

AFTER HRS
Showstopper
Bipasha
on a high
4 pages



DNA

SATURDAY



Somdev loses,
India trail 0-2 in
DAVIS CUP

sport
pg15

Pune March 6, 2010 **DAILY NEWS & ANALYSIS** Pages 20 ■ After Hrs:4 Price Rs1.50 Published from Pune, Mumbai, Bangalore, Ahmedabad & Jaipur

morning **BRIEFING**



Fitness freak: First Lady Michelle Obama joins kids at a free soccer clinic as part of her campaign to improve fitness and combat obesity in children in Washington on Friday —AP

Big B to attend Marathi literary meet on March 28

Shailendra Paranjpe, Pune
Bollywood icon Amitabh Bachchan on Friday confirmed his participation in the three-day 83rd All-India Marathi literary meet to be held in the city from March 26. Reception committee chairman of the literary meet Satish Desai told *DNA* that Bachchan will attend the concluding session of the event on March 28. **TURN TO P8**

Sena MLA fined for vandalism

The Bombay high court on Friday directed former Shiv Sena MLA Sitaram Dalvi to deposit a Rs5.8 lakh fine with the registry by 5pm on March 8 for damaging property at Hotel Intercontinental near the Mumbai international airport in January 2009. Dalvi had earlier deposited Rs2 lakh out of the Rs7.8 lakh fine imposed on him.

cityweather

34.4°C **15.3°C**
PARTLY CLOUDY SKY. FULL REPORT ON PAGE 3

marketindex

Indices/rates	Close	Change
SENSEX	16,994.49	▲ 22.79
NIFTY	5,088.70	▲ 8.45
GOLD (Rs/10gm)	16,940.00	▼ 105.00
DOLLAR (Rs)	45.61	▼ 0.21
EURO (Rs)	62.04	▼ 0.61

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Hand-held ECG tech makes cellphones smarter

City-based IT firm Sofomo Embedded Solutions develops wireless ECG recorder which can transmit data to a cardiologist's phone

Rahul Chandawarkar, Pune

A technological innovation by an IT firm in Pune will now make a cardiologist's cellphone an invaluable tool as it will enable him to receive electro cardiogram (ECG) reports sent from a hand-held device developed here.

Currently, ECG reports are sent in a cumbersome way over the facsimile.

Pune-based IT firm Sofomo Embedded Solutions has designed the path-breaking hand-held 'Lifeplot

CCD1', which is able to acquire and transmit 12-lead ECGs using wireless technology directly to the cardiologist's cellphone.

Priced at Rs1.25 lakh, this device, which is under patent processing, uses embedded software technology. It has already found takers in the health care industry with the reputed city-based NM Wadia Institute of Cardiology being their first customer. The institute has ordered a device for one of their ambulances. A small diagnostic centre at Phusegaon town in Satara district has also

placed an order.

Speaking to *DNA*, Sofomo's managing director Gautam Morey pointed out how ECG reports were presently being sent by fax to cardiologists. "Often these are unclear and could lead to wrong information being transmitted. There was hence an urgent need for a product like this," Morey (30) said.

An expert in embedded technology and medical instrumentation, Morey decided to piggy back on the increasing use of mobile technology by people. **TURN TO P8**



The Lifeplot CCD1 team (from left) Amogh Adkar, Gautam Morey, Manish Gajjaria and Nitin Khalate with the product —Rahul Chandawarkar,DNA

Rs6,385,400,000,000 IS STASHED AWAY ABROAD

PM says India is talking to 20 countries, including Switzerland, to get back the black money held in tax havens

New Delhi: India has completed negotiations with 20 countries to exchange information on Indian nationals who may have hoarded their tax-evaded wealth abroad. "Twenty countries have been prioritised for entering into agreements regarding exchange of information and systems in connection with taxes. Negotiations have been completed with the governments," the prime minister told the Lok Sabha on Friday.

While no official data is available on the quantum of slush funds parked in tax havens like Switzerland, it is estimated that such black money held by Indian nationals could be worth \$140 billion. That's Rs 6,38,540 crore.

"Steps have been taken for the signing of agreements. We have also approached Switzerland for renegotiation of our tax treaty so that we can have access to the information," he told the lower house, replying to remarks by the opposition on a host of issues. The discussion was on the motion of thanks to the president for her address last month to both houses of parliament.

According to the prime minister, the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government was also pursuing the matter with respect to a new protocol for sharing of information on tax evaders, and that such a mechanism would be put in place soon. **TURN TO P8**



"I think we will do a disservice to any government and prime minister of this proud country if we say that such fundamental matters of national security and foreign policy were based on anything but our supreme national interest."

—Manmohan Singh

PM won't budge on Pak

Nistula Hebbar, New Delhi

Under attack from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for his efforts to re-engage Pakistan, prime minister Manmohan Singh did some plain speaking on the issue on Friday, maintaining that dialogue was the only way forward for civilized countries to resolve problems.

He asserted that he took the de-

cision to restart talks with Pakistan in a "calculated manner" after weighing the pros and the cons and not under pressure from the United States.

Senior BJP leaders LK Advani and Venkaiah Naidu had subjected the prime minister to scathing criticism over the US role in the Indo-Pak talks. **TURN TO P8**

'A BAT IN SACHIN'S HAND IS A MIRACLE... HE IS A WARRIOR OF THE CRICKET FIELD'

Now, Thackeray equates Sachin with Shivaji

Kiran Tare, Mumbai

Three months after he lambasted Sachin Tendulkar for his 'Mumbai for all' remark, Shiv Sena chief Bal Thackeray on Friday showered praise on the cricketer, saying he was already a Bharat Ratna for the people. In an attempt to glorify Tendulkar's Maharashtrian roots, Thackeray equated him with Maratha warrior Chhatrapati Shivaji.

"A bat in Sachin's hand is a miracle... Shivaji Maharaj sometimes



What the Sena chief said in Nov 2009

"There was no need for him (Tendulkar) to take a cheeky single by making such remarks (Mumbai for all). By making these remarks, you (Tendulkar) have got run-out on the pitch of Marathi psyche. You left the crease and moved to the pitch of politics by making these remarks which have hurt Marathis."

used an attacking technique and sometimes used guerrilla warfare to defeat his enemies. Sachin uses the same techniques on the cricket field. He is a warrior of the cricket field," Thackeray said in party mouthpiece, *Saamna*.

Referring to the ongoing debate over Bharat Ratna for Tendulkar, Thackeray said, "Sachin does not need recommendations from anybody. Hundred crore people have already crowned him as the Bharat Ratna."

TURN TO P8



PMC spent Rs2 crore on hockey ground

Abhay Khairnar, Pune

Municipal commissioner Mahesh Zagade on Friday appointed a one-man inquiry committee of deputy municipal commissioner KC Karkar to probe into the gross neglect of the Pune Municipal Corporation's (PMC) newly constructed hockey stadium at Chikalwadi, off Aundh-Khadki Road.

Zagade also told *DNA* that he was committed to framing a long-term policy to ensure that the civic body's properties are well maintained and not neglected as happened with the hockey stadium.

Zagade appoints probe panel, promises policy to protect civic properties



Mahesh Zagade

In an exclusive report on Wednesday ('Pune's newest hockey ground worse than pigsty', *DNA*, March 3), this newspaper highlighted the damage caused to the stadium and its fixtures by vandals as it was neglected and left unprotected by civic officials for nearly 15 months.

Following *DNA's* exposé, the civic chief called for details of the stadium project which revealed that the PMC had already spent Rs2 crore on it.

Zagade wondered as to why the stadium has remained incomplete if the PMC had already spent Rs2 crore on it. "Prima facie it is seen that this project has been marred by delays and poor planning," he said. **TURN TO P8**

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Check out Sky Vie, for the good life at Viman Nagar.

Set in chilled out Viman Nagar, Sky Vie has a fab atmosphere — you can tune in to its great vibes. It's not the sort of place where neighbours drop in to borrow a cup of sugar, but a bottle of Bordeaux instead — cheers! This uber cool residential project has two apartments on each floor — they're furnished and ready-to-move-in, so all you have to bring is yourself. And hey, you won't have to part with a few heavy-duty blue chips to own a pad at Sky Vie — the price is chilled out too. Come and check out life through rose-tinted shades — or, as the French say, la vie en rose.

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