



AFTER HRS.

Celebrate Holi with A'bad youth

4 PAGES

DNA

DAILY NEWS & ANALYSIS

SPORT

Australia go 2-0 up against South Africa

PAGE 13-15



AHMEDABAD, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2009

PM to play Holi with school kids today P8

DNA Money: 'Citi having best quarter since 2007' P1

PUBLISHED FROM AHMEDABAD, SURAT, MUMBAI, PUNE, JAIPUR & BANGALORE

PAGES 24 PRICE RS 1.50

HOLIDAY NOTICE
The offices and press of DNA will remain closed on March 11, 2009. There will, therefore, be no issue on March 12.



morning briefing



A FUNNY POINT: A Jewish settler costumed as a clown takes part in a parade celebrating the holiday of Purim in the West Bank city of Hebron. Purim is a celebration of the Jews' rescue from genocide in ancient Persia, as recounted in the Book of Esther.

15 KILLED IN LANKA

Fifteen people were killed and 60 persons, including postal services minister Mahinda Wijesekera, were wounded on Tuesday in a suicide bombing in southern Sri Lanka blamed on Tamil Tiger rebels, officials said. The attack targeted politicians attending a ceremony at a mosque in Akuressa town.

'SACHIN ABSENCE NO ISSUE'

India cricket coach Gary Kirsten on Tuesday said Sachin Tendulkar being ruled out due to injury is "no issue" for his on-a-roll team as it has the depth to cope with the batting maestro's absence in the fourth one-dayer against New Zealand in Hamilton on Wednesday.

city weather		
A'bad	34°C	19°C
Surat	34°C	18°C
GENERALLY SUNNY Full report on P2		

what next

BROS EXCHANGE SAME CARD FOR 36 YEARS

Darryl and Dan Culberson have been saving money, exchanging the same birthday card since 1973. The tradition started when 62-year-old Darryl sent his elder brother a card of a masked bandit on a motorcycle with the caption The Phantom Cheapo strikes again! Darryl calls his 68-year-old brother "the cheapest person I've ever met." Dan decided to send the card back when it was his brother's birthday. So for 36 years, Darryl has sent the card in January to Dan in Boulder, and he sends it back to Darryl in Colorado Springs in March. The card has yellowed, and the greetings now run along the back cover. The card is held together with tape.

IIM-A graduates will treat you to e-dinner

The 3 opted out of placements to start own venture, a site for gourmets

DAYANANDA MEITEI, AHMEDABAD

You will soon be able to go to your favourite restaurant in the city, scroll down its menu and order dinner or lunch, without actually having to go to the restaurant in person. Such e-dinners and e-lunches will soon be made possible by a website that three graduates of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A)

plan to launch in the city. Incidentally, the three youths — Nirmesh Mehta, Dhiren Makhija and Aravind RS — are all graduates of IIM-A's 2009 batch. They and some others had surprised everybody recently by opting out of the placements because they wanted to start their own businesses. The website, called '2home.in', will also enable people to leave their comments about the food and service, again without having to go to the concerned restaurant. "We will also allow customers to rank the restaurants by voting for them," Mehta said. The site will also provide gourmets details of dishes



(Left to right) Nirmesh Mehta, Dhiren Makhija and Aravind RS available at different city restaurants to encourage them to explore different cuisines. The site will be designed to

be particularly useful to people who are new to the city as it will tell them where and how to get the food of their choice. "It will similarly be useful to those who are planning a short visit to Ahmedabad," Mehta said. When asked why they had launched a new venture when the world economy was in the grip of a severe recession, Aravind said, "A venture that is launched successfully during an economic slump will do very well when the economy improves. Now is the time to do something really challenging." Makhija, too, said that the recession was not a problem. The entrepreneurs initially

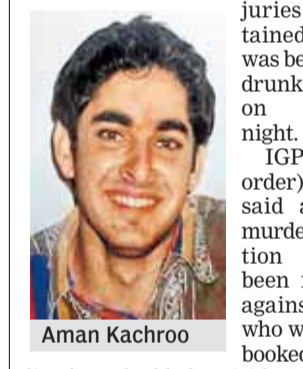
plan to launch the website only for Ahmedabad. They will, however, be extending its reach to other cities of the country later. They had earlier done a pilot project for the venture during which they catered to those living on the IIMA campus. "The pilot project was very successful," Mehta said. "We are now getting ready to launch it for the whole city." The entrepreneurs are trying to rope in many restaurants of the city for the project. Exuding optimism about the venture, Mehta said, "The website will be visible on the internet soon."

More IIM story on P16

4 students booked for murder

They ragged and beat up junior in Himachal Pradesh on Saturday

Tanda (HP): The Himachal Pradesh Police booked four senior medical college students on Tuesday for causing the death of a first semester student on Sunday. The four ragged and beat up Aman Kachru, 19, in Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College in Kangra district. Kachru died of head and other injuries he sustained after he was beaten up by drunken seniors on Saturday night.



Aman Kachru

IGP (law and order) SR Mardi said a case of murder (IPC section 302) had been registered against the four, who were earlier booked by the police for culpable homicide (IPC Section 304). "After receiving the post-mortem report, the case has been converted to that of murder," Mardi said. Two of the accused, Ajay Verma and Naveen Verma, were arrested and the other two, Abhinav Verma and Mukul Sharma, who had been absconding, surrendered before a Dharamsala court. The court sent them to seven days' police custody. Ironically, the victim had already complained to the college authorities and the police when he was beaten up. However, action was taken only after he died. Even his family regretted that they did not recall him after he complained. The role of the local police and hospital authorities is under the scanner. Meanwhile, health minister Rajiv Bindal has ordered a magisterial probe into the incident. "We will take strict action against the senior students and those who showed laxity in curbing ragging. If a murder case against the students has to be registered, it will be done on the basis of the post-mortem report," he said. Medical college principal S Sankhyan offered to resign following the incident. He said all the four have been suspended for two years. Hostel warden Pradeep Bansal and hostel manager Deepak Verma, were suspended by the college authorities on Monday. —IANS

DALIT MINOR FROM BAVLA TELLS DNA THAT PATAN VERDICT HAS GIVEN HER HOPE

Raped and sold 4 times

VIVEK VIJAYAPALAN, AHMEDABAD

The verdict in the Patan gangrape case, in which all the six accused were sentenced to life imprisonment, has revived hopes of justice in another rape victim who was sold to different people four times by her tormentors. On Monday, the victim, a Dalit minor, told DNA that she was now hopeful that her tormentors would be brought to justice.

never forget

A case was registered in this connection in December 2007 against seven people - Munna alias Mohabbat Rasulkhan, Rasulkhan Malek, Hiyaat Khan Malek, Surajben Patel, Jayantibhai Patel, Vilo Patel and Jignesh Dave. A charge-sheet has been filed against all the accused in the court of the additional judicial magistrate in Dholka. The accused have been charged under various sections of the IPC including section 376 (rape), 357 (assault or criminal force in attempt to

wrongfully confine a person) and section 372 (selling a minor for the purpose of prostitution). The girl is a resident of Bavla in Ahmedabad district. She was abducted, raped and then sold off from one person to another. In her statement before the Bavla police, she said that on November 23, 2006, when she was going to school, Munna alias Rasulkhan Pathan (the prime accused in the case) arrived in his rickshaw and told her that he was in love with her. Munna took her to Sarkhej in his rickshaw. The girl told the police that Munna had later taken her to the house of his brother, Rasulkhan, where he kept her for many days. After that, Munna took her to the house of his parents where he had raped her, the victim said in her statement. She also said that she had told Hiyaat Khan, the sarpanch of Gedia village where Munna had kept her, that she had been raped but even Hiyaat Khan had sold her off to another person for Rs7,000.



The girl told DNA that the verdict in the Patan gangrape case had made her hopeful of getting justice. She said she had already sent a letter to the state legal department requesting the appointment of a special public prosecutor in her case. She said that all those who commit such

OVER TO COURTS

The life terms handed down to the rapists in the Patan case has revived hopes of justice in the victim. She wants her tormentors to be brought to justice.

The girl is a resident of Bavla in A'bad district. She was abducted, raped and then sold off from one person to another.

A case was registered in this connection in Dec 2007 against 7 people — Munna alias Mohabbat Rasulkhan, Rasulkhan Malek, Hiyaat Khan Malek, Surajben Patel, Jayantibhai Patel, Vilo Patel and Jignesh Dave.

mar went to the police station to lodge a complaint, the police refused to register it," she said. When asked why she had taken such a long time to lodge a complaint against the accused, she said, "I was threatened by them."

Trial soon P5

HUES AND CRIES OF HOLI



RANG BARSE: Students of a school in Ghodasar herald the city's Holi break

BSP goes into poll overdrive

Mayawati's party to contest all 543 Lok Sabha seats

DEEPAK GIDWANI, LUCKNOW

Bahujan Samaj Party chief and Uttar Pradesh chief minister Mayawati, in an unprecedented move seen as an effort to project herself as a prime ministerial candidate, has decided her party will contest all 543 Lok Sabha seats.

The party, founded in 1984, expects to reap a good crop of seats from several states, including Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, apart from its stronghold UP, where its target is to win a minimum 40 of 80 seats. "No one should think the BSP is limited to UP," said the party state unit chief Swami Prasad Murya. "People all over the country are looking up to Behn Mayawati as the next prime minister." Party general secretary Satish Chandra Misra was

BJD REBUTS DEVE GOWDA CLAIM

The BJD has denied former prime minister and JD(S) leader HD Deve Gowda's claim that it was joining the Third Front. Gowda said BJD chief Naveen Patnaik had agreed to join the front "unconditionally".

AMAR BATS FOR SONIA GANDHI

SP general secretary Amar Singh said that no secular government can be formed without Sonia Gandhi. The softening of stand comes as an SP-Congress alliance in the state seems to be getting unlikely by the day.

equally optimistic. "I am amazed at the response our public meetings got in the southern states... in some places in Tamil Nadu, the people worship Mayawati." The party has also been emboldened by the results of the state elections.



Sonia, Priyanka and Rahul are a designer's delight P9

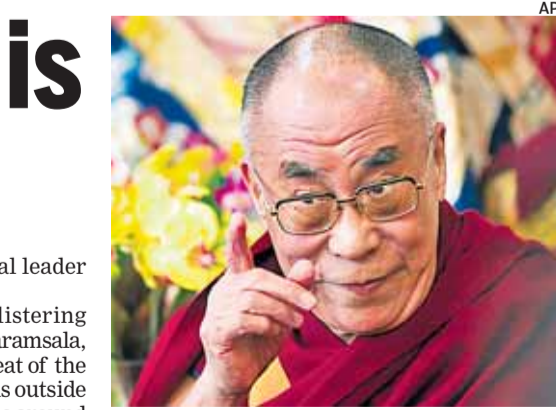
Tibet under China is hell: Dalai Lama

Spiritual leader delivers his harshest attack ever on the Chinese government

EDWARD WONG, BEIJING

The Dalai Lama delivered on Tuesday one of his harshest attacks on the Chinese government in recent times, saying that the Chinese Communist Party had transformed Tibet into a "hell on earth" and that the Chinese authorities regard Tibetans as "criminals deserving to be put to death". "Today, the religion, culture, language and identity, which successive generations of Tibetans have considered more precious than their lives, are nearing extinction,"

said the Dalai Lama, 73, the spiritual leader of the Tibetans. Those words came during a blistering speech made Tuesday morning in Dharamsala, the Himalayan hill town that is the seat of the Tibetan government-in-exile. Tibetans outside China and their supporters held rallies around the world on Tuesday to mark the 50th anniversary of a failed Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule. The Chinese military crushed the rebellion, forcing the Dalai Lama to flee across the Himalayas to India. The furious tone of the Dalai Lama's speech may have been in reaction to a new clampdown by China on the Tibetan regions. The Dalai Lama might also have adopted an angry approach to placate younger Tibetans who have accused the Dalai Lama of being too concilia-



tory toward China. The Dalai Lama advocates genuine autonomy for Tibet and not secession, while more radical Tibetans are urging the Dalai Lama to support outright independence. In the rugged Tibetan regions of China, where there is widespread resentment at Chinese rule, no reports emerged on Tuesday of any large-scale protests. The Chinese government, fearing civil unrest among six million Tibetans, has locked down the vast area, which measures up to a quarter of China, by sending

in thousands of troops in the last few weeks and cutting off cell phone and internet services in some locations. An unofficial state of martial law now exists, with soldiers and police officers operating checkpoints, marching through streets and checking people for identification cards.

Chinese President Hu Jintao called this week for the building of a "Great Wall" of stability in Tibet. "We must reinforce the solid Great Wall for combating separatism and safeguarding national unity, so that Tibet, now basically stable, will enjoy lasting peace and stability," Hu said while meeting Tibetan officials in Beijing on Monday.

Across Tibet, monks at large monasteries have been ordered to stay indoors. In the town of Tongren in Qinghai Province, monks at the sprawling Rongwo Monastery, where protests erupted last year, have been told they cannot leave the compound from March 6 to March 16, according to two monks reached by telephone. No classes or prayer gatherings were held on Tuesday. One monk said he and his peers were reading Buddhist scriptures in their bedrooms.

More on P12 & 16