

IN BRIEF

Fake Air Force jawan arrested

Pune, May 19 (UNI) : A man who was allegedly cheating people by posing as an Indian Air Force jawan, has been arrested by the city police.

Police said on Monday that they had received confidential information about suspicious movements of a person who was misleading people by wearing fake clothes.

Acting on this information, the Southern Command's Military Intelligence and the Kharadi Police jointly took action and arrested suspect Gaurav Dinesh Kumar from Kharadi area of ??Pune on Sunday (last) night. He was residing in Kharadi, Pune, but hailed from Uttar Pradesh.

Deputy commissioner of police Rajkumar Shinde said that they have seized Air Force uniform, shoes and other things from his possession.

SC: Equal pension for all retired HC judges, including additional judges

New Delhi, May 19 (UNI) The Supreme Court has ruled that all retired high court judges are entitled to equal pension and retirement benefits, regardless of whether they served as permanent or additional judges.

A bench comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) BR Gavai and Justice AG Masih held that making a distinction in post-retirement benefits among judges based on their mode of appointment violates Article 14 of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to equality.

The court stated, "Any discrimination among judges for terminal benefits after retirement is violative of Article 14. All high court judges, including those who retired as additional judges, are entitled to full pension." It further clarified that no difference can be made based on whether a judge was promoted from the district judiciary or elevated from the bar.

The court also extended the benefit of parity to the families of additional judges, ruling that they too are entitled to the same family pension and post-retirement benefits as those granted to the families of permanent judges.

CM cautions banks against CIBIL-based rejections for farm loans



(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, May 19 : Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Monday issued a stern directive to banks, urging them not to insist on CIBIL scores while disbursing agricultural loans, and warned of action against branches which fail to comply. Speaking at the 167th State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meeting at the Sahyadri Guest House here, he stressed that continued demand for credit scores from farmers, despite repeated government instructions, was detrimental to both the agricultural sector and the state's economy.

"Agricultural loans are the lifeline for our farmers. Denial of credit due to CIBIL scores leads not only to

economic distress but also contributes to the rise in farmer suicides. We have instructed banks repeatedly not to ask for these scores, yet many continue to do so. This must be resolved today. Banks found violating this guideline have faced FIRs in the past, and we will not hesitate to take similar action again," Fadnavis warned.

Reiterating the Reserve Bank of India's stance on the matter, the Chief Minister emphasised that no bank branch should make CIBIL scores a prerequisite for granting farm loans, and any such instance would invite strict punitive measures.

Fadnavis urged nationalised banks to exert greater efforts in achieving agricultural loan disbursement targets and to

expand the reach of credit facilities in rural areas. He announced the approval of a comprehensive credit plan worth Rs 44.76 lakh crore for Maharashtra for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Highlighting the significance of agriculture to the state's economy, Fadnavis said, "Our farmers are the backbone of Maharashtra. With favourable monsoon forecasts, the upcoming season holds great promise. Banks must seize this opportunity to enhance support for agriculture. Increased agricultural growth is beneficial to both the banking sector and the farming community."

The Chief Minister also pointed to the state's agricultural investment policy, under which an annual target of Rs 5,000 crore has been set. He encouraged banks to treat agriculture as a business venture rather than a welfare obligation, asserting that increased lending would yield mutual benefit.

Under scoring accountability, Fadnavis directed that banks and officers performing well under various schemes be recognised, while underperformers should be identified in future meetings to foster transparency and encourage improvement.

Unseasonal rains destroy 27,000 hectares of agricultural crops

Nashik, May 19 (UNI) : Unseasonal rains over the past ten days have damaged agricultural crops over 27,000 hectares in Maharashtra, with several districts affected. Amravati has faced the worst damage, with 13,000 hectares of agricultural crops damaged.

Agriculture Minister Manikrao Kokate said that about 5,850 hectares of agricultural crops have been damaged in Nashik.

A pre-kharif season meeting was organised at the Niyojan Bhawan of the District Collector's Office in Nashik.

While interacting with the media after this meeting, the Agriculture Minister said: "The state has been hit by unseasonal rain for the last ten days. Pune, Amravati, Kolhapur, Nashik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon and other districts have been badly hit by unseasonal rain.

Farmers have suffered a lot due to unseasonal rains even as the Kharif season is approaching."

"Therefore, an immediate Panchanama is to be conducted," the

Agriculture Minister ordered.

Also, due to the ongoing off-season, the assessment of agricultural crops is being delayed.

Fruit crops have suffered the most damage. However, this damage is not immediately noticeable. Due to this, the assessment is being delayed. However, Agriculture Minister Manikrao Kokate also informed that the assessment will be completed within a week.

Regarding the issue of farmers not getting the crop insurance money quickly, the Agriculture Minister said that talks are underway with the Chief Minister (CM) in this regard and a decision is expected soon.

The government's role is to ensure that the farmers get the money quickly.

Since the money is received late, the farmers suffer more losses.

If the farmers get the money in the pre-kharif or pre-rabi season, efforts will be made to ensure that they get the money quickly so that they can use it for capital expenditure, Kokate added.



CDS visits forward military bases; praises valour and professionalism of Armed Forces

To boost the morale of the Armed Forces, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Anil Chauhan on Monday paid a visit to the strategically important Suratgarh Military Station and Naliya Air Force Station. He interacted with the troops emphasizing the importance of operational readiness and resilience in the face of evolving security challenges, a Defence Ministry statement said. He commended the operational preparedness and high morale of the personnel and expressed confidence in their ability to respond effectively to future threats.

(See on page 8)

Oppn leader Wadettiwar criticises officials over



Senior Congress leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Maharashtra Assembly, Vijay Wadettiwar, on Monday sharply criticised top state officials for what he described as a serious breach of protocol during Chief Justice of India Bhushan Gavai's maiden visit to Mumbai after his elevation as the country's highest judicial authority.

(See on page 3)

People in UP suffering due to power crisis: Akhilesh



Samajwadi Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav on Monday said that the common people are suffering due to the power crisis in the state, and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government has ruined the system.

(See on page 4)

Will O'Rourke makes IPL debut as SRH bowl first



Lucknow Super Giants handed a debut to Will O'Rourke as they take on Sunrisers Hyderabad in Match 61 of IPL 2025 at Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Stadium here on Monday. Sunrisers Hyderabad won the toss and elected to bowl first.

(See on page 7)

SC slams MP minister: 'Nation is ashamed of you'

New Delhi, May 19 (UNI) The Supreme Court on Monday came down heavily on Madhya Pradesh Minister and BJP leader Kunwar Vijay Shah for his controversial comment targeting Colonel Sofiya Qureshi who briefed the media during Operation Sindoor against Pakistan.

The court expressed deep disapproval, stating that Shah had brought shame to the entire nation.

A bench comprising Justice Surya Kant and Justice N Kotiswar Singh was hearing Shah's plea challenging a Madhya Pradesh High Court order

that had directed the registration of a criminal case against him. The High Court had taken suo motu cognizance of Shah's alleged remark, "Those who widowed our daughters, we sent a sister of their own to teach them a lesson."

Condemning the statement as "crass and shameful," the apex court remarked: "The entire nation is ashamed of you. It is for you to decide how you wish to redeem yourself."

Justice Kant took serious note of Shah's attempt to tender an apology, dismissing it as insincere and manipulative. "We

don't need this apology. You're not in contempt of court that you're offering it here." "You commit a wrong and then try to escape through a hollow apology. Is this your attitude?" the court questioned.

The bench observed that Shah's statement had deeply hurt public sentiment and that his so-called apology appeared crafted only to avoid legal consequences. "Sometimes people give artificial apologies just to escape. Some even shed crocodile tears. Which category do you fall into?" the court asked. The court further

observed that Shah, a senior political figure, should have been far more cautious in his speech. "You're a public figure. Your words carry weight. From the video, it appears you were on the verge of using abusive language but stopped mid-sentence perhaps out of self-restraint or simply because you couldn't find the right insult."

Rejecting the Minister's claim of genuine regret, the court said, "If you call this genuine regret, we outright reject it. You've said, 'If I've hurt anyone, then I apologize' this kind of conditional apology is

unacceptable. You don't even acknowledge the harm caused." While staying Shah's arrest for now, the court ordered the formation of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) comprising senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officers to probe the incident. Shah has been directed to fully cooperate with the investigation.

Clarifying that the high court had not passed a conviction but merely directed the registration of an FIR, the Supreme Court concluded, "We are a country governed by the rule of law. The same standards apply to all."

BMC clarifies that death of 2 patients in Mumbai govt hospital not due to Covid-19

(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, May 19 : The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Monday clarified that the death of two female patients at the state government-run King Edward Memorial (KEM) Hospital in Parel were due to co-morbidities and not due to COVID-19, even as it advised citizens not to panic and take all precautions.

It may be recalled that a 59-year-old woman with cancer and a 14-year-old girl with kidney disease died at KEM hospital. Both tested positive for Covid-19

posthumously. Doctors clarified that these deaths on Sunday were not caused due to Covid-19. Former mayor Kishori Pednekar told reporters that as per the information she gathered, the swabs of the patient who died on Sunday did not test positive for any other illnesses, however, the patient tested positive for Covid-19. And thus, it seems that the cause of death is that, she said. However, hospital authorities have denied the claims and have stated that there is no need to panic and that there are no signs of any another

pandemic. "Since Covid-19 happened, it has become a protocol to test patients with such illnesses for the same. Covid now has become more like a flu and those with breathing problems, cough or cold of severe level generally test positive for Covid-19. This does not mean that the virus is back or is spreading again. Last week, we had 15 patients who tested positive for Covid. The reason of death mentioned on this lady's certificate is also different. So, there is no need to panic," said Dr Mohan Desai, medical

superintendent, KEM Hospital. Meanwhile, the Health Department of the BMC issued a statement and stated that Covid-19 is now considered to be endemic and continuous health problem. Since the virus of this disease is stabilised at the level of residence, Covid patients are often found to be very occasional. Over the past few days, the number of Covid patients in Singapore, Hong Kong, East Asia and other countries has been increasing and ongoing health problems and very few cases of the infection have been found

and that too sporadically.

BMC is constantly monitoring the spread of Covid-19. From January to April 2025, the number of Covid-19 patients has been found to be very low. But since the beginning of May, there have been some cases of Covid-19. However, the BMC administration is appealing citizens not to panic in this regard, the statement said. The BMC also said it has made arrangements for treatment of Covid-19 patients like earmarking special beds and rooms for them in municipal hospitals in Mumbai.

Role of legislative committees key in effective implementation of govt schemes: CM Fadnavis



Mumbai, May 19 (IANS) : Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said on Monday that the legislative committees play a valuable role in the functioning of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council as well as in the effective implementation of various schemes of the government.

He further stated that the legislative committees are an important part of parliamentary democracy. These committees have special powers while working. Legislative committees are a great system to understand the administration and conduct a detailed study of its functioning. The Legislative Committees formed for the year 2024-25 were formally launched on Monday in the presence of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. On this occasion, Chairman of the Legislative Council Ram Shinde, Speaker of the Legislative

Assembly Rahul Narvekar, Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council Neelam Gorhe, Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Anna Bansode, Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Minister of State Ashish Jaiswal, heads of various committees, among others, were present.

CM Fadnavis said that the work of the legislature is not only done in the House but also through committees. Due to time constraints in the House, an issue cannot often be discussed in depth. In such cases, the committees study the issue in depth and give justice to the relevant subject. When the CAG report is presented before the Legislature, the Audit and observations are recorded in it. At that time, information is sought from the secretaries of the concerned departments to check the facts, and then the final report is presented in the House, he added.

Underlining the importance of the Request for Proposals Committee, he said that earlier it was believed that the committee had no work. “However, I myself made the first request for the provision of government accommodation for the police in Nagpur, ownership rights to slum dwellers and increasing the limit of 'non-creamy layer.’ Based on the report of this application, the government issued the first Government Resolution (GR), and slum dwellers got ownership rights. The participation of members in the committees enriches the government and the legislature,” he noted.

The Legislative Council chairman Ram Shinde said, “The work of the Legislative Committees should be carried out smoothly and properly. The role and contribution of the committees are as important in governance and

administration as the work during the session. Legislative Committees study specific issues in detail and make suggestions and recommendations. These recommendations are presented in the session, and decisions are taken based on them. Therefore, the committees are used effectively in the administration and government decision-making process.” He added that 29 committees have been announced this year.

The state Assembly Speaker, Rahul Narvekar, said, “ The Legislative Committee provides an opportunity for the people's representatives to do the work of the legislature. They get the opportunity to clearly state their position and give justice to an issue. The committee also has the power to question the government in this regard.”

The Legislative Council deputy chairperson Neelam Gorhe said that the committee members should use the powers of the committees in a proper manner, study how they can be used more for the public interest and observe local etiquette during the proceedings of the committee. Each member should understand their responsibility and participate in the proceedings.

Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde observed that the legislative committees are a reflection of the spirit of democracy.

Northern Army Commander reviews security

Srinagar, May 19 (UNI) Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma on Monday reviewed the security situation and operational preparedness of troops deployed in the Kashmir Valley. The visit of Lt Gen Sharma comes days after two successful operations in south Kashmir which led to the killing of six local terror militants - three each from Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad.

In a post on X, Northern Command of Indian Army said that Lt Gen Sharma reviewed the operational preparedness.

“Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, Army Commander Northern Command, reviewed security & operational readiness in the valley,” the post said. He commended the brave troops for demonstrating offensive spirit and unwavering professionalism during successful execution of operations and emphasised

upon dominating in both cognitive and physical domains fuelled by proactive measures.

Lt Gen Sharma's visit underscores the Indian Army's sustained state of high alert and its continued focus on operational preparedness in the wake of Operation Sindoor.

The high-profile military operation, launched in response to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam that claimed the lives of 26 tourists, resulted in the targeted destruction of key terror camps across the Line of Control. The campaign later expanded to include strikes on Pakistani military installations, following Islamabad's assault on civilian infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir. Lt Gen Sharma's presence in the Kashmir Valley signals the Army's commitment to maintaining strategic dominance and readiness amid evolving security challenges.

Mehbooba urges Omar to reconsider hiring ex-servicemen

Srinagar, May 19 (UNI) PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti on Monday urged Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to reconsider the Jammu and Kashmir government's recent decision to employ 4,000 ex-servicemen to guard key installations across the Union Territory.

Mehbooba expressed her deep concern over the rising unemployment crisis warning that overlooking their plight in favour of retired personnel could exacerbate existing socio-economic challenges.

“Wrote to Omar sahab urging him to reconsider his government's decision to employ 4,000 ex-servicemen to guard key installations. While I have utmost respect and gratitude for our ex-servicemen, we mustn't & cannot overlook the mounting crisis of unemployment afflicting youth in J&K whose numbers have now crossed into lakhs,” Mehbooba said in a post on X.

“This soaring unemployment is not just an economic issue but a social emergency. With few opportunities amidst utter despondency, many youngsters are falling into the grip of drug addiction and tragically some are even driven to suicide.

We must come to their rescue by being more mindful of their future,” she added.

Mehbooba was responding to reports that the Sainik Welfare Board of Jammu and Kashmir had proposed a plan to engage retired military personnel to safeguard vital infrastructure.

The J&K government has reportedly approved the proposal, paving the way for what is being described as a unique collaboration between veterans and civil authorities.

According to these reports, 4,000 ex-servicemen volunteers have been identified under the plan.

Over 35 border villages in UP to be developed for tourism: Jaiveer Singh

Lucknow, May 19 (UNI) In a major step toward putting border villages of Uttar Pradesh on the tourism map, the Department of Tourism will develop 35 villages across seven border districts as designated 'Tourist Villages'. This is aimed at generating employment in rural areas while showcasing the unique

culture, traditions, cuisine, attire and biodiversity of these regions to both domestic and international tourists. Tourism and Culture Minister Jaiveer Singh said that villages in Maharajganj, Siddharth Nagar, Shravasti, Balrampur, Bahraich, Lakhimpur Kheri and Pilibhit have been selected for the project. "Each of

these villages will feature 10 homestay units, offering tourists the opportunity to experience rural life firsthand and immerse themselves in local customs," he said.

He said that among the chosen villages include Dulhasumali, Bajha, Khunuwan, Kotia and Gharuar in Siddharth Nagar, Imlia Kodar, Chandanpur,

Narihwa, Pahadapur and Belbhariya in Balrampur, Bankati Chidiya, Purab Majra Himmantnagar, Pipraula, Puraena and Singhia in Lakhimpur Kheri, Badria, Amba Karikot, Fakirpur and Vishunapur in Bahraich, Lalpur Kusmahwa, Motipur Kala, Katkuiyan, Medhakia and Belhari in Shravasti, Naujalha, Nakataha,

Manipur government working for sustainable development of tribal

Imphal, May 19 (UNI): Deputy Commissioner, Jiribam, Krishna Kumar, said on Monday that continuous efforts are being made towards sustainable development of the tribal under Dharti AabaJanjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), an initiative of the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in Jiribam District through the District Administration in three tribal villages namely; Jairolpokpi, Chotobekra, and Bhutangkhall.

Various schemes/ programmes under different Ministries have also been taken up by the District Administration and the concerned line Departments so far, such as PMAY, MGNREGS, Kishan Credit Card (KCC), PM KISAN, IGOAPS, IGWPS, IGDPS, ICDS, Jan Dhan Account, Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY), PMSBY, Jal Jeevan Mission, Aadhar Card, Ration Card, Caste Certificate, Domicile Certificate. Gaps have been identified in these villages, and efforts are being taken up to check the saturation level, he added.

The concerned line Departments under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner, Jiribam have started working in coordination to deliver the benefits under various schemes in these villages. Special drive will be carried out in the above villages to create more awareness about different schemes and programmes, also to identify gap, if any, to fill with the help of different line Departments under Dharti AabaJanjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA).

MP CM chairs meet on Holkar's birth anniversary celebrations

Bhopal, May 19 (UNI) Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Monday chaired a meeting of the committee formed to organise the 300th birth anniversary celebrations of Devi Ahilyabai Holkar. The meeting, held at the Chief Minister's residence, Samvay Bhawan, was attended by Minister Uday Pratap Singh and other senior officials. Yadav gave necessary directions for the organisation of the celebrations. Notably, the state cabinet meeting will be held at Rajwada in Indore on Tuesday in memory of Devi Ahilyabai, where a presentation on the 'Developed Madhya Pradesh 2047' document will also be made.

ICG helps save over 6.98L Olive Ridley Turtles along Odisha Coastline

New Delhi, May 19 (UNI) : In a major boost to marine conservation, the Indian Coast Guard's (ICG) annual mission 'Operation Olivia' has facilitated the safe nesting of over 6.98 lakh Olive Ridley turtles at the Rushikulya river mouth in Odisha during February 2025. Conducted annually between November and May, Operation Olivia plays an important role in safeguarding the nesting grounds of the endangered Olive Ridley turtles particularly at Odisha's Gahirmatha Beach and surrounding coastal areas,

a Defence Ministry statement said.

These beaches attract over eight lakh turtles each year.

This year's record nesting at the Rushikulya river mouth in Odisha stands as a testament to the ICG's sustained efforts in safeguarding the endangered species through rigorous patrolling, aerial surveillance, and community engagement.

Since the inception of Operation Olivia, ICG has carried out over 5,387 surface patrol sorties and

1,768 aerial surveillance missions, significantly reducing threats such as illegal fishing and habitat disruption. During this period, 366 boats involved in illegal fishing were detained, reaffirming the ICG's strong enforcement role in protecting marine life.

Apart from surveillance, ICG has actively worked with local fishing communities by promoting the use of Turtle Excluder Devices and partnering with NGOs through formal MoUs to support sustainable fishing practices and conservation education.

Home Ministry unveils e-Zero FIR to nab criminal with unprecedented speed

New Delhi, May 19 (UNI) In a significant step to 'Cyber Secure Bharat', the Home Ministry's Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) on Monday introduced the new e-Zero FIR initiative to nab any criminal with unprecedented speed.

In his post on 'X', Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that launched as a pilot project for Delhi, the new system will automatically convert cyber financial crimes filed at NCRP or 1930 to FIRs, initially above the threshold limit of Rs 10 lakh. The new system, which will drive investigations swiftly cracking down on cybercriminals, will soon be extended to the entire nation. This is a significant step to achieve Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a 'Cyber Secure Bharat'. Shah had given instructions for implementation of this initiative in a recent review meeting of Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) keeping in view the difficulties faced

by victims of cyber financial crimes in recovery of the money lost, a Home Ministry statement said.

The National Cybercrime Reporting Portal (NCRP) and the National Cybercrime Helpline 1930 has enabled easy reporting and prompt actioning on complaints related to cyber financial crimes. The newly introduced process involves integration of I4C's NCRP system, Delhi Police's e-FIR system and National Crime Record Bureau's (NCRB) Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS).

Now complaints related to financial losses above the threshold limit of Rs 10 lakh made to NCRP and 1930 will automatically lead to registration of a Zero FIR with the e-Crime Police Station of Delhi. This will be immediately routed to the territorial Cybercrime Police Stations. Complainants can visit the cybercrime police station within three days and get the Zero FIR converted into a regular FIR.

Delhi Police and Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) have worked together to put in place a process for registration of cases in accordance with the new provisions of Section 173 (1) and 1(ii) of Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

This process of issuing FIRs electronically irrespective of territorial jurisdiction (e-Zero FIR) will initially start in Delhi as a pilot. Subsequently it will be extended to other states and UTs. The e-Crime police station of Delhi has been notified for the registration of e-FIRs and transferring them to jurisdictional police stations in Cybercrime complaints of a specified nature reported on NCRP.

This initiative will improve the conversion of NCRP/1930 complaints into FIRs enabling easy restoration of money lost by victims and facilitate punitive action against cyber criminals. It leverages the provisions of the recently introduced new criminal laws.

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
Electrical Department
E-TENDER NOTICE

The Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD), Central Railway, Solapur, for and on behalf of the President of India invites online e-tenders on Railways e-procurement website www.ireps.gov.in from reputed, experienced & licensed Electrical contractors for the following works. **Tender No.:** SUR/TD/TT/2024/12R2 **Name of Work:** Replacement of OHE structure to attend leaning mast located at various locations for improving safety & reliability of Solapur Division. (Re-innovation). **Estimated cost:** 2,34,68,737.21 **Bid Security:** 2,67,400/- **Completion Period:** 12 months. **Validity of offer:** 60 Days **Date & time of tender closing on website:** 18/06/2025 at 15.00 hours.
Sr. DEE (TRD), Solapur 48

असुरक्षित तथा अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन के पास कार्य करना दंडनीय अपराध है

CENTRAL RAILWAY
VARIOUS REPAIR WORK FOR DEMU RAKE
E-Tender Notice No. RR/PR/SNPD/302/25-26/03

Name of Work: Works contract for repairs work to lavatory and stripping, Overhauling and leakage testing and fitting of Overhead Water Tanks and Dismantling, Cleaning, Repairing, & Re-fitment and waste management of Bio-Digester Tanks in coaches of DEMU Rake & Painting of coaches and Stripping, Recushioning and Replacement of Upholstery Fabric of 3 seater and 2 seater backrest with new one and fitting in coaches of DEMU Rake. **Approx. Cost of work :** Rs. 4858093.56 **Earnest Money:** Rs. 97200 **Cost of Tender Form :** NIL **Completion period :** 12 Months **Date and time of closing of tender submission :** 09/06/2025 upto 14:00 hrs. **Bidding start date :** 26/05/2025 **Tenders shall be accepted only in E-tendering format through the website www.ireps.gov.in.** Tender document is available on the website.

Assistant Divisional Electrical Engineer 107

असुरक्षित तथा अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन के पास कार्य करना दंडनीय अपराध है

Shiv Sena (Shinde), BJP hold different Tiranga rallies in Palghar

Palghar, May 19 (UNI) : The Shiv Sena (Shinde), the part of ruling Mahayuti, took out a Tiranga rallies here on Monday, two days after its partner the Bharatiya Janata Party took out a similar rally in the town.

The Tiranga or Tricolour rallies are being taken out across the country to pay tribute to the 26 victims of the Pahalgam terror attack and the soldiers who sacrificed their lives in subsequent Operation Sindoor.

The Shiv Sena (Shinde) took out the Tiranga rally from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Chowk to Hutatma Chowk in the town.

In this rally, Boisar MLA Vilas Tare, district chief Kundan Sankhe, district chief Vasant Chavan, former MLAs Amit Ghoda and Manisha Nimkar, who recently joined Shiv Sena, party office-bearers and workers were present in large numbers.

Two days ago, on May 17, the BJP had taken out the Tiranga Yatra from Hutatma Chowk to Juna Palghar Shri Hanuman Mandir in the presence of Guardian Minister Ganesh Naik, MP Dr Hemant Savra, MLA Harishchandra Bhoye, BJP district president Bharat Rajput, along with the party's office-bearers, workers, and citizens.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

(1) Tender Notice No. eT-Bridges-WAT-05-2025, Dtd : 13.05.2025

NAME OF THE WORK : BRIDGE ZONAL (STEEL WORKS) CONTRACT FOR EXECUTION OF BRIDGE WORKS UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER/ BRIDGE/RAYAGADA SECTIONS ON DAMANJODI-SINGAPUR ROAD ON KR LINE AND THERUBALI-LADDA SECTION ON RV LINE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/ BRIDGE/WALTAIR FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30.06.2026.

Approx. Cost of the Work : ₹ 96,38,199.00, EMD: ₹ 1,92,800/-

(2) Tender Notice No. eT-Bridges-WAT-06-2025, Dtd : 13.05.2025

NAME OF THE WORK : BRIDGE ZONAL (STEEL WORKS) CONTRACT FOR EXECUTION OF BRIDGE WORKS UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER/ BRIDGE/ARAKU & SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER/BRIDGE/JAGDALPUR SECTIONS ON KK-I & KK-II LINE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/ BRIDGE/WALTAIR FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30.06.2026.

Approx. Cost of the Work : ₹ 1,01,05,305.50, EMD: ₹ 2,00,500/-

(3) Tender Notice No. eT-Bridges-WAT-07-2025, Dtd : 13.05.2025

NAME OF THE WORK : THROUGH PAINTING OF VARIOUS STEEL GIRDER BRIDGES BETWEEN KOTTAVALASA-MALIGURA-KIRANDUL STATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2025-26 ON KK LINE UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER/ BRIDGE/ARAKU & JAGDALPUR IN THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/BRIDGES/ WALTAIR.

Approx. Cost of the Work : ₹ 69,04,652.10, EMD: ₹ 1,38,100/-

(4) Tender Notice No. eT-Bridges-WAT-08-2025, Dtd : 13.05.2025

NAME OF THE WORK : THROUGH PAINTING OF VARIOUS STEEL GIRDER BRIDGES BETWEEN KORAPUT-SINGAPUR ROAD & THERUBALI-LADDA STATIONS ON KR & RV LINE UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER/ BRIDGE/RAYAGAD IN THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (BRIDGES)/WALTAIR.

Approx. Cost of the Work : ₹ 66,37,946.11, EMD: ₹ 1,32,800/-

Completion Period of the Work : 12 (Twelve) Months (for all SI. Nos.)

Tender Closing Date and Time : At 1500 Hrs. of 06.06.2025 (for all the Tenders).

No manual offers sent by Post / Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-Tender is available in website : www.ireps.gov.in

Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 10 (Ten) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes / Corrigendum issued for this tender.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg) / Waltair
PR-138/Q/25-26

Minister advocates for making women financially empowered & literate through self-help groups

Kolhapur, May 19 (UNI) Maharashtra and District Guardian Minister Prakash Abitkar on Monday stressed on giving encouragement to the self-help groups in the state and emphasised on making women financially empowered and literate through the SHGs.

While speaking at a gathering of beneficiaries of the Mahila and Awas Yojana organised by the District Rural Development

Agency, Zilla Parishad at Arjunwada in Radhanagari tehsil of the district, he said that through the UMEDA campaign, the District Rural Development Agency has done effective work for economic empowerment of women in rural areas.

Underscoring the need for stopping exploitation of women by microfinance institutions at the village level, he called for more efforts to make women financially literate by

expanding the scope of economic cycle of savings groups.He further said that in the future, self-help groups that do good work will be honoured with awards and honours.

Women should take initiative for the progress of their families by utilising various schemes of UMEED, the minister appealed. The work of 50,000 shelters in the district is set to be completed by January 26, 2026, he added.

Mumbai court convicts 5 under Section 112 of BNS marking first conviction

Mumbai, May 19 (UNI) Marking the first conviction under Section 112 of the newly implemented Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), a local court in Mumbai sentenced five members of an organised mobile theft gang to one year of rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs 5,000 each, a lawyer said on Monday.While sentencing the accused, the local Girgam court admitted digital evidence, including seized property and electronic panchnamas, under the new legal provisions.

According to the prosecution case on the occasion of Anant Chaturdashi 2024, when large crowds gathered across Mumbai for Ganpati Visarjan. Taking advantage of the crowd, a gang allegedly stole several mobile phones.On September 20, 2024, a case was registered under Section 303(2) of

BNS at the VP Road police station after a complaint by Basir Sadek Shaikh.

Given the organised nature of the crime, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Zone 2) Dr Mohit Kumar Garg formed a special team comprising officers from six police stations – VP Road, DB Marg, LT Marg, Gamdevi, Malabar Hill, and others.

Based on secret information and technical surveillance, the team arrested five accused -- Sanjay Raman Kharwa, Sanjay Suresh Kharwa, Sumesh Lohakare, Laltu Dey and Akash Mehra -- from Mumbai and outside Maharashtra.

During the investigation, police recovered 42 stolen mobile phones and a motorcycle from the accused. It was also established that the accused had a history of committing similar crimes.

Oppn leader Wadettiwar criticises officials over protocol lapse during CJI Gavai’s Mumbai visit

Mumbai, May 19 (UNI) :Senior Congress leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Maharashtra Assembly, Vijay Wadettiwar, on Monday sharply criticised top state officials for what he described as a serious breach of

protocol during Chief Justice of India Bhushan Gavai’s maiden visit to Mumbai after his elevation as the country’s highest judicial authority.

Chief Justice Gavai, a native of Maharashtra, was in Mumbai on Sunday for his first public engagement since assuming office. The absence of key state officials including the Chief Secretary, Director General of Police and Mumbai Police Commissioner-at the event drew widespread criticism, particularly from opposition leaders.

Wadettiwar voiced his disapproval on social media platform X, terming the incident “deeply unfortunate.”

He wrote, “A son of Maharashtra

who has reached the apex of the judiciary through determination and dedication was disrespected in his own home state. Are senior officials and the ruling establishment upset with the judiciary? Can they not adhere to basic protocol? Will anyone be held accountable for this oversight”

The Congress leader’s remarks were prompted by CJI Gavai’s own comments at the gathering.

The Chief Justice openly expressed his disappointment over the absence of senior state officials, stating, “When the head of a constitutional institution visits a state for the first time, the kind of reception extended to them should be thoughtfully considered. These may seem like minor matters, but their importance cannot be overstated.”

Justice Gavai further underscored the principle of mutual respect among the pillars of democracy, remarking, “The judiciary, the executive and the legislature are co-equal organs of the Constitution. It is imperative that each shows due regard for the other.”

CENTRAL RAILWAY

SOLAPUR DIVISION

E-TENDER NOTICE

DRM(S&T)'s Office, Central Railway, Solapur for and on behalf of President of India invites online e-tenders on Railway's e-procurement website www.ireps.gov.in from the capable, reputed firms /Contractors for the following works:- **Name of work with its locality:** Provision/shifting of telecom facility including FOIS network for development of various goods shed and changing room on Solapur division of Central Railway. **Tender No.:** SUR-N-T-2025-26-06 **Cost of the work:** Rs. 1,22,45,668.66 **Cost of the tender form:** NIL **Earnest money to be deposited:** Rs.2,11,200.00 **Completion period of the work:** 8 Months **Date & Time of Closing of tender on www.ireps.gov.in** 10.06.2025 at 15.30 Hrs. The details are available in ireps website. Corrigendum/amendments if any will be uploaded only on above e-procurement website. Only online tenders will be accepted. Manual/ postal/e-mail, FAX, by hand tenders will not be accepted. Bidders are requested to obtain Class III Digital Signature Certificate with company name and register the same with www.ireps.gov.in. The Payment of Earnest Money (EMD) will be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. For further details please visit www.ireps.gov.in.

DRM (S&T), SOLAPUR 47

असुरक्षित तथा अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन के पास कार्य करना दंडनीय अपराध है

Pawar visits Parli Vajinath Jyotirlinga temple, reviews development works

Beed, May 19 (UNI) :Deputy Chief Minister and District Guardian Minister Ajit Pawar on Monday visited the temple of Lord Vajinath in Parli town of the district, one of 12 'Jyotirlingas' in the country, and offered his prayers.

Later, he reviewed the ongoing works under the Shrikshetra Parli Vajinath Jyotirlinga Pilgrimage Development Plan.

Speaking at the review meeting, he assured that he will provide all possible cooperation for development of Shrikshetra Parli Vaidyanath Jyotirlinga pilgrimage site and promised to make available funds for ongoing works under the development plan.

On this occasion, district collector Vivek Johnson made a presentation of the works done as per the plan and said that 92 new works have been given administrative approval in the pilgrimage development plan at Shri Kshetra Parli.

Referring to the absent officials, he added, “There is nothing new about protocol. It’s about showing respect from one constitutional authority to another.”In a lighter vein, the CJI quipped, “If any of us had been in this position, there might have been debates about Article 142,” alluding to the Supreme Court’s power to ensure complete justice in any matter before it.”

Notably, following the Chief Justice’s remarks, the Maharashtra Chief Secretary, DGP and Mumbai Police Commissioner later met CJI Gavai during his subsequent visit to Chaityabhoomi in Dadar.

MNS leader Amit Thackeray writes letter to PM Modi over India-Pakistan ceasefire

Mumbai, May 19 (UNI) Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray's son, Amit Thackeray, has written a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, expressing his displeasure over the Tiranga Yatras and celebrations taking place across the country after the India-Pakistan ceasefire.

In the letter, Thackeray scion expressed his regret and wrote "We have not won the war, only a ceasefire has been reached. Therefore, this celebration is very painful."Meanwhile, Minister Girish Mahajan took a dig at Amit Thackeray for his comments and said, "The entire country and the world has seen what we have done. Do you have any doubts about that? Why do these people write such letters for publicity? I don't understand."

Five killed as car falls off bridge on Mumbai-Goa highway



Ratnagiri, May 19 (UNI) : A car carrying seven people plunged nearly 100 feet from a bridge into the Jagbudi river on the Mumbai-Goa Highway near Bharne Naka in Ratnagiri district early Monday morning, killing five people.

The victims were travelling from Mira Road in Mumbai to Devrukh to attend a funeral when the tragedy struck around 5:30 am. According to reports, the vehicle veered off the bridge near Khed and fell into the river. Five passengers died on the spot, while two others, including the driver, sustained serious injuries.

The deceased have been identified as Medha Parmesh Paradkar, Saurabh Parmesh Paradkar, Mitali Vivek More, Nihar Vivek More and Shreyas Rajendra Sawant. The victims belonged to two families — the Paradkars, residents of Nalasopara, and the Mores, from Mira-Bhayander.

Visuals from the site showed the mangled remains of the car being pulled from the river using a crane. The roof of the vehicle was completely crushed. Local residents, police personnel, and the highway police rushed to the site upon receiving information.The injured —

Parmesh Paradkar and Vivek More — were initially taken to a hospital in Kalambani. Paradkar was later shifted to Ratnagiri District Government Hospital, while More was also moved to another facility for advanced treatment. Their condition is reported to be critical.

Rescue efforts were supported by locals and officials, including former Khed mayor Vaibhav Khedekar. All the occupants were pulled out of the submerged vehicle before it was lifted from the riverbed. An investigation is underway to determine the cause of the accident.

Shinde criticises Rahul Gandhi

Mumbai, May 19 (UNI) : Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Monday criticised senior Congress leader and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi for questioning the central government over its decision to alert Pakistan ahead of Operation Sindoor."Why did the government alert Pakistan before undertaking Operation Sindoor?" Gandhi had asked.

Shinde expressed his displeasure over the comment and claimed that Gandhi's question on why the government alerted Pakistan ahead of Operation Sindoor showcased his distrust in our soldiers.


"This is an issue

regarding our country’s security. It is a matter of the country’s security. Therefore, raising such questions on our country and our soldiers is unfortunate and reprehensible," he said.

The military operation carried out by the Indian Armed Forces was aimed at avenging the deaths of 26 people, many of them tourists, by Pakistani terrorists in Pahalgam on April 22, he said.

In the aftermath of the attack, India initiated 'Operation Sindoor', which included a series of coordinated strikes on Pakistani terror camps. When Pakistani forces escalated the conflict by targeting civilian infrastructure, the Indian

Army and Air Force responded by striking military installations in a highly successful counter-offensive.

**BRIHANMUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

E-Tender Notice

Tender Document No.	Bid No.2025_MCGM_1181026
Name of the Organization	Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation
Subject	Hiring of closed body tempo for transporting SWD accessories like choke machine, etc. & for movement of labours during monsoon in D Ward.
Cost of Tender	Rs.1320 + 18% GST
Bid Security Deposit / EMD	Rs. 6800/-
Date of Issue and sale of tender	20-05-2025 from 11.00 Hrs
Last date & time for sale of tender & Receipt of Bid Security Deposit	26-05-2025 upto 12.00 Hrs.
Submission of Packet, A, B, & Packet C (Online)	26-05-2025 upto 16.00 Hrs.
Portal	Mahatenders.gov.in/tenders
Opening of Packet A	26-05-2025 after 11.00 Hrs
Opening of Packet B	26-05-2025 after 11.05 Hrs
Opening of Packet C	28-05-2025 after 16.00 Hrs
Address for communication	Office of the :- Asst. Commissioner 'D' Ward Jobanputra Compound, Nana Chowk, Mumbai - 400 007.
Venue for opening of bid	On line in Asst. Eng (SWM) 'D' Ward Office.

This tender document is not transferable.

The MCGM reserves the right to accept any of the application or reject any or all the application received for above subject without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
(Amit Gadekar)
Asst. Engineer (SWM) 'D' Ward,
Mobile : 9969974475

PRO/442/ADV/2025-26
Keep the terraces clean, remove odd articles/junk/scrap.

STANDARD POST

Veteran NCP leader Chhagan Bhujbal to be inducted into Fadnavis-led Cabinet today

Veteran NCP leader and Samata Parishad founder Chhagan Bhujbal will be inducted into the Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis-led council of ministers at the swearing-in ceremony being organised on May 20.

Bhujbal confirmed his induction in the ministry. Bhujbal’s entry into the Cabinet was cleared by the Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, and it was formally conveyed to him that he would have to take oath on Tuesday.

Bhujbal is expected to get the Food and Civil Supply Department, which he held during the ministry headed by the former Chief Ministers Uddhav Thackeray and Eknath Shinde (2019-2024).

NCP president Ajit Pawar, along with working president Praful Patel and state unit chief Sunil Tatkare, took a unanimous decision paving the way for Bhujbal’s induction in the Cabinet.

NCP needed a formidable and strong OBC face in the Cabinet especially after another OBC leader Dhananjay Munde had to resign during the budget session of the state legislature held in March in connection with the brutal killing of the Beed Sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh.

Munde was holding the Food and Civil Supply Department, and after his exit, the department is being headed by Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar.

Bhujbal’s induction is also politically important for NCP, especially when the Supreme Court asked the state government to complete the process of local and civic body elections in four months, while going by the OBC reservations prior to the recommendations made by the Banthia committee.

Bhujbal has been at the forefront of the protection of OBC reservation in a major tussle against pro-Maratha reservation activist Manoj Jarange.

Moreover, Bhujbal has been a strong advocate of caste based census, which the Centre has recently cleared.

Bhujbal, who is the senior OBC leader, was sulking after he was dropped during the expansion of the Fadnavis-led Cabinet held on December 15 last year. He had openly expressed serious displeasure over not getting a ministerial berth despite vigorously taking up the OBC cause of the party during the Assembly elections held last year.

He had subsequently abstained from several party engagements, but after the intervention of the party president, Ajit Pawar and working president Praful Patel, he had started taking part in organisational functions. Further, he was furious after his nomination was not considered twice for the Rajya Sabha elections in the past.

How to Keep Your Blood Pressure in Check: Expert Tips from Dr. Balbir Singh

(Standard Post Bureau)

With rising cases of hypertension across India, taking proactive steps to control blood pressure has become more crucial than ever. Dr. Balbir Singh, Group Chairman – Cardiac Sciences, Pan Max & Chief of Interventional Cardiology and Electrophysiology, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Saket, shares key daily habits to keep high blood pressure in check and lead a healthier life.

1. Cut Down on Salt
“Salt is one of the major contributors to high blood pressure,” says Dr. Singh. He recommends limiting salt intake to less than two grams per day. This can be achieved by using less salt in cooking, avoiding sprinkling extra salt on food, and steering clear of pickles, ketchup, fast food, and processed items—many of which are loaded with hidden sodium.
2. Make Exercise a Daily Routine
Moderate-intensity exercise such as brisk walking or using a treadmill for at least 30



minutes daily can significantly reduce hypertension. “Regular aerobic activity helps not only with weight loss but also with controlling blood pressure,” explains Dr. Singh.

3. Follow the DASH Diet
The DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) diet, recommended by American and European guidelines, is rich in fruits, vegetables, nuts, and

seeds, and low in salt and saturated fats. A Mediterranean-style diet with plenty of whole grains, fresh produce, and healthy fats also offers proven cardiovascular benefits.

4. Watch Your Weight
Even a small reduction in weight can lead to marked improvement in blood pressure levels. “Being disciplined about your eating habits and exercise regime can help shed excess kilos and

improve overall health, including blood sugar and cholesterol,” adds Dr. Singh.

5. Manage Stress Effectively
Stress is a known trigger for high blood pressure. Dr. Singh advises incorporating stress-busting activities such as yoga, watching movies, spending quality time with family, and taking breaks from work to help keep stress—and in turn, blood pressure—under control.
6. Avoid Alcohol and Quit Smoking
“Giving up alcohol and quitting smoking not only reduces the risk of hypertension but also lowers the chances of developing cancer,” warns Dr. Singh. Both substances are harmful and have long-term health consequences beyond just heart health. With these practical lifestyle modifications, Dr. Balbir Singh emphasizes that high blood pressure can be managed effectively, reducing the risk of heart attacks, strokes, and other life-threatening complications.

Redevelopment of Munirabad Railway Station under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme

(Standard Post Bureau)

The redevelopment work at Munirabad Railway Station is progressing swiftly under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS), which aims to enhance passenger amenities and give a modern facelift to station infrastructure. Indian Railways has identified several railway stations in Karnataka for redevelopment under this scheme, with the goal of modernising and upgrading facilities across the state.

Munirabad station, under the Hubballi Division, is among those being redeveloped. With a total estimated investment of approximately ₹ 18.40 crore, the project is now in its final stages. Significant enhancements have been made to improve the passenger experience. These include the construction of a new station building, development of the circulating area with separate entry and exit gates, and designated parking zones for autos,



two-wheelers, and four-wheelers. Platform development was a key focus. Platform shelters have been provided over an area of 3600 sqm, ensuring passenger comfort. Additionally, PF-2 surface work covering 2700 sqm has been completed. Modern signage, façade lighting, and street furniture have also been installed to uplift the station’s visual appeal and functionality.

The station now includes two passenger lifts for convenient movement, particularly

aiding senior citizens and differently-abled passengers. However, as per current plans, no escalators have been included. Essential amenities such as waiting halls (112 sqm), toilets (75 sqm), and furniture have been developed and procured. While enhancements related to art and culture were proposed, they are not part of Phase-1 execution. Similarly, the development of a second entry to the station has not been planned at this stage. A 12-meter-wide Foot Over

HP CM to raise banning of Turkish apples in meeting with PM

Shimla, May 19 (UNI) Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Monday said he would raise the demand for banning import of Turkish apples in all states during an upcoming meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

On the issue of Turkey apple imports impacting local growers, Sukhu vowed to raise the matter with the Prime Minister during the May 24 meeting of state governments.

“I will demand a hike in import duties or double it to protect the interests of Himachal apple farmers. The current policy must be reviewed,” he said.

Addressing media queries, Sukhu emphasised that while new government offices will be established at district and block headquarters, only senior officials will be posted from the capital, and no junior employees will be forced to relocate.

“No department will be shifted from Shimla. Instead, new offices will be created outside the capital to decentralise governance and promote regional development,” said the Chief Minister. He further assured that junior staff unwilling to move would not be compelled, and fresh recruitment would be conducted for these new offices.

Sukhu also addressed concerns raised by government employees about their children’s education. “Those who are educating their children in Shimla will not be disturbed,” he said, easing anxiety among staff families.

Highlighting the need for optimal use of existing infrastructure, Sukhu referred to a recent visit to Baridighat where he found a large government complex lying idle. “Such state-funded complexes should be put to proper use. Infrastructure built with public money must serve the people, not gather dust or serve as parking lots,” he asserted.

Turning to tourism, the Chief Minister encouraged people to visit Himachal, stating the state is fully prepared to welcome tourists. “The recent rainfall did not cause any casualties, and the state remains safe for visitors. Come and enjoy the clean air and beautiful weather,” Sukhu said.

The Chief Minister reaffirmed his government’s commitment to regional equity, efficient administration, and safeguarding the interests of the state’s people and economy.

Passenger information systems such as Coach Guidance Display Boards (CGDB), Station Layout Display Boards (SLDB), and Master Layout Display Boards (MLDB), along with a public announcement system and clock commissioning, are in progress to provide real-time updates and improved information dissemination.

In conclusion, the redevelopment of Munirabad Station under ABSS is a significant

infrastructure. It exemplifies Indian Railways’ commitment to upgrading Tier-2 and Tier-3 stations to world-class standards, ensuring a more efficient, accessible, and passenger-friendly rail experience for all.

The Amrit Bharat Station redevelopment initiative is expected to boost tourism, improve connectivity, and contribute to the socio-economic development of the region by creating employment opportunities



Bridge (FOB) has also been completed.

stride in improving regional railway

and offering cleaner, more modern railway stations.

People in UP suffering due to power crisis: Akhilesh

Lucknow, May 19 (UNI) Samajwadi Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav on Monday said that the common people are suffering due to the power crisis in the state, and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government has ruined the system.

In a statement issued here, Akhilesh said, "Ever since the BJP government is in power, it has not done anything to improve the power system. Due to lack

of timely maintenance, the incidents of transformers getting damaged are increasing.

He said that amidst the increasing heat across the state, undeclared power cuts and tripping are proving to be painful for the people. "The BJP had made big claims to improve the power system. It had promised to provide 24-hour electricity to the people of the state, but the BJP's promise has remained

false," he said. The SP chief said, "Today the situation is such that the government is not able to provide 24-hour electricity to the big cities. The condition of small cities, towns and rural areas is bad. The entire government is completing the power roster only on paper."

He said that during the 8-year tenure of the BJP government, not even a single unit of electricity was produced in the state, nor

was any power plant installed. "Whatever electricity the people of the state are getting today is from the power plants set up during the Samajwadi government. During the Samajwadi government, power plants were set up in many districts of the state including Etah, Kanpur Dehat. The BJP government also delayed the completion of these power plants," he said.

Akhilesh said that a

detailed action plan was prepared during the Samajwadi government to increase the power supply in the state. "Along with the expansion of rural electrification, sufficient funds were given for underground cables. Special directives were given to prevent line losses and to repair transformers immediately in case of blowing. Today, the BJP government has started handing over the electricity

to private companies to hide its shortcomings," he said.

He said that the people of the state are paying a heavy price for the inefficiency of the BJP government.

"People are not getting electricity, but are getting the shock of increased electricity bills. The BJP government did not work in any field of production, transmission and distribution of electricity.

If walls could talk...

Look around the rooms in your home and you'll probably pick up on a theme (or two). Perhaps you're gazing out at a sea of blues and greens-or a spectrum of sunset shades. If walls could talk, they would speak volumes about your personality.

Yellow

You consider 10 am to be the middle of the day, and haven't needed an alarm clock since kindergarten. You really don't know why anyone wouldn't greet the sunrise daily: You just get so much more done in the wee hours.

White

If a genie gave you three wishes, one of them would be a good night's rest. Your bedroom is an escape, the room you immediately beeline it to after coming home from a never-ending day. You don't consider your walls to be bare. Instead, they create a blank space that helps you clear your mind. The tiniest hint of color might add interest, but not too much.

Navy blue

You have an opinion about everything and are not shy about letting others know it. You have a taste for strong coffee (never with cream or sugar), your politics are partisan, and you do judge people on their book collection. Though



You spend more time in your bedroom than any other room in the house, so the colour of the walls can be an important decision. Read on to find out what your bedroom wall color says about you

this might seem like a bold assessment, you welcome the insight. Who needs to live life in a grey area?

Beige

You're quick to remind others that you're not high-maintenance ... you just know what you like. It took you years to find the precise shade of beige that reminds you of the latte you once had on that perfect morning during that semester abroad in Paris.

Grey

The harmonious monochromatic scheme in your bedroom came from an idea you saw on Pinterest (aka your second home) right down to the pop of color. You are open to new ideas, but want to see them in action first. It's not that you're timid, you just want proof that it works before committing. You've been mulling over that bul-

letproof coffee trend for months.

Brown

You scoff at the idea of getting rid of your huge collection of books in favor of digital versions. Growing up, your babysitter was the branch of the local library, where you developed a love of literature and a mind that rivals Wikipedia. Your bedroom is where you catch up on reading the latest best-selling biography (never in paperback) and has the club-like feel of the study of your dreams.

Green

You never forget to write a thank-you note, you've got a stunning collection of scarves, and you know exactly what wine to order with dinner. You're a grown up

through and through, the trusted friend everyone turns to for advice. But, you're not boring at all. Your bedroom shows a sophisticated use of colour. (And we bet you never use an accent chair as an impromptu wardrobe.)

Blue

When it came time to pick your bedroom color, the choice took all of five seconds. You just went with the color you've always loved: blue. You're refreshingly honest about what you like and don't take yourself or your decor choices too seriously.



ROCKING TRIBUTE

To commemorate the 86th birth anniversary of the singing legend Kishore Kumar, Tapas, the youth-based band will be performing live on some of his songs



ments of Indian classical/semi-classical to those of the Western music.

What kind of music will you be playing?

We have churned out few memorable songs and will be playing them live. Songs like mere 'Mere Sapno Ki Rani,' 'Ladki Bhigi Bhagi Si,' 'Pal Pal Dil Ke Paas,' 'Pyar Deewana Hota Hai,' 'Ek Ajnabee Haseena Se,' 'Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani,' and few more.

How will you be presenting the songs?

We will be playing the songs and using most of the musical instruments and singing it live. We will be using guitar, keys and bass. We have been practicing it from quite some time.

Have you heard old songs and incorporated in your band earlier?

We have heard a few songs and it's always nice to listen to them. We are youngsters and we love to listen to as many songs as possible.

What is your forte?

We are into Western and Indian songs, usually a mixture which generally will be loved by most of the people and all the generations.

Tapas, a youth band has decided to pay a tribute to Kishore Kumar on his 86th birth anniversary by performing live on 92.7 Big FM. Keeping Indian classical music as the base, the band has managed to make a few soul rendering songs which they call sandesh. Excerpts...

Tell us something about the band?

The word Tapas originates from Sanskrit. It means burning zeal and desire to achieve self-realization and purification. A group of four young, aspiring and amazingly talented boys started this project in April 2015. I, Akshay on the guitars, have a huge influence of the blues rock. Whereas my band mates Ninad (vocals) is a guy who is purely in love with Hindi music. The best word to describe Omkar's (keys) playing is child prodigy. He's just turned 18 and has worked with renowned people in the industry. Nikhil (bass) is in love with the low frequencies of the sound to be a little technical. The way the bass rumbles makes him fall in love with his music all over again. The band specializes in blending the ele-

Sun, sand and stress

Study states one in four tourists say they return from a break feeling worse than before heading out for a vacation

Holidays are meant to be a time of relaxation, when all your cares wash away. But for many of us, the opposite appears to be true. In fact, one in four holidaymakers - 23 percent return from a break more stressed than when they set off, according to a survey. Some 26 percent even need two to three days to unwind when they get back. Nationwide Building Society, which commissioned the poll of 2,000 people, said Britons spend an average of £1,900 on their holiday, and overspending while away was one of holidaymakers' top worries. Others included having enough money to get by, forgetting something, being delayed, missing a flight and having enough insurance cover if something goes wrong. The research also found a significant difference between men and women, with one in five men claiming that nothing worried them before a holiday, compared with more than one in ten

women. Neuropsychologist Dr David Lewis, of the research consultancy Mindlab International, said, "Holiday stresses often stem from unrealistic expectations of a completely care-free vacation. Worries don't disappear just because you are in the sun. In fact, when the mind doesn't have the usual day-to-day challenges and demands to cope with, it typically finds other things to occupy it, such as money worries. Taking up activities, learning a few phrases in the local language and exploring the culture are just a few ways to keep your mind busy, helping you unwind more quickly." Phil Smith, Nationwide's head of current accounts, said, "It is perhaps unsurprising that holidays can be a source of stress, with people fretting over missing their flights, the prospect of delays, having sufficient money and being fully covered if things don't go to plan."

(With inputs from DailyMail)

Cuppa mania!

A new infographic reveals that lattes are most popular brews on Instagram beating cappuccinos to the top spot with almost three million uploads

In our digital age, every trip to a cafe provides ample opportunity for food-related social media posts with tweet before you eat becoming a popular hashtag. But now a new infographic has revealed just how popular each cup of Joe really is when it comes to sharing snaps of them on Instagram with lattes outperforming every other coffee in the world, with almost three million picture uploads. Of the 11 brews detailed in the graphic by Express Vending, cappuccinos come second in the line-up while the Continental cafe au lait is officially the least popular style on the photo-sharing app. Each coffee is illustrated with a diagram displaying the ingredients in each cup along with their hashtag and the number of times a photo of the particular kind of coffee has been shared. It appears that simplicity proves the most popular as coffee fans tend to share images of traditional cups over flavoured specials. The combination of steamed milk, foam and espresso comes out on top having received over two million uploads for the hashtag latte, followed by the popular cappuccino (1,593,757 tags) and straightforward espresso (1,516,381 uploads). The chocolate flavoured mocha comes in fourth with 1,370,1345 tags followed by the refreshing iced coffee tagged as ice-coffee and icedcoffee uploaded 838,601 times and frappuccino which came in with only 724,043 uploads. At the bottom of the pile is the cafe au lait or coffee with milk, which is tagged with the hashtag cafeaulait more than 46,000 times far below the other Continental styles. The Americano, which is only a little stronger was uploaded to Instagram 521,379 times in comparison. The flat white is growing in popularity in the UK but doesn't seem to be as visually interesting as other brews with only 241,172 uploads under the hashtag flatwhite. And caramel macchiatos also fail the Instagram popularity test with almost 185,000 tags. The infographic also reveals that the Robusta bean is more popular on social media over the Arabica bean. When it comes to coffee versus tea, coffee trumped its weaker counterpart by almost 24 million uploads.



PEAR CURE

Research suggests that the fruit's juice can help reduce the effects of a hangover by eating or drinking its juice before a night out

Eating a juicy pear before a night of heavy drinking could help alleviate the effects of a hangover, scientists claim. Researchers say those who are suffering from the consequences of the evening before could feel up to 21 percent better thanks to the fruit's juice. It helps increase concentration, reduces memory loss and even decreases the amount of alcohol in your bloodstream, according to Australian government scientists. Pears also reduce a person's sensitivity to light and sound. The only type of pear tested in the study was the Asian, or nashi pear, which is available in British supermarkets, but researchers are now planning to widen their scope to see whether varieties of Western pear produce the same results. According to scientists employed by CISRO, the Australian government's scientific research organisation, to reduce the effects of a hangover you need to either drink 220ml of pear juice or eat a whole pear

before consuming alcohol. Lead researcher Manny Noakes said the theory behind the finding was that Asian pears acted upon the key enzymes involved in alcohol metabolism. She said, "Overall hangover severity, as measured by a 14 item hangover severity scale, was significantly reduced in the Korean (Asian) pear group compared with those having a placebo drink, with the most pronounced effect seen on the specific symptom of trouble concentrating. "The effect was only demonstrat-

ed if pears were consumed before alcohol consumption. There is no evidence that you can consume pears after drinking and avoid a hangover. And remember, the very best way to not get a hangover is to not drink in the first place." Ms Noakes said researchers were now planning to carry out more studies to see whether other varieties of pears had similar hangover effects.





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Visually impaired Himachal woman, Kolkata cop scale Mt Everest



Kolkata, May 19 (UNI) : Visually impaired woman mountaineer from Himachal Pradesh, Chhonzin Angmo and Kolkata Armed Police Constable Laxmikanta Mondal on Monday scaled Mount Everest, the world's tallest peak.

They scaled the peak at around 8 30 AM, making it a red letter day in India's mountaineering history,

Kolkata Police on its X handle said Mondal, part of the security detail of Kolkata Police

Commissioner Manoj Kumar Verma, made the summit 8849 around 8-30 AM along with Angmo and Geeta Samota with professional sherpas Tenzing Sherpa Gelba) and Lakpa Sherpa of Pioneer Adventure of Nepal.

Angmo (28), a village girl from Kinnaur district, lost her eyesight at the age of eight.

Angmo also scaled the Siachen Glacier, the World's Highest Battlefield, in 2021 under Operation

Blue Freedom.

Kolkata Police saluted the successful summiters from India.

A separate report said fifty-two-year-old Mohan Rawat, an instructor with Tata Steel Adventure Foundation (TSAF), successfully scaled the World's highest peak on Sunday.

Rawat summited Mount Everest early on May 18 and spent around 15 minutes at the top before beginning his descent.

Wang Chuqin, Sun Yingsha advance in table tennis worlds

Doha, May 19 (UNI) : China's Olympic mixed doubles champions Wang Chuqin and Sun Yingsha split up for a while to dispose of their respective singles rivals at the world table tennis championships on Monday.

Second-seeded Wang never looked troubled as he defeated Brazil's 77th-ranked Leonardo Ilzuka with a performance of clinical precision, winning his second round game 11-3, 11-3, 11-5, 11-4 over 24 minutes.

Minutes later, world No. 1 Sun took to the court against Pyon Song Gyeong from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Despite resistance in the third set, the 24-year-old star wrapped it up 11-2, 11-5, 11-9, 11-4 over 30 minutes. Wang and Sun will unite late in the day to take on Brazil's World Cup holder Hugo Calderano and his girlfriend Bruna Takahashi in the mixed doubles second round.

Will O'Rourke makes IPL debut as SRH bowl first

Lucknow, May 19 (UNI) : Lucknow Super Giants handed a debut to Will O'Rourke as they take on Sunrisers Hyderabad in Match 61 of IPL 2025 at Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Stadium here on Monday.

Sunrisers Hyderabad won the toss and elected to bowl first.

At the toss, LSG captain Rishabh Pant called the coin while SRH skipper Pat Cummins chose tails. The coin landed tails, giving SRH the advantage to make

the first move. Pat Cummins said, "We want to know what we are chasing. Never know what the wicket will do. We haven't played to our potential and want to reach that. A few injuries have given chances to the new guys. We have some unfinished business. The team has been great but hasn't fired fully. Travis Head is in his hotel room. (Jaydev) Unadkat is on personal leave. (Atharva) Taide and Harsh Dubey come in."

Pant added, "I don't

mind doing any — bat or bowl. We want to play one match at a time and give our 100%. No unwanted pressure, it is always there. The team has regrouped really well and they are in a good headspace. Will O'Rourke is making his IPL debut."

The pitch report suggested a batting-friendly surface with a slight sheen favouring the new ball early on. Experts Pommie Mbangwa and Aaron Finch predicted a high-scoring contest under

lights, with Finch highlighting the advantage for teams chasing. The stage is set for an exciting contest as both sides look to register a crucial win in the tournament. Playing XI's Sunrisers Hyderabad: Ishan Kishan (wk), Abhishek Sharma, Nitish Reddy, Heinrich Klaasen, Aniket Verma, Kamindu Mendis, Pat Cummins (capt), Harshal Patel, Harsh Dubey, Zeeshan Ansari, Eshan Malinga Impact

DSF collaborates with UTT as Youth Development Partner to launch Dream UTT Juniors

Ahmedabad, May 9 (UNI) : In a bid to foster sports development at the grassroots level, Dream Sports Foundation (DSF), the philanthropic arm of Dream Sports, on Monday announced an exclusive partnership with Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT).

As the Youth Development partner, DSF will launch the inaugural Dream UTT Juniors, a U-15 Table Tennis tournament curated to provide professional league experience to emerging table tennis talent.

The inaugural Dream UTT Juniors will be held alongside the sixth edition of the Ultimate Table Tennis league in Ahmedabad from May 29 to June 8 and will

be streamed live on FanCode.

Speaking on the partnership, Harsh Jain, CEO & Co-founder, Dream Sports said, "At Dream Sports, we are driven by our vision to 'Make Sports Better'. Thanks to Vita Dani and Niraj Bajaj, Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) has played a pivotal role in nurturing India's table tennis talent to compete & win at the global stage. But there remains a pressing need to support grassroots talent, and our partnership to create Dream UTT Juniors is a big step toward bridging this gap."

"Through our Dream Sports Foundation, we aim to empower the next generation of athletes to

make India proud in the 2030 Youth Olympics and thereafter at the 2036 Olympics," Jain said.

Vita Dani, Co-promoter, Ultimate Table Tennis further added, "Dream UTT Juniors is a natural extension of our shared vision with Dream Sports Foundation — to strengthen the foundation of sport in India and empower young athletes. By giving budding table tennis talent early exposure to the world-class UTT ecosystem, we're not just launching a tournament — we're creating a pathway for the next generation of Indian stars to emerge."

As part of the Dream UTT Juniors, the top eight boys and eight girls from

the recently concluded Dream Sports Championship Table Tennis 2025, a first-of-its-kind U-15 tournament organised by

DSF in association with Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI), have been drafted into the eight franchises of UTT. They will have the unique opportunity to experience the intensity and standards of India's premier table tennis league, thus accelerating their growth.

The announcement follows the recent success of DSF's U-15 table tennis tournament, which was widely praised for its high level of competition and professionally managed setup—qualities rarely

seen at the youth level in India. Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) has elevated the sport since its inception in 2017, featuring top international and domestic talent. The tournament has played a pivotal role in the steady growth of table tennis talent in India, by providing a platform for young players to compete and learn under a professional set-up.

The collaboration between DSF and UTT will play a pivotal role in the comprehensive growth of Indian table tennis, establishing a clear pathway for athlete progression by nurturing the sport and providing a structured roadmap for player development.

S8UL unveils roster lineup to compete across eight titles at Esports World Cup 2025

Mumbai, May 19 (UNI) : S8UL Esports, a global powerhouse in esports and gaming content, on Monday announced its full roster lineup to compete across eight prestigious titles at the Esports World Cup (EWC) 2025, set to take place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from July 7 to August 24.

The organization completed its roster announcement across eight titles by officially entering Fatal Fury with the signing of Peruvian-American fighting game veteran Marcoantonio Malpica (Yurikov).

S8UL's move into Fatal Fury follows a series of high-impact signings across multiple titles including Apex Legends, Call of Duty (COD) Warzone, Chess, EAFC25, Mobile Legends: Bang Bang (MLBB), Starcraft II and Tekken 8.

The official lineups for all eight titles are:

Apex Legends: Rick Wirth (Sharky), Benjamin Spaseski (Jesko) and Tom Canty (Legacy)

Call of Duty: Warzone: Colin Bowers-Wilson (Trikempathy), Braxton Trice (Braxtvn), and Ryder Skarzinski (Ryda)

Chess: Nihal Sarin and Aravindh Chithambaram

EAFC25: Jonas Wirth (Jonny) and Aaron Rivera (Happy)

Fatal Fury: Marcoantonio Malpica (Yurikov)

Mobile Legends Bang Bang: Michael Cosgun (MobaZane), Ian Hohl (FwydChickn), Jang Seong-hun (Hoon), Ziameth-Jei Caluya (ZIA), Vo Trung (Shark), and Carlos Ortega Vega (Bestplayer1)

Starcraft II: Pyung Jae Koh (GuMiho)

Tekken 8: Arja Gamoori (Sephblack) and Nino Schwarz (Nino)

"Esports is evolving rapidly, and staying ahead means not just following

trends, but setting them. At S8UL, we've always believed in backing talent that can lead across eras, not just tournaments," said Animesh Agarwal, aka 8Bit Thug, Co-founder and CEO of S8UL.

Boasting a record-breaking prize pool of \$70 million (approx. INR 598 crore), the Esports World Cup (EWC) 2025 will be the world's largest esports tournament, featuring 24 competitive titles and bringing together top-tier players from across the globe.

Now that all rosters have been officially announced, the road to EWC 2025 begins for S8UL and Indian esports.

As the first and only Indian organisation to represent the nation at the Esports World Cup, S8UL is set to showcase Indian talent on the world's biggest esports stage and elevate Indian esports to unprecedented global heights.

BCCI denies pullout from Asia Cup, Emerging Teams

Mumbai, May 19 (UNI) : Dismissing media speculation, Indian cricket board Secretary Devajit Saikia on Monday clarified that no decision has been taken to withdraw from upcoming Asian Cricket Council (ACC) events, including the Asia Cup and the Women's Emerging Teams Asia Cup.

"Since this morning, we have come across reports claiming that the BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) has decided not to participate in the Asia Cup and the Women's Emerging Teams Asia Cup, both of which are ACC events. These reports are entirely baseless," Saikia said. He stressed that no such matter has been discussed internally. "The BCCI has neither deliberated on nor taken any steps regarding the forthcoming ACC events, let alone communicated anything to the ACC," he added. Saikia further stated that the BCCI's current focus remains on the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) and the upcoming series against England, for both men's

and women's teams.

Speculation over India's participation in the Asia Cup has intensified amid rising India-Pakistan tensions following the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, which briefly led to a halt in both the IPL and Pakistan Super League (PSL). The tournaments resumed on May 17 after a temporary ceasefire was agreed on May 10.

India head coach Gautam Gambhir recently voiced his personal view, opposing cricketing ties with Pakistan amid ongoing cross-border violence. "Till all this [terrorism] doesn't stop, there should not be anything between India

and Pakistan," he said.

Traditionally, the BCCI has required prior clearance from the Indian government to face Pakistan in multilateral events. In 2023, India declined to travel to Pakistan for the Asia Cup, prompting the ACC to adopt a hybrid model with India's matches held in Sri Lanka. A similar arrangement is expected for the 2025 Champions Trophy, with India scheduled to play its matches in Dubai. Political tensions have repeatedly impacted the Asia Cup, leading to withdrawals, revised formats, and in some cases, cancellation of the tournament altogether.

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Hockey India opens player registration for HIL 2026

New Delhi, May 19 (UNI) : Hockey India on Monday announced that player registrations for the eagerly awaited Hockey India League (HIL) 2026 will open at 1700 hrs on May 19 and close at 1700 hrs on August 20. Building on the resounding success of the

2024–25 revival season, which featured eight men's and four women's franchises, the upcoming edition promises to be even bigger. Registrations are open to all eligible Indian and international players, with invitations extended to athletes from the world's

leading hockey nations. Eligible Nations Men : India, Netherlands, Belgium, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Australia, Spain, Argentina, Ireland, South Africa, New Zealand, Malaysia, South Korea Women: India,

Netherlands, Argentina, Belgium, China, Australia, Germany, Spain, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Ireland, Chile, Japan, USA, Scotland

Last season, more than 1,000 players signed up, underscoring the league's global appeal and its role as

a launchpad for emerging talent. The Odisha Warriors captured the inaugural Women's HIL crown, while Shrachhi Rarh Bengal Tigers lifted the Men's title—achievements that epitomise the league's renewed energy and professionalism.

Prime Minister to Inaugurate Redeveloped Amrit Bharat Railway Stations on 22nd May 2024

Twelve Stations of Central Railway Set to Offer World-Class Passenger Amenities and Experience

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, May 19 : The Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the redevelopment of these stations in two phases— 6th August 2023 and 26th February 2024. The scheme focuses on long-term development, multimodal integration, enhanced amenities for Divyangjans, improved sustainability, and the transformation of stations into future-ready urban centers.

In a significant milestone, 103 redeveloped railway stations across Indian Railways will be inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 22nd May 2024, including 12 key stations out of the 80 stations under Central Railway. These stations have been upgraded with modern passenger-friendly facilities, at a combined cost of over Rs. 138 crore.

Remarkably, the redevelopment work of the stations under Central Railway has been successfully completed within just 15 months.

In Maharashtra alone, 132 stations are being redeveloped under the scheme, of which 18 stations are being inaugurated in this phase.

The station-wise details under Central Railway are as follows:

1. Chinchpokli - Upgraded Passenger Facilities at Chinchpokli Station of Mumbai Division of Central Railway.

Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi laid the Foundation stone for Redevelopment of Chinchpokli station on 26.02.2024.

To enhance passenger comfort and convenience, several key improvements have been made at Chinchpokli, which will greatly benefit to the passengers at the station



with a daily average footfall of 36696.

Project cost 11.81 crore. Completed: Platform work

1.Renovation- Exterior painting, interior flooring, and false ceiling work of existing station elevated booking office at BB end and at KYN end .

2.PF flooring work & seating arrangement.

Circulating area (EAST SIDE)

1.Vertical garden on boundary wall.

2.Tensile fabric umbrella fixed at FOB entrance.

3.Repairing and plastering of entrance wall connected to FOB staircase.

Circulating area (EAST & WEST SIDE)

1.Modification of staircases at Mumbai End FOB.

2.Vertical 3D painting of compound wall."Misc.

1.At CSMT end FOB beautification with vertical garden, spider glazing and non asbestos sheet.

2. Parel - Enhanced Passenger Amenities at Parel Station of Mumbai Division of Central Railway.

PM Shri Narendra Modi laid the Foundation stone for Redevelopment of Parel station on 06.08.2023.

Project Cost 19.41 crore.



Parel Station has seen a host of improvements to boost passenger convenience, accessibility, and overall experience will greatly benefit the passengers at the Parel station with a average daily footfall of 47738.

Completed: Circulating area (East Side):

1. New station building along with booking office & elevated parking with tensile fabric roof.

2. New Toilet block with STP.

3.Construction of pathway and boundary wall.

5.PCC road on the road in front of the booking office area.

6.Drainage work.

7.Vertical garden work on boundary wall.

8.SM office and allied

office building fixing of tensile fabric cloth

9. Gardening along track on east side.

Track side:

1.Landscaping at BB & KYN end.

3. Vadala Road station - Upgraded Passenger Amenities at Vadala Road Station of Mumbai Division of Central Railway.

Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi laid the Foundation stone for Redevelopment of Vadala Road station on 26.02.2024.

Total Project cost 23.02.crore.

Vadala Road station has undergone comprehensive upgrades to enhance passenger convenience, safety, and station aesthetics will greatly benefit the passengers of vadala road station with the

daily average footfall of 132680.

Completed: Platform work

1. Painting of COP at all PFs, Repairing work of COP at PF- 4 and New COP on PF 01 Panvel end

2. Flooring of PF No. 1 to 4.

3. Replacement of valley gutter and downtake pipe at PF-4 & PF- 1. FOB" FOB Renovation

1. Strengthening & beautification of Mumbai end End FOB.

Misc Works

Matunga Station continues to lead by example with a host of new passenger-friendly upgrades which will greatly benefit the passengers of Matunga station with the daily average footfall of 37927.

Completed: Platform work

1.Flooring work at PF 1/

2.

2.COP work on PF 1/2.

3.Toilet block with STP on PF 1/2 Mumbai end.

4.Renovation of elevated booking office on PF 1/2

5.Improvement of flooring as per Divyangjan guideline on PF 1/2.

6.Improvement to existing Toilet Block on PF 1/2 BB end.

7.Platform Raising work on at PF 3/4.

Circulating area west Side

1.3D painting on west side wall.

Circulating area east side

1.Development of vertical garden at circulating area.

2.Improvement to Station Building and Circulating area.

3.Improvement of booking office & allied offices renovation.

4.Improvement of main entrance gate work.

5.Main building Wooden Arch restoration work.

6.Construction of rooms for shifting of utilities.

The redevelopment of these stations under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme marks a transformative step in passenger experience enhancement, accessibility, and integration with the urban landscape.

Central Railway continues to play a pivotal role in realizing the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of modern, inclusive, and passenger-centric railway infrastructure.

Tiranga Yatra by Hubballi Railway Division

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, May 19 : Hubballi Division of South Western Railway today conducted Tiranga Yatra at the Divisional Office premises. The event was organized as a mark of deep respect and gesture to the exceptional courage and supreme military power displayed by the Indian Armed Forces during 'OPERATION SINDHOOR'.

The yatra commenced from Hubballi Railway Station and featured impressive displays including patriotic placards and wall posters. The event was marked by an enthusiastic parade by Railway Protection Force (RPF), Scouts and Guides, and school children who participated.

A special patriotic street play based on real-life events of Operation Sindhur was presented, drawing attention to valor and dedication of the Indian military Railway staff took active participation in yatra, showcasing a spirit of unity and solidarity with armed forces.

Addressing gathering, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Smt. Bela Meena appreciated the courage, valor, and unwavering dedication of Indian soldiers. She emphasized the importance of remembering and honoring such heroic acts that inspire national pride.

Additional Divisional Railway Manager Shri T.V.Bhushan, Senior Divisional security commissioner Shri Alok Kumar, Senior Divisional Personnel Officer Shri R Prasad along with other senior officials, graced the occasion. Both railway staff and passengers actively participated in the event, making it a memorable and patriotic celebration.

Entrance based Admissions in MANUU at Hyd

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, May 19 : The last date for submission of online applications for admissions in entrance based Diploma, PG and Doctoral programmes of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) is May 19, 2025.

The entrance tests will be held as scheduled on 12th, 13th and 14th June, 2024.

Admissions are being offered in MBA, MCA,

M.Tech. (Computer Science), M.Ed., Master of Law, B.Tech. (Computer Science), LL.B, B.Ed., D.El.Ed., Polytechnic-Diplomas. Applications are also invited for various PhD programmes.

Interested candidates can check detail programmes in e-prospectus available at <https://manuu.edu.in/> Regular-Admissions. For any clarifications contact 040-23006612 EXTN- 1801 or email to admissionsregular@manuu.edu.in.

Electrical Loco Shed Visakhapatnam Unveils Crew - Friendly upgrades in WAP7 Loco for all India electric Loco Cab Competition



(Standard Post Bureau)

Visakhapatnam, May 19 : Electrical Loco Shed, Visakhapatnam (ELS, VSKP), has introduced a series of innovative, crew-friendly modifications in WAP7 locomotive 37419, setting a new benchmark in operational excellence and crew comfort under the guidance of Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (ELS) Shri B Shannukha Rao. These enhancements have been carried out as part of ELS/VSKP's entry into the prestigious All India Electric Loco Cab Competition, to be held at Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW).

Retrofitting Crew Desk , Enhanced Cab AC Ducting, Ventilated & Improved Seats, Superior seating for enhanced driving comfort, Motor-Operated Side Window Shutters, Caution Order Display, Rear View Camera, Anti-Slip Flooring with Radium Stickers, Driver Tool Box, Adjustable Cab Spot Lights are some of the key feature improvements made to the Loco Engine.

The upgraded locomotive was ceremoniously flagged off by Shri Lalit Bohra, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM), Waltair, at Electric Loco Shed, Visakhapatnam.

Recognizing the dedication and innovation demonstrated by the ELS, VSKP team, DRM has announced a cash award of Rs 5,000.

Inspection of Visakhapatnam Station by DRM Waltair, ECoR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Visakhapatnam, May 19 : Lalit Bohra, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of Waltair Division, conducted a comprehensive inspection of Visakhapatnam Railway Station to assess passenger amenities, evaluate available facilities, and review the progress of ongoing developmental works.

Mr E. Santharam, ADRM (Infrastructure), and senior officials from the Commercial, Engineering, Mechanical, Electrical, Operations, Security, and Signal & Telecom departments



accompanied DRM for the inspection.

During the inspection, Mr Bohra focused on key areas including the

functionality of lifts and escalators, availability and visibility of signage, parking arrangements, platform cleanliness,

coach maintenance, linen supply, Yard and safety-related aspects. DRM engaged directly with passengers and railway

staff to gather first-hand feedback aimed at improving overall passenger convenience and satisfaction.

DRM Mr Lalit Bohra also inspected key passenger facilities such as waiting halls, the AC Relaxation Lounge, food courts, catering stalls, and the "One Station One Product" (OSOP) kiosks. Interacting with vendors, Shri Bohra emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness, proper garbage disposal using dustbins, and adherence to safety norms. DRM counseled the vendors to avoid footboard travel and ticketless travel, advised for full cooperation to ensure a safe and clean environment for passengers.

CDS visits forward military bases; praises valour and professionalism of Armed Forces

New Delhi, May 19 (UNI) : To boost the morale of the Armed Forces, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Anil Chauhan on Monday paid a visit to the strategically important Suratgarh Military Station and Naliya Air Force Station.

He interacted with the troops emphasizing the importance of operational readiness and resilience in the face of evolving

security challenges, a Defence Ministry statement said.

He commended the operational preparedness and high morale of the personnel and expressed confidence in their ability to respond effectively to future threats.

The visit was marked by a spirit of pride in recognition of the exemplary courage displayed by soldiers

during Operation Sindoor. He was apprised of the latest and robust Air Defence Systems deployed in the operation. General Chauhan also held strategic discussions with senior military commanders during the visit.

General Chauhan lauded the exceptional valour and professionalism of the soldiers during the active

phase of the Operation.

Highlighting their selfless dedication, resolute courage and steadfast commitment in neutralizing multiple attempts by the western adversary of breaching the security, he said that they uphold the highest standards of military professionalism. He put emphasis on the need to remain ever prepared for responding to any

challenge with decisive force.

During his address, the CDS praised the inter service synergy. He also extended his appreciation to the local civil administration for their support, underlining the importance of military – civil synergy in such critical situation.

The CDS was accompanied by Lieutenant General

Manjinder Singh, Army Commander South Western Command and Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, South Western Air Command.

The visit reaffirmed the nation's gratitude towards its armed forces and reinforced the message of unity, readiness, and unwavering national commit.