

Editorial

Elections

Once Shivaji Maharaj gets bored in heaven. Getting nostalgic, he decides to come to Pune to revive his childhood memories. What he finds is a totally different face of Pune: black Mutha river, roads full of pits and ditches, PMTs in horrible condition....Maharaj gets wild seeing this and goes directly to the corporation-office. What greets him there : staircases turned into spittoons, dozing peons...Maharaj get wilder. He gets in a mood of war and shouts, " Who's the king here?" A peon wakes up from his slumber and points to the commissioner's office. The commissioner looks at Maharaj's dress, his sword, and candidly says, "If you want to fight, fight the elections!"

The next day, Maharaj promptly goes to file his application in the election-office. He sees some people there, wearing his masks. There were few Mavlas (supporting soldiers) with him. Few people with Gandhiji's masks and few with Ambedkar's masks were submitting applications too. Maharaj pays the deposit and sets out for campaigning. He hires a horse from a stable near Marketyard.

Maharaj plans to conduct his first public address in Shivajinagar. What he sees there is, two people wearing Gandhiji's and Ambedkar's masks each, are distributing flowers together. There is no place to park his horse there and so Maharaj speeds to the Karve-statue in Kothrud. What he sees there is a person wearing his mask addressing people. He then goes to Appa Balwant Chowk. A lady with Indira Gandhi's mask is distributing television-sets there. Soon it is night. Maharaj sees a huge gathering near Shaniwarwada. In that gathering, a few Mavlas whom he had earlier seen with the person wearing his mask are going behind those wearing Gandhiji's mask towards Mandai. Somebody tells him that they weren't going for the party but to 'party'.

Two-three days later Maharaj announces a huge public gathering through the newspapers. Venue: Alka-chowk. Shivaji Maharaj Bhosle cordially invites everyone! The next day he sees that only those with his surname had gathered. Angrily he cancels the meeting.

The elections get closer. Suddenly someone comes screaming that Gandhiji's statue is garlanded by footwear somewhere and then somebody lifts away Savarkar's statue. The same day at night, Maharaj again sees everyone going gaily together towards Mandai.

On the day of the election, Maharaj decides to cast his vote first. He goes to the voting centre but his name is absent. Gradually the centre starts getting crowded. Many vehicles full of arms and people arrive. On the other side, roses and Rs. 100 notes were being distributed. The result is declared.

Maharaj decides to teach the winners a lesson. He goes to the corporation. A meeting of the winners has commenced there. Outside spread hay-way are footwear and different masks! A peon sees him waiting and asks him to enter after removing his footwear and mask. He says that all those people inside would now come out only after five years.

Democracy is good but people should be aware of the right and wrong! So saying, Maharaj returns to heaven.

Wishing all of you a happy new year, happy republic-day and happy elections!



Harba
and
Kerba

Persistence pays !!

(Harba is drinking a cup of tea in a tea-stall , and he sees Kerba)

Harba : (beckoning him) Hello Kerba, please join me for a cup of tea ...

Kerba : (approaching) Hello, you seem to be in a relaxed mood today, how is life ?

Harba : Oh, things are okay overall, but when I look at this tea-stall, I think I should have started a tea-stall like this, instead of selling vegetables.

Kerba : Oh, is it so ? Why ?

Harba : Look at the crowd here.... the shopkeeper has no time even for counting the money....and he is able to earn so much money sitting comfortably in the stall while I have to toil whole day long pushing my cart.

Kerba : (smiles) don't you know that this shopkeeper has worked for ten years as the assistant in the tea stall and has carried out all the small jobs such as cleaning the utensils, cups etc. Only after working without rest for ten years, he has achieved today's status. In those days, you earned more money than him. If he had thought of selling vegetables like you, would he have achieved this status?

Harba : (thinking) Hmmm ... (sips the tea)

Kerba : Any business is good, you see. What you need is persistence and patience. A person learns a lot from the experiences he has to face in life. Of course, one has to be ready to learn the tricks of the trade. He has to have determination, otherwise, he will be a jack of all trades but master of none !

Harba : (does not say anything, but is keenly listening to Kerba)

Kerba : You see, the trader coming to the market yard in his car also sells vegetables and you sell vegetables too. You have to note the difference in his methods and your methods and work with perseverance to reach his status one day. After all, it is your choice. Okay then, should I come to your tea stall for a cup of tea?

Harba : I'll give you a 'special' cup of tea, but not on the tea-stall, on my own vegetable-stall!

Our health in our hands

Observe the following pictures and decide for yourself which are correct and which

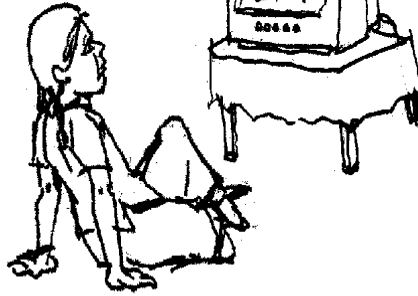


EYE CARE

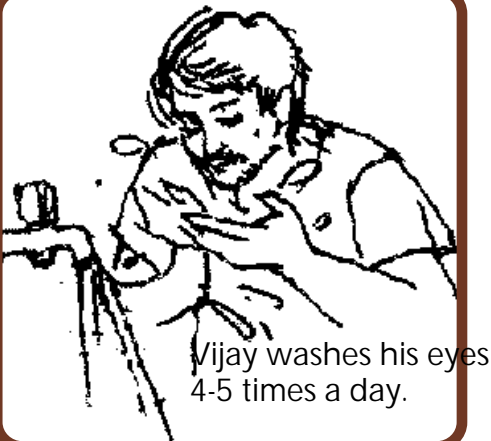
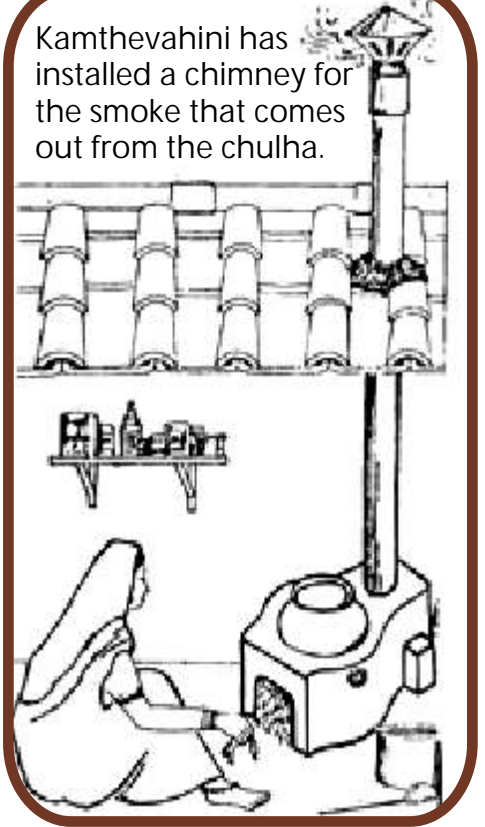
Ganesh's mother puts 'Kajal' in his eyes to protect him from the evil forces.



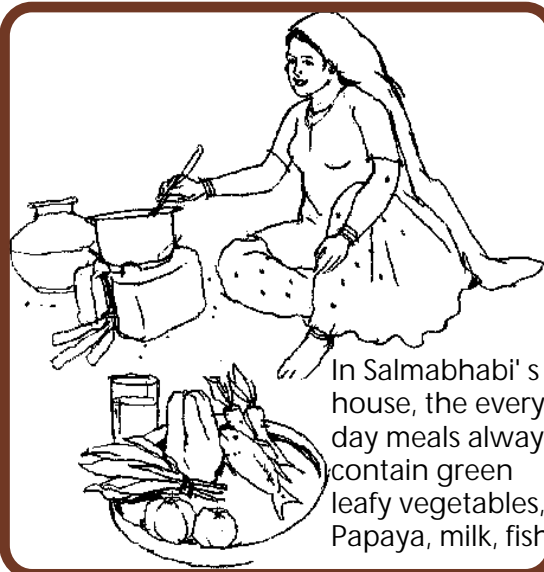
Jayashri watches the T.V. sitting very near to it.



Kamthevahini has installed a chimney for the smoke that comes out from the chulha.

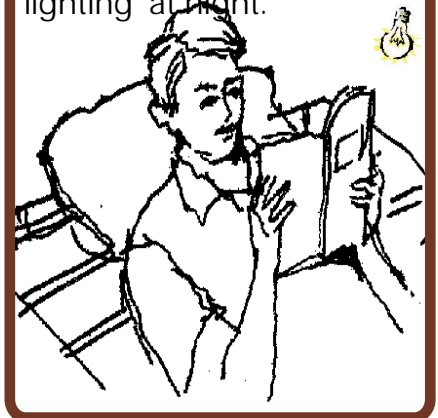


Vijay washes his eyes 4-5 times a day.



In Salmabhabi's house, the every day meals always contain green leafy vegetables, Papaya, milk, fish.

Santosh reads in poor lighting at night.



Wrong: 1, 2, 3

Thought for the Month

We shall use the right to information and use the right of voting We shall teach a lesson to the lazy and selfish corporators

News of the month

'Discovery' spaceship is launched, at last

/Huston , 10th December , PTI (Loksatta)

The 'Discovery' spaceship of the United States was launched successfully today. Suneeta Williams is one of the seven astronauts in the spaceship. After Kalpana Chawala, Suneeta is the second astronaut of Indian origin to fly into the space

'Discovery' spaceship is assigned the task of maintenance and repair of the 'International Space Station' .

Suneeta Williams has a major responsibility during the space programme. Even though the 'Discovery' spaceship will return to earth after 12 days, Suneeta is going to stay in the space for the next six months. 41 years old Suneeta is a former test pilot in the American navy. She has been selected for the post of flight engineer on this space shuttle mission. Suneeta is the daughter of Dr. Suneel Pandya. She was born and brought up in the U.S.