

Another day in the Delhi heat



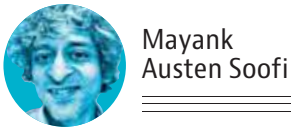
A day after the Delhi witnessed dusty winds and drizzle under the influence of a western disturbance, the maximum temperature in the city dropped to 38.7 degrees Celsius from Thursday's 39.4°C, the Met department said. It also forecast partly cloudy conditions for the next 24 hours.

WOMAN RAPED IN PUNJAB BAGH, 3 MEN ARRESTED

NEW DELHI: A 36-year-old woman was allegedly gang-raped by three men in west Delhi's Punjab Bagh area on Thursday morning, police said, adding that the accused have been arrested. The victim told the police that she was looking for "some help", when the one of the suspects offered to help her, but said she would have to accompany him to a house with two of his friends, officers said. Police identified the suspects as Naveen Singh (28), Bishwa Mohan Acharya (26) and Akshay Taneja (30), all of whom work as waiters in nearby restaurants. They allegedly took the victim to a rented accommodation and offered her a drink laced with sedatives. "The victim said she fell unconscious. When she woke up, she realised she had been raped by them. The woman made a PCR call and a case was registered," said the officer.

Delhiwale

EXPERIENCE YOUR CITY LIKE NEVER BEFORE



Your summertime indulgence

A unique sherbet stall in Chandi Chowk

PUBLIC INTEREST

Why can't he share his recipe with us? Aqeel Ahmad turns his head towards the blurry bazaar crowd, smiles like an enigmatic visionary and says nothing. A very special institution, he is the vendor of the most exclusive drink in the Walled City. To be sure, there is no dearth of drinks in the area's summertime lanes. But all these nooks and corners are mostly lined with shacks selling red sherbet. Particularly noteworthy is the melon-based 'Mohabbat ki Sherbet' that has gone viral in the area (already featured here!). But there can never be enough of Aqeel Ahmad's offering. His jaggery-based 'gur sherbet' is one of its only kind in the historic quarter. Determined to preserve his monopoly, he will not share the recipe under any circumstance, "because I'm the only one making this sherbet," he asserts, standing behind his modest establishment at the entrance of Pahari Imli. It consists of a table on which lies a giant plat-

ter filled with the light golden brown drink, which is protected from dust and flies by a plastic cover. The makeshift stall has been a landmark for more than 70 years, though in winters the vendor temporarily substitutes it with a booth for diapers, woollen pyjamas and "steamers" that he introduced with the arrival of the coronavirus. The sherbet stand's origins date back to 1947, when "my waalid sahib (father) Zaheer Ahmed had to give up his jewellery store in Chandni Chowk due to communal issues." His father started selling the 'gur sherbet' right on this spot, close to their home. Suddenly, two young boys arrive. Ahmad squeezes a lemon into a glass and pours the juice with a long ladle. One of the boys gulps down the drink in one go, while the other downs it slowly, savouring each sip. The stall serves from 8 in the morning to 10 at night. The time has shifted for the ongoing fasting month of Ramadan — from 2pm till midnight. PS: Sometimes, you will see the vendor's son Nabeer at the stall. Equally tight-lipped about the recipe, he tells the potential copycats to "ask papa" if need be.



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SDMC at pains to find operators for 16 crematoria in rural areas

Paras Singh letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Despite several attempts to find NGOs to manage and run its funeral centres, the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) has found few takers to run cremation grounds located in remote rural areas. A letter written by SDMC commissioner Gyanesh Bharti to the standing committee dated February 3, 2022, states the corporation invited 'expression of interest' from NGOs and self-help groups to manage 22 of its cremation grounds and burial grounds twice over the last six months but the civic body received applications for adopting only seven cremation

grounds for development and day-to-day maintenance. "Out of the seven applications, six were found to be meeting the criterion set by the municipal corporation," said a senior public health official. In a meeting held on March 31, the standing committee of the SDMC granted approval for adoption of only six cremation units, including two facilities at Harkesh Nagar and Sarai Kale Khan CNG; an electric crematorium under the central zone; two crematoria in Chhawla and Dwarka Sector-24 under Najafgarh zone; and another one in Bindapore under the west zone. A second public health official, who was part of the selection committee, said most of the

unallocated funeral centres are located near rural belts. "NGOs do not prefer to take up these units as they are located in remote areas and receive very few bodies on an average. Moreover, we have also received several complaints of interference in operations from local villagers, who prefer to bring their own wood and make their own arrangements," said the official. Over the last three years, the municipal corporations have been trying to outsource the operation of funeral centres to reduce the manpower deployed at the units. Of the 42 funeral centres under the SDMC, 20 are already run by self-help groups. "We have seen improvement

in operations and maintenance of crematoria managed by NGOs as earlier, people complained about the quality of wood and there were allegations of extra charges..." said an official. Leader of the house Inderjeet Sehrawat said alternative arrangements in the form of making local gram samiti or local charitable organisations will have to be made to address the issue of non-adoption of village crematoria. "We will work out arrangements with residents of these villages," he added. Suman Gupta, general secretary of the NGO Badi Panchaya, which operates Nigambodh Ghat, said, "The number of platforms has gone up from 70 to 120 since we took over in 2011."

HT Homage

Remembering UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Madanjeet Singh (April 16, 1924- January 6, 2013) On his 98<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary

South Asia Foundation fondly remembers the visionary UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Madanjeet Singh, author, diplomat, painter, photographer and philanthropist, who dedicated his life to the principle of regional cooperation among the countries of South Asia. He is the first Indian in the history of UNESCO to be nominated UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador.

The South Asia Foundation pays tribute to the memory of its Founder and dedicates itself to achieving his vision for the Region.



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"I do believe that history is not merely a series of accidents. It is a never-ending struggle between the reactionary, divisive warmongers and the people striving to realize their dream to live peacefully in cooperation with each other in a society where men and women love reason, despise hatred and violence."

- Ambassador Madanjeet Singh

School management committees a pillar of Delhi's education revolution: Sisodia

HT Correspondent htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia on Friday held a dialogue with district and constituency level members of the School Management Committee where matters pertaining to better functioning of SMC were discussed. Sisodia, who holds the education portfolio, said there a successful SMC was among the four pillars of Delhi's education sys-

tem. "Honesty, clear vision on education, education budget and a successful SMC model are pillars of Delhi's education revolution," said Sisodia. He added that he had been working with SMCs since 2015 to improve the education system in Delhi and SMCs commitment and dedication had made Delhi's education model a success. Sisodia said that it was necessary to strengthen the working of the committee and include more parents in it to make parents

active participants in the learning of their children. AAP MLA Atishi said that the SMC in Delhi had worked on the ground to improve the education system of Delhi. Atishi, who is also the chairperson of the Delhi legislative assembly's Education Standing Committee, said that Delhi's SMC demonstrated successful community involvement programmes in the education sector globally. Shailendra Sharma, principal advisor, Directorate of Educa-

tion, said that Delhi's SMC will bridge the gap between schools and the parents. Sharma said that while the SMC's work with parents was commendable, the committee needed to be strengthened further. He said that there was a need to motivate parents and involve them more for the benefit of their children. At present, over a thousand government schools in Delhi have over 16,000 active SMC members.

HT Homage

It is with deep sorrow we share news about the sad demise of



Jeevan Jyoti Kwatra (Bobby) on Thursday 14th April 2022.

Chautha / Uthala ceremony will be held on Saturday 16th April 2022 at Pahari wala Gurudwara, Greater Kailash 1, New Delhi 110048 from 4:00pm -5:00pm

Lall's Copper & Brass Palace Bob's Den

Fondly Remembered by Kwatra Family | Chadha Family | Luthra Family



Shri Omkar Nath Mattoo 01.02.1935 - 16.04.2021

You are forever in our hearts & will always be our strength and guiding spirit

Deeply missed by Vijay Kumar Mattoo (Son) Vijay Lakshmi Mattoo (Priya) (Daughter-in-law) Rita Dhar (Daughter) Ravinder Dhar (Son in law), Grand Children and Great Grand Children Mobile : 9810027053



Mr. Ashok Nath IAS Retired

He died peacefully at home on Monday, April 11, 2022 A loving Husband / Father / Grandfather, he brought a certain kind of unique happiness into our lives which we will cherish for life.

TEHRRAVI will be held on Monday, April 23, 2022

In sorrow : Shriti (Wife) Niharika, Vikram & Bhim Monica, Humayun & Ziva Shom, Shalini, Meashi & Vyom Pratima Mansingh, Madhu & Arun Nath

In Loving Remembrance

**Sardar Kulbir Singh (Bubble)**  
26 April 1946 - 16 April 2021  
You remain in our hearts even today, guiding us ahead every single day. We know you are now on a another journey. that it may be beautiful too, we do pray. Remembering and missing you

In remembrance, Chhatwal Family  
9810838581 | 9810138581 | 9810088103  
Beauty House, Chandi Chowk  
23264903