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eal Extradition Order ▶ Jet Lenders Offer up to 75% to Investors ▶ EC Calls CBDT Chief for Meeting Over Raids: P 1

overseas investors in Indian bonds and equities appear to be exiting local assets due to a steady increase in global oil prices ▶ P 1

...sion in the state and emphasised the need to retain Bharti as joint commissioner of police, which was accepted and Bharti allowed to hold the post till the Lok Sabha election.

On Saturday the Election Commission of India asked the state chief electoral officer to ensure Bharti's immediate transfer and appointment of a new IPS official in his place by Sunday.

The city Congress was in the dark about the memorandum.

...ents protest ...otas in city

A student of the Lokmanya Tilak Medical College ...id: "The government, to ...isfy vote banks prior to ...s, added the new category ...of Maratha and economically backward class in ...xisting biased quota ...." TNN

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Mumbai: The sole tallest ladder at the Chembur fire station has developed a snag rendering it unfit for use. Residents can only keep their fingers crossed there's no major blaze because it's unlikely the ladder will be repaired anytime soon due to the model code of conduct (MCC) in force ahead of the Lok Sabha Elections.

According to civic sources, around a month ago, the Fire Brigade put up a Rs11-lakh proposal before the BMC to repair the hydraulic fire ladder. The MCC came into force around the same period. As a result, clearances for all monetary proposals came to a halt.

The 42-metre vehicle, which can reach up to 13 storeys, was procured in 2010 for Rs4.5 crore. The fire station will now have to use a 27-metre ladder which can go up to nine storeys only.

Byculla, Nariman Point, Mulund and Chembur fire stations have the 42-m ladder.

"There is an issue with the hydraulic system of the vehicle. Considering these are specialized vehicles, the manufacturer needs to resolve it. Therefore, we need to call an engineer from Italy," said an official.

Activist Rajkumar Sharma from Chembur said proposals that concern the safety of thousands of residents should not have the MCC come in the way. "There is nothing political about this proposal and a go-ahead should be immediately given."

...ise restrictions that since the work pertains to the construction of the court building, the model election code of conduct would not be an impediment to taking a decision in the matter.

The high court was hearing a petition filed by the Metropolitan Magistrate Dadar Bar Association saying the building was insufficient for all the courtrooms.

The petitioner said a municipal school used to function from the building once last it was defunct now and the structure had been vacant for years now.

"The corporation is actively considering the said proposal for giving the building on rental basis to the state government for housing court," a lawyer said.

Actually, they demolish but they don't make," advocate Kunjumon Oommen said. "The government is not bothered about the proper functioning of the judiciary and has totally neglected it. They don't provide any infrastructure and just want to do away with the judicial system despite the government getting huge revenue from the court."

4 continents in 300 days, duo takes off on dream trip

A TOAST TO LIFE: Bizman Praveen Mehta and doctor-turned-photographer Dr Sudhir Baldota

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Mumbai: When two friends—businessman Praveen Mehta and homeopathic doctor-turned-photographer Dr Sudhir Baldota—from Mumbai revved up their shinning SUV on Monday they might as well have put themselves on the highway to a record book. For; while long distance travel by cars is certainly not unique, it will be a feat of sorts when they have completed the world tour by covering 70,000 km in 300 days (10 months), driving through four continents of Asia, Europe, South and North America.

The tour is themed around 'celebrate life, connect the world and aspire for peace'. "We are not self-appointed angels. We are humans driven by a desire to see the world and celebrate life," said 50-year-old Mehta, a college dropout who claims he missed his final exam for an engineering degree because he went to watch a Hindi film.

Hindi films in fact seem to have fuelled their dreams. Baldota who gave up homeopathic practice to follow his passion—photography—a couple of years ago said 'Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara' inspired him. "We have one life. If seeing a major part of the world by car was our dream, it had to be fulfilled," explained Baldota.

Having arranged adequate funds and an SUV and undergone training to fix the vehicle if it breaks down or develops minor snags, Mehta and Baldota had to negotiate with different countries for visas and permissions to drive, especially in countries where right hand driving is an exception than a rule.

Driving to the Indian border in the North East, they will enter Bhutan and move on to Burma and other countries before they enter Europe.

On the cards is meeting interesting people, including a Cambodian Akira who defuses landmines. "Such tours build goodwill and promote peace," said Anand Gupta, president, Rotary Club of Bombay West (Santacruz) which is supporting the tour.

Fake cop robs constable's wife

Kalyan: A 27-year-old history sheeter, Sarika Shinde alias Bhakti, who was on bail has been arrested for stealing valuables from a constable's house.

The victim, Vidhisha Wagh, resides with her husband Rajwardhan, a constable at Ghatkopar police station, and daughter in Dombivli (East).

In her complaint, the victim has said Bhakti posed as a cop and befriended her on FB three months ago. Last, week she turned up unannounced at her house while her daughter was alone. The accused told the girl to fetch her mother and in the meanwhile she stole jewellery and valuables. — **Pradeep Gupta**

Women lead car rally to Lonavla

Mumbai: In a show of patriotic support for womanhood, about 600 women came out for a car rally on Sunday morning. The 'Rally to the Valley' began in Worli and ended in Lonavla. Women came decked in 130 decorated cars, ready to rally. Flagged off by Sneha Sharma, India's fastest female racer, the rally was also attended by Amruta Fadnavis, the chief minister's wife, and advocate Abha Singh. "By making it an all-female event this year, we could convey our message clearly: a nationwide show of support for women and their empowerment," said president of Western India Automobile Association Nitin Dossa. TNN

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and historical documents related to Horniman, which show he would cleverly sidestep prevailing laws to continue with his journalistic pursuits, the most interesting being how he returned to India a few years after his deportation in 1919. He had taken a long route from the UK to Colombo (in Sri Lanka), from where he took a boat train to finally arrive at Mumbai's VT (now CSMT).

Horniman had reasoned before the magistrate in court that he did not break the earlier deportation order, which stated he cannot 'land' in India without permission. He said that since he entered India by train, he had 'alighted' on Indian soil and not 'landed' (which can only happen in case of arrival by plane or ship). The court dismissed all charges pressed against Horniman in this deportation matter.