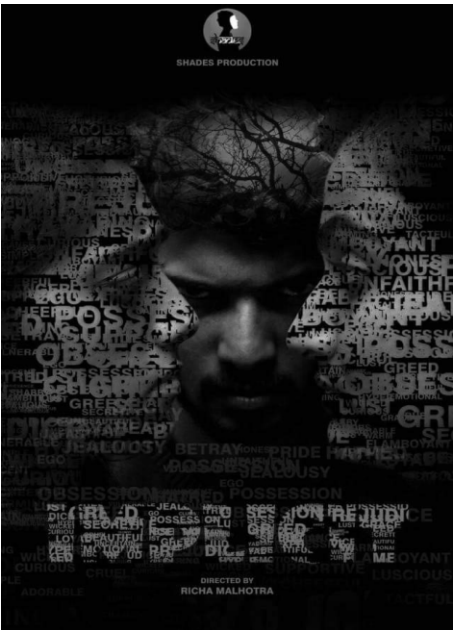
Shades of womanhood

As the tradition at Indira School of Communication goes, the cultural club of the college, Shades, prepares and performs a theatre production involving students of BAJM and MAJM, under the guidance of Prof. Subhadip Raha. This year, team Shades made a mark with their play 'Implicit', an intense poetic drama revolving around a woman's psychological

A theatre play by the ISC Cultural Club

complexities. There were around 35 students who participated and made this play happen with hard work and vigorous practice.

Implicit is about an independent and intellectual woman, named Janet and her husband who is quadra-paralysed. It depicts situational changes of her emotions and the trauma and mental instability she is facing due



to the absence of her husband's physical fitness. The play revolves around a prominent theme which includes the grey and unexplored sides of a woman. It had other abstract elements like amalgamation of art forms such as graffiti and miming which also impacted significantly.

- Richa Malhotra



Flashback at Indira

The Indira Group of Institutes has a variety of activities, programmes and events for all students to experience and learn from. A look at some major happenings in 2016.



Promotional event

Being a front rank mass communication college, ISC allows a great platform for all the celebrities to promote their upcoming work. The talented and versatile Bollywood actress and also a model best known for her role of queen Sumitra in 'Siya ke Ram' visited ISC campus where she spoke about her experiences in the industry and also emphasized the students on having a positive approach. She also spoke about the importance of reading script as it helps one to relate to the character easily.

Student interaction with



Commissioner of Police, Pune

Rashmi Shukla, Commissioner of Pune Police visited IGI campus for a question and answer session with the students. She delivered an inspiring speech about the existing issues raised by the students during the session. She spoke about traffic rules and the importance of wearing helmet. Her advices and attitude towards the current problems received an overwhelming response from the students.

International Yoga Day

Along with various industrial visits and educational

events, IGI also provides opportunities to enhance students' fitness and health. The institute celebrated the 'International Yoga Day' at ISBS with an overwhelming participation from each department. The 2 hour yoga session filled the students with a lot of positive energy and thoughtful attitude towards their health.

Visit of honourable HRD minister, Prakash Javadekar
IGI was honored by the visit of Prakash Javadekar, HRD Minister on August 20, 2016. He was welcomed at the campus with the traditional Dhol Tasha for an interactive session with the students. He strongly emphasized the contribution of education in building a nation and stated the critical role our government will play in enhancing career opportunities in the country. His thoughts of placing our education system at par with the global standards was truly appreciated by the students.

- Oshin Waugh

Street play contest at ISC



Indira School of Communication aims at preparing students in different aspects. Recently, BAJM first year students were asked to perform an activity, to enact a street play carrying a social message. Every group consisted of 15-18 students. Students were given two weeks to prepare the act. It took place in the basketball ground at ISC campus.

Female infanticide, sex education, life of transgenders, life of people at old age homes, quota system and politics were some of the topics chosen by the students. The students performed in the presence of Renu Garg, director of ISC and their seniors. Tanya Gaonkar, a third year BAJM student says "Activities like these not only groom the students but also help create awareness about various issues".

- Someshwar Kohli

Nirmity, a powerful, versatile actress



The chief guest for this year's convocation is noteworthy film and theatre personality known especially for her comic roles, Nirmity Sawant. She is known for her hilarious performance in the serial 'Kumari Gangubai Non Matric'. The serial was made into a movie later.

Nirmity Sawant has a terrific timing for comedy. She started her career with the movie 'Bindhast' in 1999 which was followed by a series of films and theatre performances which increased her popularity and earned her accolades in the Marathi film industry. Always cheerful and vivacious, she is known to light up the sets with her presence.

ISC grooms students for placements

Smita Rani, Placement Manager at ISC speaks about the special grooming given to students in a chat with Oshin Waugh

Indira School of Communication aims at building a platform for quality placements by coaching and mentoring the students according to the needs of the industry. Workshops from reputed professionals and trainers help the students to

BEST FOOT FORWARD

groom themselves and achieve their career goals in a proactive and professional manner.

ISC's placement cell conducts mock interviews for the students and then actively matches requests from the industry for each candidate after knowing their core competencies. "The placement record for ISC has been phenomenal last year as 90% of the Master's programme students were placed. The students were also offered internships during their course



to train them well for their jobs" said Smita Rani, Placement Manager at ISC.

Smita adds, "To prepare the students for placements, we conduct special personality development sessions, guest lectures, practice interviews and grooming sessions. A healthy combination of theoretical and practical knowledge proves to be rewarding for the students' future. It helps the student to thrive in the cut throat competition in the industry." Candidates get offers from various companies like

Pratisaad Communications, Ketchum Sampark, Radio Mirchi, MSL Group, The Times of India, Aaj Tak, Aperture India, Markets and Markets etc, she informs.

"The students are mainly judged on their knowledge about the industry and sincerity towards work. Students need to have a practical and smart approach towards the growing media markets. To develop a strong foundation about the media industry amidst the students, ISC trains them right from the Bachelor's course," signs off Smita.

ISC student acts in *Dangal*



Jaie with Aamir on the sets of *Dangal*

ISC student Jaie Kulkarni gets to observe the numero uno Aamir Khan and his team on the sets of Dangal as she acts in it and presents a first-hand report of the experience

and Fatima Shaikh have all done immense justice to the characters.

However, the film is special for ISC for a different reason. Jaie Kulkarni, an ISC student got a chance to act in the film in the role of one of Geeta's friends at Sports Academy. Jaie witnessed the enthusiasm and dedication of the Dangal team during the shooting and brings us a real life report from the sets.

Jaie says talking about Aamir Khan, "He is truly a perfectionist. While everyone was excited about Christmas and New Year break, Aamir was busy finalising a shot and giving his best. There is a lot you get to learn on sets like team work,

Dangal is a much talked about and popular film indeed. It is special for many reasons. Firstly a great presentation by none other than Aamir Khan, a realistic biopic based on the lives of wrestlers Mahavir Singh Phogat and his daughters Geeta and Babita, who have made the country proud with their wrestling feats. Add to it Nitesh Tiwari's real life depiction of the story and meticulous direction. The cast including Aamir Khan, Sakshi Tanvar, Girish Kulkarni, Sanya Malhotra

From the sets of *Dangal*

patience and dedication." Jaie describes the production team as brilliant and well organised. Everybody was well aware of their work, the spot boys, the cameramen, the costume department, the

interns, the sound people, the location dasas or the bouncers, no one was ever rude to anyone, or impatient, or late describes the ISC student who is proud to be associated with the film. She adds, "One of the best things was the pick and drop facility for the extra artists. Considering the fact that there were girls, Aamir sir used to personally call the location production head and confirm if everybody reached their homes or hotels safely".

At the end of this whole journey, a major realisation struck Jaie that it is easy to criticise others. However, it's not easy to perform with perfection. She goes further, "I feel blessed to have been able to experience and see how much hard work, dedication, time, money and resources have been put in it". She feels Dangal offers a lot of learning. Each person involved in this is a hero. She signs off saying, "I would just like to say in the end that Dangal is one such amazing film, which will make you smile, make you cry and make you realise a lot of important things".

A tasty treat



If you are bored of eating the same kind of food every day and want to try something new and quirky, Café Mestizo is the place to visit! Located in Balewadi high street, with a plethora of eateries and food joints present adjacent to it, Café Mestizo stands out with its comforting beverages and sumptuous food items. It is the ultimate place to sit and relax, the ambience adds to an amazing café experience with subtle lights and soft music.

An exciting new concept that was introduced by the Three Wise Monks, which is essentially a chain of restaurants and fun cafés in and around the perky city of Pune. Chicken BBQ pizza, Crispy Cottage Cheese Hamburger, Watermelon and Mint Ice Tea are some of the most recommended items that are served here. It is rated 4.2 by Zomato. "Amazing food. Meeting international standards", says a foodie.

- Dania Rehan

Mellow Mud, a must watch



Mellow Mud is simply a stunning visual treat. A marvellous number of things have been showed visually. Hitting the bottom and then getting right up! Disbelief in misfortune! The necessity of survival, not for oneself, but for others. The craving for family and the craving for love, even if it is shamed by the society. The point where you stop caring about what others think about you. The point

where you stop caring what you think about yourself! The point where 'survival' comes to realisation. The point where interdependence is realised. The fear of loneliness. And the director's point that inspiration isn't always in rags to riches or winning stories. Losing inspires you beyond reach. Renars Vimba, in this cinema of and for the world, shows us all this and much more with his remarkable sense of delivering emotions visually. The Latvian title and the English title, together deliver the theme of the movie, with the latter being metaphoric. English translation of Latvian title, 'Es Esmu Seit', meaning 'I'm here' delivers the literary emotion while Mellow Mud is visually metaphoric.

The film has travelled to film fests across the world, winning the Young Jury award at Berlin Film Festival and most recently 'Best Actor' at International Film Festival of India, Goa 2016.

- Prabhanjan Khurapi

Senior actor Om Puri no more



On 6 January 2017, Om Puri died at the age of 66, after a massive heart attack at his residence in Andheri, Mumbai. Filmmaker Ashoke Pandit, a close friend of the actor, first confirmed the news of his death on Twitter. Om Puri was born in Ambala in a Punjabi family. His father worked in the railways and in the Indian Army. Puri was an alumnus of the 1973 class of National School of Drama where he studied theatre acting.

Naseeruddin Shah was a fellow student, who encouraged Puri to follow him to the Film and Television Institute of India in Pune. He was known for his acting in films like Ardh Satya, Aakrosh, Jane Bhi Do Yaaron, Bhavni Bhavai, Mirch Masala and Dharavi. He won the National Film Award for Best Actor for Arohan in 1982. The acclaimed actor delivered some stellar performances.

- Dania Rehan

Captain Cool gives up captaincy

Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the captain cool, the helicopter shot perfectionist and the world's best finisher steps down as the captain of the Indian Cricket Team. Eleven days before the first ODI against England MS informed BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in

Mahendra Singh Dhoni shocks fans by stepping down from captaincy of the Indian Cricket team

India), on January 4, 2017, that he is retiring as a captain from ODI as well as T20 format. The decision surprised all his supporters and demoralised many; yet he is known for believing in his instincts. "You don't take a decision like this overnight. It was well thought out. Dhoni thought this was the right time to step aside and continuing playing as



wicketkeeper-batsman," Arun Pandey, Dhoni's manager speaks on the decision.

In a country like India, where cricket is more than just a game, with his outstanding style of leading the team, he has inspired millions of hearts and earned tremendous respect and love from all the avid followers

and experts of the sport. His genteel nature, composed attitude and potent strategies make him a true leader. He had an aggressive approach towards the game, not by body language but by performance. He believes that cricket is a gentleman's game and it should be played like one.

Dhoni will remain one of the greatest Indian captains with a world cup in both the formats, ODI and T20. Captain cool is definitely a motivator for his team-mates as well. He knows the importance of combined efforts and togetherness. "India's most successful captain @msdhoni who translated his vision into reality. Inspired many to dream more, do more and become more. Salute!" Suresh Raina, an Indian Cricketer and a good friend of MS tweets about him.

Virat Kohli, a magnificent cricketer and the test skipper will be named as the captain of India in all formats. He has played under the guidance of Mahendra Singh Dhoni and has always admired him as a captain. "You will always be my captain". Virat Kohli said on social media a day after Dhoni retired from captaincy.

- Compiled by Dania Rehan

Ain't got cash?? ...contd from page 1

gone plastic", a general store owner in Wakad opines. There were a lot of questions raised at this decision, some appreciated it while some derided it. Gradually, people seem to have accepted the decision and found out different ways to operate. From a vegetable vendor to big shopping malls, everyone is looking forward to a cashless economy. "I never thought I could adapt and understand the modern technologies but demonetisation made us do that", said a tea stall owner, Rajendra talking about cashless transactions in Tathawade. There has been a drastic transformation in Pune as well as in the country. Auto rickshaw drivers and most cab drivers have installed swiping machines in their vehicles. Tea sellers, henna artists, betel shop owners and most small vendors have started accepting payments via online apps. Modi's demonetisation gambit is a boon for electronic payment providers. Paytm reported a gigantic surge in new users, with 14 million new accounts in November and Oxygen Wallet's daily average users has increased by 167%. "The Prime Minister's move to incentivise digital payments will offer a strong support to our ongoing efforts in helping the country leapfrog to digital payment solutions," Deepak Abbot, the senior vice president of Paytm reportedly said.

A treat for music lovers!



NH7 weekender, voted as India's best music festival, is an annual multi-city musical fest which is produced and organised by 'Only much louder', an event organiser group and has an attendance across the editions of over 100,000. This festival is held between October and December and travels to five cities including Pune, Delhi, Bangalore, Shillong, and Kolkata. This festival is known for its flamboyant line-ups.

NH7 took place in the city of Pune in the first week of December, artists like British Progressive Steve Wilson, Jose

Gonzalez, Shankar Mahadevan, Nucleya, Papon, Anushka Shankar performed. The venue that was chosen for this fest was Life Republic, a vast township at Marunji, Pune.

This festival stays on the minds of people the entire weekend and the music enjoyed reverberates even after that, everyone swayed to the beats and gave a fiery response which encouraged the artists. One of the students of ISC who attended this fest says, "NH7 unnerves me every year."

- Ashiya Guha

Amma, a true star bids a tearful adieu



Jayalalitha Jayaram, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, left the country doleful on December 5, 2016, when the news of her demise due to prolonged illness followed by cardiac arrest came as a shock to the nation. Lovingly called as Amma by thousands of people, she was an Indian actress as well as a renowned

Donald Trump takes over as US President



Real estate businessman and former reality television host, Donald Trump of the Republican Party managed to defeat pollster favourite, former senator Hillary Clinton of the Democratic Party to become the 45th President of the United States, on November 8, 2016. This victory came as a shock to many citizens of the country. The margins of defeat were close. Trump secured the Republican nomination on July 19, 2016, defeating Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and John Kasich along the way. He surpassed the 1237 delegates needed to win the nomination, taking 1542 votes. The 2016 presidential campaign of Donald Trump was formally launched on June 16, 2015, at Trump Towers in New York City.

- Compiled by Dania Rehan

political leader of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. She appeared in over 140 films from 1961 to 1980. Within a few years she became the General Secretary of AIADMK. Being the CM of Tamil Nadu for over fourteen years, she became the queen of TN.

- Compiled by Oshin Waugh



THE LEGEND LIVES ON

A real life super hero, a self-defined valiant Army General, the Numero Uno proponent of armed fighting to beat imperialism and the super star of Indian freedom struggle, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is revered and remembered for his unique fighting strategies.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was one of the most renowned and dynamic personalities of the pre-independence Indian politics. He dominated Indian politics for more than two



Netaji with Lakshmi Sehgal and other women cadets.

decades and dazzled in his own calibre. Such was the aura of his personality and charisma that even luminaries like Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi were overshadowed at times. "Give me blood, I will give you freedom", he told soldiers and 'Jai Hind' was his trail blazing slogan.

Fondly known as Netaji, Subhash Chandra Bose was born on January 23, 1897 in Cuttack, Odisha. In order to fulfil his parents' desires to appear in the Indian Civil Services,

he moved to England in 1920. He stood fourth in the order of merit but returned to India after he was deeply moved by the Jallianwalla Bagh massacre in Punjab.

After returning to India, he joined the Indian National Congress under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi. In the year 1923, Netaji was elected as the President of All India Youth Congress.

On September 1, 1942, Netaji formed the Azad Hind Fauj with 40,000 Indian soldiers. To develop a strong feeling against the allied forces, he divided the Azad Hind Fauj into brigades such as Azad brigade, Nehru brigade, Jhansi brigade etc. By 1944, Azad Hind Fauj occupied an area of 1500 miles in India. It was later renamed as Indian National Army.

The appearance of Netaji in Indian politics was like the flaming sword of Indian struggle for independence. He took an audacious expedition in a submarine at the invitation of Marshal Tojo, the then Prime Minister of Japan. Many Indian soldiers of the allied forces were imprisoned by Japan.

Subhash Chandra Bose lived like a soldier and died a martyr's death. His end, though a mystery yet unsolved, is supposed to have come from third-degree burns on August 18, 1945, after his overloaded Japanese plane crashed in the Japanese ruled Formosa (Now Taiwan). Though his death is still a mystery, his life and principles continue to inspire millions.

- Compiled by Oshin Waugh



Girls make the country proud



Olympics brings in the same fervent participation at every edition. The world's largest sporting spectacle brings in loads of excitement, surprises, shocks and happiness to all participating nations worldwide. Even with a meagre two medal draw, the 2016 summer Olympics at Rio brought in great cheer to Indians too; albeit for different

reasons. Indian women athletes marked a niche for themselves in the games. The Paralympics event, held in the second week of September also brought in happiness in the form of winners from India.

The Indian Olympic Association fielded a team of 117 athletes, 63 men and 54 women, across 15 sports at the Games. It was the nation's largest ever delegation sent to

the Olympics. Among the sporting events represented by its athletes, India marked its Olympic debut in golf and women's artistic gymnastics. Considering the number of star studded athletes and their pre-Olympic preparation, it was expected that India's haul of 6 medals at the 2012 London Olympics would be surpassed but only two managed to win a medal. While shuttler PV Sindhu gave India its first silver medal in badminton, Sakshi Malik won a bronze medal in wrestling. Another star who achieved a lot of appreciation for her performance was gymnast Dipa Karmakar. She missed out on a medal by a whisker but her stupefying performance won millions of hearts with her Produnova vault, the most difficult somersault in Gymnastics.

Success at Paralympics

While India could not prove itself in the Olympics, it still capped off as a successful Paralympic campaign by procuring a haul of four medals including two gold, one silver and one bronze medal. The four Indian Rio Paralympics winners are, Devendra Jhajharia (Men's Javelin Throw), Mariyappan Thangavelu (Men's High Jump), Deepa Malik (Women's Shot Put) and Varun Singh Bhati (Men's High Jump).



- Compiled by Oshin Waugh