



## Puneites march for climate justice



Over a thousand people in Pune took to the streets to protest against climate crisis.

**Kavisha Manwani**

As citizens across the globe come together to call out for climate justice, more than a thousand people participated in a march organised by the Fridays for Future (FFF) Pune chapter at Jangli Maharaj Road on September 21.



The FFF movement is pioneered by Greta Thunberg.

Environmental groups like Seedballs India, Lokayat and others participated in the march in solidarity with the worldwide movement started by Greta Thunberg, the Swedish environment activist schoolgirl. The march started with a briefing about the objective of the movement. Marchers were heard chanting slogans in several languages.

It was heartening to see the city police supporting the march and clearing the way along with volunteers from the participating organisations.

“The protest march was a great success. To see more than a thousand people, including college students, marching on streets demanding action against climate

change, was something we as coordinators didn't expect. But the fact that it did happen proves that if people decide, they can make pretty much anything happen. This is just the beginning and we need to inform a lot more people because the problem of climate change is on going,” said Sudeep Gogate, one of the coordinators and spokesperson of Pune FFF.

Thunberg, a 16-year-old climate activist started her “school strike” which made the rounds of social media before gaining momentum in the international press thus giving birth to the “Fridays for Future” movement. FFF started in 2018 when Thunberg left her books at home and began sitting outside the Swedish Parliament holding a placard to raise awareness about the climate emergencies.

With supporters from more than 2000 cities worldwide, the movement is spreading like a wild fire and volunteers are organising marches and rallies. Greta's voice has now become a generation's voice and is being heard at Parliaments and the United Nations.

Known for her matter-of-fact manner of speaking, both in public and with political leaders and Assemblies, she urges immediate action against what she describes as climate crisis.

All pictures by Jyoti Patil, Karthikeya Konda, Somya Parikh

## PMC cracks down on VN encroachments

**Anushka Mukherjee**

The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) carried out an anti-encroachment drive in several parts of Viman Nagar from 22nd to 25th September. Among the affected areas were the footpaths leading to Konark Nagar Society as well as shops and restaurants along the Dutta Mandir Chowk. Shops, restaurants, stalls and tapris that encroach upon the ‘marginal space’ on footpaths were ordered to be removed immediately.

Over a period of three days, over 50 establishments were shut down as a part of the drive. Many of these establishments had received a notice from the building construction department of the PMC, regarding extension into marginal space, but no action was taken. Mr. Subhash Talekar, head of the encroachment department at the Nagar Road Ward Office explains that shopkeepers often take rent from chai tapris and stalls which stand on the adjoining footpath illegally. “They don't pay the tax for this rent – and moreover, it is not their property to rent out.” The drive also

aimed at putting a stop to this practice.

While no property was confiscated by the Corporation, roughly 6500 feet of encroached area was vacated. The drive is scheduled to go through several other areas in Pune, including Yerwada, Dhole Patil Road and Nagar Road. Even though the Corporation did not face any opposition to the drive, many of the shop and restaurant owners were distraught at the short notice.

Viman Nagar was a picture of chaos: roadside fast food and tea stalls across Viman upped and left, while shops as well as restaurants worked to move their roadside extensions back into their legal property.

Awareness about legal encroachment, as Mr. Talekar emphasized, is central to this issue. “There are many reasons why awareness should be created. Such illegal encroachment increases risk for disasters like fire.” says Mr. Talekar. “Consuming food and drinks from such shops on the footpath is unhealthy for the citizens, too. This is why such drives are necessary throughout the city.”

Picture by Anushka Mukherjee



Various encroachments were demolished by the PMC in Viman Nagar

## Who made Ganeshotsav a public festival ?

It was Bhausaheb Rangari, not Lokmanya Tilak, say his descendants

**Arpan Cheema**

Amidst the din and clamour of the Ganapati festival, in a small alley in Budhwar Peth stands an extravagant two storied building. With lights illuminating its ancient pillars, this ‘wada’ is in stark contrast to the rest of the buildings in the nameless alley. Upon entering, one can feel the historical significance that the building holds in the Ganapati festival.

The wada belongs to Bhau Laxman Jawle, popularly known as Bhausaheb ‘Rangari’ – the name acquired from the word ‘rang’ which means colour - due the family business of dyeing ethnic Maharashtra saris.

Rangari is of immense importance to the history and formation of Pune as we know it today. He was a freedom fighter and was amongst those who attended the



Newspaper cuttings at the Rangari wada.

first meeting of revolutionaries in Pune - held in the very same building.

A deceptively small entrance leads to large rooms and concealed passages. On the left side after entering, one sees a well which on a closer look is a flight of stairs leading to an underground passage. This

passage was used by the freedom fighters to escape from raids by the British.

A passage which starts from the entrance leads to a room which is now an office. Displayed here are large boards with clippings of old newspapers in Hindi, Marathi and English which reported

Rangari's bravery and arrest.

But most significantly, there is also a newspaper clipping which evidences that it was Rangari who first gave the call for the Ganesh festival to go public in Pune in 1892 in Budhwar Peth. According to Rangari's descendants, it was this initiative which was transformed into a socio-political movement by Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak two years later.

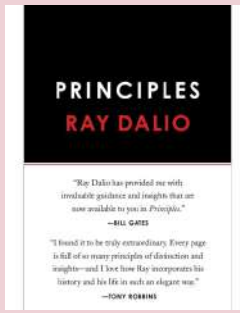
While it is Tilak who is credited with making Ganeshotsav a public festival, with the aim of uniting Hindus to oppose the British rule, Rangari's descendants claim that his (Rangari's) call pre-dates Tilak and that Rangari is the originator of the idea.

Rangari's descendants have preserved the original special chariot and the Ganesh idol which Rangari had used in 1892.

Picture by Govind Choudhary



## TOP PICKS



### Principles: Life & Work

Ashish Prakash

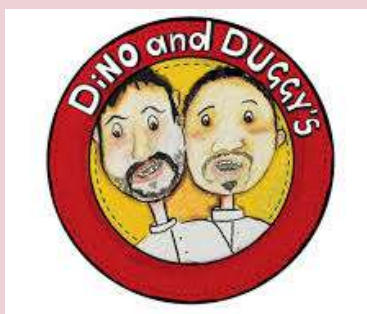
Principles: Life & Work is a work by hedge fund manager Ray Dalio based on principles he had developed while running Bridgewater Associates. The book is divided into three parts. Part 1 talks about the purpose and importance of having a set of principles in life. Part 2 explains Dalio's most fundamental life principles that apply to everything he does. And part 3, explains his management principles as they are being lived out at Bridgewater. An interesting insight into a businessman's mind, this book is a good read.



### IT Chapter Two

Ishaan Bhattacharya

Bigger doesn't always mean scarier. Andy Muschietti's efforts at a sequel are justified, but sometimes they are unnecessary. The reunion of the 'Losers Club' felt forced and the re-emergence of Pennywise wasn't one the story demanded, but had to be done because of the demand for a big budget sequel. The movie itself is perfectly serviceable, but the franchise attached to it didn't need a sequel to begin with.



### Dino and Duggy's

Ashlin Bangera

The café offers a wide variety of cuisines ranging from Indian specialties to burgers overloaded with cheese. With a cozy atmosphere and a good selection of music, the place is a perfect place to catch up with friends. The Bachelors burgers and lemon ice tea are a must try. Located next to Irani Cafe, Viman Nagar. It also accepts Zomato Gold.

# Bhutan students celebrate Blessed Rainy Day in VN

Passang Lhamo

For the first time, Symbiosis students from Bhutan celebrated one of their local festivals called Blessed Rainy Day in Pune. They prepared different traditional dishes such as Ema Datshi (chilli with cheese), Kewa Datshi (potato with cheese) and other side dishes and gathered for lunch at the Symbiosis C Wing Girls Hostel on the 24th of September. They also had a traditional meal of Thub (porridge) in the morning. Traditionally, families, relatives and friends from far and near gather to celebrate the day together.

Tshewang Choden, a Bhutanese student said, "I celebrate this festival as this is our tradition and moreover when we are away from home, a festival like today's (Blessed Rainy Day) brings people together. Amidst



Dishes prepared by Bhutanese students

busy schedules, a gathering like this gives us a homely feeling and makes us happy." Blessed Rainy Day, locally known as

Thru-Bab, is truly an indigenous Bhutanese festival. No other country celebrates this festival. It is believed that on this particular day, the rain is thought to be sanctified by the cosmic Buddha Mahavairocana. And therefore, taking a cleansing bath from the divine rain-water collected overnight, is thought to purify all defilement and bad karma of a person. The festival also marks the end of the farming season and start of the harvest months.

## LecDem features Western classical vocalist Caroline

Audita Bhattacharya

SCMC's serial cultural event - lecture-cum-demonstration - was held on September 21 in the SVC Auditorium and featured Western classical vocals by Ms. Caroline Roy Thomas

Caroline is a professional Western classical vocalist. She currently resides in Chennai and is pursuing her LTCL diploma in vocal music from Trinity College London

under the guidance of Mr. Augustine Paul, one of the most notable names in the field



of classical music in India. Ms. Thomas is primarily involved with choral singing and is a part of the Madras Musical Association Choir. She also does recordings and shows

in both classical and contemporary music as a soloist.

Passionate about Western classical music, Caroline tried to inspire her audience to follow this genre of music and recognise its power and beauty.

She is also a social worker and works with an NGO called Women

of Worth and their campaign Dark is Beautiful.

## Global Leadership Summit held

Rhema Hans

The 2019 Global Leadership Summit (GLS): Youth was held on September 14 at Symbiosis Viman Nagar campus auditorium.

Leaders like Alobo Naga, Renelle Snelleks, Simon Sinek and Liz Bohanan spoke at the event and also joined via a live telecast. A vast diversity of college students, young working professionals, business entrepreneurs and some senior corporate leaders attended the summit.

With live music, inspirational leadership talks, the delegates of the summit inspired the audience to channel and utilize their influence in their respective spheres. The conference was an interactive session with games to inculcate some of the key elements of leadership.

This year, Zealous Community Church organized this conference in Pune with students of Symbiosis..

## India can lead global debate on e-governance: UK economist

The SCMC Chronicle staffer Gunjan Hariramani spoke to Prof Mariana Mazzucato at the TED Summit in Scotland.

Prof Mariana Mazzucato is Professor in the Economics of Innovation and Public Value at University College London (UCL), where she is Founding Director of the UCL Institute for Innovation & Public Purpose (IIPP). She has won several accolades in the field of political economy and was named as one of the '3 Most Important Thinkers About Innovation' by the New Republic, and is on The Bloomberg 50 list of Ones to Watch' for 2019.

Mazzucato firmly believes that inequality is a direct result of rewarding value extraction over value creation, and bold policies can change that. She's passionate about helping the tools of



Photo from marianamazzucato.com

government policy like procurement, grants, prizes to tackle inspiring societal moon shots.

While speaking to her about her views on the Indian economy and its trends, she said she sees an interesting path forward in not just the rate of innovation in India but also the direction India is heading towards.

She appreciates how India has been

leading a movement to make sure that the medicines that are being produced are accessible to people and the system is not abused. However, she also feels that a big percentage of Indians lack access to basic facilities like clean water and sanitation. On this, she quoted Economist Amartya Sen who said that it's better to be poor in India than China.

She also spoke about India's new ID, the Aadhar, where some people might argue that the direction of even that innovation could be problematic because it isn't well-linked up. She says, "If we think of the welfare of the state itself, many people end up getting excluded from healthcare because of the way in which this technology, the e-governance of the identity card was used."

However, Mazzucato also feels that it would be very interesting to see India lead internationally on debating about the whole directionality of the innovation.



# Adieu, dear Bappa . . .



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1 Ten days after Ganesh chaturthi, the Ganesh festival ends on Anant Chaturdashi day, when all the major Ganesh mandals in the city start out in a massive procession, attended by lakhs of people to immerse the Ganesh idols in the two major rivers, Mula and Mutha.

2 A Puneri family bids tearful adieu to their beloved god Ganesha, endearingly called Bappa, at the end of the 10-day Ganeshotsav festival, by customarily immersing the idol in a water tank built by the PMC. The civic body has set up such tanks to prevent pollution of rivers and water bodies in the city.

3 A man dressed as a *mavala* (a soldier from Shivaji's army) plays the *tutari* (traditional metal trumpet).

4 Celebrities also turn up at the Ganesh *visarjan* (idol immersion) procession along with thousands of citizens. Marathi film actress Shruti Marathe was a part of the *kala-vanta pathak* (procession of celebrities).

5 Pomp and pageantry marks the *visarjan* procession as dozens of drum beater troupes accompany the idols of the various Ganesh mandals. Of lately, girls and women have started taking part in these troupes.

6 Devotees pay obeisance to the Tambdi Jogeshwari Mandal Ganesha, which is amongst the five oldest Ganesh Mandals in Pune.

7 Another of the five oldest Mandals in the city is the Guruji Talim Mandal. This idol made of gold is also taken out for *visarjan* and traditionally immersed thrice in water and taken back.

8 The third of the five oldest Mandals in the city is the Kesariwada Ganapati. Their procession was led by a man dressed as the iconic Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

- ALL PICTURES BY SHARWARI KALE & GOVIND CHOUDHARY



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# SSSS, SLS-H win SIU basketball tournament



Col. Meher (L), Col Patil(C) giving winners trophy to SLS-H

Winners (Boys)	
Rank	College
1.	SSSS
2.	SLS-P
3.	SLS-H

Winners (Girls)	
Rank	College
1.	SLS-H
2.	SLS-P
3.	SCMS-P

**Mitali Dhar** was brimming with enthusiasm and provided several nail-biting matches to the audience. The Inter Institute Basketball Tournament was organized by Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune in association with the Department of Sports Recreation and Wellness at the SIU Lavale campus. The tournament lasted for a period of four days starting 17 September and saw the participation of 18 men's teams and 15 women's teams from various institutes of the Symbiosis family.

The chief guests for the competition were Col Patil Campus Administrator SIT, Pune and Col. Meher Campus Administrator SUCHRC, Pune. The tournament

was brimming with enthusiasm and provided several nail-biting matches to the audience.

The men's tournament was won by SSSS, Pune after breaking the hat trick of SLS, Pune by 43-39 and women's tournament was won by SLS, Hyderabad by defeating SLS, Pune by 36-29.

The Best Player in the men's class was bagged by Mitesh Punjabi of SSSS, while Aarushi Gupta of SLS,H was named the Best Player in the women's category.

All teams showcased commendable performance and displayed good sportsmanship.

# Symbi students promote eco-friendly seed pens

Rupal Jhajharia



Two students, Vaibhav Agarwal and Himanshu Maurya of SIBM, Pune promoted an eco-friendly seed pen on this teacher's day as part of their college project. This 10 rupee pen is supposed to be made up of 95% lesser amount of plastic as compared to the amount used in making regular pens and mostly made up of recycled newspapers. It is thus biodegradable.

You get each pen with the name of a plant written on it. This is the plant that the pen turns into after disposal.

**What is the concept behind these pens**

**and how did you come up with this?**

**Vaibhav:** We came up with this idea a few months back, as part of a life project task. We decided to market these eco-friendly pens and pencils. The reason we call these seed pens is that every pen has a seed at its top and every unit has a name of a plant written on it, the idea being that this is the sapling the pen turns into once it is disposed of.

**How has the response been so far?**

**Himanshu:** We sold these at different campuses and various places. We got a good response and we have been pretty successful in promoting these eco-friendly pens.

**What is your plan of action now?**

**Vaibhav:** We plan on taking this a step forward. We will be promoting these in the corporates and NGOs as and when we begin to garner more profits. We might set up our manufacturing unit in the future if things work out in our favor.

**Himanshu:** We are selling these pens B2B already and the response has been great. We would love to expand this concept across the country.

**Vaibhav:** It will hopefully be accepted well because unlike other plastic pens that are polluting and non-biodegradable, these pens are not only biodegradable but also promote the growth of the green cover.

# In VN, where do you go for the cup that cheers ?

Govind Choudhary

One of the outcomes of social media is to establish a fad these days. Chai has become one of such fad, where tea-lovers have their own groups in social media. The tea joints on the streets of Viman Nagar are not behind in this race. Here is a list of the most popular tea joints in Viman Nagar.

**1) Amrutulya:**

One of the best tea joints in Viman Nagar is Amrutulya meaning 'comparable to elixir of life' in Marathi. Their tea has an extra layer of cream; and equally measured water and milk in brass pots give it a distinctive color. Spices such as pepper, ginger, cloves, cardamom and cinnamon give it a strong flavour. This milky chai costs only Rs. 10.



**2) Irani Cafe:** Situated opposite Rosary School, Irani's chai gives you the perfect flavour of tea, not very extreme and not very mild. Served in double quantity, the tea is perfect with a bun-mask.

**3) Hira's:** Strong tea from a 'tapri' in front of Hira's near Symbiosis is the per-

fect way to start your day. This tapri opens around 8 in the morning especially for office goers and students. This tea is down to earth with a hint of adrak (ginger) in it.

**4) Pawan Teashop:** Pawan's tea is the one which gives you the feeling of home. With the aroma rising when Pawan pours the tea from the classic thermos to your cup, it will make your day.

**5) Maushi's**

**Chai:** This can be called as the 'go-to tea spot'. Situated right opposite our college, this is the place you can always come back to for a quick sip.

**6) Nukkad Cafe:**

Tea leaves, which come from the tea estates of Assam and spices which come from Kerala, blend together here at Nukkad Cafe. This tea is made and served

in eco-friendly earthen kulhads.

**7) Premacha Chaha:** The name, meaning 'tea of love', goes with a tagline of 'taste of belongingness'. Situated in the same lane as Amrutulya, Premacha Chaha is crowded with people, especially the youth, throughout the day.

# Symbi girls just wanna have noodles only

Samidha Raut

Take a guess, what could be the most popular snack in the Vimanagar Symbiosis girls' hostel? Believe it or not, it is the humble boiled masala noodles!

Come to think of it, for the evening snacks, the hostel mess serves a variety of stuff which even includes Chinese bhel, paani-puri, bread pakoda and fried idlis, but it is the simple, modest noodles which has the most takers.

"Some girls even skip the evening snacks, but not when there is noodles. That's when you'll find the longest queues at the mess," confirms Astha Aswal. And this is despite the fact that the girls have access to the hostel pantry where they can make noodles whenever they want.

"The fact is, the mess doesn't serve noodles frequently," informs Urvi Shetyi. "So whenever there is noodles, there's excitement. Everyone wants it," she informs. "Speaking for myself, my mother restricted noodles to twice a month. Here, there is none," she adds.

But what it is about noodles that makes it so sought after? "It's piping hot and soupy, and it's filling. It's comfort

food. It's like how Mother used to make it. So, it reminds you of home," says Astha. "It's something you miss, so you want it," she adds.

Nostalgia apart, there are other reasons too. "Dinner may not be appetizing on all days. So if there is noodles in the evening, we tend to fill up," says Bavana Gone. "Besides, noodles are associated with happy childhood memories," she says.

Krithika Iyer endorses that feeling. "Who wouldn't want a serving of warm, soupy, slurpy noodles at the end of a tiring day?" she asks.

But why the mad rush, when you can easily make it yourself whenever you want? "Why not, when someone gives it to you ready-made?" counters

Suprasanna Dindigal.

Adrija Saha has a more defined take on the issue. "Most of the other snacks are oily. And some don't taste as they should. There's the issue of personal preference. But with noodles you simply can't go wrong. So, everyone's ok with noodles," she says.

Fortunately, at the girls' hostel mess, there seems to be little restriction on the number of servings of noodles.

