<u>quote</u>martial

Unlike the busy area near Metro cinema at Dhobi Talao, Mahim is a small, residential area. An art gallery will not work here.

ANWAR KHAN, chairman, Mahim ALM, on the proposal to set up an art gallery at Mahim subway >>P5

Radiation affects health: global report

PROOF The Bioinitiative 2012 report refutes claims by cellular phone operators that there is no conclusive evidence to prove correlation between radiation and health problems



Rootika Suhramanian

MUMBAI: A global report published on Sunday has turned the tables on cellular phone operators and even the civic body, who have been claiming that there is no "conclusive evidence" to prove the correlation between expo-sure to mobile tower radiation and health problems.
"Continuous base station-level

exposure can result in illness and have biological effects that can interfere with normal body processes, prevent the healing of damaged DNA, produce immune system imbalances, cause metabolic disruption and lower resilience to disease," states the Bioinitiative 2012 report.

The report has been published by 29 independent scientists and health experts from 10 countries, including Sweden, India, Italy, Greece, US and Russia, after 1,800 papers written by scientists and health experts global ly were studied and analysed HARM TO HEALTH

THE AIM OF THE REPORT: It studies and highlights the possible risks from wireless technologies and electromagnetic fields; around 1,800 global research papers written by scientists and health experts were studied before the 2012 report was released on Sunday.

WHAT THE REPORT SAYS

Continuous base station-level exposure can result in illness.

Prolonged exposure can interfere with the functioning of the body, prevent it from healing damaged DNA, can produce immune system imbalances, create metabolic disruption and lower resilience to disease.

Headaches, difficulty in concentration and behavioural problems have been found in children and adolescents; and sleep distur-bances, headaches and concentration issues in adults **Existing global public safety** limits don't seem to be sufficiently protective of public health,

especially when it comes to that of the foetus,

newborn and very young children. Early childhood exposure may increase the risk of developing hyperactivity, learning disorders and behavioural problems.

over a period of five years. This is the second edition of the report, which was first published in 2007.

The report has studied the effects of exposure to electromagnetic field radiation on neu-

rology and behaviour, gene and

protein expression, stress

response, fertility and reproduction, and cancer, among other things. "Some part of the population, such as children, pregnant women, hypersensitive per sons, could be especially sensitive," the reports states.

Reiterating the need to adhere

WHO'S BEHIND THE REPORT?

The Biointitiative 2012 report is published by 29 inde tries, including India, Sweden, Italy, Greece, Canada Austria, US and Russia. This is the second edition of the report; the first was published in 2007.

COMBAT RADIATION EFFECTS

Health agencies and regulatory agencies should go by recent studies and adopt new, biologically relevant safety limits and adhere to the low-est scientific benchmarks for harm. Special safety limits must be put in place for sensitive population, including foetus, infants, children, elderly and those with pre-existing

Strong precautionary action and clear public health warnings needed immediately to prevent global epidemic of brain tumours Steps must be taken to lower rates of premature death.

Follow the scientific benchmark of 0.03 milliwatts/ square metre for 'lowest observed effect level'.

to suggested global radiation emission levels, telecom expert Anuj Jain said: "Based on the findings, the government should formulate its own study on the correlation between health issues

"The report indicates that

India has set a high limit for radiation emission from mobile tow-ers," said Professor Girish Kumar from IIT Bombay. "It is of utmost necessity to bring down the permissible limit to global safety

limit as per

the report is

0.5

milliwatts

sq m

INDIA'S

450

The 29-member panel of

health experts and scientists included two Indian professors, Professor Jitendra Behari and Professor Paulraj Rajamani from Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi. The duo studied the effects of radiation on fertility and reproHT has been consistently reporting on radiation from cellphone towers in the city



BMC to upload list of legal cellphone towers towering **DECEMBER 16, 2012**

an Civic doctors to head study on radiation effects towering A Cry shootitisme and the carper case the carper case

We have reported on the harmful effects caused by radiation emitted by mobile towers

During our

campaign, we also informed

how they could

neighbourhood

help identify

illegal mobile

our readers

ACTION: Recruiting

number of women's cells at police sta-

tions across the city

government is in

women constables

ACTION: Increasing aware

ness and sensitising society

the process of recruiting 20,000

STATUS: The

more women constables and creating a greater

Chilly day out



 On Sunday morning, temperatures dipped to 10.4°C in the city forcing Mumbaiites to bring out their woollens. KALPAK PATHAK/HT PHOTO

Eat healthy, avoid exposure to cold, advise docs

MUMBAI: Doctors warned Mumbaiites suffering from respiratory tract and viral infections owing to the dipping mer-cury to eat carefully and protect themselves well against

"A lot of people have been suf-fering from cold, cough and

other respiratory illnesses," said Dr Krishnakant Dhebri, family physician at Girgaum. "People must eat nutritious food, such as oranges and sweet lime that are rich in vitamin C. It is misconception that these are harmful during

Doctors also advised those falling ill to stay home for at least two days. "Patients should stay home to avoid aggravat-ing the condition and reduce chances of spreading the infec-tion," said Dr Vibhakar Adhvaryu who practices at

ht CAMPAIGN STATUS REPORT ON ACTION PROMISED

MAKE

MUMBAI WOMEN

Sayli Udas Mankikar

MUMBAI: It has been a week since the state government made promises to implement plans for curbing the growing number of cases of crime against women, especially those related to rape in Maharashtra. Although a number of these promises have translated into plans and are waiting for approval either from the legislature, Centre or judiciary, it will be a while before they are

implemented. The most important decision so far is setting up 25 fast-track courts for which we will appeal to the high court. The process is underway. To make the laws related to rape and sexual harassment non-bailable, we have already made a request to the central government. We are awaiting their response," said home minister RR Patil.

Maharashtra reported 46,000 cases related to crime against women between 2009 and 2011 and an abysmal 9.6% conviction rate for rape cases.

Following the outrage after the Delhi gang rape case, the state had announced long-term measures to reduce the security cover for VIPs and diverting it to women, forming women's cells at police stations and colleges and strengthening forensic laboratories, among others.

10-day public awareness cam-paign on women's laws, security and rights on January 3. The campaign will end on January 12 and aims at sensitising people.
The home minister has also

ACTION: Reducing VIP securi-

Women's safety plans still on paper

ACTION: Setting up fast-track courts to try cases on crimes against women

STATUS: Of the 100 fast-track courts sanctioned, the government is in the process of seeking permission from the Bombay high court to put aside 25 exclusively for women issues. Only 69 of these courts have judges

ACTION: Strengthening forensic labs

STATUS: The state has requested the Centre to fill vacancies at forensic labs and increase their numbers. About 3,840 cases of sexual assault on women are pending with the lab for a period ranging between nine months and two-and-a-half years.

ACTION: Rehabilitation for rape victims and providing monetary compensation

STATUS: The woman and child's department has charted out a detailed proposal on rehabilitation of victims. This includes providing the entire cost of the victim's medical expenses, compensation ranging from Rs2lakh to Rs3 lakh, counseling and employment. The proposal is applicable for acid-attack victims and is pending with the planning dept

on the plan and a propos-al for the same is expected to reach the home department this week. About 487 cops are expected to be freed up from VIP security **ACTION: The woman**

STATUS: Police are working

ty cover to make more con-stables available for handling issues related women's safety

cial wings, to deal with trouble faced by female students, in every

college STATUS: A

letter has been sent to the department of

higher education asking them to create the cell

and child's welfare department wants spe on women's issues STATUS: A special 10-day public awareness cam paign on women's laws, security and

rights is being conducted from January 3 up to January 12, 2013. The campaign includes state-wide programs to educate people on the same

ACTION: Sensitising policemer and increasing accountability

STATUS: The state government has decided to take action against cops who fail to register complaints made by women against molestation or harassment of any kind. The cop will face a probe and if found guilty will face disciplinary action including suspension. The home minister has also asked senior officers to conduct workshops to sensitise their subordinates towards sexual harassment



3 ARRESTED FOR **DUPING FAMILIES**

DOMBIVLI: Three people, including a woman, have been arrest ed by the Vishnunggar police for allegedly duping at least 60 to 65 families by promising them Mhada hous Accused Anand Maladkar, 32,

Anand Kamble, 40, Sunita Salvi, 28, have been booked for cheat ing and forgery. Police suspect e scam runs into a few crores of rupees. Rajendra Kulkarni, inspector, Vishnunagar police station, said,

"The cheating came to light when two of the complainants went to the Mhada office with keys and allotment letters to take possession of their respective flats. However, when officials started to question them about the papers, the victims realised that they had been conned.

They went to the police station and registered a complaint. After Maladkar and Kamble's arrest, the police came to know about Salvi's involvement in the

scam. According to the police, she

Half-eaten body of infant found

winter," said Dr Dhebri.

MUMBAI: The half-eaten body of a new born baby was found at Nallasopara (West) on Sunday afternoon. The police said that they are yet to ascertain whether the baby was a boy or a girl.

parents abandoned it, following

which it was devoured by stray dogs. According to the Nallasopara police, the body was found by a children playing at "Centre (PHC) for a post mortem," said Mukund Mahajan, inspector, Nallasopara police. "We are also checking neara ground in Takipada area in Nallasopara (West).

"It is suspected that dogs had devoured body parts as only the face and arms were found. The body has been sent to the Nallasopara Primary Health

by maternity clinics for deliveries in the past few days," said Mahajan. A case has been registered under section 319 (causing hurt) of the IPC. They will mortem report arrives.

The state's woman and child's welfare department kicked off a

asked senior cops in the state to

conduct workshops, to sensitise policemen to tackle cases of harassment and crimes such as

"Senior police officials are working on reducing VIP secu-rity and will make a proposal to the home department for approval. Following this, a committee led by the chief secretary will finalise the move to downsize forces that can be diverted senior government official.

Special service on Bhandup-Mulund route

The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) undertaking will be introducing a special bus service for women on one more route from Monday evening. The new service is to be started on route no 606, between Bhandup (West) and Nardas Nagar

This will be the 57th special service for women by BEST. There are 56 such services already in place for 27 different routes in the city BEST has already started

three special services for women at Andheri and Goregoan at the beginning of

Sailor commits suicide on naval warship

HT Correspondent

MUMBAI: A 23-year-old sailor allegedly committed suicide by shooting himself aboard a naval warship on Saturday evening.

Demanding a thorough probe, family of the deceased, Mellwyn Raj, alleged that he took was forced to take extreme step due to harassment from seniors.

The police have recorded an accidental death and are conducting further inquiries into

According to Colaba police Saturday.

HARASSED BY SENIORS: FAMILY

duty on IBS Talwar at the naval

After finishing his duty, he went to the armoury room. But instead of depositing his rifle, he

leave from Saturday. But his leave was suddenly cancelled his family alleged. his parents on several occasions that his seniors treated

Raj's family alleged that his seniors had been harassing him

He was supposed to go on

declared dead before admis-Selvam Ramakrishnan, 33. Raj's cousin, said his brother was depressed as his seniors harassing him. Raj according to Selvam, had told ed how he had been harassed and had also named a few seniors," alleged Selvam.

said Raj always wanted to be in the Indian Navy.

war, I would have been proud. But the circumstances in which my son has died are dubious and the case should be thoroughly investigated,' "We have recorded an acci-

Thursday morning.

Three days on, cops have no leads on Virar woman's identity, murder

HT Correspondent htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Even three days after the body of an unidentified woman, aged between 22 and 25 years was found in a forested area off the Mumbai-Ahmedabad highway, the Virar police are yet to make a breakthrough in the case.

According to the police, the body was found in the Watharpada village (Tokri gram panchayat) in Virar area, about 24 kilometers from Mumbai on A villager spotted the naked

body of the woman lying near an old, uninhabited building at 7.30am and subsequently informed the sarpanch (village head), Ramchandra Roj, 40. A social worker then informed the

ACCUSED ABSCONDING

Police said that as the body was not decomposed, it appeared that the accused ahandoned the body only the night before it was found Post mortem reports revealed that she had not been sexually

There were strangulation marks on the woman's neck, injuries made with a sharp object on her cheeks and she had also sustained head injuries. Based on the bruises, the police had registered a case under section 302 (for murder) and 201 (for causing disappearance of evidence) of the Indian Penal Code, against

an unidentified person. The police said that they had

issued wireless messages across the state to see if any missing per-son's complaints had been filed recently.

"Her picture has been circulated throughout the state, how-ever, there are no leads on the accused yet," said D Patil, assistant inspector, Virar police sta

The police said that the victim's post mortem report revealed that she had not been sexually abused. The cause of death was 'asphyxia due to smothering,' said Patil.

The police said that the woman was wearing glass bangles and vermilion on her head, indicating that she was married However, no documents were found on her to help the police ascertain her identity, officials

would accompany the two accused as a Mhada officer and victims.

collect lakhs of rupees from the

Raj, a native of Tamil Nadu, was recruited as a sailor two years ago. He was posted aboard the INS Talwar at the naval dockvard at Lion Gate and was on sentry duty on

allegedly shot himself.

Mellwyn Raj, 23, was on sentry dockyard at Lion Gate on Saturday night

Around 8pm, Raj completed his duty and headed to the armoury room, where, as per him badly and had also complained that he was never protocol, he was supposed to deposit his rifle. However, he granted leaves, unlike his colshot himself. He was rushed to INS Ashwini, where he was

On Saturday, he was sup posed to go home and had told his parents that his leave had been sanctioned. Suddenly, he was told that his leave was cancelled again. He had drafted a letter to be sent to the higher officials, where he had narratMeanwhile, his father, Devadas, 52, a businessman,

"If he would have died in a

dental report death. His colleague's statements are being recorded and we will speak to his family next. However, the family's allega-tions have to be corroborated with circumstantial evidence We will continue investigations," said R Shishve, zonal deputy commissioner of police.