

# THE BEACON

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Ten cycle rallies to be conducted by CISF

Ahana Bagchi

As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav being celebrated across the country, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) is conducting ten cycle rallies all over India.

The rally will begin on September 4, at 8 AM from the Yerwada Jail in Pune and finish at Rajghat, Delhi, making it the longest of the ten rallies being organised.

Along the 1,703-km-long route, the rally will cover historically significant spots and birthplaces of heroes of India's freedom struggle, over 27 days. Twelve CISF cyclists will participate in the rally and it will be led by an Assistant Sub-Inspector.

Covid protocols will be in place throughout the rally as the cyclists will pass through spots such as Aga Khan Palace that once served as a confinement place for Mahatma Gandhi's house arrest, and Rajgurunagar, Indian Security Press, Bhavra and Shivpuri - the birthplaces of Rajguru, Chandrashekar Azad and Tatya Tope respectively.

On the 15th day, the cycle rally will reach Bhopal. The team of cyclists led by Sub Inspector Dhiraj Kumar Janice will cross over to Agra in Uttar Pradesh from Dholpur in Madhya Pradesh on the 24th day.

## Democrats mull over new Texas law

Aamir Sohail

Following the Supreme Court's decision to uphold a law by the State of Texas to ban abortions, Democrats are calling for various methods such as an expansion of Supreme Court seats and an end to filibuster in order to change Republicans' hold on the Judiciary.

Runal Das, a worker in the Metro DC Democratic Socialist organisation spoke about the decision and subsequent reaction, "It's awful. That's what we get when we have a majority on the Supreme Court. We have to expand the number of folks on the Supreme Court." He further mentioned the efforts are being made to



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push for an expansion and said there will be rallies and protests.

The Supreme Court's decision was condemned by Democrats including the U.S President Joe Biden who

said, "This extreme Texas law blatantly violates the constitutional right established under Roe v. Wade and upheld as precedent for nearly half a century. My administration is

deeply committed to the constitutional right established in Roe v. Wade nearly five decades ago and will protect and defend that right." Although it is still unclear exactly how the

administration plans on protecting the right.

U.S Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez also waded in, tweeting, "Republicans promised to overturn Roe V. Wade, and they have. Democrats can either abolish the filibuster and expand the court, or do nothing as millions of peoples' bodies, rights, and lives are sacrificed for far-right minority rule. This shouldn't be a difficult decision."

Other Democrats such as Congressman Mondaire Jones and Congresswoman Cori Bush also supported expansion of the Supreme Court while Senator Elizabeth Warren urged Congress to codify the judgement of Roe v. Wade.

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## Fans mourn Sidharth Shukla's death

Priyansha

Fans of actor Sidharth Shukla have been left under shock and sorrow after the news of the actor's death broke out on Thursday. Best known for his role in Hindi TV-show Balika Vadhu and winner of Bigg Boss 13, Sidharth Shukla passed away aged 40 due to a heart attack in Mumbai.

"It hasn't really sunk in yet and I don't think I can ever come to terms with the fact that my favourite actor is no more. I hope you are in a



Sidharth Shukla Twitter

better place, Sidharth Shukla. Gone too soon," expressed his 24-year-old fan Raashi Upadhyay.

Speaking about his performance as an actor, Sujata Banerjee, 28, said, "We lost a gem today. Sidharth was one of the finest

actors in the history of Indian Television. Loved his work in Balika Vadhu, Dil Se Dil Tak, Big Boss, Khatron Ke Khiladi and more."

She added, "In Big Boss, we could see all the characteristics of Sidharth, from an angry young man to a fun-loving man. Loved his chemistry with actress Shehnaaz Kaur Gill in album songs. They will always be one of the most loved couples in India."

TV and Bollywood actors poured in their condolences on Twitter in memory of the demised actor.

## Rajiv Gandhi's name to be axed from national park



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Ahana Bagchi

The government of Assam is set to remove the name of Rajiv Gandhi from the National Park and rename it as Orang National Park.

The decision was made by the state cabinet after taking into consideration the Adivasi and Tea Tribe community demands. As a reaction to the development, Congress MP, Gaurav Gogoi tweeted, "When the next Congress Government is formed in the state of Assam, on the first day we will cancel the decision of the BJP government to remove the name of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi from

the Orang National Park. Indian culture teaches us to respect martyrs unlike RSS".

Residents of Assam have varied reactions to the change. "I think changing the name will bring the national park into attention and it may contribute to more tourism in the state as well" said Agnidh Baruah, a resident of Jorhat, Assam. "It's more of an emotional thing rather than something which can be considered right or wrong," he further added.

"I don't like it that a national park is named after a politician, it doesn't sound good to the ears" said another resident of Assam. "It's good that they've dropped his name," he added.

## TV Awards 2021: Keralites support state's decision

Athul Krishna

Keralites have supported the state's decision of cancelling awards for the tele-serial category in the State Television Awards 2021.

The award jury has remarked that this year's entries did not meet the aim of the award, and mentioned it's concern on the negative portrayal of women and children in Malayalam tele-serials.

Devika S Kumar, a junior research fellow in psychology said, "Nowadays, the negative representation of



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women and children is being a common theme in Malayalam television serials. These serials have a bigger audience, and there may be chances for a negative impact on the audience by consuming such kinds of tele-serials. The State government's decision to cancel this year's tele-serial

awards is greatly appreciated, as it will make the television channels come up with quality content in their serials."

Prajitha Sabeesh, a Malayalam television viewer from Thrissur said, "I watch Malayalam tv serials. Unlike the past, today most of the serials revolve around the

themes that portray toxic marital relationships, physical abuse of women and children, etc. This should be changed. So I support the state's decision regarding this year's Television Awards."

Henna M Akbar, an architecture student from Thrissur said, "This is one of the best decisions taken by the state government. It's not right to condition or bias a considerable population of women at home with toxic misogynistic contents through television serials. Now the directors and scriptwriters may think a bit more and try to make good and healthy content."