

## IN BRIEF

### Chaitanya remanded in ED custody

Raipur, July 18 (UNI) A local special court today remanded Chhattisgarh's erstwhile chief minister Bhupesh Baghel's son Chaitanya to five days in Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody in connection with an alleged liquor scam.

The ED had sought seven days' custody.

This morning an ED team raided Baghel's Bhilai residence. After taking Chaitanya into custody, the ED officials had a hard time exiting the place. A crowd of Congress workers and supporters vociferously sloganeered against the ED. Security has been beefed up outside the ED office. In the Assembly, where the Monsoon Session is underway, Congress legislators generated pandemonium over the raid and Chaitanya's arrest on his birthday and staged a walkout, boycotting the entire day's proceedings.

### NCP MLA

### Jitendra Awhad booked

Mumbai, July 18 (UNI) : A case was registered against NCP (SP) MLA Jitendra Awhad today at the Marine Drive Police Station for allegedly obstructing police from performing their duty. The incident stems from a physical altercation that broke out yesterday in the lobby of the state legislature between Nitin Deshmukh, a supporter of Jitendra Awhad, and Rishikesh Takle, a supporter of BJP MLA Gopichand Padalkar. Following the brawl, police attempted to escort Deshmukh to the police station late at night. However, MLA Awhad reportedly lay down in front of the police vehicle, blocking it and trying to prevent Deshmukh from being taken into custody.

Due to this act, Awhad has now been booked for hindering government work.

Reacting strongly to the development, Congress Legislature Party leader Vijay Wadetiwar alleged that the government is "misusing" its power. "If Jitendra Awhad is being booked for this, then we no longer live in a lawful state. This is authoritarian behavior, he stated. Wadetiwar further criticized the government for its alleged double standards. Criminals booked under MCOCA are being allowed into Vidhan Bhavan, but action is being taken against those who oppose the government," he said.

## Will not tolerate imposition of trilingual formula in Maharashtra: Uddhav Thackeray

Mumbai, July 18 (IANS) : Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Friday reiterated his opposition to the imposition of Hindi under the trilingual formula from grade 1 in Maharashtra.

He told reporters in the premises of Vidhan Bhavan after the conclusion of the monsoon session of the state legislature, "We will not tolerate the forced implementation of a three-language policy in Maharashtra."

Thackeray said his coming together with Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray on the same stage after many years should be seen as a signal of a long-term association. "There is no election announced at present. If one is declared, we can discuss it," Thackeray told reporters, responding to a statement made earlier by Raj Thackeray.

On the government's move to form a committee on crop loan waiver, Thackeray criticised the government for not being serious about its



poll promise in this regard. He said, "I had announced a farm loan waiver myself. We began implementing it, but the government was toppled." He questioned the current ministers' seriousness on the matter: "I did it in my first session, without prior experience. You are ministers, you have departments – what study are you doing for loan waiver?" he said.

He criticised the growing debt burden on the state,

asking, "How is this mountain of debt going to be repaid?" Thackeray added with a smile, "My face is always cheerful; I haven't slaughtered a bull," in response to jibes on his approach.

Speaking about the three-week monsoon session of the legislature, he said, "There were several questions about public issues, but the Chief Minister's speech was like a child asking his mother for

ice cream. Nothing happens now, but something may happen in the future — that's what he said."

Thackeray took a dig at the budgetary provisions, saying, "There is more focus on demands for supplies. The debt of the state is growing. How are you going to reduce it? What about your beloved brother-sister schemes? There are no answers. Nearly Rs 64,000 crore is being paid in the form of interest."

Commenting on the clash between supporters of two legislators in Vidhan Bhavan lobby, Thackeray said, "There was a scuffle in Vidhan Bhavan just yesterday. The Speaker has ordered a high-level inquiry. But how did these goons get the courage? It is good to talk about action, but what allowed this to happen?" Thackeray also expressed concern over the recent scuffle in the Maharashtra Vidhan Bhavan, stating it had tarnished the state's image. "The image of Maharashtra has gone down in the country after the incident in the legislature," he said, adding that the conduct of those in power was bringing shame to the dignity of the state. When asked about comparisons being drawn between the scuffle and lawlessness in other states, Thackeray said, "I will not say that such scuffles are bringing UP-Bihar culture to Maharashtra. There are good people in those states as well. We should not malign the image of an entire state because of some bad elements."

## Govt waives fees for orphan students in grant-in-aid schools

Mumbai, July 18 (UNI) : In a major relief for orphan students, the Maharashtra state government has announced a complete waiver of tuition and examination fees for those studying in grant-in-aid schools. Additionally, the state will reserve one percent of school admissions for orphan students, similar to the quota already in place for students with disabilities. To avail of the 100 percent fee waiver, orphan students must provide proof that their annual family income is rupee 8 lakh or less. In case students face difficulty in producing the required documents, educational institutions have been instructed to recommend such cases with necessary documentation—to the District Women and Child Development Officer for further assistance.

Meanwhile, in Satara district, 581 teachers who were appointed based on disability certificates are now undergoing reassessment of their eligibility. Out of the 162 teachers who have already been evaluated, 25 have been deemed ineligible, and 11 were absent during the medical verification.

## Mumbai will become global hub of creative economy: CM

Mumbai, July 18 (IANS) : Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday said that Mumbai, which is the entertainment capital of the country, will become the global hub of creative economy.

He was speaking at the inauguration of Indian Institute of Creative Technology (IICT) and NFDC campus in the presence of Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Information Technology and Railways Ashwini Vaishnav and state Minister for Cultural Affairs and Information Technology Ashish Shelar.

CM Fadnavis praised the Central government's initiative for the grand international conference WAVES held in Mumbai, saying that Mumbai was not just the host city of this

event, but it has become a movement. Explaining the importance of the Waves Index related to the creative economy, he said that the value of this index was Rs 93,000 crore a few months ago. Now it has reached Rs 1 lakh crore. This shows the rapid growth of this sector.

He said that a special fund of Rs 150 crore will be sanctioned by the Maharashtra government to promote the next phase of the Creative Economy. The Waves Conference will now be held in Mumbai every year or every two years and the next event will be even more grand.

Regarding IICT (Indian Institute of Creative Technologies), CM Fadnavis said: "IICT will not only be a training institute but also an 'iconic destination'. People will

come here not only to learn but also to see. This institute will become the hub of the creative economy for the next generations." He also highlighted the importance of the India Pavilion created during the 'Waves' event and said that "it is a beautiful glimpse of our history of creativity". As per the suggestion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, this pavilion has now been permanently established in Gulshan Building. With this, a new attraction has been added to the tourist spots of Mumbai," the CM said.

Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said that this is just the beginning, and it is Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious idea to create a complete educational chain for creative technology like IIT-IIM.

## Unruly behaviour in assembly needs to stop: Raj Thackeray

Mumbai July 18 (UNI) : Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray today strongly condemned the violent altercation that took place in the state legislature.

Thackeray also warned that if such incidents are not curbed immediately, they could escalate to the point where even the murder of legislators take place.

A fierce clash erupted between the supporters of NCP (Sharad Pawar faction) MLA Jitendra Awhad and BJP MLA Gopichand Padalkar within the premises of the state legislature last evening. Raj Thackeray

## US designates RTF as Terrorist Organisation, India hails US decision

New Delhi/Washington, July 18 (UNI) In a diplomatic triumph for India, the United States has designated The Resistance Front (TRF), which was behind the horrific April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) outfit.

India hailed the US decision as a "timely and important step" and strong affirmation of counter-terrorism cooperation between the two countries for zero tolerance against terrorism.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on X "Appreciate @SecRubio and @StateDept for designating TRF—a

language and the pride of Marathi people, our party was harshly attacked. But now, where are those critics hiding?" he asked. He stated that his party workers have never acted out of personal grudges but have always stood for the cause of Marathi identity. Challenging the ruling parties, Thackeray said, "If you have even a shred of ethics left, take action against your own workers who created chaos in the Assembly. And if you can't, then don't come preaching to us when my Maharashtra Sainiks take a stand against those who insult the Marathi language."



### Empower women without fear: RSS chief Mohan Bhatwat

Empowering women is crucial for the nation's progress, said Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat while urging society to give women the freedom to showcase their capabilities without keeping them under fear or control. He was speaking at a special event organized on the occasion of the 21st Foundation Day of Udyog Vardhini, an organization dedicated to women empowerment. "Men may impose discipline on women through fear and can instill good habits temporarily. (See on page 3)

### NHs network is now second-largest road network in the ....



Minister of State for Transport & Highways Harsh Malhotra today said that India's national highways network has expanded significantly from 91,000 km in 2014 to over 1.46 lakh km today, making it the second-largest road network in the world. (See on page 4)

### EU adopts 18th sanctions package to cripple Russia's ....



The European Union has reached an agreement on an 18th sanctions package against Russia over its war in Ukraine, targeting the banking, energy, and military-industrial sectors. It also includes a new dynamic oil price cap aimed at delivering further blows to Russia's oil and energy industry. (See on page 5)

### Kenyan tennis player aiming to be Africa's first FISU Games ....



To Kenyan tennis player Angella Okutoyi, medals are not the only things in her mind when she steps on to the Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU World University Games tennis courts. The 21-year-old, brought up by her grandmother after her mother died in childbirth, is hoping to be an inspiring force to an entire continent. (See on page 7)

## Effective training in English teaching for teachers up to class 4 in municipal and aided schools in Navi Mumbai



**(Standard Post Bureau)**  
Navi Mumbai, July 18 : To enhance the quality of education in Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation schools, various educational initiatives are being implemented under the guidance of Municipal Commissioner Dr. Kailash Shinde.

On July 15 and 16, 2025, English language training for Marathi medium teachers teaching classes from class 1 to 4 in Navi Mumbai Municipal

Corporation schools and aided schools was successfully completed through the Navneet Foundation.

In this training, Navneet Foundation's Basanti Roy and Dr. Bharati Hazari provided teachers with in-depth information about the new curriculum. Also, Deepal Kambiri and Neelam Ajgaonkar provided teachers with practical guidance on language teaching.

In order to increase the

confidence of students from class 1 onwards to speak English, teachers were given group work on teaching in this training. In this, students were guided on how to teach English through conversational activities and language games.

Along with this, information was also given on the method of evaluating students.

Every teacher participated enthusiastically in the

training. Every teacher participating in the training was given a study set through Navneet Foundation.

Detailed guidance was given in the two-day training class on how to make teaching English effective through games, laughter and entertainment while teaching students. Teachers expressed their reactions that they got a different experience from this training class apart from their daily teaching.

## SWR, GM, Mukul Saran Mathur Conducts Inspection of Badami and Koppal Railway Stations

**(Standard Post Bureau)**  
Mumbai, July 18 : Mr Mukul Saran Mathur, General Manager, South Western Railway, conducted window trailing inspection between Badami and Koppal Railway Stations to assess key safety and operational parameters along the section. The inspection aimed to review the progress of infrastructure works, station redevelopment projects, and improvements in passenger amenities..

As part of the visit, he inspected Koppal Railway Station, where he reviewed ongoing infrastructure and station redevelopment works under the Amrit Bharat



Station Scheme. He closely examined passenger amenities, including cleanliness, drinking water, and other essential facilities aimed at improving passenger convenience.

Later, Shri Mathur inspected Badami Railway Station, assessing the

progress of works under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. He stressed the need to uphold high standards in passenger amenities. He also visited the site of the upcoming goods shed at Badami, directing officials to accelerate the work while ensuring quality is not

compromised.

During his visit to Badami, members of the Railway Horata Samithi felicitated the General Manager and requested enhancement of passenger amenities at the station, including stoppages for additional trains.

## Maharashtra will work for the respect of women, let's all resolve together : Vijaya Rahatkar



**(Standard Post Bureau)**  
Thane, July 18 : Let us all resolve together that Maharashtra State will work for the respect of women and implement the law in such a way, appealed the Chairperson of the National Commission for Women, Mrs. Vijaya Rahatkar, today at a one-day training workshop organized at the District Planning Committee Hall for the chairpersons of the internal committees under the Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act).

Chief Executive Officer Rohan Ghuge, District

Superintendent of Police Dr. D. Swamy, National Commission for Women Shivani De, Additional District Collector Harishchandra Patil, Deputy Secretary of State Commission for Women Dr. Padmashree Bainade, Probationary Superintendent of Women and Child Development Department Dattatreya Munde, Divisional Deputy Commissioner Suvarna Pawar, Resident Deputy District Collector Dr. Sandeep Mane, Umed Project Director Chhayadevi Shisode, Deputy District Collector (General Administration)

Rupali Bhalke, Deputy District Election Officer Vaishali Mane, Deputy Commissioner of Police Rashmi Nandedkar, Pournima Chougule, District Women and Child Development Officer Namita Shinde, Internal Committee (IC) Chairmen formed under POSH ACT from various government offices as well as IC Chairmen of their subordinate regional offices, women officers and employees in large numbers were present at this training workshop.

National Commission for Women Chairperson Mrs. Vijaya Rahatkar further

said that this law is the same for all and the National Commission for Women works for the all-round development of women, justice for victims and exploited women, respect for women, and economic empowerment. There are 17 different cells operating in the country for women and various works are done for women through them. A grievance redressal committee is formed for women, but in some offices the committees are only on paper. They do not work in reality. This committee has the powers of a civil court. The committee investigates the complaints received by this committee impartially and confidentially and provides justice. A meeting of the committee should be held once in 3 months in all offices. Efforts should be made to resolve the problems faced by women after discussing them.

The program was inaugurated by District Collector Ashok Shingare. He introduced Mrs. Vijaya Rahatkar, Chairperson of the National Commission for Women. He presented an overview of the Grievance Redressal Committee in the district.

## Jharkhand CM urges waiver of Rs 13,299.69 Crore CRPF dues in letter to Union Home Minister

Ranchi, July 18 (UNI) : Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren has written to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, requesting a complete waiver of Rs 13,299.69 crore billed to the state as dues for the deployment of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) units engaged in anti-Naxal operations.

In his letter, Soren underlined that the burden of internal security, particularly Left-Wing Extremism (LWE), is a joint responsibility of the Centre and the state. The CM flagged concerns that enforcing this financial liability would place a significant strain on the state's already stressed resources and could impede development activities and welfare programs. The communication comes at a time when the state is grappling with post-pandemic economic recovery, climate-induced disasters, and the need to maintain continuity in various public welfare initiatives. Soren said that the fiscal load of repaying CRPF deployment costs under such conditions would severely undermine Jharkhand's capacity to implement core development schemes.

The Chief Minister noted that Jharkhand has historically been among the most affected states by LWE and that both state police and central forces have worked jointly over the years to suppress insurgency.

He cited that over 400 personnel from Jharkhand Police have laid down their lives during anti-Naxal operations, underlining the high human cost the state has already borne in this prolonged security effort.

Calling for the application of the principle of "co-operative federalism", Soren urged the Union Home Minister to initiate necessary steps to waive the dues in full.

He stressed that such a gesture would reflect Centre's commitment to

shared governance and equitable partnership, especially in conflict-affected and resource-constrained states like Jharkhand.

The letter seeks not only financial relief but also a larger reconsideration of the Centre-State cost-sharing framework in long-term security deployments.

Soren expressed hope that the Union Government would adopt a "positive approach" and extend support to the state's efforts to overcome economic stress while continuing its campaign against extremism.

## Bihar Cabinet sanctions 125 units free electricity to consumers

Patna, July 18 (UNI) : In a major relief to the power consumers of Bihar, the state cabinet today gave its nod to provide 125 units of free electricity to 1.67 crore domestic consumers in the state. After cabinet's meeting, Bihar Energy Minister Bijendra Prasad Yadav told news persons here, "The cabinet has taken a decision to provide cent percent subsidy for those consumers who consume up to 125 units of electricity." On this occasion, development commissioner Pratyaya Amrit said that 100 percent subsidy up to 125 units will be given and no fixed charge and other charges will be levied on those consuming up to 125 units. He said out of 1.86 crore domestic power consumers of the state, 1.67 crore consumers consume up to 125 units per month.

According to him, the decision would benefit every category of

consumers such as farmers, all types of domestic consumers and the relief would reflect in the energy bill of July month itself.

The decision to give free 125 units will not be applicable to other consumers including commercial and industrial.

Energy Secretary and Bihar State Power Holding Company Ltd (BSPHCL), Patna Chairman-cum-Managing Director Manoj Kumar Singh cleared that "consumers using above 125 units will continue to get subsidised rate of electricity under Mukhya Mantri Vidyut Upbhokta Sahayta Yojana."

He said in case of 200 units of electricity consumption in a month, 125 units will be deducted from 200 consumed units and only the remaining 75 units will be charged at subsidised rate as usual.

Notably, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar yesterday announced to give free

power up to 125 units. The decision will come into effect from August one.

Kumar made the announcement on his social media account "X" stating that "...Now we have decided that all the domestic power consumers will not have to make any payment for using 125 units of electricity from August one this year. This will benefit 1.67 crore families in the state." The move to give free power up to 125 units was expected to increase the state's subsidy burden. The state government is, currently, giving annual subsidy of Rs 15,995 crore to power consumers in the current financial year, which is four percent more than the previous year's subsidy amount of Rs 15,343 crore. The announcement of subsidised free power will put additional financial burden of Rs 3,797 crore, taking the total annual subsidy amount to Rs 19,792 crore.

## India does not subscribe to unilateral sanction measures: New Delhi hits back after EU sanctions Rosneft's Vadinar plant

New Delhi, July 18 (UNI) : India today strongly reacted to the EU slapping sanctions on Rosneft's refinery in Gujarat, and said New Delhi does not subscribe to any unilateral sanction measures.

The Ministry of External Affairs in a late evening statement also stressed that there should be no double standards when it comes to energy trade.

The statement reads: "We have noted the latest sanctions announced by the European Union. India does not subscribe to any unilateral sanction measures. We are a responsible actor and remain fully committed to our legal obligations.

"Government of India considers the provision of energy security a responsibility of paramount importance to meet the basic needs of its citizens. We would stress that there should be no double standards, especially when

it comes to energy trade."

The reaction comes as EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said on X that the EU has designated the largest Rosneft oil refinery in India as part of its 18th sanctions package against Russia.

"We're cutting the Kremlin's war budget further, going after 105 more

we're designating a flag registry and the biggest Rosneft refinery in India. Our sanctions also hit those indoctrinating Ukrainian children.

We will keep raising the costs, so stopping the aggression becomes the only path forward for Moscow."

**WESTERN RAILWAY**  
**PROVISION OF WATER COOLERS**  
Sr.DEE/P/BCT, invites **Tender No: EL-81-910-WA-23, dt.15.07.2025.**  
**Work and Location:** Mumbai Division (Churchgate - Virar Section): Provision of 17 water coolers at NSG-1 to NSG-5 and SG-1 to SG-3 stations as per MEA guidelines.  
**Approx. cost of work:** ₹ 46,98,320.09.  
**EMD:** ₹ 94,000/-. **Date & Time of Submission:** Till 11.08.2025, 15:00 hrs. **Date & Time of Opening:** On 11.08.2025 at 15:30 hrs. For further details please visit our website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) **0404**  
Like us on : [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

**BRIHANMUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**  
**TREE AUTHORITY**  
**- PUBLIC NOTICE -**  
In accordance with the provision under section 8 (3) (C) of the Maharashtra (Urban Areas) Protection & Preservation of Trees Act 1975 (As modified upto January 2018), 01 Proposal from 'T' Ward in Zone - VI i.e. **Total - 01** proposal for removal of trees is approved by Municipal Commissioner, Chairman, Tree Authority BMC under sub section (6) of section (8) of the said Act.  
  
The information of the trees for cutting/ Transplanting in above mentioned proposals is available on BMC website → <https://portal.mcgm.gov.in/> → About us wards/ Department → Department Manuals /Gardens & Tree Authority → 44 (T).  
  
The advertisement published on dt. 16-07-2025 related to 03 proposals in Zone - VI for removal of trees is approved by Municipal Commissioner, Chairman, Tree Authority BMC under sub section (6) of section (8) of the said Act. Duplication of No. 40(N) and 40 (S) has been occurred. Kindly read this ad 41 (N) and 42(S).  
  
**Supdt. of Gardens & Tree Officer**  
Office of Supdt. of Gardens & Tree Officer,  
2nd Floor, Humboldt Penguin Building,  
Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan & Zoo,  
Sant Savta Mali Marg,  
Byculla (East), Mumbai - 400 027.  
Tel No : 23742162  
Email : [sg.gardens@mcgm.gov.in](mailto:sg.gardens@mcgm.gov.in)  
  
**PRO/1050/ADV/2025 - 26** **Sd/-**  
**Avoid self medication.** **Supdt. of Gardens & Tree Officer**

**CENTRAL RAILWAY CATERING STALL**  
**Tender No. : BBC159COCATGKCE-25-4**  
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Central Railway Mumbai CSMT for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tenders from the eligible tenderers for Provision of catering services on General Minor Units KCE-S-1 at Kings Circle Station on PF-1 between OHE Column No. 10/40 and OHE Column No. 10/41 of category "SG-2" under general category women quota' under double packet system for a period of 5 years. Details of the same are as under : **Stall Unit : KCE-S-1, Tender No. : BBC159COCATGKCE-25-4, Name of Station/Category :** Kings Circle Station of Category "SG2" (Old category "C") **Location :** PF-1 between OHE Column No. 10/40 and OHE Column No. 10/41. **Stall category :** General Category Woman Quota. **Tenure of the contract :** 05 (Five) years, **Website address:** [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). **Date & Time of Submission of tender :** upto 15:00 on 04.08.2025. Address of the office from where the details are available :- Office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Catering Section, First Floor, PRS Building, Reservation Office, Central Railway, Mumbai CSMT-400001. This notice is for tender advertisement purpose only, the detailed terms and conditions are available in tender document. Further Addendum/corrigendum, time extension, clarification etc. if any, in connection with the subject tender, will only be uploaded on the website. Bidders should regularly visit the website to keep themselves updated. Railway reserves the right to accept the work in full or part or reject the tender in full or part without assigning any reasons. Conditional offers will summarily be rejected. **270**

खतरनाक व विस्फोटक सामान के साथ यात्रा करना दंडनीय अपराध है

# Empower women without fear: RSS chief

Solapur, July 18 (UNI) : Empowering women is crucial for the nation's progress, said Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat while urging society to give women the freedom to showcase their capabilities without keeping them under fear or control.

He was speaking at a special event organized on the occasion of the 21st Foundation Day of Udyog Vardhini, an organization dedicated to women empowerment.

"Men may impose

discipline on women through fear and can instill good habits temporarily. But if you truly want women to be empowered and maintain those qualities, you must release them from the chains of outdated customs and give them space to thrive," said Bhagwat.

Highlighting the role of women in national development, he said for real progress, all 142 crore citizens must work together. "A man may work alone, but when a woman contributes, it uplifts the entire family,"

Bhagwat said.

The RSS chief underscored the significance of hope "despite the presence of negativity" in the world. "There are 40 times more good things than bad. Instead of worrying, we must focus on positive efforts. Just as a seed gives rise to a tree and that tree produces more seeds, one good deed leads to many more," he added.

He also drew attention to the lasting impact of work done out of compassion. Efforts rooted in

selfishness or ego vanish after the person leaves or their goal is achieved. But initiatives inspired by empathy and compassion last for generations, he added.

Recalling an interaction, Bhagwat said: "Jayaprakash Narayan once asked a swayamsevak what keeps the RSS going even after years of tireless work with little personal gain. The swayamsevak replied: 'The suffering in society is our inspiration.' That, in essence, is what drives the RSS mission," Bhagwat said.

## Name of Islampur town in Sangli district to be changed soon: Chagan Bhujbal

Sangli, July 18 (UNI) Maharashtra Minister Chagan Bhujbal today announced that taking into consideration the long pending demand of public for the name change of Islampur town in the district to 'Ishwarpur', the state cabinet has given its sanction for the same and a proposal to this effect has been sent to the central government for final approval.

On the last day of state assembly session today, Bhujbal said that the name of Islampur town will be changed as 'Ishwarpur' soon after finalisation of the proposal by the central government.

The locals have been demanding for name change of Islampur to 'Ishwarpur' for last 40-50 years.

Upon completion of all the formalities at the government level, the name of Islampur will be changed to 'Ishwarpur'.

## India’s 1st ever Diploma in Mountaineering nominated for internationally prestigious award

Pune July 18 (UNI) : The Diploma in Mountaineering Programme started by the Guardian Giripremi Institute of Mountaineering (GGIM), has been shortlisted for UIAA Mountain Protection Award.

Out of total 20 entries shortlisted from 19 countries worldwide, this is the only project from India.

UIAA stands for International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation (Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme). It's the global organisation that represents and promotes mountaineering, climbing, and related activities, said a release today.

## Ex Pune Dy Mayor urges inclusion of blood group information in Aadhaar card

Pune, July 18 (UNI) : Former Deputy Mayor of Pune Deepak Mankar today submitted a formal request to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda, and WHO South-East Asia Regional Director Saima Wazed urging them to include citizens' blood group information in the Aadhaar card — one of the most vital identification documents for Indian citizens.

In his memorandum, Mankar emphasized that Aadhaar, issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), has become an essential identity document used extensively in banking, telecommunications, and various official procedures. It contains vital details like name, address, date of birth, mobile number, and photograph of the individual, making it highly convenient for identification purposes.

# Part of Mumbai chawl collapses, 11 injured



Mumbai, July 18 (UNI) : At least 11 people were injured and several others are feared trapped under the debris after a portion of a ground-plus-three-storey structure in Mumbai's Bandra (East) chawl collapsed early on Friday.

According to fire bridge sources, the incident occurred around 5.45 am at Chawl no 37, Bharat Nagar, BKC, near Namaz Committee Masjid, in Bandra area of the city suburb while a ground-plus two-floor structure collapsed.

Officials said that 11 people have been rescued from the debris and the injured have been admitted to the nearest civic-run Bhabha Hospital, where they are undergoing treatment.

Rescue operation is in progress.

## Opposition slams govt over Assembly scuffle; Allegations of Legislative passes being sold for Rs 5k-10k

Mumbai, July 18 (UNI) : Serious allegations were raised in the Maharashtra Legislature today as NCP-SP state president Shashikant Shinde and Shiv Sena-UBT MLA Anil Parab claimed that entry passes to the Vidhan Bhavan were being sold for amounts ranging from Rs 5,000 to 10,000.

The issue surfaced a day after a violent scuffle broke out in the Vidhan Bhavan premises between BJP MLA Gopichand Padalkar's supporters and those of NCP (SP) MLA Jitendra Awhad.

The incident drew strong condemnation from the Opposition, accusing the government of allowing lawlessness within the state's top legislative body.

Shashikant Shinde criticized the handling of the situation, saying, "No action has been taken against the attacker, while the victim—Jitendra Awhad has been booked. Are we not even allowed to protest anymore?"

Ambadas Danve, Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council, expressed deep concern over the state of affairs in the legislature, saying, "It is disgraceful that physical assaults are happening in a legislature with a proud parliamentary tradition. An MLA is seen signaling someone to assault another, while police officers are seen pampering goons. The rule of law inside the Vidhan Bhavan is under threat," he said.

He further said that there is now "a situation where even MLAs feel unsafe inside the House. This is a painful image for democracy. The only thing left is for political workers to barge into the legislative chamber."

Raising a serious concern about overcrowding and security breaches, female MLA Sana Malik remarked, "It has become increasingly difficult to navigate through the crowd. Entry passes are allegedly being sold openly for 5,000 to 10,000."

Shinde alleged that such passes are sold near the Inox Theatre entrance to the Vidhan Bhavan, with fixed rates for different entry points.

## Congress slams Islampur to 'Ishwarpur' change

Mumbai, July 18 (UNI) : Maharashtra's cabinet has approved renaming Sangli district's Islampur as "Ishwarpur", triggering immediate political backlash during the monsoon session's closing day.

Food and Civil Supplies Minister Chhagan Bhujbal announced the decision in the legislative assembly, confirming they will now seek the central government approval.

The move fulfills a longstanding demand by Hindutva organization Shiv Pratishthan, led by Sambhaji Bhide, which submitted formal memorandums to Sangli authorities and vowed persistent advocacy until the change occurred.

Congress legislators condemned the renaming as diversionary tactics. "This government misleads people by prioritizing name changes over substantive issues like employment, education, and healthcare," charged MLA Amin Patel.

Colleague Aslam Shaikh echoed: "Renaming won't resolve Islampur's crippling infrastructure gaps – where are the drinking water systems, proper roads, parks, or playgrounds? How long will citizens endure such neglect while being fed symbolic gestures?"

**CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**VARIOUS WORKS**  
Open e-Tender Notice No. CR-DRM(W)BB-2025-18 of 11.07.2025.

**1. Name of work - WB:** Operation of water supply valves, pump rooms storage tanks and distribution of water supply at WB. (For Two Year). **Approximate Value** Rs.40.96 Lakhs **EMD** Rs.81900 **Completion period** - 24 months. **2. Name of the work** 1) A. CSMT-Repairs to damaged ceiling, beam stage and cultural room of Auditorium in parcel building at CSMT Mumbai. B. CSMT-Renovation and repairs of Auditorium toilets, cultural office toilet and repair of damaged down take pipe of parcel building at CSMT Mumbai. 2) CSMT-Renovation of room no-6,7,17,18, 19,22, Lounge, passage and AC dormitory in officer rest house at parcel building CSMT Mumbai. **Approximate Value** Rs.179.42 lakhs **EMD** Rs.239700 **Completion period**- 8 months. **3. Name of the work**-Extension of existing bridge 113/3 (Span 2\*12 M PSC girder) bridge by 2\*12 M PSC slab bridge for extension of PF 1 line at Khopoli with extension of Bridge 106/1 for running of 15 car train. **Approximate Value** Rs.98.38 Lakhs **EMD** Rs.196800 **Completion period** - 4 months. **4. Name of the work**- Supply of water containers(18 litre) jars for 2 years under ADEN (N) LNL. **Approximate Value** Rs.37.67 Lakhs **EMD** Rs.75300 **Completion period** - 24 months. I) Tender closing date & time of aforesaid tender: Up-to 11.00 hrs. of Sr.No.1 and 4 on 31.07.2025, Sr.No.2 on 04.08.2025 and Sr.No3 on 30.07.2025, will be opened after 11.00 hrs. II) The prospective tenderers are requested to visit the website **www.ireps.gov.in** for details of tenders & corrigendum, if any. III) Tenderer may participate in above e-tender electronically through website **www.ireps.gov.in** only & submission of manual offers against e-tender are not allowed. Manually, If submitted shall neither be opened nor considered. IV) The Bid Security shall be deposited either in cash through e-payment gateway or submitted as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents. V) For further enquiry, may contact: Divisional Railway Manager (Works) Office, Central Railway on phone. 022-67455323. VI) This tender complies with Public Procurement Policy Order 2017 dated 16-9-2017. Complete details of tenders are available at the website **"www.ireps.gov.in"**. The complete details of tenders are also available In the "Notice Board" of the Divisional Railway Manager (Works) Office, Mumbai CSMT.

**DRM(W)BB** [272]

खतरनाक व विस्फोटक सामान के साथ यात्रा करना दंडनीय अपराध है

**CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**SUPPLY OF TIGHT LOCK COUPLER**

**E-PROCUREMENT Notice No: e-47/2025 Dt. 16.07.2025**

**Tender No: 48255745 ITEM DESCRIPTION:** Supply of high tensile AAR-II type tight lock coupler complete with transition screw coupling & balanced draft gear and all other associated components as per RDSO specification RDSO/2009/CG-22 Rev. 01 for fitment on BG passenger coaches. This item is Reserved for Procurement from RDSO Approved Sources. RDSO Item ID:3100553. **QTY:** 40 Nos. **T.O.D:** 09<sup>th</sup> August-2025 **Allocation/UWID/WO NO:** 20213604/ 01001240755040067 **Tender Value** Rs. 10662203.60. Complete details of tenders are available at Central Railway official website **www.ireps.gov.in** the complete documents can be downloaded from the website. **DY.CMM (M)** [276]

खतरनाक व विस्फोटक सामान के साथ यात्रा करना दंडनीय अपराध है

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

**E-(IREPS) Tender Notice No. 21 UBL 2025-26 Dated: 10-07-2025**  
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Sl.No	Name of Work	Approx. Value
1	Hubballi Division - Miscellaneous annual Maintenance activities for Residential Building, Service Buildings, Water supply Network, Road & Drainage under Assistant Divisional Engineer/Belagavi (BGM) section. (Special Work-5)	Rs. 1,92,11,371/-
2	Hubballi Division- Miscellaneous annual Maintenance activities for Residential Building, Service Buildings, Water supply Network, Road & Drainage Brightening/Painting of Service Building and Staff Quarters under Assistant Divisional Engineer/Casterock (CLR) section. (Special Work-6)	Rs. 2,14,35,481/-
3	Hubballi Division-Maintenance of track in Badami-Bagalkot (BDM-BGK) (UP & DN lines) Bagalkot - Wandal (BGK-WDL) (SL line) Bagalkot - Lokapur (SL line) and Wandal-Hotgi (WDL-HG) (UP & DN line) in Assistant Divisional Engineer/Vijayapura Jurisdiction for a period of one year.	Rs. 5,42,61,868/-
4	Hubballi Division- Gadag-Hotgi (GDG-HG) TBR-30.05 Km.	Rs. 1,93,80,898/-
5	Hubballi Division-Hosapete - Ballari (HPT-BAY) CTR(S) 2.61 Km. and TRR(S) 2.6 Km in yard lines.	Rs. 1,29,65,802/-
6	Hubballi Division- Hosapete - Vyasa Colony- Swamihalli (HPT_VC-SMLI) Section CTR(S) 3.832 Kms.	Rs. 1,23,18,942/-

Last date for submission of bids:Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 11-08-2025


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

PUB/303/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26 Senior Divisional Engineer /Co-Ordination, Hubballi

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extend this scheme by one year. Minister Bawankule said , in this regard, as per the government decision on March 16, 2024, this special protection scheme is applicable to lands leased for residential purposes through auction and other means.

**BRIHANMUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

**Department: Chief Engineer (Mechanical & Electrical)**  
**No. E.E.Mech (S)/2620/M&E, Dtd: 18-06-2025**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

The Commissioner of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation invites online tenders for the following works from the eligible bidders. The Bid start date and time and Bid End Date and Time is specified in the detailed tender notice on B.M.C's website under Tender Section and Mahatender Portal.

Sr. No.	Bid No.	Name of Work
1.	2025_MCGM_1201419_1	Work of operation and comprehensive maintenance contract of Air Pollution Control system and Eco-Friendly furnaces at Worli Hindu Cemetery Phase-I & II, G/South Ward for one year.

The intending tenderers shall visit the BMC website at **http://portal.mcgm.gov.in** and Mahatender portal website at **http://mahatenders.gov.in** for further details of the tender.

**PRO/1058/ADV/2025-26**

**Let's together and make Mumbai Malaria free.**

**Sd/-**  
**Ex. Eng. Mech. (South)**

STANDARD POST

What is 'chronic venous insufficiency' that Donald Trump is suffering from

US President Donald Trump has been diagnosed with chronic venous insufficiency (CVI) -- a condition where leg veins do not allow blood to flow back to the heart -- explaining the swollen ankles and bruises on his hands.

The 79-year-old US President was recently photographed at the FIFA Club World Cup 2025 final in New Jersey, where visible swelling around his ankles sparked public speculation about his health.

White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt informed that the ultrasound exams performed on Trump's legs confirmed CVI -- seen frequently among people over the age of 70.

However, additional exams showed "no signs of heart failure, renal impairment or systemic illness" in Trump, Leavitt said, adding that the US President is not experiencing any discomfort due to the diagnosis.

What is 'chronic venous insufficiency'

Chronic venous insufficiency is a multifactorial condition that affects a significant number of people worldwide.

People with the condition suffer from mild clinical signs, such as spider veins -- small, dilated blood vessels that appear as red, blue, or purple lines on the skin -- to severe manifestations, such as venous ulcerations -- a type of skin ulcer.

Varicose veins -- swollen, twisted veins that often appear blue or purple -- are the most common manifestation.

The condition is centered on faulty valves in the veins, which ensure proper blood flows towards the heart. When these valves don't work well, blood flows backwards, causing it to collect (pool) in the legs, resulting in the condition.

CVI majorly occurs in people who are overweight, pregnant, have a family history, have leg injury, surgery, or have had previous blood clot events.

The risk factors include high blood pressure, prolonged sitting or standing, lack of exercise, and smoking.

Those suffering from CVI are more likely to experience aching or cramping in the legs, heaviness or fatigue, particularly after standing for extended periods, swelling, especially around the ankles, and itching or tingling sensations in the legs. CVI is typically considered mild, but if left untreated, the condition can lead to a variety of symptoms such as persistent swelling, leg cramps, skin changes, ulcers, and the formation of varicose veins.

"Chronic venous insufficiency is not a serious health threat. But it can be painful and disabling," according to Johns Hopkins Medicine.

Navi Mumbai tops the 'Super Swachh League' of the cleanest cities in the country in 'Swachh Survekshan 2024'

Awarded the title of the best city in the country in the 'Citizen Feedback' category



(Standard Post Bureau) Under the 'Swachh Bharat Mission', a separate category of Super Swachh has been announced for the cities that have consistently topped the rankings for the last 3 years, and Navi Mumbai is included in the list of the best cities in the country. The Super Swachh League includes Navi Mumbai, Indore, Surat and Vijayawada, among the big cities with a population of more than 10 lakhs, and due to this, Navi Mumbai has achieved a higher position in the ranking of clean cities, thereby enhancing the pride of the state of Maharashtra.

Similarly, Navi Mumbai has retained the highest 'Seven Star' rating for a waste-free city and the highest 'Water Plus' rating in the ODAC category. It has also won the title of 'Best City' in the country among cities with a population of more than 1 million in the 'Citizen Feedback' category.

The inclusion of our Navi Mumbai city in the 'Super Swachh League' of the cleanest cities in the country that maintain cleanliness is a matter of pride for every citizen, and every Navi Mumbaikar citizen and sanitation worker has contributed greatly to this, said Commissioner Dr. Kailash Shinde. Therefore, sanitation workers were also present at the award ceremony in New Delhi.

Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation has always set a benchmark for other cities in India by implementing

innovative and comprehensive sanitation initiatives. While facing the 'Swachh Survekshan 2024', it was mandatory to maintain a score of more than 85 percent for inclusion in the 'Super Swachh League'. In this, Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation, under the guidance of Municipal Commissioner Dr. Kailash Shinde, implemented many remarkable projects with emphasis on public participation, successfully organized activities and secured its inclusion in the highest category of 'Super Swachh League'. In this, notable projects were implemented on priority.

\* Use of modern technology in waste classification, collection and transportation systems:

In addition to emphasizing waste segregation into three categories at the point of generation - wet, dry, and household hazardous - separate collection of sanitary waste has begun this year.

A waste collection and transportation (C&T) system has been implemented. A fleet of 206 vehicles including mini tippers, electric trucks and waste compactors is being deployed. RFID-enabled GPS is being used for real-time tracking and route monitoring and control.

Also, 7 mechanical vehicles are operational for cleaning the main roads, 5 of which are eco-friendly.

Similarly, 10 eco-friendly electric vehicles received under the United Nations Development Program are



being operated by women waste collectors from the local community.

\* ICCC: Smart sanitation through information technology based cutting-edge system :

The Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) at the NMC headquarters effectively monitors the sanitation operations in Navi Mumbai through various means such as GPS-enabled vehicles, CCTV feeds and citizen feedback. Real-time data analytics have made it easier to monitor and control vehicle availability, waste collection tracking and service compliance.

\* Landmark project in the country that converts textile waste into opportunities:

Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation has started implementing an innovative project 'Textile Recovery Facility (TRF)' to reduce the waste load at the solid waste project site and convert waste into recyclable resources in collaboration with the Textile Industry Committee under the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. This is the first innovative project in the country to utilize textile waste to be implemented on a pilot scale.

\* C&D Waste Project:

A 150 tonne per day construction and demolition waste (C&D) processing plant is operational at the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation's solid waste management project site, and the paver blocks made from it are used for

construction. Importantly, 85 percent of C&D waste is used in the production of these paver blocks.

\* Fertilizer production from wet waste and recycling of dry waste (MRF & RDF):

Out of the approximately 750 tons of waste per day received at the project site, 350 tons of wet waste is processed into fertilizer, and 400 tons of dry waste is separated into plastic, glass, cloth, paper, etc. and recycled. The plastic in this is used for boilers in RDF cement industries, and plastic granules are used for coating during the construction of asphalt roads.

\* Coconut waste processing project:

An innovative project is being implemented at the solid waste project site to process coconut waste with a capacity of 10 tons per day and separate the fibers from it, which is used to make coir and various idols and decorative items.

\* Integrated Processing Center (ISWM) :

A project to process the leachate, the water produced in the process of solid waste, is also operational here. After purifying the leachate, the processed water is used to grow trees there. In this way, efforts are made at the solid waste management project site to make maximum use of all waste.

\* Emphasis on waste disposal at the point of generation (BWG):

Societies, hotels, and institutions that generate more than 100 kg of wet



waste per day should dispose of their wet waste on their premises. Biogas production/fertilizer production projects from wet waste are being implemented at 38 locations, which has resulted in significant savings in the labor, cost, and time required by the Municipal Corporation to transport the waste to the project site and process it there.

\* Zero Waste Slum Model: Local composting from waste, community empowerment, clean environment

Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation has taken the initiative and implemented the innovative concept of the zero waste slum model.

In this, women garbage collectors have been brought together through the NGO Prasad Sakhi and assigned to their area-wise teams, each of which goes to 250 households and collects waste separately.

This work has created sustainable employment for them. This has improved their standard of living and contributed to the progress of their children's education.

\* Advanced wastewater management

Navi Mumbai city has a 99.9% sewage management network. The remaining are only 42 septic tanks, which are also cleaned regularly by mechanical devices.

Modern infrastructure for sewage disposal -

100% of the wastewater is processed daily, amounting to 235 D.L.L. The total capacity of all the centers is much more than

454D.L.L.

7 sewage treatment plants are operational using cutting-edge technologies like SBR and C-Tech and have SCADA automation facilities.

More than 30% of treated wastewater is used for purposes other than drinking, such as irrigation of gardens and plantations, construction, and cleaning of public places and facilities.

Currently, there are 3 Tertiary Treatment Plants (TTPs) with a capacity of 45 D.L.L. and now a TTP with a capacity of 7.5 D.L.L. has been set up in Belapur.

To promote water reuse in industrialization, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with MIDC in January 2024, through which recycled water is currently being provided to 54 industrial clusters for non-drinking purposes. This water is also being used for construction and gardening purposes.

Smart monitoring and control -

KPI-based maintenance and repair (O&M) tracking system for efficiency, compliance and complaint resolution.

Implement a data-driven system that ensures transparency and drives continuous improvement.

All such unique projects and works have earned Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation a place in the Super Clean League, a higher ranking than the Clean City ranking, and Navi Mumbai's cleanliness drive has become an inspiration for other cities.

CM slams Oppn for changing stance on Public Security Bill

Mumbai, July 18 (IANS) : Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday slammed the opposition for the change in their stand over the Public Security Bill especially after supporting in the state assembly.

The flip-flop in the opposition's stance was after the bosses of respective parties sought clarification, he claimed.

He said that the Bill was discussed in detail in the Joint Select Committee and revised draft bill was shown to all members and the committee had also accepted suggestions made by the opposition.

After they supported the bill in the state assembly now they are opposing it after their party bosses have sought their view.

CM Fadnavis, who was accompanied by Deputy CMs Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar, at the press conference after the conclusion of three week monsoon session, said:

"Five meetings were held on the the various provisions of the Bill at that time each section was discussed in detail. All the doubts of the opposition were cleared. Most of the suggestions of the opposition have been accepted. The method is to place the revised draft of the bill before the committee. The opposition's claim that the draft of the bill was not shown to us is false."

"If the doubts of the opposition were not resolved in the committee, they had the option of giving dissenf note. However, they did not give it in writing. If they had registered a written opposition through dissent note, they would have been able to speak on the bill in the House. After the bill was approved, when the opposition was asked for an answer by the party, they changed their position. Nearly 12,500 suggestions were received on this bill.

Many of them are inconsistent with the bill while several others have been accepted," said CM Fadnavis.

CM Fadnavis said that the dispute over the post of Guardian Minister of Nashik will be resolved at the right time.

He added that farm loan waiver is not possible every five years. Therefore, he clarified that increasing investment in the agricultural sector is the government's priority.

He said important bills including Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill were passed in the monsoon session of the Legislative Assembly. Also, the reply on the final week proposal has outlined the future direction of Maharashtra.

All decisions have been taken for the benefit of the common people and the work of giving impetus to development has been done in the session, he asserted.)

NHs network is now second-largest road network in the world: Harsh Malhotra

New Delhi, July 18 (UNI) Minister of State for Transport & Highways Harsh Malhotra today said that India's national highways network has expanded significantly from 91,000 km in 2014 to over 1.46 lakh km today, making it the second-largest road network in the world.

Addressing the Road and Highways Summit here, Malhotra emphasised that these modern highways are not just roads they are lifelines of progress, connecting people, industries and opportunities, an official statement said.

"By expanding the network, the government has redefined the very experience of travel -- making it faster, safer and significantly more comfortable for every citizen," he said.

He said that the government's spending on road infrastructure has

increased 6.4 times between 2013-14 and 2024-25, with a 57 per cent rise in the budget allocation for the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. This, he said reflects the government's unwavering commitment to connectivity, mobility and economic growth.

The Minister also stated that in recent years road infrastructure has created 45 crore man-days of direct employment, 57 crore man-days of indirect employment and 532 crore man-days of induced employment which demonstrates the substantial impact of infrastructure projects on job creation across various sectors. Malhotra also stated that more than 10,000 km of National Highways constructed in North Eastern Region during the past decade, which demonstrates the government's commitment

to the region.

He also highlighted the Delhi Decongestion Plan, which aims to reduce the traffic congestion and pollution in the city and would improve connectivity in the city.

The plan includes extension of Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway (NE-5) from KMPE till UER-II (NH-344M) in Delhi and Haryana, Extension of UER-II (NH-344M) near Alipur till Delhi - Dehradun Expressway (NH-709B) near Tronica City in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, construction of a road tunnel starting from Dwarka Expressway (near Shiv Murti Mahipalpur) to Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj.

He said the the Ministry is in process of developing 700+ Wayside Amenities (WSAs) by 2028-29 that offer clean restrooms, quality food, rest areas, fuel stations, and EV charging points.

Russia-US bilateral ties separate from Ukraine settlement and shouldn't be governed by it, says Kremlin

Moscow/Washington, July 18 (UNI) : Russia's ties with the United States are a separate issue and its settlement with Ukraine should have little bearing on them, said Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov, stating that Moscow and Washington have enough issues as it is, reports TASS. "These lines are different. One topic is the Ukrainian settlement, and another one is our bilateral relations, all irritants in our ties, problematic issues, which we have a lot of," the Kremlin spokesman clarified.Peskov's statement comes following US President Donald Trump's statement that he was disappointed with Russian President Vladimir Putin over his reluctance to end hostilities with Ukraine, and threatening 100% tariffs on all of Russia's trading partners within the next 50-days if Moscow does not come to a deal.

Meanwhile, Moscow and Washington have been engaged in talks aimed at easing tensions and improving bilateral ties. However, progress on this front has recently stalled at the initiative of the United States.Russia has nonetheless been dismissive of Trump's threats, with Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov openly mocking the threat of sanctions, saying that it has become 'old news for Moscow', more so as the country is already under facing 90% tariffs, which have had little effect on its economy.The Kremlin has further called the move impractical and little more than overly dramatic theatrics by the White House, citing Trump's long history of making drastic threats and almost never going through with them, as well as the potential socio-political and economic destruction such a move could unleash on Washington, if it decides to impose 100% tariffs on Russia's trading partners, which include economic giants China and India, who are also two of the US' biggest partners.

No migrants arrive on Crete after Asylum suspension : Greek Migration Minister

Moscow, July 18 (UNI) : No migrants have arrived on the Greek island of Crete since the suspension of asylum application processing, Greek Minister of Migration and Asylum Thanos Plevris said on Friday.

On July 9, Greece suspended for three months the processing of asylum requests from migrants arriving by sea from North Africa amid a sharp increase in migration flows. Those who enter Greece despite the suspension will be detained and deported.

"From last Wednesday until today, there have been no arrivals [of migrants] to Crete. This may be due to several factors: the weather, our diplomatic efforts, and also the amendment [on the suspension]. Now, those who arrive, thanks to this amendment, will be held in custody," Plevris told parliament.

Greece is a transit country for illegal migrants from the Middle East, Asia and Africa, which allows them to arrive by sea from Turkey. In 2015, 75% of migrants who illegally arrived in Europe entered through Greece. In recent years, Greece has tightened border security and the flow of migrants has declined.

Hungary to ban entry for 3 Ukrainian soldiers if EU does not sanction them : Gov't

Moscow, July 18 (UNI) : Hungary will ban three Ukrainian servicemen responsible for the murder of a Hungarian citizen during forced mobilization from entering its territory if the European Union does not add them to sanctions lists, head of the Hungarian prime minister's office Gergely Gulyas said on Wednesday.

Earlier in the day, Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto said that Budapest had demanded that the EU impose sanctions against the soldiers.

"We still expect the EU to fulfill this demand. If the EU does not fulfill it, Hungary may act within its capabilities, and we will act. We are talking about three clearly identifiable servicemen ... This would mean a ban on entry to Hungary," Gulyas told a briefing.

The Ukrainian Embassy in Budapest failed to provide an explanation for the incident, and Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban is "clearly not the one" who should initiate a conversation on the issue with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Gulyas said."Hungary does not extradite anyone to Ukraine, and no one from Hungary will be sent to the front line," he added.

Jozsef Sebestyen, a 45-year-old dual Ukrainian-Hungarian citizen, died in hospital after he was dragged off the street to an army recruitment center and beaten with iron bars, the Magyar Nemzet newspaper reported last week, citing his relatives. Sebestyen's sister posted footage of Ukrainian recruiters abusing her brother. The Hungarian Foreign Ministry summoned Ukrainian Ambassador Fedir Shandor to demand explanations.

On July 11, Orban told Kossuth Radio that a country where army recruiters beat people to death during forced mobilization cannot join the EU. Szijjarto said that Kiev had not responded to accusations of harassment of ethnic Hungarians in Ukraine's Zakarpattia region for years. Many of them are being forcibly mobilized into the Ukrainian army in violation of human rights, the minister said.Videos of forced mobilization by Ukrainian recruiters have been widely shared online. They show men of conscription age being beaten before they are whisked away in minibuses.Ukraine announced martial law and general mobilization after Russia launched a special military operation in February 2022. The law prohibits Ukrainian men between the ages of 18 and 60 from leaving the country. Draft evasion during mobilization is punishable by up to five years in prison.

EU adopts 18th sanctions package to cripple Russia's war machine

Brussels, July 18 (UNI) : The European Union has reached an agreement on an 18th sanctions package against Russia over its war in Ukraine, targeting the banking, energy, and military-industrial sectors. It also includes a new dynamic oil price cap aimed at delivering further blows to Russia's oil and energy industry.Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, said the sanctions will strike at the heart of Russia's war machine.

"Welcome the agreement on our 18th sanctions package against Russia. We are striking at the heart of Russia's war machine targeting its banking, energy, and military-industrial sectors, and including a new dynamic oil price cap. The pressure is on. It will stay on until Putin ends this war," Ursula said in a post on X."EU just approved one of its strongest sanctions packages against Russia to date," said the EU's foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas on X."We will keep raising the costs so that stopping the aggression becomes the only path forward for Moscow," added Kallas.

The sanctions package also includes a ban on transactions related to Russia's Nord Stream gas pipelines and additional restrictions on Russia's financial sector.

UNHRC report confirms cases of killings, kidnappings, property destruction in Syria's Suwayda province

Geneva, July 18 (UNI) The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) confirmed cases of executions, kidnappings, the destruction of private property and looting of homes in the southern city of Suwayda in Syria, following the violent conflicts between Syria's Druze and Bedouin communities."Credible reports received by the UN Human Rights Office indicate widespread violations and abuses, including summary executions and arbitrary killings, kidnappings, destruction of private property and looting of homes."Among the reported perpetrators were members of the security forces and individuals affiliated with the interim authorities, as well as other armed elements from the area, including Druze and Bedouins," the UN agency said in a statement.

Syria's interim authorities must hold those responsible for the city's killings accountable, the statement read.Damascus later withdrew its forces from the southern province after the Israeli bombings on several Syrian targets, including its state-run-media headquarters, its Defence Ministry, and a military target near the Presidential Palace.



One of the Indian Naval Ships of the Eastern Fleet, under the Command of Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet of the Indian Navy Rear Admiral Susheel Menon, being welcomed in Singapore.

Canada condemns killings of Druze civilians in Syria, urges deescalation : Ministry

Washington, July 18 (UNI) The Canadian government condemns the murder of civilians, primarily from the Druze community, in southern Syria, Global Affairs Canada (GAC) said on Friday.

"Canada condemns the killing of civilians, predominantly members of the Druze community, amid escalating violence in southern Syria. We call on all parties to respect the ceasefire and to take immediate and concrete steps to prevent the further spread of intercommunal violence," GAC said via its Canada Foreign Policy page on X.Canada believes it is important to uphold

Syrian sovereignty and territorial integrity, GAC added.Last week, armed Bedouin groups attacked several Druze settlements in Suwayda province, clashing with Druze self-defense forces. The Syrian Defense Ministry said that over 30 people had been killed and 100 others wounded in the clashes, including 20 troops loyal to the Syrian transitional government.

On Tuesday, the Syrian Defense Ministry said that the army and interior ministry deployed troops to Suwayda to clear the city of illegal armed factions. Later, they began withdrawing heavy military equipment from Suwayda

toward Damascus, transferring residential areas under the control of internal security forces.

The Israeli government ordered an immediate military strike against Syrian forces. Israel said it acted out of concern for the Druze community of Syria, citing close ties with the Druze population within Israel and historic connections.On Wednesday, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney reacted to Israel's strikes on Syria, stating that the Hebrew State had the right to live in peace and security. The prime minister however said that it must also respect the sovereignty of its neighbors.

Myanmar Investment Commission approves 35 projects expected to generate 9,000 jobs

Naypyidaw, July 18 (UNI) The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) has approved 35 new investment projects, which are expected to create over 9,000 jobs, state-owned daily The Mirror reported today. The approvals were made during Myanmar Investment Commission's meeting held in Naypyidaw.

The projects include

nine foreign investments in the industrial, oil and natural gas sectors, and 26 local investments in sectors such as hotels and tourism, services, electricity, agriculture, livestock, marine, construction and mining, the report said.

The total investment is worth \$72.87 million plus over MMK 672.84 billion (\$320.40 million), it added.As of the end of

June 2025, a total of 53 countries have invested in Myanmar, with Singapore, China, and Thailand emerging as the leading foreign investors, it said. The Myanmar Investment Commission oversees and approves investment project proposals from locals and overseas, as well as serving existing investors under the Myanmar Investment Law, the report said.

Israel gives 48-hour entry period to Syrian security forces to enter Suwayda to curtail civil unrest

Jerusalem/Damascus, July 18 (UNI) : In light of the escalating violence in Syria's Druze-majority Suwayda province, Israel has given a 48-hour entry period to Damascus' security forces to enter the province and curtail the ongoing unrest, reports Times of Israel."In light of the ongoing instability in southwest Syria, Israel has agreed to allow limited entry of the (Syrian) internal security forces into

Suwayda district for the next 48 hours," an official said, declining to share additional details.Following four days of massive violence between the native Druze and Bedouin communities, armed intervention of Syrian security forces leading to further militant aggression by Druze fighters, and the Israeli bombings, Syrian forces opted to leave the area, allowing the Druze to govern their own

security.However, the latest string of civil unrest in the southern province has forced the Syrian security forces to re-enter the province to restore stability.The region, which has been plagued by wanton violence for nearly a week has reported hundreds of casualties, with estimates ranging from 321 to 650, since the area first witnessed bloodshed from July 11.Israel's own Druze community, standing

DPRK attacks Japan's 2025 defence white paper, calls it 'war scenario for realising its ambition for reinvasion'

Pyongyang/Tokyo, July 18 (UNI) : The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) has heavily criticised Japan's 2025 defence white paper, calling it "a war scenario for realising its ambition for reinvasion from A to Z," the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported today.

"It is the 'common knowledge' that Japan has revised its National Security Strategy to include 'pre-emptive attack capabilities', accelerating both the development of domestically produced long-range missiles and the procurement of foreign-made ones in recent years," the KCNA said, citing the policy section chief of the Institute for Japan Studies under DPRK's Foreign Ministry.Japan has lately been revising its military policy, moving from its initial strictly self-defence policy to a more offensive approach, due to security threats posed by China and North Korea.

In line with its revised military doctrine, Tokyo has raised its defence budget to

a record high in 2025, ramping up its military capabilities to full scale, the report said, adding that as part of the effort, the country is now purchasing approximately \$3.7 billion worth of medium-range air-to-air missiles, long-range air-to-surface cruise missiles, and related equipment from the US.

Japan is also considering deploying 400 American-made Tomahawk long-range cruise missiles and Type 12 surface-to-ship missiles, which extend the range to more than 1,000 km, the report claimed.

The report stated that Japan, which has long presented itself as a "peace state" under the principle of "exclusive defence," is now working to develop capabilities for offensive operations, including long-range strikes and cross-domain warfare. Japan's defence white paper is "a war scenario for realising its ambition for reinvasion from A to Z and its moves for turning Japan into a military giant seriously threatening regional peace and security can never be tolerated," it added.

Turkish security forces detain 153 IS suspects in nationwide sweep

Ankara, July 18 (UNI) Turkish security forces have detained 153 suspects across 28 provinces in a sweeping counterterrorism operation targeting the Islamic State (IS) over the past two weeks, a cabinet minister said today.

The operation, carried out by gendarmerie units, targeted suspected IS members in the provinces of Adana, Antalya, Istanbul, Izmir and 24 other provinces, Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said on the social media platform X.

Yerlikaya further said that those detained are accused of being IS members, financing charities allegedly linked to the IS, and spreading terrorist propaganda through their social media accounts."The operations will continue without pause," Yerlikaya said, and also shared footage of the raids.Türkiye designated the IS as a terrorist organisation in 2013, blaming it for a series of deadly attacks in the country. Since then, it has carried out counter-terrorism operations both domestically and abroad to crack down on its members and activities.

in solidarity with their Syrian brethren have demanded that Jerusalem act to protect them from any harassment by government forces, as reports emerged from Suwayda of the interim regime forces killing women and children, looting homes, and shaving Druze clerics' mustaches. Videos also showed Druze fighters beating captured government forces and posing by their bodies.

Describing Syria's new rulers as barely disguised

jihadists, Israel has vowed to shield the area's Druze community from violence and state harassment, prodded by calls from Israel's own Druze minority. Jerusalem's massive distrust and open hostility towards Syria's new Islamist leadership has also put it at odds with the United States which has backed the new administration, and as such did not support recent Israeli strikes in Syria.

EU approves new pack of strict sanctions against Russian oil

Brussels, July 18 (UNI) : The European Union (EU) approved a new round of sanctions against Russia today, the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Kaja Kallas said.

"The EU just approved one of its strongest sanctions packages

against Russia to date," Kallas wrote on the social media platform X.

The package contains a provision to lower the price cap on Russian oil sold to third countries by 15% below the market rate.

Initially set at \$60 per barrel by the G7 in 2022, the cap under this new EU

scheme will launch at \$47.6, with the flexibility to adjust in line with future oil price movements.As part of the package, measures are also included to ensure that the Nord Stream 1 and 2 gas pipelines in the Baltic Sea cannot be reactivated.

Kallas further said that the bloc will impose

sanctions on a Russian-owned oil refinery in India and blacklist more than 100 additional vessels from Russia's so-called "shadow fleet," believed to be circumventing EU sanctions by carrying mainly Russian oil.Slovakia, which relies heavily on Russian gas,

had been holding up the proposed EU sanctions package.

However, it also greenlit the new EU sanctions yesterday, after securing guarantees from European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen that the bloc will protect Slovakia's energy interests.

Career

Soon, smartphones that could charge themselves



Imagine charging your smartphone without reaching out to a power source or even a portable charger! Scientists claim to have developed a new technology that converts radio frequencies into power that can charge devices.

The technology consists of a case that converts the wasted 90% of energy your phone produces trying to pump out a cell phone signal, and puts it back into the phone, thus powering it for up to 30% longer, 'Tech Crunch' reported.

US-based Nikola Labs aims to bring the product to market within one year, in partnership with Ohio State University, where the technology was originally developed.

The technology could be put into many different devices, such as wearable technology, embedded sensors and medical devices which do not require massive amounts of electricity.

Micromax in talks to sell 20% stake to Alibaba



China's Alibaba Group Holding is in talks with India's Micromax Informatics to buy a share of about 20% in the smartphone maker, helping the e-commerce giant roll out services and expand its presence in India, several sources with direct knowledge said.

The deal, if completed, would see Alibaba investing as much as \$1.2 billion, valuing Micromax, the second-biggest smartphone brand in India by sales, at \$5 billion to \$6 billion, two of the sources said. Micromax has also been in talks with investors led by Japan's SoftBank Corp (9984.T) to sell a stake of roughly 20 percent, raising up to \$1 billion, Reuters reported in March. Those discussions have hit a roadblock over differences in valuation expectations, sources told Reuters this week.

All the sources involved in the process declined to be named as they were not authorized to speak to the media about ongoing deal negotiations. Micromax, SoftBank and Alibaba declined to comment.

Send funds directly to social media contacts

Axis Bank has launched a mobile application 'Pingpay' that enables customers to make payments to any contact across social media platforms in seconds. What this means is that in addition to sending text messages and images to contacts, customers can use an additional option to either send money or ask for funds.

The unique selling proposition of the application is that it enables the phone-owner to send or to ask for money from social media contacts without having their bank details. The recipient has to only enter his bank account details for an instant credit using the National Payments Corporation of India's Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) network.

Pingpay has been launched in conjunction with the bank's revamped mobile banking application which now allows immediate registration of a beneficiary for fund transfers.

According to Rajiv Anand, group executive, retail banking, Axis Bank was expecting that users will be able to build a whole ecosystem around Pingpay and soon customers are likely to use them for commercial transactions.

How to set up your YouTube Video show



Setting up a personal internet video channel can be a fun project for shameless self promotion, or even something you can do with your kids this summer. Ashutosh Desai helps you with a quick primer to...

Create a YouTube channel

Go to [http://www.youtube.com/create\\_channel](http://www.youtube.com/create_channel). You can either use your existing Gmail login ID and password, or create a new Google account for your channel.

After signing in, a Use YouTube as...pop-up will appear. Here, click "To use a business or other name, click here" to give your channel a name. Select a category whether Arts and Entertainment, Sports, How-Tos, Music, News and Politics, Comedy, etc; agree to the terms and click 'Finished.'

Get acquainted with the YouTube interface

1. The left pane lets to switch between My Channel (your content), My Subscriptions (other channels that you subscribe to), History (log of the videos you watched), Watch Later (where you can create a list of videos for future viewing by hovering and clicking on the clock icon at the bottom right corner of any clip.)

2. The centre panel has a link to the Video Manager (which allows you to edit your clips, add audio, make your videos private or public, etc), your channel profile, uploaded videos, playlists...

3. The top right hand corner of the page is where you will find the Upload button. This gives you multiple options to publish content to your channel. Clicking your profile photo will give you access to Creator Studio, where you can organize and maintain your videos.

Pre-shoot planning

If you want people to visit and revisit your

video channel, you will need to plan each shoot diligently. Before you start shooting, work on a script with dialogues; try a couple of practise sessions. Get used to talking to the camera (try and maintain eye contact with the lens.)

If there are two or more people in the video, work on the interactions and dialogue delivery so that it seems natural and not scripted (even though it is.) And importantly , make sure you have a good microphone (preferably out of view) that captures sound clearly; lighting that's focused on your subject, and a backdrop that's clutterand distraction-free.

Lights, camera, action! Wait!

Not so fast! You'll need video shooting software. Download and install the free Debut software from <http://www.nchsoftware.com/capture>.

To start recording, launch the software and select a capture mode: Device (webcam), Network (network camera) or Screen (to record actions on your PC screen). In this case, choose Device.

In the panel below the video screen, there are options that let you set the file format. Choose either MP4 or AVI. You don't need to change the encoder (video compression technique) setting because Debut uses H.264 by default, which is recommended by YouTube.

Click the Video Options button if you want to change the video resolution of your recording (higher resolution videos will result in larger

uploads.)

The panel also includes options to add a title, adjust the brightness contrast levels, apply a colour filter or add a watermark to your footage.

Click on the Record button when you are ready to shoot.

When you click the Stop button, Debut saves the video automatically to its own folder within My Videos.

Click on the Recordings button to view and play all the work you have done, connect to and share the video to your YouTube account.

Manage videos from your smartphone

You can use the YouTube app to upload videos on your handset to your channel. Just make sure you do it over a Wi-Fi connection to avoid data charges. To manage what you have already uploaded, view comments and statistics, install YouTube Creator Studio. This app also lets you edit video description, switch from public to private view, flag comments and more. Both apps are available for Android and iOS devices.

Promotion

Once you've uploaded your videos, promote your home production on your blog, Twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp and any communication or social networking platform you can find. Make it a point to engage with your YouTube audience to maintain their interest.

Upload and edit

Go back to your YouTube page. Click on the Upload button (in the third panel in the YouTube screenshot), select your file to upload, and choose whether you want your file to be Public (accessible to all), Unlisted (won't be visible in your video channel or show up in search results), or Private (viewable only to people you share the link with).

Once uploaded, your clip will get processed by YouTube. You can edit your video once it appears in your Video Manager (second panel in the YouTube screenshot).

From here you can enhance the footage by using YouTube's autofix feature; you can adjust contrast, brightness, saturation, colour temperature, and even add filters.

At the bottom right of the screen, you will find controls that let you trim your video, flip it, and even slow it down. Here, you will also find the Try the YouTube Video Editor button. Clicking this will let you cut, edit, add transitions to your clip for a more professional production.

YouTube has a whole host of features that even lets you record a video and create a photo slideshow, but this will require you to be online all the time through the process.

With sufficient amount of experimenting with Debut and YouTube — both of which boast of an intuitive user interface - you will soon be recording, uploading and editing videos like a pro video producer.

NDA ministers likely to be more active on FB following PM, FM



After Twitter, ministers could soon be nudged in to posting regularly on Facebook. With the Modi government's continued focus on social media as the preferred medium of communication the government is brushing up its skills to that end.

In a meeting with a Facebook official and the information and broadcasting (I&B) ministry it was suggested that more ministers follow the example of PM Modi and Union finance and I&B minister Arun Jaitley to use Facebook to communicate their point. Modi for instance sought suggestions on Facebook before his Australia visit, while Jaitley prefers to blog to make a succinct political point. The posts tend to have a multiplier effect generating interest and participation.

Facebook's lead for politics and government engagement Katie Harbath met with I&B secretary Bimal Julka and social media cell officials on Friday. "We had a good interaction where we discussed ideas on how to upgrade our presence on social media. We are also likely to involve Facebook for capacity building for our officials," Julka said.

According to him Facebook was using Jaitley's posts as a case study to illustrate how the medium could be used to the hilt. Harbath, who focuses on political outreach, suggested that information nuggets be kept short and crisp to keep people's attention. "Instead of heavy doses of information she suggested we give small nuggets of image, text, visual content with an eye on story telling rather than a talk-down approach," a source said.

Putting a human face and story to the outreach initiative also helps engage people better. Harbath also pointed out that the social networking site's citizen engagement in India was high. For instance UK polls had garnered about 78 million views while Indian elections had generated 228 million views.

Sources said that there were likely to be more such interactions. The ministry is also likely to organize another social media workshop along the lines of the one done some months ago.



India's biggest e-commerce firm Flipkart will remain private for the next three years at least, its chief financial officer said, nixing speculation that it would launch this year an IPO that some bankers had expected to raise a record \$5 billion. Flipkart, an online marketplace that analysts estimate to be worth \$11 billion, has benefited from the foreign funds that have sloshed into India's rapidly growing online retail sector. The industry attracted \$5 billion in 2014 alone, according to Morgan Stanley, from investors including Japan's SoftBank and the Qatar Investment Authority. This has eased the pressure on firms like Flipkart to go public. Chief financial officer Sanjay Baweja told Reuters the company founded in 2007 by

former Amazon.com employees had enough money to last it three to four years, if it maintained the same rate of investment. He also said Flipkart wasn't ready yet for the stock market and that an initial public offering was not part of its current three-to-five year business plan. The company expects to double the value of goods its sells to \$8 billion by the end of this year from March. "I don't think we're at a stage in our life cycle that we would want to stand scrutiny on a quarterly basis," said Baweja, who was hired from telecoms firm Tata Communications last year. "Therefore going to the public market is not something that we're actively considering," he said at



the company's offices. Local media had over the past months quoted unnamed investors as saying Flipkart was poised to follow in the footsteps of Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group and list in New York after raising up to

\$5 billion, the most for an Indian company, in an initial public offering. Flipkart sells everything from cellphones to suitcases and cosmetics, competing with home grown rival Snapdeal and Amazon's India unit. Current investors include Tiger Global Management and Accel Partners and the company raised at least \$1.7 billion last year, according to public statements. Flipkart does not disclose its financials, but like its rivals it has yet to turn a profit, largely due to the steep discounts it offers customers

and heavy spending on marketing, technology and a delivery network. Baweja said the discounting, key in the e-commerce "land grab," would ease and that Flipkart would turn a profit within the three-to-five year plan. He said Flipkart would soon start selling furniture and, once it works out logistics, packaged goods and groceries, items which account for the bulk of most consumers' daily spending. The company is also betting on the hundreds of millions of Indians living in smaller towns who are unable to buy all their needs at local retailers. "We believe the growth, the next wave of growth will come not from the tier one or tier two... but the real chunky growth will happen from tier 3, 4, 5, 6 cities and towns," he added.

E-commerce giant Flipkart in no rush to go public

New Zealand's star all-rounder Glenn Phillips out of Zimbabwe tour

Harare, July 18 (UNI) : New Zealand's batting all-rounder Glenn Phillips injured his right groin in the Major League Cricket (MLC) Final. Phillips was assessed on his arrival to Zimbabwe and it was gradually determined that he would require a number of weeks for rehabilitation. Tim Robinson, who was already among the players who had joined the squad as a cover for the MLC Final, will continue to stay on with the side for the remainder of the T20I tri-series

The likes of Michael Bracewell, Phillips, Mark Chapman and Rachin Ravindra were featuring in the MLC Final, and hence a number of replacements had been brought in. Phillips was also a part of the Test squad, and his replacement in the squad would be named in due course, according to an ICC news. Black Caps head coach Rob Walters felt for Phillips.

Delhi among top states in football today: DSA VP

New Delhi, July 18 (UNI) : Upbeat about Delhi's footballing fortunes, the Union Territory's soccer governing body feels the national capital has now emerged as one of the foremost states in the sport.

In an exclusive chat with UNI, Delhi Soccer Association (DSA) Vice President Rizwan ul Haq said today that the game was growing at a good pace in the region, with the teams doing well across age category tourneys.

"I have been involved with Delhi football since 1978, first as a player, then as an official and an administrator. In all these years, I have not seen the numbers that I see now. The number of new players coming in, the number of tournaments taking place. We are growing at a good pace," he said

Haq highlighted Delhi's impressive performances in

Inter Kashi adjudged champions of I-League 2024-25

New Delhi, July 18 (UNI) : The All India Football Federation congratulates Inter Kashi FC on being adjudged champions of I-League 2024-25, in reference to the judgment passed by the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) today. The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has partially upheld an appeal by Inter Kashi Football Club (Inter Kashi FC) against Churchill Brothers FC Goa, Namdhari FC, Real Kashmir FC, and AIFF.

CAS has ruled that the AIFF shall declare Inter Kashi FC as winners of the I-League 2024-25.

After an unsuccessful first procedure initiated by several I-League clubs before the AIFF Disciplinary Committee, the AIFF Appeal Committee decided on May 31, 2025 that the registration of a foreign player (Marco Barco) by Inter Kashi FC was not valid, and stated that all matches played by him should be forfeited by the club. This resulted in the adjustment of the I-League points table with Churchill Brothers FC Goa at the top.

Inter Kashi FC filed an appeal on June 23, 2025, and sought to set aside the AIFF Appeal Committee decision. After a CAS hearing held on July 15, 2025, the CAS Panel ruled that the decision issued on May 31, 2025, by the AIFF is set aside and that the AIFF shall adjust the points table of the I-League 2024-25 season. In line with the CAS ruling, Inter Kashi finish the season on 42 points, Churchill Brothers FC Goa on 40, Real Kashmir FC on 37, and Namdhari FC on 29. Consequently, Inter Kashi FC have been declared the winners of I-League 2024-25.

CAS had already overturned a decision of the AIFF Appeal Committee on June 17, 2025, lifting a sanction imposed on Namdhari FC for the fielding of an ineligible player. CAS upheld the appeal by Inter Kashi FC and confirmed the initial decision of the AIFF Disciplinary Committee to declare the match Namdhari FC vs Inter Kashi FC, of January 13, 2025, forfeited, by Namdhari FC (0-3).

recent years. "Delhi football is growing at a high pace year by year. Last year, after 50 years, Delhi became national champions in the U-20 category; this year, we retained the title. We are also doing well in the Under-17 and senior categories. We are giving tough fight to the best state teams, last year we beat the Bengal team in the Santosh Trophy, football," he said. Haq pointed out that to create world class talent, children below 10 years need to be identified and trained. He noted that more such age group level leagues are coming up, which is encouraging.

"Even 10-12 years ago, we could not even think that we would have an under-13 league. But today we have the Golden baby league where children as young as 6-7 years play. It is AIFF backed. We have the Blue Cubs league where

under-10 children play. We need to promote these further." Stressing the importance of school-level football, he said the government should make football compulsory in every school.

"School football is key for bringing about a grassroot level football culture. The government should make it compulsory for every school to have a football ground," said the senior DSA official.

Haq, who is also a qualified FIFA referee, said that for the national team to do better, more international exposure and longer preparatory camps are needed.

"We need to play more and more international friendlies against higher-ranked teams and the training camps need to be of longer duration. These things require greater financing," he signed off.

New Watch.Hockey platform enjoys great start

Sausanne (Switzerland), July 18 (UNI) : The International Hockey Federation (FIH) and its partner Endeavor Streaming today announced that the recent launch of the reimagined Watch.Hockey service was truly successful.

The strong over achievement in subscription numbers during June is a clear indicator of the platform's growing success and global acceptance.

Thanks to the Watch.Hockey platform, fans from around the world were able to enjoy seamless access to live and on-demand coverage of all FIH events held in June, delivering an exceptional viewing experience across devices.

They could also benefit from powerful new features such as a playback control enabling them to move back in time within the video, or the

possibility to cast videos from their mobile device to Chromecast and Airplay compatible TV.

Team USA player Aki Kaeppler said: "I really like that Watch.Hockey is back. Makes it super easy to follow everything that is going on and watch all the games and even highlights. Plus, rewatch if I've missed something or want to just see something I couldn't watch because of the time difference or my own trainings etc. It's also awesome that everything international is on one website so I don't need to figure out who is streaming what or where to watch it. Plus, the deal at the beginning of the Pro League was nice and affordable."

"The Watch.Hockey app has given us the opportunity to watch hockey from around the world, allowing fans to support their teams and

families who cannot travel. It has made the game more accessible and engaging by offering live games and replays. What I love most is the ability to go back and rewatch games, as well as how affordable the app is. I also love staying connected with all the international competitions, such as the Pro League and other tournaments happening globally", South African player Edith Molikoe.

"Watch.hockey this season looked fantastic and worked really well. It was finally fantastic to be able to open the app, click on a live game and watch. Phenomenal improvement on previous years.

Really well done FIH," said FIH Coach of the Year Alyson Annan about the new Watch.Hockey.

"I watched the games on the new Watch.Hockey platform and was very

Kenyan tennis player aiming to be Africa's first FISU Games champion

Essen (Germany), July 18 (UNI) : To Kenyan tennis player Angella Okutoyi, medals are not the only things in her mind when she steps on to the Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU World University Games tennis courts. The 21-year-old, brought up by her grandmother after her mother died in childbirth, is hoping to be an inspiring force to an entire continent.

"My journey is already inspiring so many young kids and I can show them that they can also do it," Okutoyi said on Thursday.

"Most people know that tennis is a rich sport, and I didn't come from a rich family. So being able to break through is quite a good story." Okutoyi will play in the women's singles and doubles at ETUF Tennisanlage in Essen. Her first test will come from Thailand's Lidia Podgorichani in the singles round of 64 on Friday. In 2022, Okutoyi became the first Kenyan to win a junior Grand Slam title when she and partner Rose Marie Nijkamp won the Wimbledon girls' junior doubles crown.

A year later, she won the African Games women's singles gold medal and became Kenya's first ever singles champion on the ITF World Tennis Tour, winning the W15 Monastir event.

75 entries for National 4W Racing Championship this weekend

Coimbatore, July 18 (UNI) : Amidst high expectations and excitement, the first round of the MRF MMSC-FMSCI Indian National Car Racing Championship 2025 is set to commence at the refurbished Kari Motor Speedway here tomorrow, while boasting of 75 entries across various categories.

The compact 2.3 Kms long circuit with 16 turns, will witness both single-seaters – the MRF F2000 and F1600, Formula LGB 1300 – and saloon cars that include the popular the Indian Touring Cars (ITC), the newly introduced ITC1625, Super Stock and the Indian Junior Touring Cars (IJTC) besides the Volkswagen Polo Cup.

Spells of rain that are

India shines at Polyak Imre and Varga Janos Memorial



Budapest, July 19 (IANS) : India delivered a commanding performance at the ongoing 4th Ranking Series “Polyak Imre & Varga Janos Memorial” Wrestling Tournament in Budapest, Hungary, securing multiple medals across men's and women's freestyle events. Facing stiff competition from top global wrestlers, the Indian contingent showcased exceptional skill and determination.

In a major highlight, Sujeet clinched gold in the Men's Freestyle 65 Kg category. The reigning U23 Asian Champion stormed through the rounds, beating Albania's Islam Dudaev (11-0), France's Khamzat (technical fall in 2:43), and Armenia's Vazgen

Tevanyan (6-1) before topping Azerbaijan's Ali Rahimzade 5-1 in a dominant final.

Rahul (57 Kg) added a bronze medal, winning 5-3 over South Korea's Sungwon Kim in the quarterfinal. After a narrow 6-7 semifinal loss to the USA, he bounced back to defeat Germany's Niklas Stechele 4-0.

Other male wrestlers, including Udit (61 Kg), Jaideep (74 Kg), Chander Mohan (79 Kg), and Vicky (97 Kg), put up strong fights but missed podium finishes. Udit withdrew due to injury, while Vicky fell in the repechage. The Indian women's team, though limited to eight wrestlers, delivered stellar results.

Harshita (72 Kg) won

gold, overpowering Kazakhstan's Zhamila Bakbergenova 10-0 in the final. Rising star Antim (53 Kg) claimed another gold, routing Turkey, USA, and defeating Natalia Malysheva 7-4 in the final.

Neha (57 Kg) impressed with wins over Kazakhstan and Hungary before settling for silver against Olympic Champion Helen Maroulis (0-4).

Neelam (53 Kg) earned bronze, winning decisively in repechage after a tough quarterfinal loss.

Unfortunately, Priyanshi Prajapat had to withdraw from her bronze medal match due to injury.

More action awaits on Saturday in the 55 Kg (Pushpa), 62 Kg (Manisha), and 76 Kg (Priya) categories.

Mumbai's Zahan Commissariat, the first runner-up in the championship last year, and the lone female driver, Priyanka Vijay from Bengaluru who cut her racing teeth in the Formula LGB 1300 category and is moving up to the next level.

The Formula LGB 1300 category which has never failed to dish out exciting and entertaining races, has attracted 38 entries across Open and Junior classes with a mix of experienced drivers and rookies.

One of the major highlights of the weekend will no doubt be the touring cars, headlined by local star and a multiple National champion in the ITC class, veteran Arjun Balu, who returns to the

India begin campaign with 110-69 win over Sri Lanka in Group D opener

Solo (Indonesia), July 18 (UNI) India kicked off their Badminton Asia Junior Mixed Team championships campaign in style as they thrashed Sri Lanka 110-69 in their Group D clash here on Friday.

The mixed doubles combination of Vishnu Kode and Reshika U began India's march with an 11-5 win over Keneth Aruggoda and Isuri Attanayake in the relay point system, where a team had to bag 110 points to win the match.

Sisters Gayatri and Mansa Rawat then extended India's lead to 22-14 against Attanayake and Sithumi De Silva before junior world no. 1 Tanvi Sharma stamped her class against Sithuli Ranasinghe to make it 33-21 for India.

championship after a year's break, driving the super-quick Race Concepts-prepared Honda City IVTEC. He will have to contend with last year's champion Biren Pithawalla (Team N1) from Mumbai who will be in a VW Polo.

The ITC1625 class will witness the championship's oldest driver, Vidyaprakash Damodaran from Coimbatore who turns 80 in August, in action along with another local ace, Suprej Venkat. The other two touring car categories, Super Stock and IJTC, which have been among the most competitive grids, also comprise well-known names besides a lone woman driver, 27-year-old

Deepa John from

Diogo Jota inducted into Wolves Hall of Fame

London, July 18 (UNI) : Wolves has announced that Diogo Jota has been inducted into the club's Hall of Fame, paying tribute to both his outstanding contributions on the pitch and the profound impact his untimely passing has had on the footballing world. The Hall of Fame, which is run independently by a committee chaired by Wolves legend John Richards, made this rare and heartfelt decision swiftly following the tragic deaths of Jota and his younger brother, Andre Silva, the Premier League club said on Thursday.

Jota and his 25-year-old brother, Andre Silva - also a professional footballer - died in a car accident on July 3 in Zamora, Spain.

The Portugal international joined Wolves from Atletico Madrid in July 2017, scoring 44 goals in

131 appearances for the club. He played a crucial role in helping Wolves secure the Championship title in the 2017-18 season, earning promotion to the Premier League. "Inductions into the most coveted part of the club's museum are typically the result of detailed discussions over many weeks or months," Wolves said in a statement.

"But in this case, the decision was unanimous - a reflection of the overwhelming emotion felt by supporters and the wider football community, and the remarkable legacy Diogo leaves behind."

Wolves will commemorate the lives of Jota and Andre at two upcoming home fixtures - their final pre-season friendly against Celta Vigo on August 9, and their Premier League opener against Manchester City a week later.

India A Men's Hockey Team suffer 1-3 defeat against Belgium in European Tour

Antwerpen, July 17 (UNI) : The India A Men's Hockey Team suffered an unfortunate 1-3 loss in their European tour against Belgium at the Sportcentrum Wilrijkse Plein here in Belgium.

Captain Sanjay led his side from the front and scored the solitary goal for the Indian team.

Belgium scored three goals in the first quarter itself, taking an early lead in the attack over the remaining three quarters as they managed to score in the final quarter of the game on Thursday.

After the match India 'A' Coach Shivendra Singh said, "Despite a shaky start, the overall game was very good. We conceded early but did well to bounce back and control the game in the second half. The ball positioning was good and we created a lot of chances, just need to focus on our finishing."

"There is a lot of pressure on these young players since they are facing some of the world's best teams and players.

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# Ashwini Vaishnaw, to Flag-Off new express train between Kacheguda and Bhagat-Ki-Kothi on today

(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, July 18 : Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Railways in the august presence of Mr G. Kishan Reddy, Hon’ble Union Minister of Coal and Mines and other dignitaries, will flag off the Kacheguda - Bhagat-Ki-Kothi) Express on 19th July, 2025 from Kacheguda Railway station.

The Introduction of New Daily Train Service between Kacheguda and Bhagat-Ki-Kothi will immensely benefit the large group of Rajasthani people residing in Telangana, especially in the city of Hyderabad as there has been a long pending demand of a daily train service.

The train will provide fast, secure and comfortable journey between the important stations of Telangana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The train will also provide convenient travel option to other major cities in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan like Nanded, Washim, Ujjain,

Ratlam, Nimach, Chittaurgarh, Bhilwara, Ajmer, Pali Marwar etc.by offering scope for rail users to plan their itinerary.

This train will cater to the needs of both reserved and unreserved segments of the people and will largely benefit the people of Central and North Western states residing in Hyderabad and surrounding areas to travel to their home towns. It will also be beneficial for businessmen, students, employees proceeding on regular travel and special tours in vacation and will further promote tourism and pilgrimage apart from increasing the avenues of trade and commerce.

The details of the inaugural train and regular service is as follows:

Inaugural Special: Inaugural Train No. 07615 Kachiguda - Bhagat Ki Kothi Express will depart from Kachiguda station at 17.30hrs on 19.07.2025 and will reach Bhagat Ki Kothi station at 11.30 hrs on the third day.

Regular Service: Train No. 17605 Kachiguda - Bhagat Ki

# Central Railway RPF team, NCB, Bangalore and CIB Kurla, Mumbai bust narcotics smuggling operation



(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, July 18 :In a major crackdown on drug trafficking, a joint operation carried out by Central Railway’s Railway Protection Force (RPF), Panvel, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Bangalore and Crime Intelligence Branch (CIB) Kurla, Mumbai resulted in the arrest of a foreign national with a significant quantity of narcotics onboard Train No. 12618 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Ernakulam Mangala Express on 18.07.2025.

Based on information received by NCB Bangalore regarding narcotics smuggling on Train No. 12618 Mangala Express. A joint team was formed comprising of Smt. Anjani Babar, IPF/RPF Panvel, Shri Prahlad Singh, ASI/RPF Panvel, Shri Murari Lal, & Shri Madhusudhan Vishwakarma, Intelligence Officers, NCB Bangalore, Shri Satish Kumar Yadav, IPF/CIB Panvel, Shri Naveen Singh, SIPF/CIB Kurla along with Shri Prahlad Patil, Ms. Jyoti Kushwah and Shri Dharendra Yadav

Acting swiftly, the team conducted a search operation upon the train’s arrival at Platform No. 7 of Panvel Railway Station. During the search, a Nigerian woman accompanied by an infant and carrying a multicolour travel bag was found in Coach A-2, Seat No. 27. She identified herself as Etumudon Doris, holding Nigerian Passport No. A06895991 and claimed that the child with her, named “Miracle,” was her own. Upon interrogation in the presence of witnesses, the woman confessed to carrying narcotic substances. She was brought to RPF Post Panvel, and her belongings were thoroughly searched. Inside the multicolour travel bag, officials discovered two rectangular black packages wrapped in rubber material labelled “VINTAGE.” Upon testing using a drug detection kit, the contents tested positive for Cocaine. A total quantity of 2.002 kgs of Cocaine was recovered.

Further inspection revealed a red-and-blue Mickey Mouse-themed children’s bag within the main carry bag. This smaller bag contained two paper packages—one labeled “Kellogg’s Corn Flakes” and the other “Bongchi Perfect Roll.” The packets were found to contain white crystalline substances identified as Methamphetamine

# Central Railway’s bonanza for Ganpati devotees : Central Railway to run 250 Ganpati Special Trains

(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, July 18 : Central Railway will run 250 Ganpati Special Trains for the benefit of Ganpati devotees during the ensuing Ganpati Festival as per details given below.

1) CSMT- Sawantwadi Road –CSMT Daily Special (40 Services)

01151 special will leave Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus at 00.20 hrs daily from 22.08.2025 to 10.09.2025 (20 Trips) and will arrive Sawantwadi Road at 14.20 hrs same day.

01152 special will leave Sawantwadi Road at 15.35 hrs daily from 22.08.2025 to 10.09.2025 (20 Trips) and will arrive Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus at 04.35 hrs next day.

Halts: Dadar, Thane, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Khed, Chiplun, Sawarda, Aravali Road, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Nandgaon Road, Kankavali, Sindhudurg, Kudal and Zarap.

Composition: Two AC-3Tier, 12 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second class and 2 Second Seating cum Guard’s brake van.

2) CSMT- Sawantwadi Road –CSMT Daily Special (36 Services)

01103 special will leave Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus at 15.30 hrs daily from 22.08.2025 to 08.09.2025 (18 Trips) and will arrive Sawantwadi Road at 04.00 hrs next day.

01104 special will leave Sawantwadi Road at 04.35 hrs daily from 23.08.2025 to 09.09.2025 (18 Trips) and will arrive Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus at 16.40 hrs same day.

Halts: Dadar, Thane, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Khed, Chiplun, Kamathe, Sawarda, Aravali Road, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Nandgaon Road, Kankavali, Sindhudurg, Kudal and Zarap.

Composition: Two AC-3Tier, 12 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second class and 2 Second Seating cum Guard’s brake van.

3) CSMT- Ratnagiri – CSMT Daily Special (36 Services)

01153 special will leave Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus at 11.30 hrs daily from 22.08.2025 to 08.09.2025 (18 Trips) and will arrive Ratnagiri at 20.10 hrs same day.

01154 special will leave Ratnagiri at 04.00 hrs daily from 23.08.2025 to 09.09.2025 (18 Trips) and will arrive Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus at 13.30 hrs same day.

Halts: Dadar, Thane, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Karanjadi, Khed, Chiplun, Kamathe, Sawarda, Aravali Road and Sangameshwar Road,

Composition: Two AC-3Tier, 12 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second class and 2 Second Seating cum Guard’s brake van.

6) LTT- Sawantwadi Road –LTT Weekly Special (6 Services)

01129 Weekly special will leave Lokmanya Tilak Terminus at 08.45 hrs every Tuesday on 26.08.2025, 02.09.2025 & 09.09.2025 (3 Trips) and will arrive Sawantwadi Road at 22.20 hrs same day.

01130 Weekly special will leave Sawantwadi Road at 23.20 hrs every Tuesday on 26.08.2025, 02.09.2025 & 09.09.2025 (3 Trips) and will arrive Lokmanya Tilak Terminus at 11.45 hrs next day.

Halts: Thane, Panvel, Pen, Roha. Mangaon, Khed, Chiplun, Sawarda, Aravali Road, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Nandgaon Road, Kankavali, Sindhudurg, Kudal and Zarap.

Composition: Two AC-3Tier, 12 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second class and 2 Second Seating cum Guard’s brake van.

7) LTT-Madgaon-LTT Weekly Special (4 services)

01185 Weekly special will leave Lokmanya Tilak Terminus at 00.45 hrs every Wednesday on 27.08.2025 & 03.09.2025 (2 Trips) and will arrive Madgaon at 14.30 hrs same day.

01186 Weekly special will leave Madgaon at 16.30 hrs every Wednesday on 27.08.2025 & 03.09.2025 (2 Trips) and will arrive Lokmanya Tilak Terminus at 04.50 hrs next day.

Halts: Thane, Panvel, Pen, Roha. Mangaon, Khed, Chiplun, Sangameshwar Road,

Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Kankavali, Sindhudurg, Kudal, Sawantwadi Road, Madure, Thivim and Karmali.

Composition: One AC-1st Class, One AC-2Tier, 5 AC-3Tier, 8 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second class, 1 Generator Car, 2 Second Seating cum Guard’s brake van and 1 Pantry Car (in locked condition).

8) LTT-Madgaon-LTT AC Weekly Special (6 services)

01165 AC Weekly special will leave Lokmanya Tilak Terminus at 00.45 hrs every Tuesday, on 26.08.2025, 02.09.2025 & 09.09.2025 (3 Trips) and will arrive Madgaon at 14.30 hrs same day.

01166 AC Weekly special will leave Madgaon at 16.30 hrs every Tuesday, on 26.08.2025, 02.09.2025 & 09.09.2025 (3 Trips) and will arrive Lokmanya Tilak Terminus at 04.50 hrs next day.

Halts: Thane, Panvel, Pen, Roha. Mangaon, Khed, Chiplun, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Kankavali, Sindhudurg, Kudal, Sawantwadi Road, Madure, Thivim and Karmali.

Composition: One AC-1st Class, 3 AC-2Tier, 15 AC-3Tier, Two Generator Cars and One Pantry Car (in locked condition).

9) Pune-Ratnagiri Weekly Specials (6 Services)

01447 Weekly special will leave Pune at 00:25 hrs every Saturday on 23.08.2025, 30.08.2025 & 06.09.2025 (3 Trips) and will arrive Ratnagiri at 11:50 hrs same day.

01448 Weekly special will leave Ratnagiri at 17:50 hrs every Saturday on 23.08.2025, 30.08.2025 & 06.09.2025 (3 Trips) and will arrive Pune at 05:00 hrs next day.

Halts: Chinchvad, Talegaon, Lonavala, Kalyan, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Karanjadi, Khed, Chiplun, Sawarda, Aravali Road and Sangameshwar Road.

Composition: 1 AC-2

Tier, 4 AC-3 Tier, 11 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second class and 2 second Seating cum Guard’s Brake Van.

10) Pune-Ratnagiri AC Weekly Specials (6 Services)

01445 AC Weekly special will leave Pune at 00:25 hrs every Tuesday on 26.08.2025, 02.09.2025 & 09.09.2025 (3 Trips) and will arrive Ratnagiri at 11:50 hrs same day.

01446 AC Weekly special will leave Ratnagiri at 17:50 hrs every Tuesday on 26.08.2025, 02.09.2025 & 09.09.2025 (3 Trips) and will arrive Pune at 05:00 hrs next day.

Halts: Chinchvad, Talegaon, Lonavala, Kalyan, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Karanjadi, Khed, Chiplun, Sawarda, Aravali Road and Sangameshwar Road.

Composition: 3 AC-2Tier, 15 AC-3Tier, 1 Second Seating cum Guard’s brake van and 1 Generator Car.

11) Diva –Chiplun-Diva MEMU Daily Unreserved Specials (38 services)

01155 MEMU special will leave Diva at 07.15 hrs from 23.08.2025 to 10.09.2025 (19 Trips) and will arrive Chiplun at 14.00 hrs same day.

01156 MEMU special will leave Chiplun at 15.30 hrs from 23.08.2025 to 10.09.2025 (19 Trips) and will arrive Diva at 22.50 hrs same day

Halts: Nilje, Talaja Panchanad, Kalamboli, Panvel, Somatane, Rasayani, Apta, Jite, Hamarapur, Pen, Kasu, Nagothane, Nidhi, Roha, Kolad, Indapur, Mangaon, Goregaon Road, Veer, Sape Wanne, Karanjadi, Vinhere, Diwankhavati, Kalambani Budruk, Khed and Anjani.

Composition: 8 Car MEMU Rakes

Reservation: Bookings for Ganpati Reserved Specials trains will open on 24.07.2025 at all computerised reservation centres and on website www.irctc.co.in

Bookings for Unreserved Coaches can be done through UTS system with normal charges for unreserved accommodation as applicable for superfast Mail/Express trains.

weighing 1.488 kgs.

The seized narcotics, with a combined estimated market value of approximately ₹36 Crore, were taken into custody by Shri Murari Lal, Jr. Intelligence Officer, NCB Bangalore.

The Nigerian woman has been named as Accused No. 3 in case 21/2025/BZU, and further legal proceedings are underway under the supervision of the investigating officer.

This operation showcases the exemplary coordination between multiple law enforcement agencies and their unwavering commitment to eradicating drug trafficking through India’s rail network

# WR to run Five Ganpati special trains to various destinations

(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, July 18 :For the convenience of passengers and with a view to clear the extra rush during the Ganpati Festival 2025, Western Railway will run Special Trains on Special fare between Mumbai Central – Thokur, Mumbai Central – Sawantwadi Road, Bandra Terminus – Ratnagiri, Vadodara – Ratnagiri, & Vishvamitri - Ratnagiri stations.

According to a press release issued by Shri Vineet Abhishek – Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, the details of these trains are as under:

1. Train No. 09011/09012 Mumbai Central – Thokur (Weekly) Special [4 Trips]

Train No. 09011 Mumbai Central – Thokur Special will depart from Mumbai Central on Tuesdays at 11:30 hrs. and will arrive Thokur at 08:50 hrs, the next day. This train will run on 26th August & 2nd September, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09012 Thokur – Mumbai Central Special will depart from Thokur on Wednesdays at 11:00 hrs, and will arrive Mumbai Central at 07:15 hrs. the next day. This train will run on 27th August & 3rd September, 2025.

Enroute this train will halt at Borivali, Vasai Road, Bhiwandi Road, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Khed, Chiplun, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Kankavli, Sindhudurg, Kudal, Sawantwadi Road, Thivim, Kammali, Madgaon Jn, Karwar, Gokarna Road, Kumta, Murdeshwar, Mookambika Road Byndoor, Kundapura, Udupi, Mulki and Surathkal station in both directions.

This train comprises of AC 2-Tier, AC 3-Tier, Sleeper Class and General Second Class coaches.

2. Train No. 09019/09020 Mumbai Central – Sawantwadi Road (4 Days a Week) Special [20 Trips]

Train No. 09019 Mumbai Central – Sawantwadi Road Special will run 4 days a week on Sundays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays. The train will depart from Mumbai Central at 11:30 hrs, and will arrive Sawantwadi Road at

02:30 hrs, the next day. This train will run from 22nd August to 7th September, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09020 Sawantwadi Road – Mumbai Central Special will run 4 days a week i.e on Sundays, Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays. The train will depart from Sawantwadi at 04.50 hrs and will arrive Mumbai Central at 20:10 hrs., the same day. This train will run from 23rd August to 08th September, 2025.

Enroute this train will halt at Borivali, Vasai Road, Bhiwandi Road, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Khed, Chiplun, Sawarda, Aravali Road, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Nandgaon Road, Kankavli, Sindhudurg, Kudal, and Zarap station in both directions.

This train comprises of AC 2-Tier, AC 3-Tier, Sleeper Class and General Second Class coaches.

3. Train No. 09015/09016 Bandra Terminus – Ratnagiri Weekly Special [6 Trips]

Train No. 09015 Bandra Terminus – Ratnagiri Special will depart from Bandra Terminus on Thursdays at 14:20 hrs. and will arrive Ratnagiri at 00:30 hrs, the next day. This train will run from 21st August, to 04th September, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09016 Ratnagiri - Bandra Terminus Special will depart from Ratnagiri on Fridays at 01:30 hrs. and will arrive Bandra Terminus at 12:30 hrs, the same day. This train will run from 22nd August to 5th September, 2025.

Enroute this train will halt at Borivali, Vasai Road, Bhiwandi Road, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Karanjadi, Khed, Chiplun, Sawarda, Aravali Road and Sangameshwar Road station in both directions.

This train comprises of Second Class Seating & General Second Class coaches

4. Train No. 09114/09113 Vadodara - Ratnagiri Weekly Special [4 Trips]

Train No. 09114 Vadodara – Ratnagiri Special will depart from Vadodara on Tuesdays at 11:15 hrs. and will

arrive Ratnagiri at 00:30 hrs, the next day. This train will run on 26th August & 2nd September, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09113 Ratnagiri – Vadodara Special will depart from Ratnagiri on Wednesdays at 01:30 hrs. and will arrive Vadodara at 17:30 hrs, the same day. This train will run on 27th August & 3rd September, 2025.

Enroute this train will halt at Vadodara, Bharuch, Surat, Valsad, Vapi, Palghar, Vasai Road, Bhivandi Road, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Karanjadi, Khed, Chiplun, Sawarda, Aravali Road and Sangameshwar Road station in both directions.

This train comprises of AC First Class, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, AC 3-Tier Economy, Sleeper Class and General Second Class coaches.

5. Train No. 09110/09109 Vishvamitri - Ratnagiri (Bi-weekly ) Special [10 Trips]

Train No. 09110 Vishvamitri - Ratnagiri Special will depart from Vishvamitri on Wednesdays & Saturdays at 10:00 hrs and will arrive Ratnagiri at 00:30 hrs, the next day. This train will run from 23rd August to 6th September, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09109 Ratnagiri – Vishvamitri Special will depart from Ratnagiri on Sundays & Thursdays at 01:30 hrs and will arrive Vishvamitri at 17:30 hrs, the same day. This train will run from 24th August to 7th September, 2025.

Enroute this train will halt at Bharuch, Surat, Valsad, Vapi, Dahanu Road, Palghar, Vasai Road, Bhivandi Road, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Karanjadi, Khed, Chiplun, Sawarda, Aravali Road and Sangameshwar Road station in both directions.

This train comprises of AC 2 Tier, AC 3-Tier, Sleeper Class and General Second Class Coaches.

The booking for Train Nos. 09011, 09019, 09015, 09114, & 09110 will open from 23rd July, 2025 at all PRS Counters and on IRCTC website. The above trains will run as Special Train on Special Fare. For detailed information regarding timings of halts and composition, passengers may please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in.