

'My wife is an SRK fan'



After hrs. 8 Pages

# DNA

Advani favourite for Khel Ratna



Sport 6 Pages

Mumbai, Friday, August 18, 2006

DAILY NEWS & ANALYSIS

Pages 44

Founder Partner Price Rs2

## Prime Minister carries the day on nuke deal



He silenced critics on the Left and Right and won over his own MPs

Arati R Jerath, New Delhi

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh took the wind out of his critics' sails on Thursday with an aggressive assurance to Parliament that his government would walk away from the Indo-US nuclear deal if its final form deviated from the parameters set by the July 18, 2005, statement and the agreed separation plan.

"The government will draw the necessary conclusions consistent with my commitment to Parliament (if the final agreement imposes extraneous conditions)," he told the Rajya Sabha at the end of a lengthy discussion.

He said he had conveyed his government's objections and reservations to President George Bush, who had assured him that his administration has no intention of shifting the goalposts.

Singh's long-awaited statement on the deal was both emotional and exhaustive. By the time he was through, he had effectively silenced his critics in the Left and the BJP and won over his own party MPs, who cheered and thumped the tables frequently.

The PM's performance should dispel any doubt about his political skills. Shrewdly positioning himself as the reformer everyone

loves to hate, he drew a parallel between his role as the finance minister who changed the country's economic direction in 1991 and as the prime minister making a paradigm shift in foreign policy. He said he was pilloried by the Left and the Right then and is facing the same reaction today: "So I am used to this."

Turn to p16  
Edit: More than just a deal, p10

PM silences Left and Right on nuke deal. p1, p11  
Bombay Hospital offers shehnai legend Bismillah Khan free treatment. p3  
Another sex racket uncovered in J&K; six arrested. p11  
VP Singh and Raj Babbar arrested by UP police. p12  
Hansdehar village uploads itself on the Net so the world can know its problems. p14  
India's enemies are not ours: US think tank. p15  
Salman Rushdie, John Irving defend Günter Grass's delayed confession. p15  
A passenger flight lands at Beirut airport after five weeks. p17  
Patel Roadways could be Anil Ambani's second logistics purchase. p19  
SA junior cricketers follow the seniors home. p27

### Top 10

### Medical costs set to come down

Unbranded drugs will get cheaper as govt sets profit limit

Reghu Balakrishnan, Mumbai

Unbranded generic drugs are set to become cheaper with the government and pharmaceutical industry associations agreeing to fix the retailer margin at 35 per cent and wholesaler margin at 15 per cent. The new margins will be effective from October 2 and, according to Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers Ram Vilas Paswan, may bring the price of such generics down by 50-60 per cent.

'Unbranded' generic drugs are cheaper copies of medicines produced by big pharmaceutical companies. Take, for instance, the antibiotic ciprofloxacin. Ranbaxy has branded this drug as Cifran, while Cipla's version is called Ciplox. Both companies promote their brands through medical representatives. But another version of the drug, branded Ciprofloxacin and produced by a pharma firm in Uttaranchal, is sold directly through distributors to medical stores.

Unscrupulous chemists substitute these drugs for what the doctor has prescribed, telling patients that it is the same medicine, only cheaper. The reason? The substitutes bring in greater profits. In pharma parlance, this is called 'prescription switching'.

Turn to p16



The pothole-ridden road right outside CST station, barely 30 metres away from the BMC headquarters, is an indicator that the municipal corporation has its work cut out trying to meet the August 30 deadline set by the high court to free the city of potholes. Clearly, the work will have to begin at home. But Municipal Commissioner Johny Joseph says the civic authority will undertake the task with zeal. "Potholes anywhere will be taken care of before the August 30 deadline," he told DNA on Thursday — Kamlesh Pednekar.DNA

Court gets BMC cracking, p3

## Seize 1010 acres, HC tells state

Court raps government for failing to take advantage of the Land Ceiling Act

Anshika Misra, Mumbai

Two months ago Union Urban Development Minister S Jaipal Reddy had said that Maharashtra must repeal the Urban Land Ceiling Regulation (ULCR) Act.

Chief Minister Vilasrao Deshmukh had assured him at that time that the act would be repealed within five years.

But on Thursday, the Bombay high court took the state to task for not implementing the act while it is still on the books, and pulled up the Deshmukh government for failing to enforce a law meant to bring about equitable distribution of land.

The court directed the state government to acquire 1009.75 acres of land in Mumbai, declared va-

cant under the act, within six months. So far, since the act came into force in 1976, the state has acquired only 261.72 acres.

The land is meant to provide affordable housing in a city starved for space and crammed with slums.

### Home ground

The land acquired under the act is meant to provide affordable housing in Mumbai

The court has also directed the state to demarcate the excess land in the possession of 338 individuals, trusts, and organisations, which have cases pending before the deputy collector, by December 31, 2007.

The state's affidavit said it is committed to implementing the act despite Deshmukh's promise to phase it out in five years.

Full report on p5

## Jaish chief's brothers, in-laws arrested

Police confirm arrests but say they were probably carried out by ISI

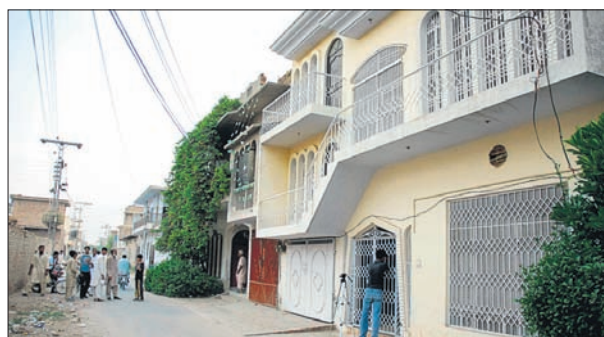
Amir Mir, Lahore

In a major swoop, Pakistani security agencies have arrested two each of the five younger brothers and six brothers-in-law of Jaish-e-Mohammad founder Maulana Masood Azhar from Bahawalpur in Punjab.

The arrests were made in connection with the investigation into the abortive terrorist plot to blow up 10 US-bound airliners taking off from London.

Bahawalpur District Police Officer Arif Nawaz confirmed the arrests but said his force had nothing to do with them, and they were probably made by the Inter Services Intelligence.

An intelligence source said the arrests were made late on Wednesday after it was established that alleged



A videographer peeks in the house believed to belong to Rashid Rauf, alleged brain of the UK plot, in Bahawalpur —AP

mastermind Rashid Rauf, who was arrested in Bahawalpur on August 9, was related to Azhar.

Among those arrested is Azhar's brother and JeM spokesman Mohammad Tariq, who uses the pseudonym Sehrai Baba. Azhar's arrested brothers-in-law are Abid Hussain and Mohammad Yousaf.

Meanwhile, Hafiz Allah Bukhsh, Azhar's father, told reporters in Bahawalpur that Rauf was a member of Jaish but left to join its rivals. "He joined Jamaatul

Furqaan, led by Jaish dissident Maulana Abdul Jabbar," he said. "Our cause is the liberation of Jammu & Kashmir. Their main cause is anti-American. We are not."

Meanwhile, a team of the United Kingdom's National Terrorist Finance Investigation Unit has reached Islamabad to verify whether the money collected by two charities linked to the Jaish for victims of the October 8, 2005, earthquake in Kashmir was misused to finance the Heathrow plot.

## Company cars get cheaper

State govt cuts road tax from 21% to 14%

Gouri Shah, Mumbai

Here's good news for company executives. The state Cabinet has decided to cut motor vehicle tax (MVT) on corporate vehicle purchases from 21 per cent to 14.

In his budget speech earlier this year, Finance Minister Jayant Patil had raised the MVT on individual vehicle purchases from 4 to 7 per cent. The revised rate came into effect on April 1.

As a result, corporate MVT, which was pegged at three times the individual tax rate, shot up from 12 to 21 per cent.

This meant that on a car worth Rs10 lakh, a company had to shell out Rs2.1 lakh as MVT, a steep increase of Rs90,000 from the amount that it paid until March 31.

With the new tax structure, which will be notified soon, the tax burden will come down by Rs70,000 on the same car.

More on p7

Never mind the guns and the bombs, these 43,000 screeners are looking for 'evil intent'

## US airports search faces for clues

Eric Lipton, Dulles

As a man approached the airport security checkpoint at Dulles International airport on Wednesday, he kept picking up and putting down his backpack, touching his fingers to his chin, rubbing some object in his hands and finally reached for his pack of cigarettes, even though smoking was not allowed.

Two Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officers stood nearby, nearly motionless and silent, gazing straight at him. Then, with a nod, they moved in, chatted briefly with the man and then swiftly pulled him aside for an intense search. Another airline passenger had just made the acquaintance of the TSA's "behaviour detection officers."

To identify suspicious individuals, airport screeners are being trained to read subtle facial expressions that are telltale signs of an emotion.



Courtesy: The New York Times

Taking a hint from Israeli airport security, the transportation agency has been experimenting with a new squad whose members do not look for bombs, guns or knives. Instead, the assignment is to find anyone with evil intent.

So far, these specially trained of-

ficers are working in only about a dozen airports across the United States and they represent just a tiny percentage of the transportation agency's 43,000 screeners.

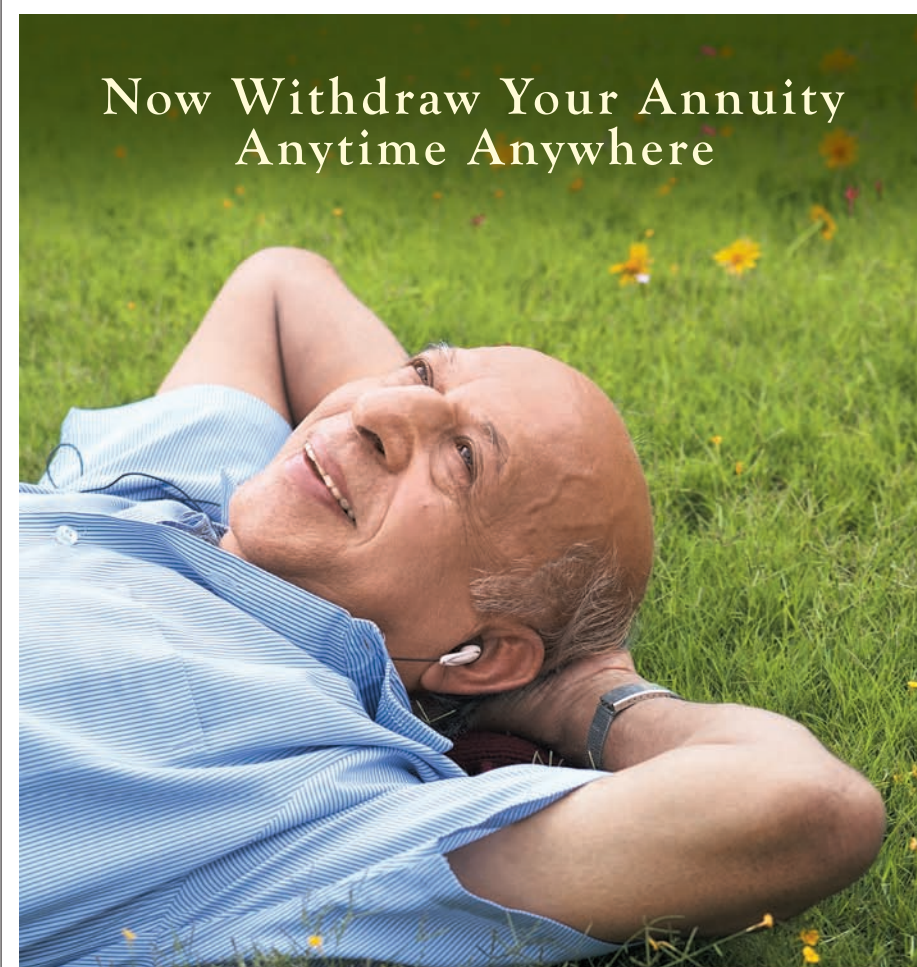
But after the recently foiled UK terror plot, agency officials say they want to have hundreds of behaviour

detection officers trained by the end of next year and deployed at most of the nation's biggest airports.

"The observation of human behaviour is probably the hardest thing to defeat," said Waverly Cousin, supervisor of the behaviour detection unit at Dulles. "You just don't know what I am going to see."

But even in its infancy the program has elicited some protests.

Passengers singled out solely because of their behaviour have at times been threatened with detention if they did not cooperate, raising constitutional issues that are already being argued in court. Some civil liberties experts said that the program, if not run properly, could turn into another version of racial profiling. —NYT



Now Withdraw Your Annuity Anytime Anywhere

PRESENTING LIC ANNUITY DEBIT CARD



LIC brings you the convenience of withdrawing your annuity anytime, anywhere. From now onwards your monthly annuity will be directly loaded into your LIC ANNUITY DEBIT CARD. It means you no longer have to wait for annuity cheques and queue up at banks to deposit & withdraw cash. Just swipe your LIC ANNUITY DEBIT CARD at any of the UTI Bank ATMs or VISA ATMs and withdraw cash. Additionally, you can also use this debit card for purchasing.

Ask for your LIC ANNUITY DEBIT CARD today! Call toll free - 1800 22 4077.



Life Insurance Corporation of India Trust - Thy name is LIC

Currently Annuity Card facility is available to the Group Annuitants serviced from P&GS Unit, Mumbai.

Please visit us at www.licindia.com Insurance is the subject matter of solicitation.

LIC No.15/Eng/2006-07