

Governor, Goyal attend Mahavir Jayanti celebrations in Mumbai



(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, April 10 : Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan presided over the 'Mahavir Swami Janm Kalyanak Mahotsav' organised by the Bharat Jain Mahamandal on occasion of Mahavir Jayanti at Yogi Sabhagruh here on Thursday.

The Governor released the 125th anniversary issue 'Jain Jagat' brought out by Bharat Jain Mahamandal on the occasion. Speaking on occasion, the Governor said paying taxes is one way of serving the society. He said

through the collection of taxes, the government builds highways and bridges and takes care of the jawans who are defending the nation on the borders.

He appealed the people to pay their taxes as duty to the nation.

Speaking on occasion, Union Minister Piyush Goyal said non-violence also means punishing those indulging in violence.

He said the government has controlled left-wing extremism effectively and stated that India will be free

Successfully secured extradition of Tahawwur Rana

New Delhi, April 10 (UNI) : The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday successfully secured the extradition of Tahawwur Hussain Rana, the mastermind of the deadly 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, after years of sustained and concerted efforts to bring the key conspirator behind the 2008 mayhem to justice, the NIA said in a statement as a special flight carrying Rana arrived in Delhi from the US.

Rana was being held in judicial custody in the US pursuant to proceedings initiated under the India-US Extradition Treaty for his extradition. The extradition finally came through after Rana exhausted all legal avenues to stay the move, the NIA said.

The District Court for the Central District of California had ordered his extradition on May 16, 2023. Rana then filed multiple litigations in

the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, all of which were rejected. He subsequently filed a petition for a writ of certiorari, two habeas petitions, and an emergency application before the US Supreme Court, which were also denied. The extradition proceedings were initiated between the two countries after India eventually secured a surrender warrant for the wanted terrorist from the US government, it added. With the active assistance of US Department of Justice, the US Sky Marshal, NIA worked closely with other Indian intelligence agencies, NSG through the entire extradition process, which also saw India's Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs coordinating with the other relevant authorities in the United States to take the matter to its successful conclusion.

Mumbai, April 10 (UNI) : As US President Donald Trump announced a 90-day pause on reciprocal tariff, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday said talks with the US are progressing well and India is efficiently handling the tariff related issues.

"India is already handling this issue (trade tariff with the US) very efficiently from the beginning itself. Prime Minister Modi and President Trump had taken this decision in February itself that the two countries would sign a bilateral agreement which will make trade simple and take the two-way trade to \$500 billion which is 2.5 times higher from now," Goyal said.

The Minister said that the proposed trade

Talks with US progressing very well, says Goyal after Trump pauses higher tariff

(Contd on page 3)



Shah lauds GCCI for inspiring youth in global

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said the Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) has inspired the youth with entrepreneurship, courage, and the enthusiasm to do business anywhere in the world. Addressing the inaugural session of the Annual Trade Expo 2025 of Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry via video conferencing, Shah stated that for 75 consecutive years, the Chamber has upheld that tradition, maintained dialogue with the government, cared for public interest, and stood shoulder to shoulder with the people during natural calamities, an official statement said.

(See on page 2)

Want to give negotiations a chance, says EU chief



The European Union will put on hold for 90 days its first countermeasures against President Donald Trump's tariffs, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has said. The bloc was due to launch counter-tariffs on US imports from next Tuesday in response to Trump's 25% tariffs on steel and aluminium.

(See on page 3)

Vishy backs Gukesh ahead of Carlsen clash at Norway Chess



In what promises to be the most highly-anticipated encounter in the world of chess, newly-crowned world champion Dommaraju Gukesh is set to take on world no 1 Magnus Carlsen at the prestigious Norway Chess 2025 tournament to be held in Stavanger from May 26 to June 6.

(See on page 7)

Indian engineers team assessing quake-affected



After assessing six affected sites in quake-hit Mandalay, the safety and demolition engineers team from India assessed six quake affected sites in Naypyitaw today, as part of Operation Brahma, the MEA said. An Orthopaedic surgeon from the Indian Army Medical team is assisting in the treatment of 70 patients at a Nay Pyi Taw Hospital.

(See on page 6)

क्रांतीसूर्य

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Kolhapur SP suspends 5 police officials, dismisses 1 for misconduct

Kolhapur, Apr 10 (UNI) Taking a stern action, district superintendent of police Mahendra Pandit on Thursday suspended five police officials and dismissed one for alleged misconduct.An official order said that Pandit suspended police inspector Imran Mulla, attached to Shirol police station, policeman Bail Rajaram Pavaskar of Chandgad police station, for illegally having three and two marriages, respectively. Assistant head constable Krushna Thanekar, constables Premasagar Mudhale and Prakash Patil for negligence of duty. While, police Naik Chetan Ghatge, who was booked under POSCO Act for sexual abuse of a minir girl, has been dismissed, the order added.

Special PP demands to seize movable, immovable properties of Valmik Karad

Beed, April 10 (UNI) : Special Public Prosecutor Ujwal Nikam demanded in the court here on Thursday that the movable and immovable properties of Valmik Karad, the main accused in the murder of Sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh of Massajog village, be seized.

During the hearing of the Deshmukh murder case, an application was made to

the court on behalf of the government lawyer to confiscate the property of Valmik Karad.

CID has collected some important documents. The investigation into properties of other accused along with Karad is underway.

Since further investigation is underway, a decision regarding properties will be taken after

complete investigation. "We have filed an application to seize Karad's properties under the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA)," added Nikam. Whereas, Karad filed an application in the court, arguing that he was not involved in the murder and he did not ask for ransom.The next hearing of the case will be held on April 24.

No instructions to keep Rana in Mumbai jail

Mumbai, April 10 (UNI) : Pakistani-born Canadian national Tahawwur Rana (64), one of key accused in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, is not likely to be kept in city's Arthur Road Jail, as no instructions have been issued so far in this regard."Once he is brought here, we will see where to keep him," sources in the state Prison department said here.It

may be recalled that Ajmal Kasab, prime accused in the case, was lodged at Arthur Road jail in a bomb-proof cell before he was executed in November 2012.Arthur Road Jail, officially known as Mumbai Central Prison, located at Sant Gadge Maharaj Mono rail station in south-central Mumbai, was built in 1925 and covers three acres of land.

Burglar arrested, jewellery worth Rs 20 lakh recovered

Kolhapur, April 10 (UNI) : The Local Crime Branch (LCB) on Thursday claimed to have solved 14 cases of robbery with arrest of a burglar and recovered stolen gold and silver jewellery worth Rs 20 lakh.

Accused was caught red-handed by residents while stealing petrol from a two-wheeler in a parking lot of a residential building and handed over to LCB.

During questioning, accused Sagar Bhagvan Renuse (36), resident of Golibar Maidan Kasba Bavada area of the city, confessed to having committed 14 burglaries and stealing total 175 gram gold jewellery and 2.650 kg silver ornaments, collectively worth Rs 20 lakh.Police then seized all ornaments, sources said.

Retired principal kills his wife, commits suicide in Nashik

Nashik, April 10 (UNI) : In a case of suicide pact, a retired principal allegedly throttled his wife to death and then committed suicide by hanging himself at his home in the city.The incident occurred on Wednesday evening, police said on Thursday.The deceased were identified as Muralidhar Ramchandra Joshi (78, resident of Ekdant Apartment, on Jail Road) and his wife Lata (76), also a retired principal.A woman who was taking care of the Joshi couple noticed the incident, and she immediately informed the police.Police have recovered a suicide note in their flat admitting that he was taking extreme step due to depression because of his wife's illnesses, and no one should be blamed for their deaths.

According to police, Muralidhar Joshi, who was the principal of a school in Umbarkhed (Jalgaon district) along with his wife Lata, was living in Jail Road area of Nashik since 2017.Lata Joshi, who was suffering from multiple ailments, was in coma for a month and a half due to a brain haemorrhage. Even after recovery, she was not keeping well due to other ailments.

Frustrated by his wife's persistent illnesses and loneliness, Muralidhar Joshi took her life by strangling her and then ended his own life.

The couple's two children are highly educated and are employed in high positions in Mumbai, sources added.

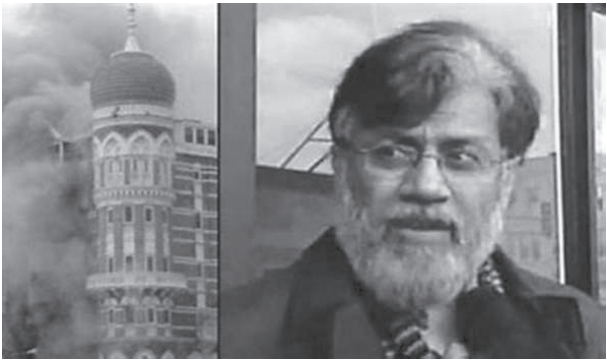
26/11 terrorist Kasab's lawyer Kazmi agrees to defend Rana

Mumbai, April 10 (UNI) : Advocate Abbas Kazmi, who had represented lone captured accused Ajmal Kasab in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks case, credited the country's security agencies for successfully bringing Tahawwur Rana, one of 26/11 terror attacks co-conspirators, to India but said that he is ready to defend Rana if the state government or Rana himself appoint him as his lawyer.

He said that as a lawyer, he is duty bound to defend his client, as a doctor treats his patient till his last breath.

Kazmi also said that the legal procedure will be the same as it was in the previous trial, which was faced by Kasab at Arthur Road jail in Mumbai.

Who is Dr Tahawwur Rana?



Mumbai April 10 (UNI) : A physician by profession, Pakistan born Tahawwur Hussain Rana is a key facilitator of terrorism who has been linked to major terror plots in Denmark and India.

Born on January 12, 1961 ar Chichawatni in the Punjab Province of Pakistan, Rana served as a captain general duty practitioner in the Pakistan Army Medical Corps.

He and his wife, who is also a physician, immigrated to Canada in 1997 and obtained Canadian citizenship in June 2001.

He lived primarily in Chicago and

owns several businesses including an immigration service agency, First World Immigration Services, with offices in Chicago, New York and Toronto.

Rana and Pakistan-American terrorist David Coleman Headley had attended training camps that Lashkar operated in Pakistan

On 18 October 2009, Rana and Headley were

arrested for allegedly plotting to attack the offices of Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten, which had published cartoons of Prophet Muhammad.

Rana had travelled to Mumbai and stayed in the Taj Mahal Hotel, one of the places which was attacked by terrorists during 26/11

On May 16, 2011, the trial began against Rana in the US District Court. but he was acquitted by the jury a month later of conspiracy to provide material support to the November 2008 terrorist attacks in Mumbai that killed more than 160 people, including six Americans.

However, the wheels of fortune again turned against Rana In March-April 2016, as Headley, during his video-conferencing deposition, provided details of the role played by the physician.

On January 21, the United States Supreme Court rejected Rana's plea challenging his extradition to India, and he was finally brought to New Delhi today.

First petition from Maha challenges new Waqf law in SC

Mumbai, April 10 (UNI) : In first challenge to Unified Management Empowerment Efficiency and Development (UMEED) Act, 2025 after it came into force on April eight, a Mumbai resident Muhammed Jameel Merchant has moved the Supreme Court.

This is the first petition from Mumbai challenging the new law.

Last week, the Parliament had passed the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024, which amended the Waqf Act, 1995, after which President Droupadi Murmu gave ascent to the UMEED Act, which has now been notified by the Narendra Modi-led NDA government at the Centre.

Merchant has made Union of India as a respondent, through Ministry of Home Affairs,

Ministry of Minority Affairs and Ministry of Law & Justice.Advocate Ejaz Maqbool, along with Adv Burhan Bukhari, is representing the petitioner.

The petition demands that the provisions of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 be declared as unconstitutional; and / or pass order that the Supreme Court may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case.

The petitioner has referred to the K S Puttaswamy versus Union of India case.

"The amending Act creates a situation where to determine the validity of a Waqf, courts may have to heavily scrutinise and record evidence on personal aspects of the life of a settlor, including whether he prayed, fasted,

performed pilgrimages or not," the petitioner said.

"The amendment Act provides that while 10 members must mandatorily be Muslims, the remaining 11 may be chosen from any community. Similarly, Section 14 read with Section 16(a) of the unamended Act required all members of the Waqf Boards to be Muslims. The amended Act provides with respect to Waqf Boards of States and Delhi that only four members have to be mandatorily Muslim while seven may be chosen from any community. Even the requirement that the Board CEO be a Muslim has been done away with. Thus, there may be a situation where the Waqf Board is controlled by non-Muslim members with an unassailable majority led by a non-Muslim chairman and

a non-Muslim CEO as Secretary," the petitioner said pointing out that Muslim members may be reduced to a minority with no effective voice in the administration of their community's religious and charitable trust.

"That Section 21 of the Amendment Act which substitutes Section 36(7) is void. The unamended Section 36(7) stated that an application for registration of a Waqf should be

inquired into by the Board for checking genuineness and correctness of particulars. The amended subsection gives the power to the Collector. The petitioner submits that the provision is not in consonance with the scheme of the Act and far from streamlining the management of waqf properties creates parallel power centres which will lead to delay and confusion," it points out.

Talks with US progressing very

(Contd from page 1)

agreement will boost job opportunities for the citizens, further strengthening the economy.

"Our discussion (with the US) is progressing very well," Goyal said.

The Commerce Minister had on Wednesday held a meeting with stakeholders of various Export Promotion Councils and industry associations and apprised them on the ongoing discussions with the US for a mutually beneficial multi sectoral Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA).

"Encouraged them to take the long term view of India-US trade and

economic ties while making their commercial decisions and assured them that the government will work to provide a conducive environment to enable them to successfully navigate the recent changes in the global trade environment," the Minister wrote on 'X' after the meeting.

After announcing to slap import duty ranging from 10% to 50% on imports from all trading partners earlier this month, US President Trump has now in a surprise move paused higher tariffs for most countries except China.

Accordingly, India faced a 26% tariff on exports to the US but the same has been halted now.

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

Tender Notice No: HE-TRD-2024-25-OT-45
Dated: 04.04.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
OHE Modification for running DSDC Trains in Hubballi Division.	Rs. 50,39,475/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 28.04.2025**

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/ TRD/Hubballi

PUB/22/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

**WESTERN RAILWAY**

SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF AEROSOL FIRE DETECTION

Sr.DMM/MMCT, Mumbai Central, Mumbai 400008 invites **E-Tender No. 81255414, Dtd: 08.04.2025. Work and Location:** Supply and Installation of Aerosol Fire Detection & Suppression System. **Approx. Cost of Work:** ₹ 96,47,208/- **EMD:** ₹ 1,92,940/-. **Time & Date for Submission:** Till 05.05.2025, 11:00 hrs. **Time & Date for Opening:** On 05.05.2025 at 11:00 hrs. For further details please visit our website www.ireps.gov.in **0026**

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

Publication of Corrigendum to Tender Notice No: CAO/CN/BNC/EPC/46/2025
Dated: 09.01.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Tumakuru Station Redevelopment: Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Agreement for Tumakuru Station Redevelopment including Civil Works, Signal and Telecommunication works and Electrical General Services at Tumakuru Station. (Tender Ref. No: TK-STN-DEVELOP-EPC)	Rs. 74,97,63,438/-

Date of Closing of Tender

Existing	Revised
10.04.2025 (15:00 Hrs)	25.04.2025 (15:00 Hrs)

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Engineer / Construction / Works / Bengaluru Cantt.

PUB/25/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Pune, April 10 (UNI) : The film 'Courage' has definitely taken the next step in connecting Marathi filmmakers with the global film industry and it will inspire our Marathi films, said actress Sanskruti Balgude, who plays the central role in the film. Balgude was specially honored by the Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal at a function today.

Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal President Meghraj Rajebhosale was present on the stage during the felicitation.

Speaking in a candid interview conducted by writer-critic Raj Kazi, Balgude said a special show of the film 'Courage' was recently held in Los Angeles at 'Warner Brothers Studios', which is considered to be the leading studio not only in Hollywood but also in the world.

Although the film is in English, the producer, writer, director and actors are Marathi, so this dialogue was organised by the association as a representative honor.

The film made us realise that everyone has pain in their lives and how we deal with it is very important,

Balgude said, and appealed that a good work of art with a different social message and "courage" based on a true incident should reach more and more people.

Speaking further, she said that films made by Marathi people in English are being appreciated all over the world. Currently, this film is being screened at various film festivals around the world.

The film is getting a spontaneous response from the people. Although it is a social subject, it has a heartwarming love story hidden in it, she said, and added that the struggle journey of the protagonist Rajrani Sharma while donating a kidney to her husband has been presented through this film.

Meghraj Rajebhosale said the Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Film Corporation is constantly implementing new concepts, standing behind filmmakers who are trying to

do something new and encouraging them. "We are proud that through the film 'Courage' Marathi filmmakers, directors, artists and technicians have created a world-class film," he added.

WESTERN RAILWAY TO RUN SUMMER SPECIAL TRAIN BETWEEN VATVA ⇄ HUBBALLI (VIA VASAI ROAD)

TRAIN NO.	ORIGINATING STATION & DESTINATION	DATES OF SERVICE	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL
07334	VATVA - HUBBALLI	14.04.2025 to 16.06.2025	21:45 hrs (Monday)	19:45 hrs (Next Day)
07333	HUBBALLI - VATVA	13.04.2025 to 15.06.2025	19:30 hrs (Sunday)	18:45 hrs (Next Day)

Halts: Anand, Vadodara, Surat, Vapi, Boisar, Vasai Road, Kalyan, Lonavala, Pune, Sangli, Miraj, Kudachi, Raybag, Ghatprabha, Gokak Road, Belagavi, Londa Jn., Alnavar Jn. and Dharwad stations in both directions.

Composition: First AC, AC 2-Tier, AC 3-Tier, Sleeper Class and General Second Class Coaches.

For detailed information regarding Timings, Halts and Composition, Passengers may please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

The Booking for **Train No. 07334** will open from **11.04.2025** at all PRS Counters and on IRCTC website. The above train will run as Special Train on Special Fare.

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STANDARD POST

Legionnaires' disease health alert issued for Sydney

Health authorities of Australia's state of New South Wales (NSW) have issued a public health alert for Legionnaires' disease in central Sydney.

The NSW health department said that five people with recent cases of confirmed Legionnaires' disease all visited Sydney's CDB during their exposure period.

The alert said that the five patients developed symptoms between March 30 and April 4 after spending time in central Sydney, reports Xinhua news agency.

It said that "no single source" of the infection has been identified, and it is possible that the cases are "unrelated" but that an investigation of a potential source area is underway.

Legionnaires' disease is a form of pneumonia caused by infection with Legionella bacteria, which is found naturally in freshwater. Symptoms typically develop between 2-10 days after exposure and can initially include headaches, fever and a mild cough.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the mortality rate from the disease is usually within the range of 5-10 per cent but can be as high as 80 per cent for untreated immuno-suppressed patients.

NSW Health said that the bacteria could contaminate air conditioning cooling towers, spas, shower heads, and other bodies of water.

"People walking outside or driving past may be exposed if they inhale aerosolised contaminated water," it said.

It advised NSW clinicians to consider Legionnaires' disease as a diagnosis for patients presenting with consistent symptoms, especially those who travel to the Sydney CDB in the 10 days prior to symptoms developing.

New Heartbeat of Kashmir



(Standard Post Bureau)

The mild chill of April and the blooming spring...Snow-capped Himalayan peaks, a pink blanket of blossoms on apple trees, and lush green meadows—this will no longer be just a dream. Soon, you will witness it all firsthand while travelling in the specially designed Vande Bharat train for Jammu and Kashmir.

As the train glides through the valleys of Pahalgam, the greenery-draped landscapes, vast pine forests, and glimpses of shepherds will make you pause in awe. With Vande Bharat slicing through the serene silence of the deodar forests, you will soon experience a breathtaking fusion of technology and nature.

A Marvel of Engineering

Manufactured under the “Make in India” initiative at the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), this semi-high-speed train is equipped with state-of-the-art technology and top-tier amenities. Designed for both speed and comfort, it glides smoothly while ensuring a safe and efficient journey. This remarkable innovation by Indian Railways is bound to fill every Indian with pride, proving that New India’s engineering is truly extraordinary!

Ensuring Connectivity in Every Season

This Vande Bharat Express is equipped with state-of-the-art technology and advanced features to ensure reliability, safety, and passenger comfort.



Designed to facilitate smooth travel in the challenging climatic conditions of the Kashmir Valley, this train reflects Indian Railways’ commitment to innovation, enhancing regional connectivity, and introducing a new era of modern rail services. With this, reaching the Kashmir Valley in any season will now be easier, with ehanced passenger services and tourism experiences in the region.

Seamless Rail Services Even in Sub-Zero Temperatures

To ensure smooth rail operations in cold regions like Jammu and Kashmir, this Vande Bharat train has been equipped with special technical features:

Silicone Heating Pads: These prevent water from freezing in the water and bio-toilet tanks. They also come with overheat protection sensors to ensure uninterrupted operations even at zero or sub-zero temperatures.

Heated Plumbing Pipelines: Self-regulated heating cables prevent water from freezing even at temperatures below zero degrees.

Auto-Draining Mechanism: This mechanism prevents water from freezing in plumbing lines, ensuring smooth and obstruction-free operations.

Safe and Comfortable Travel

To ensure the safety and convenience of the driver in Kashmir’s challenging conditions, this Vande Bharat train is equipped with cutting-edge technology for seamless travel:

Embedded Heating Elements: Installed in the front lookout glass, these elements defrost the windshield in cold weather, providing a clear vision for safe train operations.

Anti-Spall Layer: This layer ensures driver safety during snowfall or storms, aiding in secure train operations.

Safe and Comfortable Work Environment: The train is specially designed to withstand extreme weather conditions, providing railway staff with a safe and comfortable working experience.

Next-Gen Technology & Passenger Amenities

Several technical advancements have been incorporated for the

smooth operation of this Vande Bharat train and to enhance passenger comfort:

Air Dryer System Heating: Maintains the efficiency of the air brake system in extreme cold. Additionally, the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) ducts ensure a comfortable journey for passengers.

5 kVA Transformer: Specially installed under the frame to ensure the

smooth operation of key train components and maintain efficiency in cold weather.

Fully Air-Conditioned Coaches: Equipped with semi-high-speed capabilities (up to 160 km/h) for fast and timely travel.

Modern Features: Wide gangways, automatic plug doors, mobile charging sockets, infotainment systems, and CCTV facilities enhance the passenger experience.

A Journey of Development

The launch of Vande Bharat Express in the Kashmir Valley marks a historic transformation in rail travel. This service will ensure seamless connectivity in all seasons, overcoming challenges such as heavy snowfall, extreme cold, and rugged mountainous terrain. With modern amenities and climate-specific adaptations, this train will offer passengers a superior travel experience. By unprecedentedly linking the Kashmir Valley with the rest of the country, Vande Bharat Express will bridge geographical and economic gaps, bringing development closer to the region.

Piyush Goyal to Inaugurate India’s Largest Building Material Expo

(Standard Post Bureau)

India’s largest building material expo – Vibrant Buildcon 2025 – is set to be inaugurated by Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon’ble Minister of Commerce and Industry, on 13th April 2025 at the Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, New Delhi. The event will be a landmark gathering of the global construction and infrastructure industry, featuring over 250 exhibitors, 50,000+ domestic visitors, and 700+ international buyers across a vast 27,000 sq. m exhibition area.

A curtain raiser for the exhibition was recently held in New Delhi, attended by key stakeholders and industry leaders. Prominent guests included:

Ramesh Mittal, Chairman, Capexil
Nilesh Jetpariya, Sr. Vice Chairman (Ceramic Panel), Capexil & Member-Board of Trade (Government of India)

Harpal Singh, Secretary, Capexil

Narendra Sanghat, Western Region Committee Member, Capexil

Vishal Acharya, Global Business Head, Vibrant Buildcon

Titendra Kathiriya, Director, Vibrant Buildcon

Vijay Aghara, Director, Vibrant Buildcon

The expo will bring together buyers from over 60 countries, including the USA, Mexico, Brazil, UK, Spain, UAE, and other regions across North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, South East Asia, and more. It offers unmatched export, OEM, and joint venture opportunities for Indian manufacturers.

With Bollywood icon Suniel Shetty as its brand ambassador, Vibrant Buildcon 2025 is set to be a

game-changer, providing a premium global stage for India’s booming building materials industry. The exhibition will showcase 10+ product categories, including:

Ceramics, Tiles, & Sanitaryware

Marble, Granite & Stone CP, Pipe & Fittings

Hardware, Bath Fittings & Sink

Plywood, Laminates, Timber, & Floorings

Paints

Glue, Adhesive & Construction Chemicals

Cement & TMT Bars

India’s construction market, currently valued at USD 884.72 billion (2023), is on a high-growth trajectory, expected to touch USD 2,134.43 billion by 2030, growing at a CAGR of 12.6% from 2024 to 2030. Rapid urbanization and large-scale infrastructure projects including roads, railways, and industrial corridors are propelling this momentum.

Ramesh Mittal, Chairman, Capexil, said "India's infrastructure growth is creating a robust ecosystem for building materials. At Capexil, we are committed to supporting manufacturers and exporters to showcase their excellence to the world. Vibrant Buildcon is a testament to India’s global potential in this sector."

Nilesh Jetpariya, Sr. Vice Chairman, Ceramic Panel – Capexil & Member-Board of Trade (Government of India), stated, "The ceramic and tile segment from India is gaining remarkable traction globally due to its quality and innovation. Vibrant Buildcon 2025 will further strengthen our global outreach, offering a strategic opportunity to highlight India's leadership in ceramics and allied products."

Centre For Sight Brings World-Class Eye Care to Prayagraj

(Standard Post Bureau)

Centre For Sight, India’s leading super-specialty eye care network, has officially launched its state-of-the-art hospital in Prayagraj. With this expansion, the people of Prayagraj and nearby regions now have access to advanced, world-class ophthalmic services without the need to travel to metropolitan cities. The new centre represents Centre For Sight’s continued commitment to making premium eye care accessible across India.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by the esteemed presence of Shri Nand Gopal Gupta (Nandi Ji), Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, Government of Uttar Pradesh (Minister of Industrial Development, Export Promotion, NRI, and Investment Promotion), who served as the Chief Guest. Prof. (Dr.) R N Mishra, Former Director of MD Eye Hospital, Prayagraj, was the Guest of Honour for the event.

Speaking at the launch, Shri Nand Gopal Gupta lauded Centre For Sight’s modern infrastructure, advanced medical equipment, and expert team



of doctors. He emphasized that this facility marks a new era for eye care in Prayagraj, ensuring that patients receive high-quality, accessible, and dependable treatment.

Prof. (Dr.) R N Mishra also expressed his appreciation, noting that the launch of such a well-equipped hospital, supported by a distinguished medical team, would significantly benefit the residents of Prayagraj

and surrounding districts.

The newly launched hospital offers a wide range of comprehensive ophthalmic services under one roof. It is equipped with cutting-edge technology to perform advanced cataract surgery using micro-incision phacoemulsification, along with premium intraocular lens options such as Trifocal, Multifocal, Toric, and EDOF IOLs. It also provides specialized

treatment for glaucoma, retina and vitreoretinal conditions and management of complex disorders like keratoconus. In addition, the centre caters to paediatric and adult patients alike with focused services in paediatric ophthalmology and squint correction. One of the centre’s key highlights is the introduction of advanced LASIK technology, making it the first facility in

Prayagraj to house this next-generation refractive platform for vision correction.

Prof. Dr. Mahipal S. Sachdev, Chairman and Medical Director of Centre For Sight Group of Eye Hospitals, expressed his pride at the Prayagraj launch, stating, “India accounts for nearly one-third of the world’s visually impaired population. Our goal at Centre For Sight is to ensure that every Indian,

regardless of location, has access to expert-led, technology-driven eye care. With the increasing rise of conditions like myopia and cataracts, we cannot afford to overlook preventive care. This centre reflects our commitment to offering the best in diagnosis, surgery, and long-term visual outcomes. When it comes to vision, no one should compromise.”

Echoing the sentiment, Prof. Dr. Kamaljeet Singh, Medical Director at Centre For Sight, emphasized that the opening of the Prayagraj facility is a step toward realizing the organisation’s vision of making quality eye care available across every region. He noted that early diagnosis and timely treatment are crucial in preventing irreversible blindness, especially in conditions such as glaucoma and retinal disorders. With a dedicated team of experienced doctors and world-class technology, the Prayagraj centre is set to become a trusted destination for comprehensive eye care in the region.

South Korean ex-opposition leader announces bid for presidential election

Seoul, April 10 (UNI) : Lee Jae-Myung, South Korea's former opposition leader, announced his bid on Thursday for the presidential election, which is scheduled in June, according to the Korea Herald.

This came a day after he resigned from the chairmanship of the Democratic Party.

In a 10-minute video message, Lee said, "I do not just want a country that only carries the name 'Republic of Korea' but I want to help build a real Republic of Korea.""Such a Korea is created by its people and I hope to become a great tool, the best tool, of our people," he added.Last Friday, former South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol was ousted by the Constitutional Court, upholding South Korea's Parliament's impeachment motion against him.In 2022, Lee lost the presidential race to Yoon by a thin margin.

11 killed in clash between rival criminal gangs in Mexico

Mexico City, April 10 (UNI) : At least 11 people were killed in a shootout between suspected rival criminal groups in the southern Mexican state of Guerrero, local authorities said.

The bodies of 11 men were found late Tuesday in the community of Rancho Viejo, in the municipality of Tecoanapa, located in the Costa Chica region, according to a statement from the Guerrero State Prosecutor's Office. Preliminary reports suggest the violence stemmed from a conflict over territorial control between criminal organizations.State investigators and forensic teams were dispatched to the scene to carry out official procedures.Guerrero remains one of Mexico's poorest and most violence-affected states, with a long history of organized crime activity, according to local media reports.

Pakistan disowns ex-Army officer and 26/11 key plotter Tahawwur Rana, says he is a Canadian national

Islamabad, April 10 (UNI) : In its first response to 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks key plotter Tahawwur Rana's extradition to India, Pakistan has disowned its former Army officer and doctor, saying he is a Canadian citizen.

Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs' spokesperson Shafqat Ali Khan, on being asked about Rana's extradition to India, said "Tahawwur Rana has not renewed his Pakistani documents for over two decades. His Canadian nationality is very clear."

A Pakistani-Canadian national, Rana, 64, was convicted in the US for his association with operatives of the banned terrorist outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), and for providing material support to the group responsible for the Mumbai attacks that killed over 170 people.Rana is being extradited from the US to India today on board a special flight.

He was incarcerated for 14 years in the US for a foiled 2009 attack on a Danish newspaper for publishing a cartoon of Prophet Mohammad.

However, Rana's links with officials of the Pakistan Army, the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), and Lashkar-e-Taiba can prove to be highly damaging and possibly reveal the active involvement of the Pakistani government in the heinous incident.Rana initially served as a doctor in the Pakistan Army before emigrating to Canada in the late 1990s. After obtaining Canadian citizenship, he settled in Chicago, where he operated various businesses, including an immigration consultancy, according to reports. Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman Headley, prime accused in the 2008 attack, had said that Rana had extended logistical and financial support for the terror attacks and in its run-up.Headley had conducted a recee of Mumbai before the attacks by posing as an employee of Rana's immigration consultancy.

India sends back four Bangladeshi trucks from Benapole land port

Dhaka/New Delhi, April 10 (UNI) : India has sent back four Bangladeshi trucks carrying goods from the Benapole land port check post, a day after New Delhi revoked the use of its transshipment facility for the export of Bangladeshi goods via its land routes.

Rashedul Sajib Nazir, deputy director of Benapole Port, in Jessore district of Bangladesh, said that the Indian government's cancellation of the transshipment facility on April 8 led to the Petrapole Customs (on the Indian side) refusing clearance for third-country goods, bdnews 24 reported.He, however, mentioned that the export trade for goods intended for the Indian market is still operating normally.

Benapole Land Port Deputy Director (Traffic) Mamun Kabir Tarafder said the four Bangladeshi trucks were sent back from the gate of the Indian land port at Petrapole on Wednesday evening.

"The trucks carrying the goods belonged to Dhaka-based exporter DSV Air & Sea Limited. The trucks contained ready-made garment products, which were being exported to Spain," said Benapole Clearing and Forwarding Agent Staff Association General Secretary Sajedur Rahman.Kartik Chakraborty, general secretary of the Petrapole Clearing and Forwarding Agents Staff Welfare Association of India, said: "The Indian Finance Ministry has issued a letter to the Petrapole customs authority to stop transit facilities through the land port."

Brazil to end visa-free entry for US, Canadian, Australian travellers

Brasilia, April 10 (UNI) : Starting Thursday, Brazil will reinstate visa requirements for travellers from the United States, Canada and Australia, ending a six-year visa-free entry for those countries.

The decision was based on the principle of reciprocity since these countries still require Brazilian nationals to obtain visas, said Brazil's Foreign Ministry. "Brazil does not offer unilateral visa exemptions," it said and stated that negotiations are underway to establish reciprocal visa-free travel agreements.

"We're still in talks to have the United States lift its visa requirement for Brazilians, which would allow us to reciprocate," Brazil's Minister of Tourism Celso Sabino was quoted by state-run Agencia Brasil as saying.

According to Embratur, Brazil's tourism promotion agency, the country received 728,537 US visitors, 96,540 Canadians and 52,888 Australians in 2024.

UNI XINHUA AKTSS Starting Thursday, travelers from these three countries arriving by air, land or sea must apply for an e-visa via the official eVisa portal. The visa costs 80.9 US dollars and allows a stay of up to 90 days.

Dhaka/New Delhi, April 10 (UNI) : The Bangladesh Ministry of Commerce held an emergency meeting in Dhaka after India withdrew its trans-shipment facility that allowed Bangladesh to export its goods to third countries such as Nepal, Bhutan, and Myanmar via its land routes.

The emergency, held at the office of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) in Karwan Bazar, Dhaka, on Wednesday, was attended by key business leaders and senior representatives from the country's Ministry of Commerce, the Dhaka Tribune reported.

India's Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs

Want to give negotiations a chance, says EU chief, announces 90-days hold on tariff countermeasures

Brussels, April 10 (UNI) : The European Union will put on hold for 90 days its first countermeasures against President Donald Trump's tariffs, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has said.The bloc was due to launch counter-tariffs on US imports from next Tuesday in response to Trump's 25% tariffs on steel and aluminium."We want to give negotiations a chance," von der Leyen said on X."While finalising the adoption of the EU countermeasures that saw strong support from our Member States, we will put them on hold for 90 days."

European shares surged on Thursday after Trump announced an immediate 90-day pause on reciprocal tariffs for most trading partners, prompting a massive relief rally after days-long market rout, news reports said.

However, the EU chief's broader message signalled that the EU's strategic pivot away from US-centric trade would continue.

President Trump's decision to pause tariffs has come amid growing tensions with trading partners over what the US has described as unfair trade practices. The move is aimed at calming volatile

markets and initiating renegotiations with key economic allies.Trump's reciprocal tariffs—comprising a 10 percent baseline and a 10 percent retaliatory layer—were imposed on the EU and dozens of other trading partners, spurring stock market losses and fears of a broader recession.

On Wednesday, the White House paused these tariffs for 90 days, excluding China, to facilitate negotiations with partners who had contacted the administration to work out new terms.The pause came just hours after the European Commission authorised retaliatory measures against the US over separate 25 percent steel and aluminium tariffs, planning to hit a wide range of US exports with new duties starting mid-April

Meanwhile, Beijing's 84% tax on imports of US goods came into effect - although Trump insisted a "good deal" will be struck between the superpowers.

The move from China came hours after the US President raised its tariffs on imports from Beijing to 125%, while blinking in the face of markets turmoil and announcing a 90-day pause of more punitive levies against dozens of other nations.

Death toll in Dominican Republic's nightclub roof collapse rises to 184



Santo Domingo, April 10 (UNI) : The death toll rose to 184 amid ongoing search and rescue operations after the roof of a popular nightclub collapsed during a concert on Tuesday, according to the Dominican Republic Emergency Operations Centre.

The national police said at least 155 people were

injured in the Jet Set nightclub roof collapse in the capital, Santo Domingo.

The incident happened around midnight when renowned Dominican merengue singer Rubby Perez was performing at the concert. Perez, 69, was found dead in the collapsed club, according to the national police.

"We deeply regret the

tragedy that occurred at the Jet Set nightclub," the Dominican Republic President said in a social media post.

He informed that he has been closely following the incident since it occurred. All relief agencies have provided necessary assistance and are working tirelessly in the rescue effort, he said.

France could recognise Palestine state by June: President Macron

Paris, April 10 (UNI) : French President Emmanuel Macron has said that his country could recognise a Palestinian state by June.

Macron, who recently travelled to Cairo to hold extensive talks with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah-El Sisi and Jordanian King Abdullah on the ongoing Gaza war, said, "We must move towards the recognition of the Palestinian state and we

will do so in the coming months. I am not doing it to please anyone, but I feel this is the right time to do so," he told France 5 Television in an interview.

"And because I also want to take part in a collective dynamic that should also enable those who defend Palestine to recognise Israel in their turn, something that many of them are not doing," he added."Our aim is to chair this conference with Saudi

Arabia in June, where we could finalise this movement of mutual recognition (of a Palestinian state) by several parties," he added.Though Palestine has been recognised as a sovereign state by almost 150 countries, most major Western powers have not, including the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Japan. Among countries that do not recognise Israel are Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

Former Pak PM Nawaz Sharif asked to tackle Balochistan insurgency

Islamabad, April 10 (UNI) : Former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has been asked to tackle the Balochistan insurgency, which has been worsening day by day, despite attempts to resolve the issue.The call came from a delegation of the National Party (NP), led by party president Dr Abdul Malik Baloch, amid the Balochistan National Party-Mengal's (BNP-M) sit-in, which on Wednesday entered its 12th consecutive day, according to the Express Tribune.

Nawaz Sharif, President of the reigning Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), has called for a "political solution" to the issues in Balochistan, and vowed to play a key political and democratic role in fostering peace in the province, which is gripped with turmoil, according to Dawn.Sharif made this statement during a meeting with former Balochistan Chief Minister and National

Party President Abdul Malik Baloch at his Jati Umra residence on Wednesday, a day after army chief Gen Asim Munir assured foreign investors that Pakistan would provide robust security to protect their interest amid heightened unrest in the mineral-rich province. The former Balochistan CM said that Sharif assured him he would personally take interest in the matters of the province.

"I told Mr Sharif that his

role is crucial given the current situation in Balochistan. We held an in-depth discussion on the political affairs of the province. There is an ongoing sit-in in Balochistan, and many people are imprisoned. Nawaz Sharif should play his part in resolving these issues," the former CM said, adding that the elder Sharif agreed to play his role.He was referring to the Balochistan National Party-Mengal (BNP-M) sit-in led by Sardar Akhtar Mengal against the arrest of Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) leaders and activists, including Mahrang Baloch, and a police crackdown on their sit-in in Quetta,

Talking to reporters after the meeting in Lahore, PML-N leader Khawaja Saad Rafique said that Dr Baloch shared his views and requested that Nawaz Sharif play an active role in resolving the issues of Balochistan.

"Nawaz Sharif assured that he would play his political and democratic role in promoting peace in Balochistan. When Nawaz Sharif was prime minister and Abdul Malik Baloch was CM, Balochistan that era witnessed development. Unfortunately, democracy was disrupted that led to the current situation," Rafique said, adding that Sharif had assured him that he would personally take interest in resolving the Balochistan issues.

and Ports. Logistical delays and higher costs were hindering our own exports and creating backlogs. The facility, therefore, has been withdrawn with effect from April 8, 2025.

"And let me clarify here, I saw some reports. These measures do not impact Bangladesh's exports to Nepal and Bhutan transiting through Indian territory. It has no impact on Nepal and Bhutan trade as far as Bangladesh exports are concerned...There is a particular reason why it has been brought in because we are facing congestion on our side, and we have to create more space for our own exports."

restlessness amongst Bangladeshi entrepreneurs and political leadership. The cancellation virtually meant that all of the country's land exports to Bhutan, Nepal, and Myanmar were almost completely cut off.

However, India had clarified that this order was not going to affect Bangladesh's exports.

In his briefing yesterday, the spokesperson for India's Ministry of External Affairs, Randhir Jaiswal, said "The trans-shipment facility extended to Bangladesh had over a period of time resulted in significant congestion at our Airports

Bangladesh Commerce Ministry holds emergency meeting after India revokes transshipment facility

Dhaka/New Delhi, April 10 (UNI) : The Bangladesh Ministry of Commerce held an emergency meeting in Dhaka after India withdrew its trans-shipment facility that allowed Bangladesh to export its goods to third countries such as Nepal, Bhutan, and Myanmar via its land routes.

The emergency, held at the office of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) in Karwan Bazar, Dhaka, on Wednesday, was attended by key business leaders and senior representatives from the country's Ministry of Commerce, the Dhaka Tribune reported.

India's Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs

(CBIC) has withdrawn with immediate effect, a directive issued on June 29, 2020 which allowed Bangladesh to export goods to third countries using one of India's customs stations. Under this facility, goods could be transported to third countries via Indian ports by land, sea, or air.

India has also instructed that all currently loaded consignments within its territory must exit the country immediately.

Given that Dhaka's land exports to these countries are completely reliant on New Delhi's infrastructure, the revocation of the facility's usage by India has caused considerable

BNP to meet Bangladesh CA Mohd Yunus to discuss election roadmap

Dhaka, April 10 (UNI) : Citing its fears over a possible delay in holding national elections, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) is set to meet with the country's Chief Advisor Mohammed Yunus on April 16, to discuss the election roadmap.

As the CA and his interim cabinet have not issued any clear directives on elections, the meeting will press for a clear and specific roadmap for the upcoming national elections, as well as resolve any confusion surrounding the polls, according to The Daily Star.

Party leaders said they

will clearly state their demand for the national election to be held by December this year and seek clarity on the government's position and intentions regarding the matter, as well as discuss various other issues, including the ongoing reform process.

The meeting will take place at the Chief Advisor's official residence, State Guest House Jamuna, according to the BNP's Standing Committee member Salahuddin Ahmed.

Addressing the press today, Ahmed said "We will certainly want a

specific roadmap for the upcoming national parliamentary election before December from the chief advisor."

"Given the confusion due to various statements from different parties, we will urge him to clearly present the roadmap through a proper process into the sense of instability and uncertainty," he added.

The BNP leader said a roadmap should be formally presented to the nation to help restore political stability and boost economic activity, adding "Earlier, we discussed with the Election Commission, and they said preparations

would be complete by June. The chief advisor also assured us they are working to hold the election by December."

The holding of electoral rolls has been a contentious issue between the army-backed Interim Government and its political allies which include the BNP, the Jamaat-e-Islami-Bangladesh, and the National Citizen Party.

There have been accusations by both the Interim Government's political allies, as well as the ousted Awami League, that the army backed CA is trying to further stall the national elections to remain in power.

Career&tech

False flattery at work can ruin your Career

Sycophancy may get you noticed but it will do no wonders for your career in the long run. ?



Every workplace has its share of sycophantic employees; these are the people who use tools like flattery, deference and obsequiousness towards their superiors to accelerate their careers. They build a special relationship with their bosses and utilise the same to create an unwarranted, elevated place for themselves in the organisation. Udit Mittal, MD, Unison International tells us the potential effects on one's career if one is surrounded by sycophantic peers, "Being surrounded by sycophants might bring negative effects to one's career because there is a possibility of remaining unnoticed by seniors in the bleak environment created by flattery. Sycophancy creates emotional disturbances and eventually affects performance." As bosses, it is important for professionals to not be susceptible to sycophancy from their juniors. Chitbhanu Nagri, global head HR, Tavant Technologies, explains, "For leaders who want to achieve overnight success, sycophants act like 'fuel to fire'; they create an illusion of grandeur and make them believe that everything is hale and hearty. Leaders rationalise this as the organisational sentiment, get defensive when they hear divergent views and ultimately, the ones with differing views either distance themselves or move on to take up other opportunities. Sycophants can use this opportunity to get a larger share of the pie. However, reality catches up soon; either the

leaders realise their mistake and take corrective actions, or become hugely unpopular and ineffective in the organisation." Harvey Deutschendorf, author of 'The Other Kind of Smart: Simple Ways to Boost Your Emotional Intelligence for Greater Personal Effectiveness and Success' tells us why professionals adopt sycophancy, "People may have started out with the notion that talent and abilities will be recognised when it comes to promotions, but then they witnessed others who they see as less capable but more pleasing to their superiors being chosen above them. As a result of observing this, they may have come to see sycophancy as being the path of least resistance and

the easiest way to get ahead."

Undeserved promotions are the most critical consequence of sycophantic employees. Vivian Fernandes, HR head, Opus Consulting, explains, "As bosses, it may sometimes be difficult to see the right picture immediately, but with experience, it becomes easy to understand who is a sycophant and who the real hard workers are. If an organisation has clearly chartered out the parameters KRAs for promotions and does stringent reference checks, such situations of unwarranted promotions can be avoided." Rajiv Burman, managing partner, Lighthouse Partners gives some tips on dealing with sycophantic peers, so as to not let them dictate one's behaviour or career: Firstly, it is important to recognise that there is no point in talking to the sycophantic peers as they behave in the manner that they do because they think it gets them brownie points from the boss. The best step is to talk to your boss in a non-confrontational way with facts and figures about your performance and express your disappointment that a lesser deserving peer has been given preferential treatment. If this does not work, then seek a meeting with the skip-level boss; if this too fails, then talk to the HR manager. If none of these measures bring favourable results, then it is best to look for another job. Thus, it is important for an organisation to encourage a merit-based culture, rather than sycophancy among their employees.

Lethargic employees can not only affect a team's output, but also individual attitudes towards work. Lalitha balsubramanian shares tips on how leaders can re-align the focus of such workers and improve their performance



Very often, employees have to endure colleagues who spend time lazing around or talking endlessly on their cell phones during office hours.

Besides being a source of irritation, their laziness could sometimes dampen the congenial atmosphere at the workplace.

Impact on team

Additionally, such workers can make an otherwise efficient team under perform. Says Kala R, an employee with a leading financial consultancy firm, "In processes where projects are supposed to be completed by a team, the major pre-requisites for success is teamwork, cooperation and mutual understanding between colleagues, and shirking any of these responsibilities by even one member can cause the project to fail."

It is usually the team leader who bears the brunt of the issue, as such problems may not be as easily solvable as lodging a complaint with the senior management. Such exercises tend to create a sense of apprehension among team members and dampens the cordial atmosphere at the office. So, how do you deal with such colleagues?

Key concerns

Advises K Ramakrishnan, vice president, Hazira Central Services, Larsen & Toubro Ltd, "It is imperative to communicate to the employee that the interest of the organisation is paramount. Arranging a meeting with the employee and senior members of the group is one of the best ways to deal with such a situation. He she must be given appropriate feedback about how their attitude is impacting the team's efficiency. It is also equally important to assure the employee of any help they may require." However VR Ganapathi, retired senior manager, Andhra Bank, offers a counter view, "Many a time, a colleague could face genuine issues in executing the tasks entrusted to him her. Many are hesitant to express their discomfort in the presence of other team members. Hence, confronting such workers should be

How to deal with lethargic Employees

done in private and steps should be taken to either clear their doubts and apprehensions while also allowing them to switch to other projects if the scope to do so exists."

Remotivate the employee

Ganapathi says, "A good way to realign an employee's focus towards work is by illustrating the achievements of the organisation's top executives who have reached their present positions through sheer hard work. This could motivate the reluctant worker to show renewed interest at work."

However, most efforts to remotivate employees who give into laziness crash when one fails to gauge the worker's response to such initiatives. Even a slight change in their attitude or productivity can signal success. According to Ramakrishnan, "If the member does step up and do a good job, the leader must recognise his her efforts. A positive response is often appreciated and acts as a motivator. A weekly or monthly review of his her work could further improve a lazy worker's performance."

Lend them a ear

Many a time, those who work sincerely, suddenly start showing signs of negligence. However, it may not be advisable to dismiss their under productivity as laziness. Personal issues, such as caring for ailing parents or tending to their own health problems are often a cause for an apparent disenchantment from work. Lending a ear to their problems and counselling them can relieve their tension and bring their focus back to the job at hand. tions, it is time for strict actions. Inform the senior management of such colleague's behaviour and illustrate instances where their negligence has impacted their work.

However, be sure to back your claims with evidence.

Concludes Ramakrishnan, "If you are the boss, or the team leader, deal with the situation by giving them a clear message --perform or perish--as the organisation cannot afford to suffer due owing to one employee's negligence."



Preparing for a new role at a new office is both exciting and intimidating. The enthusiasm of starting something new, establishing fresh credentials as an add-on to one's existing achievements, meeting new people and gathering new experiences is undebatable. The intimidation often comes from not knowing the everyday work culture, the fear of being judged by existing employees, the uncertainty of how the organisation and

Familiarising oneself with a new workplace is akin to finding one's way through a maze. here are a few steps that can help you settle in at your new office.

teams work and whether one would fit in. Clearly, settling and adjusting well when moving in to a new workplace is an adventure with a few hiccups.

So how does one take steps to familiarise oneself with the new work environment?

Connect with employees

It pays to be better-informed before joining the workplace. Says Naresh Garg, AVP, Grex Alternative Investments Private Ltd, "Doing some prior research on the organisation you will be joining makes it easier to adapt to the culture of the place. It helps one prepare for any surprises that may crop up." He adds, "Just like in my case, often friends refer

How to Settle in at your new office

you for jobs. In such a case, it is easy to talk to the people who have informed you about the opening as well as existing employees to get some first-hand information about the work culture. For places, where you don't know anyone personally, online forums and social media groups are good arenas to begin with. One may get insights from existing or previous employees who are often willing to share information."

Accept the environment and people

While prior research can be a great place to start, the real adventure of adjusting to a new place only begins on entering the office. Keep an eye out for the enthusiastic popular colleague who is willing to introduce you to any and every other employee. In case that does not happen and you are left with an employee handbook or organisational processes handouts to study before any real human interaction takes place, accept the scenario. Not having expectations can be helpful. Most organisations conduct induction sessions for new employees. Make sure to attend one to not only to understand the organisation's goals, but also clarify

your doubts on everyday procedures and protocols. Who knows, you may also end up making new friends among the other joiners.

Avoid comparisons

Trying to seek all the positives one had at the old workplace or drawing comparisons is a strict no-no. Seeking interactions is a must, be it with colleagues in the next cubicle, on the lunch table or even with one's own team leaders/seniors. Interacting with colleagues and people around will help you build a network in office. Advises Nandini Saraf, who recently joined a publishing house as a copy editor, "In spite of knowing that some of the friendships you form during your initial days will not last long, it is important to make friends from day one. You need to mingle and avoid being alone. Your new friends will give you a clear picture of how things are. At times, they may also become your go-to buddies when you are given a whole lot of work that you are initially not well acquainted with."

Be honest

Lastly, the traditional advice of being honest, acknowledging mistakes, asking questions, taking notes, dressing well, etc, holds true even today.

To sum up, adjusting to a new role takes some time. All you need is to be patient with the processes and people around.

Indian Women's Hockey Team set to tour Australia for five-match series

New Delhi, April 10 (UNI) : The Indian Women's Hockey Team is all set to embark on an exciting tour of Australia for a five-match series scheduled from April 26 to May 4.

India will open the series with two matches against Australia A, followed by three encounters against the senior Australian team.

The tour will begin with back-to-back matches against Australia A on 26 and 27, followed by three high-intensity encounters against the world No.5 ranked Hockeyroos on 1st, 3rd, and 4th May. All fixtures will be held at the Perth Hockey Stadium.

Currently ranked ninth in the FIH World Rankings, the Indian team will look to build on their recent momentum and continue their strong performances on the international stage. The tour will serve as vital preparation ahead of their European leg of the FIH Pro League 2024-25, which kicks off in June.

India enters the series on a high after a spirited performance against world No.1 Netherlands, securing a 2-2 draw and clinching the bonus point in a thrilling shootout in Bhubaneswar—marking a confident end to their home leg of the Pro League.

India also have recent success against Australia to draw confidence from. In their last encounter during the FIH Pro League 2023-24, India emerged 1-0 winners. Notably, they had scripted history at the Tokyo Olympics 2021, defeating the three-time Olympic champions 1-0 in the Semi-Finals to reach the

bronze medal match.

Despite a close battle in the 2022 Commonwealth Games Semi-Final that ended in a 1-1 draw during regulation time, Australia clinched the win in the shootout.

Historically, however, Australia holds the upper hand, having won 10 out of the 16 matches played between the two sides since 2013. India has registered three wins while three matches have ended in draws.

Speaking on the tour, Harendra Singh, Head Coach of the Indian Women's Hockey Team, said, "This tour is an important step in our preparations for the European leg of the FIH Pro League.

Playing against a strong side like Australia will test our players and give us valuable insights into where we stand. We've seen how this team can rise to the occasion, like we did against the Netherlands recently, and we want to build on that momentum."

"Our matches against Australia have always been competitive, and while they've had the edge historically, we've shown in recent years that we can go toe-to-toe with them.

The team is motivated and working hard in camp to fine-tune key aspects of our game before we head to Perth," he added.

Ahead of the tour, the Indian players are undergoing intensive training at the ongoing Senior Women's National Coaching Camp at SAI, Bengaluru, working to sharpen strategies and enhance on-field synergy.

Lewandowski praises FC Barcelona after massive win over Dortmund

Warsaw, April 10 (UNI) : Polish striker Robert Lewandowski expressed his satisfaction after FC Barcelona took a 4-0 home win over Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League quarterfinal first leg.

The team coached by Hansi Flick is just a small step from securing their spot in the best four after a great performance at home ground. Lewandowski led his team to triumph by scoring twice after the break. "We worked hard for it and played very well. We were looking for our chances. In the first half we had a few, but Dortmund also tried to oppose us a few times. Of course in the second half, when we increased the pace and scored those three goals, it was hard to stop us," Lewandowski told Polish media on Thursday.

The 36-year-old stressed that Barcelona had prepared for the season in order to be in top form for the most important matches. "I won't hide the fact that I was focused on this final phase, although we still have a dozen or so matches ahead of us. It would be difficult to keep such a high form throughout the season. March, April, especially May are the most important months and you have to be ready," the forward concluded. On Wednesday evening, Lewandowski scored his 98th and 99th goal for Barcelona in his 140th appearance for the team. "I am happy with this achievement. I know that I still have a long way to go. I'm happy that I play in the club, that I can score so many goals. I would like to cross that barrier of 100 goals as soon as possible and I hope that it will happen soon," Lewandowski concluded.

Vishy backs Gukesh ahead of Carlsen clash at Norway Chess

Mumbai, April 10 (UNI) : In what promises to be the most highly-anticipated encounter in the world of chess, newly-crowned world champion Dommaraju Gukesh is set to take on world no 1 Magnus Carlsen at the prestigious Norway Chess 2025 tournament to be held in Stavanger from May 26 to June 6. Addressing a curtain-raiser event jointly hosted by Norway Chess and the Sports Journalists' Association of Mumbai (SJAM) here on Thursday, five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand threw his weight behind Gukesh and predicted a thrilling battle between the Indian teenager and the Norwegian maestro.

"I expect a very exciting battle," Anand said. "Gukesh will not lack motivation or the determination to go after Magnus Carlsen. But Magnus is also highly motivated by the challenge of playing against our young players. I've seen him in Kolkata and in the World Rapid Blitz—he eagerly looks forward to these match-ups. So, we have the perfect storm. I

Chelsea defender Wesley Fofana out for rest of season

London, April 10 (UNI) : Chelsea manager Enzo Maresca has confirmed a hamstring injury will rule centre-back Wesley Fofana out for the rest of the season.

On Saturday, the club confirmed the 24-year-old France defender had undergone "successful surgery".

While Chelsea will have to do without Fofana, Maresca is hopeful midfielder Romeo Lavia and striker Marc Guiu could play again before the end of the campaign, the BBC reported.

"Unfortunately, Wes will be out for the rest of the season," said the Blues boss, before Thursday's Europa Conference League quarter-final first leg in Poland against Legia Warsaw. "Hopefully we can get [back] Romeo very soon. I don't know if for the next game, but he looks quite good in terms of being back soon.

"We need to support both and then at the end of the season we will see.

"We have good news on Marc. From today he looks quite good, much better, and he can be back before the season finishes."

Lavia, 21, has also been struggling with a hamstring problem and suffered a setback during his comeback as a substitute against Arsenal last month, while 19-year-old Spanish forward Guiu's last appearance was against West Ham in February.

languishing in the ninth spot in the points table. Dhoni was re-appointed as Captain following an injury to present skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad who took over the mantle from his illustrious captain last year. However, an injury to Ruturaj in the last match, has ruled him out for the rest of the IPL. After Dhoni, who led the team right from its inception, it was briefly led by Ravindra Jadeja before Ruturaj Gaikwad was made the skipper.

DC crush RCB by 6 wickets in Rahul masterclass

Bengaluru, April 10 (UNI) : KL Rahul's scintillating unbeaten 93 off 53 balls, peppered with audacious strokeplay and ice-cold finishing, powered Delhi Capitals to a dominant six-wicket victory over Royal Challengers Bengaluru in an Indian Premier League (IPL) clash at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Thursday.

Chasing 164, DC had to a stuttering start, losing Faf du Plessis (2), Jake Fraser-McGurk (7), and Abhishek Porel (7) inside the Powerplay, with Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Yash Dayal exploiting early movement. At 30 for 3, the visitors were under pressure.

But Rahul – calm, calculative, and then completely ruthless – rebuilt the innings and turned the chase into a one-man show. A flurry of boundaries against Josh Hazlewood in the 15th over signalled the shift in gears as Rahul smashed 4, 4, 2, 4, and then a majestic six over mid-off to bring up DC's lead over DLS, in a match briefly threatened by rain.

Tristan Stubbs joined the party, striking an elegant 38 not out off just 23 balls, and added 111 runs for the unbroken fifth-



wicket stand with Rahul. Stubbs launched Suyash Sharma for a six and four in the 16th, before drilling Bhuvneshwar for consecutive boundaries in the 17th, all but sealing RCB's fate.

With 12 needed off the final over from Yash Dayal, Rahul reverse-scooped him for four, then launched him for a thunderous six, and finished the match in style with another maximum—a low full toss whipped over long leg, followed by a roar and chest-thump that sent DC fans into delirium. A wide ball in between had already levelled the scores.

Earlier, a late blitz from Tim David (37 not out off 20) had lifted RCB to 163/7 after they had slipped to 125/7. Philip Salt had given the hosts a flying start with 37 off 17, but Kuldeep

Yadav (2/17) and Vipraj Nigam (2/18) applied the brakes through the middle overs.

Virat Kohli (22), Rajat Patidar (25), and others faltered against DC's disciplined attack, until David hammered Axar and Mukesh Kumar for 32 runs in the final two overs, giving RCB something to bowl at.

But in the end, It wasn't enough.

Brief Scores:
RCB: 163/7 in 20 overs (Philip Salt 37, Tim David 37*; Kuldeep Yadav 2/17, Vipraj Nigam 2/18)

DC: 169/4 in 17.5 overs (KL Rahul 93*, Tristan Stubbs 38*; Bhuvneshwar Kumar 2/26)

Result: Delhi Capitals won by 6 wickets

Player of the Match: KL Rahul (Delhi Capitals)

Different states of mind for Barca & Real Madrid ahead of La Liga matchday 31

Madrid, April 10 (UNI) : Matchday 31 in La Liga sees leaders FC Barcelona and second-placed Real Madrid in very different situations and states of mind for their weekend matches.

Barcelona travels to Leganes on Saturday night to defend a four-point lead at the top of the table, with less than 72 hours rest after Wednesday night's 4-0 thrashing of Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League.

Hansi Flick is likely to make some changes to his starting 11. He will be able to bring in players such as Eric Garcia, Gavi, Gerard Martin or Ronald Araujo and his side has its morale sky high after its brilliant midweek performance.

Lamine Yamal probably won't start after asking to be substituted in the closing minutes of Wednesday's win, although the club has still to confirm if he has suffered an injury. Real Madrid's

situation is very different as it prepares to visit Alaves on Sunday afternoon. Carlo Ancelotti's side travels to the Basque Region after a disastrous week that saw a LaLiga defeat at home to Valencia followed by a 3-0 loss away to Arsenal in the first leg of its Champions League quarterfinals.

That means Madrid needs something special in next Wednesday's return leg against Arsenal, and Ancelotti will also have to make squad rotations, with Arda Guler, Brahim Diaz and Fran Garcia all back in the starting 11 against a rival that is battling to avoid relegation, but tough to beat at home.

Atletico Madrid is seven points behind Barca and three behind Real Madrid. It has a home match on Monday against bottom of the table Valladolid - a side that is almost certain to be relegated and with squad issues as shown by last weekend's incident when

two players almost came to blows in the dugout.

Valencia looks to capitalize on last weekend's win in the Bernabeu on Friday with a home match against Sevilla. Sevilla's European ambitions seem to have disappeared and coach Garcia Pimienta could be sacked if his side slips to a fourth consecutive defeat.

Las Palmas coach Diego Martinez has clung onto his job, despite his side dropping to second from bottom after failing to win in 2025. Las Palmas travels to play a Getafe with three wins in four games.

Real Sociedad is at home to Mallorca in a match between two sides with European ambitions, although Mallorca is hampered by an injury to strike Vedat Muriqi.

Celta Vigo's excellent recent performances and results have lifted them up to seventh, with forwards Fer Lopez and Alfon Gonzalez both in excellent

form ahead of a home game against Espanyol, that travels to the Balaidos Stadium after a morale boosting 4-0 win away to Rayo Vallecano.

Rayo visits an Athletic Club Bilbao side in Europa League action on Thursday night, and that in LaLiga has the chance to extend its lead over sixth place Betis and Villarreal who play each other on Sunday.

Betis highlighted its excellent form with a 1-1 draw in Barcelona last weekend, while despite being held 0-0 at home to Athletic, Villarreal's attack of Ayoze Perez, Alex Baena and Thierno Barry has actually got better results on the road than at home.

With both teams packed with pace in attack this could be the best game of the weekend. Finally, Osasuna entertains Girona in a match between two sides that are struggling to get the win they both need to probably ensure their top-flight survival for another year.

Great Britain bid for BJK Cup Finals place

London, April 10 (UNI) : Great Britain will face Germany and the Netherlands as they bid for a place in the Billie Jean King Cup Finals.

Anne Keothavong's side travel to the Hague in the Netherlands for the round-robin event, with the top team advancing to September's eight-team finals in Shenzhen, China.

The tournament is usually held in November but has been brought forward to the start of the WTA Tour's Asian swing, the BBC reported.

The remaining two teams will compete in the play-offs to secure a place in the 2026 qualifiers.

Katie Boulter will lead the team but Britain are

without Emma Raducanu, who withdrew from the squad to "look after her body". Boulter is joined by Sonay Kartal, Harriet Dart, Jodie Burrage and doubles specialist Olivia Nicholls.

Both of Britain's ties on the indoor clay will be shown live on the BBC, alongside live text commentary on the website and regular updates on Radio 5 Live.

Kartal is set to make her BJK Cup debut following Raducanu's withdrawal, a year after a health issue meant she had to watch GB's qualifier against France from afar.

After three months out, the 23-year-old staged an impressive comeback, breaking into the top 100

and winning a WTA title on her way to a current career-high ranking of 60.

"It'll be a really proud moment for me - having the opportunity to play for your country is the greatest honour," Kartal said.

"There are a few goals in my career that stand out

more than others and this is one of them."

Britain reached the semi-finals of the BJK Cup last year, losing to eventual runners-up Slovakia.

Defending champions Italy have already secured a spot in November's finals, as have hosts China.

Ahead of ISL final, Mohun Bagan SG spend time with RFYS U15 Champions in Kolkata



Kolkata, April 10 (UNI) : As excitement builds for the Indian Super League 2024-25 Final, Mohun Bagan Super Giant – ISL Shield winners and one of this season's finalists – took time out to inspire the next generation of footballers.

The team met with the U15 champions of the Reliance Foundation Youth

Sports 2024-25 Kolkata Leg – SP One Foundation (U15 Girls) and Mohun Bagan Super Giant (U15 Boys) – in a special interaction at their training session on Thursday.

The young champions were thrilled to meet their footballing idols up close as they walked onto the training ground, cheered

them on during practice, and wished them luck ahead of the high-stakes final against Bengaluru FC at the iconic Salt Lake Stadium. The experience got even more memorable as the children had a chance to pose with the coveted ISL Trophy on the pitch – bringing them one step closer to their ISL dream.

Dhoni returns back as CSK skipper

Chennai, April 10 (UNI) : Talismanic M S Dhoni, who had guided Chennai Super Kings (CKS) to a record five IPL titles, has been re-appointed as the team's captain on Thursday evening after Ruturaj Gaikwad was ruled out for the rest of the tournament due to an injury.

He returns back at the helm of CSK team after a gap of two years. This was announced by Head Coach Stephen Fleming ahead of match against KKR. CSK is now

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Western Railway sets new Benchmark in ticket checking and non-fare revenue segment

WR stands second over Indian Railways in Non-Fare Revenue performance

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, April 10 : Western Railway continues to lead by example in ensuring revenue optimization and promoting passenger discipline. In a remarkable achievement for the financial year 2024-25, Western Railway detected a total of 25.17 lakh cases of ticketless and irregular travel, including unbooked luggage cases, resulting in a record-breaking fine of ₹150.86 crore through ticket checking drives. WR also has the distinction of being second over Indian Railways in Non-Fare Revenue performance.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Mr Vineet Abhishek, maintaining this momentum, the month of March 2025 alone saw the detection of 2.72 lakh cases, generating ₹16.57 crore as fines. This consistent performance underscores Western Railway's commitment to safeguarding the interests of genuine passengers while curbing ticketless travel.

In a passenger-friendly move aimed at enhancing onboard comfort and reducing overcrowding in reserved compartments, Western Railway implemented a key policy shift in June 2024. Instead of penalizing irregular



Shri C.K. Sinha
Dy. Chief Ticketing Inspector, Surat



Shri Laxman Kumar
Dy. Chief Ticketing Inspector, Borivali



Shri Ashutosh Kumar Singh
Dy. Chief Ticketing Inspector, HQ

passengers up to their destination, they are now charged only up to the point of detection and are promptly de-boarded. This approach has helped ensure a more comfortable and seamless journey for reserved ticket holders. To further strengthen enforcement, special intensive ticket checking drives are conducted during weekends and festive periods, ensuring greater compliance and reinforcing passenger discipline across the network.

The tireless efforts of Western Railway's ticket checking team has also significantly contributed to this achievement. Shri C.K. Sinha, Dy. Chief Ticketing Inspector (Dy.CTI) from Surat achieved the impressive milestone of detecting 10,682 cases and collecting Rs. 74.87 Lakhs as penalties from travelers traveling without proper tickets and carrying unbooked luggage. The

other top performing staff include Shri Laxman Kumar, Dy. CTI, Borivali for detecting 10,603 cases & realizing fines of approx. Rs. 67.36 Lakhs and Shri Ashutosh Kumar Singh, Dy.CTI, Headquarters who detected 6,687 cases & realizing an amount of Rs. 66.13 Lakhs in fines. Over Mumbai Suburban section, approx. 11 lakh cases were detected and Rs.47.43 crores were realized as fines in FY 2024-25.

Shri Vineet further added that surprise ticket checking efforts are being made frequently in AC local trains to prevent unauthorized entry of general tickets holders in these trains. As a result, during the period from April 2024 to March 2025, approx. 65,000 penalty cases were detected and Rs. 209.52 Lakhs was collected in fines. Besides this, Western Railway stands second over Indian Railways in Non-Fare

Revenue (NFR) performance. The Railway surpassed its NFR targets by achieving revenue of Rs.112.17 Cr during the FY 2024-25 against the given target of Rs. 105 Cr. This is almost 7% higher than the target and 11.27% more than last year's revenue of Rs. 100.81 Cr. Innovative NFR initiatives such as Restaurant on Wheels, advertisements through digital AI kiosks, Battery Operated Carts, Gaming Zone with Relaxation Units, Porter On Call, etc. have led to this magnanimous achievement.

With these record-breaking achievements, Western Railway continues to be at the forefront over Indian Railways in Non-Fare Revenue generation as well as remaining dedicated to improving travel experience, passenger satisfaction, operational efficiency and commercial innovation, setting higher standards year after year.

Indian engineers team assessing quake-affected sites in Myanmar

Nay Pyi Taw/New Delhi, April 10 (UNI) : After assessing six affected sites in quake-hit Mandalay, the safety and demolition engineers team from India assessed six quake affected sites in Naypyitaw today, as part of Operation Brahma, the MEA said.

An Orthopaedic surgeon from the Indian Army Medical team is assisting in the treatment of 70 patients at a Nay Pyi Taw Hospital.

The Indian Army Field Hospital at Mandalay has treated 281 patients, and conducted seven major and 38 minor surgeries.

A total of 1,651 patients have been treated till April 9 evening at the Army Field Hospital, the MEA said.

The Indian Army Engineer team (19 ER) and one Ortho Specialist from Field Hospital moved from Mandalay to Nay Pyi Taw for meetings with the Myanmar Ministry of Construction on demolition assessment of select buildings, and Health Ministry on specialist prosthetics advice for 70 patients, respectively.

Myanmar was hit by a massive 7.9 magnitude earthquake on March 28, and several aftershocks on the following days. Over 3,000 people have died, and hundreds are injured and missing.

Central Railway Achieves Major Infrastructure Milestones in FY 2024-25

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, April 10 : Central Railway continues its relentless focus on passenger safety, convenience, and infrastructure upgradation, achieving significant milestones in the financial year 2024-25.

Foot Over Bridges (FOBs)

To enhance passenger safety and ease of movement, new Foot Over Bridges have been commissioned at 14 stations, viz:

- Mumbai Division: Govandi, Khandi, Badlapur, Kaman Road
- B h u s a w a l Division: Ankai
- Nagpur Division: Teegaon, Pandhurna, Bharatwada
- Pune Division: Yeola, Nimblak, Akolner, Vilad, Patas Additionally, 3 new FOBs have been constructed in the Mumbai suburban section to control trespassing:
 - Between Wadala – Kings Circle (Mid-Section)
 - Between Govandi – Mankhurd (Mid-Section)
 - Between Shahad – Ambivli (Mid-Section)
- **Station Upgrades**
 - M a j o r redevelopments at CSMT, Nagpur, and Ajni underway.
 - Soft upgradation at 22 stations in progress
- **Track Renewal and**

- A high-level platform has been constructed at Hotgi station.

- Nashik Road station has undergone significant enhancement with an improved front façade and circulating area.
- At Khandwa, a new Second Class Waiting Hall and Booking Office have been provided on Platform No. 6.

Track Infrastructure Enhancement

Central Railway has made substantial progress in upgrading its track infrastructure to support higher speeds and safer operations.

Speed Upgradation

Sectional speeds have been increased as follows:

- Butibori–Umrer (31 km): from 50 to 75 kmph
- Panvel–J N P T (28.06 km): from 65 to 95 kmph
- Tilaknagar–Panvel (32.53 km): from 80 to 95 kmph
- Panvel–Karjat (26.18 km): from 105 to 110 kmph
- B a d n e r a –Amravati (9.00 km): from 90 to 110 kmph
- J a l a m b –Khamgaon (12.34 km): from 90 to 110 kmph
- B h u s a w a l –Khandwa (122.8 km): from 110 to 130 kmph

Track Renewal and

Safety Measures

- 434 km of track renewal completed
- 702 km of deep screening
- 893 turnouts renewed
- 11.16 lakh cum of ballast inserted
- Rail fractures/weld failures significantly reduced to 65 cases

Bridge Works

Central Railway has completed the rehabilitation of 212 bridges. This includes:

- 5 Important Bridges
- 54 Major Bridges
- 153 Minor Bridges

This is the highest number of bridge rehabilitations achieved in the last five years.

Elimination of Level Crossings

As part of its mission to enhance safety, Central Railway has eliminated 31 manned level crossings in FY 2024-25:

- 6 through Road Over Bridges (ROBs)
- 22 through Road Under Bridges (RUBs)
- 3 through road diversions

These developments mark a significant leap in Central Railway's journey toward creating a safer, faster, and more efficient rail network for passengers and freight alike.

Additional Member of Railway Board Inspects Visakhapatnam Railway station : ECoR



inspection, Dr. Nawal Srivastava reviewed various passenger amenities, Non-Fare Revenue (NFR) initiatives, and key operational offices at the station. He interacted with officials and staff to assess and review the innovative revenue-generation models and projects implemented by the Division to enhance overall railway revenue.

Later, Dr. Srivastava held a meeting with Shri Lalit Bohra, Divisional Railway Manager of Waltair Division, along with branch officers, at the DRM Office. The meeting focused on reviewing the Division's revenue-generating activities, particularly Non-Fare Revenue projects and other innovative models. Waltair Division also delivered a detailed presentation showcasing their initiatives and achievements in this domain.

(Standard Post Bureau)
Visakhapatnam, April 10 : Dr. Nawal K. Srivastava, Additional Member (Revenue), Railway Board, inspected

Visakhapatnam Railway Station today (10.04.2025). He was accompanied by Finance Advisor & Chief Accounts officer (Traffic)/ ECoR, Shri P Ramachandra

Rao, Shri Manoj Kumar Sahoo, ADRM (Operations), Shri E. Santharam, ADRM (Infrastructure), and other senior officials. During the

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, April 10 : In a significant step towards strengthening regional rail and road infrastructure, Shri V. Somanna, Hon'ble Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti, laid the foundation stones for two important Road Over Bridges (ROBs) in the Tumakuru region. These include the ROB in lieu of LC Gate No. 58 at Pura near Nittur Station and LC Gate No. 86 at Sharada Nagar, Tiptur.

The Hon'ble Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti, Shri V. Somanna, also flagged off Train No. 16240 Yesvantpur–Chikkamagaluru Express with an additional stoppage at Nittur Station, marking a significant step towards enhancing rail connectivity in the region.

During his address at ground breaking ceremony, Shri V. Somanna emphasized that these ROBs will significantly enhance connectivity across key areas.

These long-pending demands of the people of Tumakuru region have now been fulfilled, marking a milestone in the region's infrastructural development.

The ROB at LC 58 (Pura Village) will be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.50.57 crore and will link Sira and Mayasandra. The ROB at LC 86 (Sharda Gate) will be built at an estimated cost of Rs.89.32 crore and



will connect Chikkanayakanahalli and Hassan.

He stated that these bridges will improve the daily commute and ensure faster, safer, and more efficient transportation options for residents of Tumakuru, Sira, Mayasandra, and Chikkanayakanahalli.

The Minister reaffirmed his vision to make the Tumakuru Lok Sabha Constituency a model for infrastructure development.

He appealed for public cooperation in ongoing and upcoming development works and issued clear instructions to contractors to maintain the highest standards of quality and complete all projects within the stipulated timelines.

Shri Somanna also shared that a total of 15 ROBs and RUBs are currently being undertaken in the Tumakuru region, with a total allocation of Rs.125 crore by the Central Government for various

developmental projects.

Additionally, he informed the gathering that a new MEMU train is under active consideration to operate between Hassan–Tiptur–Nittur–Tumakuru–Bengaluru, enhancing regional rail connectivity.

Highlighting progress on the Rayadurga–Tumakuru new railway line, he said that 83 km of the line has already been completed, and the remaining stretch will be completed soon. Furthermore, the proposed Tumakuru–Davangere via Chitradurga new railway line is scheduled for completion by 2027.

Shri Somanna also announced that Tumakuru and Gubbi stations have been selected to be redeveloped under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme and will be modernized with world-class amenities at an combined estimated cost

of Rs. 40 crore. Across Karnataka, a total of 61 stations under ABSS are being developed at an approximate total cost of Rs.1000 crore.

The Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony and Flagging off of Train no 16240 Yesvantpur–Chikkamagaluru Express with an additional stoppage at Nittur station was graced by several dignitaries and senior railway officials, including Shri Jyothi Ganesh Hon'ble MLA Tumakuru City (Attended Flaffing off Train no 16240, Shri Ajay Sharma, Chief Administrative Officer (Construction), and Shri Pradeep Puri, Chief Engineer, at Nittur Station Yard and Sharada Nagar, Tiptur. Shri Amitesh Kumar Sinha, Divisional Railway Manager, Bengaluru Division, attended the event at Nittur Station, while Shri Mudith Mittal, Divisional Railway Manager, Mysuru Division, was present at Sharada Nagar, Tiptur.

A.Chandrasekhar appointed As South India Chairman of Adileela Foundation

(Standard Post Bureau)

National President Adileela Foundation Mr Adi Narayana has appointed Mr A. Chandrasekhar As a Chairman for South India of Adileela Foundation to look after the Socio- Cultural and all related activities in South India to expand its activities to the District level.

He was a Social Leader for so many activities in the Bank, where he was worked earlier. He has Organised So many Blood donation Camp to the needy people and helped So many Patients . He Retired in 2022 After Working in different departments of Banking. He has Offered Social service activities carried since 1985 to till now. Helped poor students financially and also helped them to get jobs. We feel very happy to appoint him for Southern States and to help lot of people through Adileela Foundation..

