

IN BRIEF

Nurses strike enter day 4, routine surgeries postponed

Mumbai, July 21 (UNI) :As the strike of the government hospital nurses across the state entered day four today, the routine surgeries are being postponed across Maharashtra as healthcare services face severe disruption due to an indefinite strike by over 30,000 nurses, which began on July 18.

State Government Group-D (Class IV) Employees Federation also today extended its support to striking nurses.

The nurses are demanding immediate cancellation of the contractual hiring process, 100 percent permanent recruitment, and prompt filling of vacant posts through promotions.

Their protest also aims to resolve long-pending pay anomalies under the Seventh Pay Commission.

The Bakshi Committee, formed in 2017 to implement the pay commission, failed to address pay disparities for staff nurses, sister-in-charges, and nursing tutors despite two rounds of recommendations.

Senior citizen held for sexually abusing 2 teens in Mumbai

Mumbai, July 21 (UNI) : The city police have arrested a 62-year-old man for allegedly sexually abusing two teenage girls on the pretext of giving them jobs, an official said today.

According to the details, accused Praful Lodha, a close aide of a BJP leader, was arrested by Sakinaka police after the parents of a 16-year-old girl and her friend lodged a complaint that the victims were allegedly sexually molested by the accused under the pretext of getting them a job.

It was stated that accused had held the victims captive in his house in a city suburb where he tortured and took objectionable pictures of them.

The accused has been booked under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

Need unity in Parliament for national interest: PM

New Delhi, July 21 (UNI) : Describing the monsoon session of Parliament as a victory celebration, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated that the world has witnessed India's military strength following Operation Sindoor, with all objectives having met fully.

Speaking to the media ahead of the session, the Prime Minister praised the operation targeting terror bases, noting that India's delegations of MPs abroad had "exposed" Pakistan on the global stage. He also called on all political parties to come together in Parliament for the national interest.

"Today, I want to say that the country has found unity after Operation Sindoor. Our leaders in Parliament must also stand united," he said referring to the multiparty delegations that visited 33 global capitals to reach out to the international community to emphasise Pakistan's links to terrorism..

PM Modi also praised Operation Sindoor, a military strike carried out on 9 terror targets in Pakistan and



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the media on the first day of the Monsoon session of Parliament, in New Delhi. Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Kiren Rijiju and Ministers of State Jitendra Singh, Arjun Ram Meghwal and L. Murugan are also seen.

Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir to avenge the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack.

"This monsoon session is a celebration of victory. The whole world has seen the strength of India's military power. The target set by the Indian Army in Operation Sindoor was achieved 100 per cent. Under Operation Sindoor, the houses of the masters of terrorists were razed to the

ground within 22 minutes," he said during his nearly 18-minute address

He underscored how the operation showcased India's 'Made in India' military capability, adding that interest in domestically produced defence equipment has surged globally.

"I announced it at an event in Bihar, and our Indian armed forces

demonstrated their strength during this operation. The concept of 'Made in India', which represents a new facet of India's military power, has also captured global attention. Whenever I meet people from various countries, I notice a growing interest in Made in India weapons," he said.

Parliament is set for a stormy monsoon session today, with the Opposition

ready to corner the government on many issues.

These include the intelligence failure in the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam that killed 26 people, India's retaliatory Operation Sindoor targeting terror camps in Pakistan, the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, and a recent plane crash.

The government has said it is open to discussing all issues, including Operation Sindoor, but stressed that debates must be held in accordance with established parliamentary rules and procedures. This marks the first session of Parliament since Operation Sindoor, India's precision strike conducted in the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack.

"The party will also seek response to US President Donald Trump's claims about mediating a ceasefire between India and Pakistan and the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar," Congress's communications in-charge Jairam Ramesh has posted on X.

Govt to move SC challenging acquittal in Mumbai blast case

Mumbai, July 22 (UNI) The Mumbai High Court today acquitted all 12 accused in the 2006 train bombings in the western metropolis, prompting the Maharashtra government to announce that it will challenge the verdict in the Supreme Court. Announcing plans to move the apex judiciary hours after the controversial verdict, state Revenue Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule confirmed that the Devendra Fadnavis government will meticulously evaluate the judgment before filing the appeal. "Chief Minister Fadnavis will examine it personally. We'll approach the Supreme Court only after thorough assessment," he said.

The decision follows intense political pressure after a special bench of Justices Anil Kilar and Shyam Chandak overturned the 2015 convictions, quashing death sentences for five defendants and life terms for seven others.

The High Court delivered a scathing critique of the prosecution's case 19 years after the July 11, 2006, terror attack killed 189 people and injured over 800. Seven coordinated blasts had ripped through first-class compartments on Mumbai's Western Railway line during the evening rush hour. Special Public Prosecutor Raja Thakare detailed fatal lapses in the original case: investigators failed to establish the bomb type used, while confessions obtained three months post-arrest were deemed potentially coerced. The court dismissed seized explosives, weapons, and maps as having "little evidentiary value" and lambasted unreliable witnesses. BJP leaders, including ex-MP Kirit Somaiya, condemned the verdict as "painful and shocking," demanding the investigative and legal teams address probe shortcomings. The state now has 90 days to file a Special Leave Petition upon receiving the certified judgment copy, setting the stage for a protracted legal battle over one of Mumbai's deadliest terror investigation.

HC acquits all 12 in 2006 Mumbai train blasts case, slams 'failed' prosecution

Mumbai, July 21 (UNI) :

In a judicial verdict that has sent shockwaves through the legal community, the Bombay High Court on Monday acquitted all 12 suspects previously convicted in the 2006 Mumbai train blasts case, declaring that the prosecution had "utterly failed" to establish their guilt beyond reasonable doubt.

The judgment, delivered 19 years after the terror attack that claimed over 180 lives and left hundreds injured, was pronounced by a special bench comprising justices Anil Kilar and Shyam Chandak. The bench categorically stated that the evidence presented was insufficient to sustain convictions, observing it was "hard to believe that the accused committed the crime."

The court quashed both the death sentences awarded to five individuals and life imprisonment terms given to the remaining

seven.

The horrific incident occurred on July 11, 2006, when seven coordinated bomb explosions ripped through Mumbai's suburban railway network during evening rush hour, targeting first-class compartments of Western Railway trains.

The blasts occurred over an 11-minute span (6:24 pm to 6:35 pm) at locations including Khar Road-Santacruz, Bandra-Khar Road, Jogeshwari-Mahim Junction, Mira Road-Bhayander, Matunga-Mahim Junction, and Borivali. Pressure cooker bombs designed to maximize casualties killed 189 people and injured over 700.

Following an extensive investigation by Maharashtra's Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), a special MCOCA court convicted all twelve defendants in September 2015. Five – Ehtesham Qutbuddin Siddiqui, Kamal

Ansari, Faisal Atta-ur-Rehman Sheikh, Asif Bashir, and Naveed Hussain – received death sentences. Seven others – Muhammad Ali Sheikh, Sohail Sheikh, Zameer Latif-ur-Rehman, Dr. Tanveer, Muzammil Atta-ur-Rehman Sheikh, Majid Shafi, and Sajid Marghub Ansari – were sentenced to life imprisonment.

The High Court's review exposed fundamental flaws in the prosecution's case. The bench criticized unreliable witnesses, questionable test identification parades, and concerns that confessional statements were extracted through torture.

Noting witnesses remained silent for over four years before suddenly identifying accused – described as "abnormal" – the court highlighted one witness who testified in multiple unrelated cases (including Ghatkopar blasts), severely undermining credibility.



Inclusion of Shivaji's forts in World Heritage Sites is glory ...

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Monday said that the work of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was always global, asserting that the recognition of 12 forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO has given formal recognition to the global nature of his work. "This honour is a source of pride for the entire country and the Marathi people," he said while speaking at a function to celebrate recognition of 12 forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as World Heritage Sites.

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SC rejects ED appeal against quashing of summons to ...



The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed an appeal filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) challenging the Karnataka High Court's decision to quash summons issued to Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife, BM Parvathi, in connection with the Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scam case.

(See on page 4)

Draper targets US Open return after arm injury



British number one Jack Draper has withdrawn from forthcoming tournaments in Toronto and Cincinnati because of an arm injury. But the 23-year-old is targeting a return at the US Open, which begins on August 24. Draper, who reached the US Open semi-finals in 2024, said on social media: "After Wimbledon

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Prashant Kishore slams Kushwaha for demanding



Jan Suraj " founder Prashant Kishor today slammed Rastriya Lok Morcha (RLM) president Upendra Kushwaha for demanding change of JD(U) leadership, saying if he had no faith in leadership of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, it would be better for him to leave NDA with immediate effect.

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Beauty

Tips to look flawless and acne-free in summer



Ensure facial hygiene to avoid acne and rashes in summer
Here are some tips that can help you look flawless and acne-free:

Watch your diet:

One should avoid food such as doughnuts, wheat bread, soda and baked potatoes. Removing sugary and starchy products from your diet will help you control acne and will keep you healthy in the long run.

Avoid stress:

Physical as well as emotional stress has been proven to trigger acne breakouts in some people. Wrong cosmetics: Another common factor responsible for causing acne is the use of certain kinds of cosmetics and cleansing products. Avoid using greasy or harsh products or those whose ingredients you are allergic to. These products tend to clog your skin pores and irritate your skin, and result in acne breakouts.

Facial hygiene:

Wash your face with a gentle cleanser at regular intervals. Splashing fresh water on your facial skin rejuvenates it and the hydration prevents acne and pimples. Include fruits and vegetables in your diet: These foods not only work wonders for your overall health, they are also vital sources of antioxidants, vitamins and other essential nutrients that erase the signs of acne and heal acne-ridden skin.

Hydration:

Make sure you drink lots of water throughout the day. Water flushes out toxins and other impurities from your system and keeps your skin cleansed and hydrated. Avoid a sedentary lifestyle: Try and remain physically active. Yoga and exercise improve your skin and boost metabolism. Wear comfortable clothing: Sport loose clothes that do not irritate your skin. Prevent acne breakouts by avoiding the heat, friction and constant pressure caused by restrictive headgear or other forms of athletic gear. Switch to cotton clothing instead of wearing synthetic.

Clean up after exercise:

Make sure you shower after exercising to get the sweat and grime off as soon as possible. When you sweat after a serious workout, there is an accumulation of dead cells on the surface of your skin. It is essential to remove these immediately to avoid blockages which can then lead to acne breakouts.



Five benefits of having Oily skin

So, you thought it was downright bad to have an oily skin? Well, it's time to think again. The occasional breakouts should not demoralise. Because, here are a five benefits of having an oily skin.

Much slower rate of aging: People with dry skin show the signs of aging much faster than the ones with oily skin. Wrinkles and fine lines get camouflaged by the oily skin. Your skin a natural glow, all the time: The shine on your oily face doesn't look bad all the time. While many buy expensive products to get that shiny T-zone, you have it for free. Isn't that awesome? Your face has natural oils: And these oils keep your skin healthy and soft. Hence, you don't need expensive day or

night creams to protect your skin and make it smooth. Your skin will always be moisturised, season no bar: Your skins natural oils will take care of it. Not only that, your skin is also resilient to the harshness of various environmental conditions. Low maintenance: Yes, you don't need those heavy foundations that wear out in the middle of the day. A simple dash of face powder and you are ready to go.

Tips on packing Jewellery for your travels

If you are an accessory lover, chances are that while packing for a vacations, you end up carrying a fair bit of weight, thanks to your jewellery bag.



But with a few tricks, you can easily reduce your load. Just carry versatile pieces that you can mix and match. We give you a few tips on how you can maximise the use of a few chosen pieces and travel light. Pick versatile and convertible pieces: These make packing convenient because they do the work of more than one piece. For instance, a necklace can easily double up as a stylish bracelet.

Pearl earrings: They won't get in your way while you're navigating through airports. Besides, they add sophistication to the overall look of the outfit.

Your favourite everyday piece: Be it a ring, a bracelet or delicate chain, there are a few pieces that can add to any look. **A dash of colour:** Pick jewellery with pop colours because they have the ability to instantly make a simple black dress chic.

Sparkle and shine: Add a little sparkle to an outfit by wearing a pair of hoop earrings. It's easier than packing another dress.

Makeup on acne?

This could be tricky if you are not aware of the dermatological effects. When you are suffering from acne you need to be careful of what you wear on your skin because the wrong cream or powder can aggravate your condition. However, the right product can, not just camouflage your acne marks but also lend an elusive iridescence to your skin.

Dr Sama Rais, consultant dermatologist and cosmetologist says that if one is suffering from mild acne one must preferably apply light makeup like a daily-wear foundation and a concealer which is non-comedogenic. She adds, "When you have acne you should avoid clogging of pores and so, must not use heavy makeup that cakes up on your face." However, she cautions, "In the initial phase, while undergoing treatments, it is best to avoid makeup till the eruptions settle a bit."

In the later course of the treatment when you have only acne marks left on your skin, experts say, that it is completely okay to wear light makeup.

Covering marks with makeup could also boost one's confidence.

Dr Poonam Wadhvani, cosmetic dermatologist says, "For acne prone skin always apply makeup, which is paraben-free or oil-free or lanolin-free and non-comedogenic."

Choosing the right product is essential, emphasises Dr Wadhvani. She adds, "If one has oily skin, one should never use a creamy, hydrating moisturiser. Rather, one should use a primer, a good foundation and then dust powder on top of it."

Dermatologist Dr Geeta Oberoi calls attention to using minimal makeup on skin that has acne. She states, "Use light makeup to just conceal the marks during the day. But you need to make sure to keep your face makeup free at night or when at home, to avoid clogging of pores." Dr Oberoi also cautions, "Do not use oil as a makeup remover if you have acne. Opt for a double cleansing with a cleanser to remove makeup followed by a medicated face wash."



Let your hair shine in summer



Here are some easy tips to prepare your hair for the season.

- Cleansing

We often end up with various hair problems during the summer - things like hairfall and dandruff are common occurrences due to the build up of dirt and pollution on our scalp. A dirty scalp tends to get really oily and will make our hair feel heavy and unflattering. Therefore, it is important to wash our hair more often in the summer.

Use the Hair Spa Rejuvenation shampoo two to three times a week. The product is infused with hydrating marine minerals complex and essential nutrients that deeply nourish and cleanse the scalp.

- Massage and Condition

It always helps to massage your scalp during the summer as it increases the blood flow, leaves your hair beautifully nourished and will also make you feel rejuvenated.

Once you wash your hair, apply a generous amount of the Hair Spa Rejuvenation massage it with a conditioner to wet hair. The conditioner is especially designed to massage the scalp and moisturize the hair. This prevents it from tangling, making it softer and smoother.

- Protect

We all worry about UV protection for our skin, but what about the hair? UVA and UVB rays can also cause damage to the cuticles leaving your hair dry, frizzy and dull. It's time to get creative with that headgear. Experiment with hats and scarves that will not only make you look stylish, but will also double up and protect your hair from the harsh sun.

- Use hair-friendly tools

and styles

Since your hair is already prone to so much damage in the summer because of all the heat and humidity, we should ensure that all other processes are smooth and hassle-free. If you choose to blow dry your hair, avoid heat and opt for the cool setting. It's there for a reason.

Avoid metal or rubber when buying hair accessories as they can easily entangle the hair causing breakage. Cotton or plastic hair bands will always be safer.

Opt for loose styles such as fishtail braids or a glamorous messy bun that are really summer-friendly and easily be created at home.

- Protect those tresses while swimming

There is no better feeling than taking a dip into cool water during the scorching summer heat.

The pool water is usually loaded with chlorine and other chemicals that can cause damage to the hair. While you may feel good, you will notice that your hair gets frizzy.

When you are in the pool, ensure that you cover up with a swimming cap.

After swim, care is also really important so ensure that you wash and condition your hair with moisturizing hair products.

- Stay healthy

It's not only about what you put on your hair that matters, but also what you put inside your body.

Maintain a diet that is rich in Vitamins, Iron and Zinc that help in preventing your hair from becoming dull, thin and dry.

Indulge in different kinds of berries and fruits like kiwis, oranges and papaya, while also gorging on all things green. Spinach and other leafy vegetables are really high in Iron content and can do wonders for your hair. Don't forget to include a wide variety of nuts

Cleanse and condition your hair well, use the right tools and protect it from heat, humidity and pollution for a healthy shine on your mane.

in your diet as they act as superfoods for you hair. They are rich in Vitamin E which boost blood circulation to the scalp and keeps the hair follicles healthy.

Governor
condoles
demise of V S
Achuthanandan

Mumbai, July 21 (UNI)
: Governor C P Radhakrishnan has expressed grief over the demise of former Kerala Chief Minister V S Achuthanandan.

In a condolence message here today, Governor Radhakrishnan wrote: "I was deeply saddened to learn about the passing of Shri V. S. Achuthanandan, former Chief Minister of Kerala, in Thiruvananthapuram.

Widely regarded as the Bhishmacharya of Kerala politics, Shri Achuthanandan Ji was a towering figure who dominated the political landscape of the State for nearly seven decades. He was a symbol of austerity, simplicity and unwavering integrity in public life.

As one of the longest-serving legislators and the Leader of the Opposition in the Kerala Legislative Assembly, he fearlessly held the government to account, upholding democratic values with great conviction. Always connected to the grassroots, VS will be remembered by the people of Kerala for generations to come for his dedication, courage, and commitment to public service.

"I had the privilege of meeting Shri Achuthanandan and always held him in the highest regard. In his demise, the State has lost a grand patriarch of politics and an outstanding parliamentarian.



A traffic policeman at the flooded Andheri Subway during heavy rain, in Mumbai.

Rains batter Mumbai, Konkan braces
for monster monsoon onslaught

Mumbai, July 21 (UNI)
Torrential monsoon unleashed havoc across Mumbai and its satellite cities early Monday, with the India Meteorological Department slapping an orange alert over Maharashtra's entire Konkan belt, excluding Palghar.

Sheets of rain driven by fierce winds battered Navi Mumbai, Thane, and Raigad districts under thick cloud cover, triggering emergency protocols as Santacruz weather station logged 150mm of downpour within hours starting 8:30 am. IMD Mumbai Director

Shubhangi Bhute pinned the deluge on "easterly monsoon winds concentrating over Konkan," while Mantralay authorities blasted SMS alerts to millions across the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, warning citizens to avoid non-essential movement for the next 3-4 hours. Forecasts until July 25 paint a grim picture: Palghar district faces thunderstorms with heavy rain and 40-50 kmph winds today, downgrading to moderate showers with 30-40 kmph gusts tomorrow before isolated heavy rains hit mid-

week. Thane braces for the worst today with very heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, and 50-60 kmph winds, followed by heavy downpours and 40-50 kmph gusts on Tuesday amid isolated very heavy showers later this week.

Mumbai itself remains in the crosshairs with severe thunderstorms and very heavy rain today, persistent heavy rainfall and 40-50 kmph winds tomorrow, and widespread heavy to very heavy precipitation through Saturday. Officials advised residents across all districts to prioritize safety as the monsoon siege continues.

Victims' families struggle with
shock & disbelief following HC
acquittals in 2006 Mumbai blasts

Mumbai, July 21 (UNI)
The Bombay High Court's

recent decision to acquit all 12 individuals convicted in the 2006 Mumbai train bomb blasts case has left victims' families deeply shocked and disheartened.

Nearly two decades after the tragic serial bombings that claimed 189 lives and injured more than 800, survivors and relatives expressed disbelief that no one was held accountable. Many called the verdict a "shocking twist" that reopened painful wounds and prolonged their struggle for justice.

Family members voiced a profound sense of betrayal by the legal process, highlighting the emotional toll of reliving the tragedy and the uncertainty about accountability.

"How can 189 people die, and no one be held responsible? What do we tell our children now?" one relative lamented, reflecting a widespread frustration at the perceived failure of the justice system. Several families emphasising the lasting trauma it has instilled among those affected by the attack.

Despite their disappointment, victims' families remain resolute in seeking justice. Many are determined to challenge the acquittals in the Supreme Court, hoping for a reversal of the verdict. They also criticised investigative lapses, such as unreliable witness testimonies and coerced confessions, which they believe contributed to the acquittals.

The Maharashtra government is reportedly supporting efforts to file an appeal, aligning with families seeking accountability.

Beyond legal ramifications, the acquittal has renewed the pain for families who lost loved ones. Several relatives shared stories of suffering endured through years of protracted trials and expressed that public faith in the justice system has been severely undermined. They called on civil society and authorities to back their pursuit of justice and ensure such tragedies are never left unresolved.

The Bombay High Court's verdict marks a challenging chapter for those impacted by the 2006 blasts, underscoring

ongoing demands from victims' families for truth, responsibility, and closure after nearly two decades of hardship. The coming weeks are likely to see intensified advocacy efforts and further legal battles in pursuit of justice on their behalf.

Inclusion of Shivaji's forts in World
Heritage Sites is glory for India: CM

Mumbai, July 21 (IANS)
: Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Monday said that the work of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was always global, asserting that the recognition of 12 forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO has given formal recognition to the global nature of his work.

"This honour is a source of pride for the entire country and the Marathi people," he said while speaking at a function to celebrate recognition of 12 forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as World Heritage Sites.

He said that the Central government gave priority to the nomination of 12 forts sent by the Maharashtra government and officially recommended 12 forts to UNESCO.

Various states from across the country had suggested many places, but Prime Minister

Narendra Modi was insistent that only the forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj should represent India. For this, the Central and State Governments took the initiative.

While explaining the various aspects of the architecture of the forts and explaining their historical and strategic importance, he said that the forts of Rajgad, Raigad, Pratapgad, Sindhudurg, Vijaydurg, Suvarnadurg, and Khanderi are not just historical monuments, but are the pillars of Swarajya.

"It is still difficult to understand how difficult it was to build these water forts at that time. However, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj made the impossible possible. 32 lakh kg of lime and 10 lakh kg of iron were used in the construction of Sindhudurg Fort. He said that this shows the Maharaj's foresight and administrative skills," he

remarked.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the role of forts in governance. A fort is the foundation of the state. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj used to say that while protecting 363 forts, no imperial power would be able to take over Swarajya. Regarding this historic moment, he said, "I accept this award on behalf of everyone who contributed to this success."

While accepting the award from renowned musician Pandit Hridaynath Mangeshkar on this glorious occasion, the Chief Minister said, "His music and songs have created a glow of patriotism and self-respect in the hearts of Marathi people. The inspiration derived from 'Shivkalyan Raja' is as inspiring even today."

Cultural Affairs Minister Ashish Shelar said that the prowess of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is unique and

incomparable. The tenure of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is an unprecedented example of war strategy, bravery and good governance. He praised the work of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as astonishing.

"Among the numerous forts built, erected and reconstructed by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, 12 important forts were included in the proposal 'Maratha Military Landscape'. Out of these, 11 forts are in Maharashtra, and one is Jinji Fort in Tamil Nadu. The foundation stone of this proposal was laid during the tenure of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis," he said.

On this occasion, a program based on the life of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was held, featuring Marathi songs, memorial songs, and the Shivarajyabhishek ceremony in the Janata Raja Mahanaty.

Civic chief mentors youngsters through immersive programme

Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar, July 21 (UNI)
Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar Municipal Commissioner, G Srikanth, has turned his official Jal Shree residence into an unconventional learning hub, hosting municipal school students weekly for leadership development under his pioneering "Main Commissioner Banu Ga" initiative.

Every Saturday, students spend two immersive hours at the bungalow through the "Smart School to Best School" project, building self-confidence while gaining firsthand civic governance exposure.

This week, Brijwadi Municipal School pupils engaged in kabaddi, kho

kho, cricket, and rope-jumping on the commissioner's grounds before embarking on an educational tour of the property's historic Nizamera water tank.

Officials demonstrated the 1.5-million-litre reservoir that supplies the old city, explaining its unique water-level gauge mechanism and historical significance – an experience that prompted students to pledge water conservation and community awareness.


The visit culminated in a candid discussion with Commissioner Srikanth, where Class 7 student Muskan Pathan captivated attendees by reciting a poem of gratitude. Pathan declared her determination to become an IAS or IPS officer, crediting the commissioner's intervention with preventing her school's closure.

Moved by her resolve, Srikanth personally draped a shawl around Pathan

while offering encouragement for her ambitions.

The initiative was coordinated by Deputy Commissioner and Education Head Ankish Pandhare with Control Officer Ganesh Dandij.

Programme Officer Gyandev Sangle, Principal Tilotma Mapari, teachers Keshav Tambe, Dinesh Pachlore, Ambadas Karale, and nurse Anita Waghmare witnessed the transformative session.



**MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
OF GREATER MUMBAI**

Advertising of expression of interest
Subject: Regarding filling up of vacant posts of multipurpose labours in E Ward crematorium on contractual basis.

In E Ward under the vacant posts in the crematorium on contractual basis through voluntary organizations / company with 1 year of experience in providing multipurpose workers on contractual basis in Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation Crematorium should apply. Interested organizations and company registered in the Provident Fund State and Employees Insurance Scheme (the purpose of establishment of these organizations should be to provide employment to their members) etc. We are inviting applications from the organizations and company to prepare their eligibility list and select them by lottery.

The application can be obtained office in E Ward Assistant Engineer (Maintenance Dept) from 22/7/2025 to 29/7/2025 time from 10.30 to 3.00. Interested organizations & company should contact the Assistant Engineer (Maintenance Dept) office in E Ward for more details, application form and affidavit form. The last date for application by the organization & company is 29/7/2025 Time 5.00. Applications submitted after the specified office hours will not be considered.

Sd/-
PRO/1063/ADV/2025 - 26


**Assistant Engineer
(E Ward-
Maintenance Dept)**

Avoid self medication.

PUBLIC NOTICE
(For Transfer Of Ind. Plot No. 1717, shed situated in GIDC, UMBERGAON)
Notice is hereby given that, an Industrial Plot No. 1717, having it's plot area 1000.00 Sq. Mtrs. alongwith factory shed standing thereon, consisting Ground Floor + one storyed, having total construction area 597.76 Sq. Mtrs. Built Up, being situated in GIDC industrial area of UMBERGAON, Dist - Valsad, Gujarat State, is absolutely belongs to a partnership firm namely M/s. INDUSTRIAL METALS, consisting it's partners 1) SYED GULAM MOHAMMED (50%) AND 2) AJAZ GULAM MOHAMMAD (25%) AND 3) SYED ABID AJAZ (12.50%) AND 4) ASIF AJAZ SAYED (12.50%) and the said property is registered in the name of M/s. INDUSTRIAL METALS on GIDC records of VAPI.
But, out of the said partners, 1) SYED GULAM MOHAMMED expired on 23/07/1996 AND 2) AJAZ GULAM MOHAMMAD expired on 27/07/2023 AND 3) SYED ABID AJAZ expired on 03/02/2014. The partner No. 4) ASIF AJAZ SAYED is the only legal heirs of said deceased partners as well as he is also a legal remaining partner of said business. So, he wants to transfer the said entire property in his personal name being prop. of M/s. INDUSTRIAL METALS OR in his personal name on GIDC records. Therefore, any person being legal heir of late: 1) SYED GULAM MOHAMMED AND 2) AJAZ GULAM MOHAMMAD AND 3) SYED ABID AJAZ, having any objections OR claim against transfer of said property in the name of ASIF AJAZ SAYED on GIDC records, are hereby required to file their written objections alongwith all the supporting relevant documents to me on my below mentioned address within 10 (TEN) DAYS from the date of Publication of this notice. Failing which, it shall be presumed that, the claim / claims if any, shall be deemed to have been waived and abandoned forever, So, thereafter no claim or objection of any person OR party shall be accepted OR considered by GIDC, which kindly be noted.
ADDRESS: Aditya Darshan Building, First Floor, Above Bank of Baroda, At & Post - Umbergaon 396170, Dist - Valsad, Gujarat State, Mob-9825155117

**ULHAS I. TANDEL
(Advocate)**

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Notice No. WDS/29/Forklift/2025-27
NAME OF THE WORK: HIRING OF 3 TON DIESEL OPERATED FORKLIFTS WITH OPERATOR AND FUEL AT DIESEL LOCO SHED, VISAKHAPATNAM FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS (QUANTITY: 3 NOS FORKLIFTS X 730 DAYS =2190 VEHICLE.DAYS).
Approx cost of the Work: ₹54,27,214.20, EMD : ₹ 1,08,600/-, Cost of Tender Document : ₹ 5,900/-, Completion Period of the Work : 24 Months (02 Years).
Tender Closing Date and Time : At 1500 Hrs. of 14.08.2025.
Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website : www.ireps.gov.in
Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 10 (Ten) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes / corrigendum issued for this tender.
Sr. Divl. Mechanical Engineer (DJ)
PR-376/Q/25-26 Visakhapatnam




BRIHANMUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

e-TENDER NOTICE

Department	Chief Engineer (Sewerage Operation)
Section	Dy. Ch. Engg. (S.O.) City
	Ex. Eng. Mech (S) Bandra Zone.
Tender No.	2025_MCGM_1201324_1
Subject	Repairing, Servicing, Testing & Commissioning of 6.6 KV Vacuum Circuit Contractor trolley with allied works at Influent Pumping Station Bandra.
Tender Sale	From Dt: 23-07-2025 from 11.00 Hours To Dt: 31-07-2025 upto 16.00 Hours
Web site	https://mahatenders.gov.in
Contact Officer	Ex. Eng. Mech. (S) Bandra Zone.
A) Name	Shri A. J. Chavan
B) Telephone (Office)	022-24464750
C) Mobile No.	8779270575
D) e-mail ID	ipsbandra@gmail.com

PRO/1072/ADV/2025-26
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Dy. Ch. Eng. (S.O.) City
15-07-2025



MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

E-tender notice (2nd Call)

MSETCL invites online bids (E-Tender) from registered contractors/agencies on Mahatransco E-Tendering website <https://srmetender.mahatransco.in> for following works under EHV O&M Division, Kalwa.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Estimated Amount in Rs.	Nature of Work	Download of tender documents Date
1	EE/EHV/(O&M)/Dn./KLW/ TENDER/21/ 2025-26	5,99,954.73	Work of hiring of MMV i.e. Mahindra Bolero Pickup / private tempo to attend the maintenance / breakdown work of the lines of EHV Line maintenance S/Dn., Kalwa under EHV (O&M) Dn., Kalwa. (RFx. No. 7000036651)	Tender Downloading Dates & time. From Dt. 22.07.2025 To Dt. 31.07.2025 up to 10:00 Hrs. Technical Opening :- Dt. 31.07.2025 at 11:00 hrs. (Onwards if possible) Commercial Opening:- Dt. 31.07.2025 at 14:00 hrs. (Onwards if possible)

Tender fee :- Rs. 500+GST

Contact Person : The Executive Engineer, Mob. No. 9930496231.

For further details visit our Mahatransco E-Tendering website <https://srmetender.mahatransco.in>
Note :- All eligible interested contractors are mandated to get enrolled on SRM E-Tender portal (New) - <https://srmetender.mahatransco.in>.

Sd/-
EE, EHV (O&M) Dn., Kalwa

STANDARD POST

New genetic test can predict obesity risk in adulthood by age 5

In a significant breakthrough, an international team of researchers has created a genetic test called a polygenic risk score (PGS) that predicts the risk of obesity in early childhood.

The test, which predicts the risk of obesity by age 5, may be key to identifying children and adolescents at higher genetic risk of developing the condition. It may help to target them with preventative strategies, such as lifestyle interventions, at a younger age.

"What makes the score so powerful is its ability to predict, before the age of five, whether a child is likely to develop obesity in adulthood, well before other risk factors start to shape their weight later in childhood. Intervening at this point can have a huge impact," said lead author Roelof Smit, Assistant Professor from the NNF Center for Basic Metabolic Research (CBMR) at the University of Copenhagen and of the research published in Nature Medicine.

"This new polygenic score is a dramatic improvement in predictive power and a leap forward in the genetic prediction of obesity risk, which brings us much closer to clinically useful genetic testing," added Professor Ruth Loos from the varsity.

The World Obesity Federation expects more than half the global population to develop overweight or obesity by 2035. Obesity is a known precursor to many diseases like hypertension, diabetes, heart disease, and cancer.

The PGS test, involving more than 600 scientists from 500 institutions globally, was developed by drawing on genetic data from over five million people.

PGS acts like a calculator that combines the effects of the different risk variants that a person carries and provides an overall score.

The team found that their new PGS was twice as effective as the previous best test at predicting a person's risk of developing obesity.

The scientists also investigated the relationship between a person's genetic risk of obesity and the impact of lifestyle weight loss interventions, such as diet and exercise.

They discovered that people with a higher genetic risk of obesity were more responsive to interventions but also regained weight more quickly when the interventions ended.

However, the new PGS has its limitations. Despite drawing on the genomes of a broader, more globally representative population, it was far better at predicting obesity in people with European-like ancestry than in people with African ancestry.

Advanced Spine Care with Robotics Enhances Precision, Safety, and Faster Recovery

(Standard Post Bureau) Robotic Spine Surgery is redefining spinal care with higher precision and more reliable outcomes

Back or neck pain can affect your ability to move comfortably, work efficiently, or enjoy daily life. In some cases, surgery becomes necessary to correct underlying spinal conditions and restore quality of life. Robotic Advanced Spine Care with Robotics enhances precision, safety, and faster recovery to spinal procedures. With the help of advanced technology, this approach is transforming the way spine problems are treated, offering better outcomes and improved comfort for patients.

What is Robotic Spine Surgery?

Robotic spine surgery is a modern technique that helps surgeons perform spine operations with greater accuracy.

Before the operation begins, a detailed 3D scan of the patient's spine is obtained, allowing the surgical team to meticulously plan every aspect of the procedure. During surgery, the robotic arm and navigation software work together to guide the placement of implants with exceptional precision, minimizing trauma to surrounding tissues.

Key Advantages of



Dr. Puneet Girdhar, Principal Director & Head Centre for Ortho Spine & Robotic Spine Surgery, BLK-MAX Super Speciality Hospital New Delhi

Robotic Spine Surgery

Higher Accuracy and Precision: Robotic guidance allows the surgeon to work with sub-millimetre precision. This reduces the chances of errors and improves the overall success of the surgery.

Minimally Invasive Procedure: With smaller incisions and less muscle cutting, robotic spine surgery leads to less blood loss, less pain, and fewer complications.

Faster Recovery: Because it's less invasive, patients usually spend less time in the hospital—often just 1 or 2 days—and

recover faster at home.

Less Pain After Surgery: Patients report lower levels of post-operative pain compared to traditional surgery. This means fewer pain medications and an easier healing process.

Reduced Risk of Complications: The precise placement of screws and implants helps avoid nerve damage, infection, or implant failure, giving better long-term results.

Better Long-Term Spine Health: Accurate alignment of the spine supports better posture, movement, and overall spinal stability for years to come.

A Second Chance with

Revision Spine Surgery

For those who are unsatisfied with previous spine surgery or experiencing ongoing pain, robotic-assisted revision spine surgery offers a safer and more precise solution. It helps correct complications from past procedures with improved planning and accuracy, reducing risks and enhancing long-term outcomes.

Is Robotic Spine Surgery Right for You?

This technology is ideal for those who haven't found relief from medications, injections, or physiotherapy. It's often recommended for conditions such as:

Herniated or slipped discs

Spinal stenosis (narrowing of the spinal canal)

Scoliosis (curved spine)

Degenerative spine diseases

Spinal fractures or deformities

Spinal instability

Conclusion

Robotic spine surgery is redefining spinal care with higher precision, quicker recovery, and more reliable outcomes. Whether it's your first surgery or a revision to fix previous issues, robotic technology—guided by expert hands—offers new hope for lasting relief and a pain-free, active life. Best Regards.

Kia Launches its First Made-In-India Electric Vehicle Built for the India that Moves Together

(Standard Post Bureau)

Kia India, a leading mass-premium automaker, today launched its first made-in-India electric vehicle, the Carens Clavis EV, starting at INR 17.99 lacs. Designed to meet the evolving needs of prospective EV customers, the Carens Clavis EV offers a unique blend of space, clever features, and flexibility without compromising on affordability. Whether it is a long road trip with friends or family, a quick

weekend getaway, or a regular inter-city commute, the Carens Clavis EV is designed to handle it all with ease. With its inclusive design and impressive performance, it embodies Kia's vision of electric mobility that goes beyond a select few, making it a vehicle for everyone who seeks—smarter, greener, and more practical driving experience.

Commenting on the announcement, Mr. Gwanggu Lee, Managing

Director and CEO of Kia India, said, "We are committed to leading the future of electric mobility through innovation, sustainability and a deep understanding of evolving consumer needs. Over the years, we have built a strong global EV portfolio and are proud to bring that expertise to India.

The Carens Clavis EV represents the next step in this journey. It is built on three core pillars — our proven global EV

technology, advanced features that simplify the driving experience, and our unique RV philosophy that stands for movement, flexibility, and togetherness. The Kia Carens Clavis EV, India's first Electric RV, has been thoughtfully built for a nation that moves with ambition and togetherness. Inspired by India, our first made-in India electric vehicle carries forward the idea of 'E-We' defining a new way to move."

CM of Assam Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma performs Bhoomi Poojan for expansion of Purabi Dairy plant at Panjabari

(Standard Post Bureau)

In a significant boost to Assam's dairy sector, Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam participated in the Bhoomi Poojan ceremony organised by West Assam Milk Producers' Cooperative Union Ltd (WAMUL) for the expansion of Purabi Dairy plant at Panjabari, Guwahati on July 20, 2025. The upgraded facility will double the plant's milk processing capacity from 1.5 lakh litres per day (LLPD) to 3 lakh litres per day (LLPD). Shri Jogen Mohan, Minister of Cooperation, Government of Assam; Shri Krishnendu Paul, Minister of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Government of Assam; Shri Ravi Kota, Chief Secretary,

Government of Assam; Dr Meenesh Shah, Chairman, National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and other dignitaries graced the occasion.

The Rs 104 crore expansion project is in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between WAMUL and NDDB during the Advantage Assam 2.0 Summit in February of this year. This initiative is part of a larger effort to strengthen the dairy value chain and ensure sustainable livelihoods for rural milk producers.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister stated, "The expansion of the Purabi Dairy plant is a crucial step towards realising our vision

of a self-reliant Assam in the dairy sector. By doubling the processing capacity of this plant, we are not only ensuring better market access for a larger number of dairy farmers in the state but also enhancing nutritional security for our people. I congratulate NDDB and Purabi Dairy for their efforts in strengthening Assam's dairy ecosystem and supporting rural livelihoods."

Dr Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDB & WAMUL stated, "It is a momentous occasion for Purabi Dairy and the cooperative families we represent. The expansion of the Purabi Dairy plant is a testament to the power of cooperative efforts and strategic vision. With this



expansion, we are building the capacity needed to support a growing dairy network, improving milk collection, streamlining processing and reaching more consumers across the region. WAMUL and

SC rejects ED appeal against quashing of summons to Karnataka CM's wife in MUDA case

New Delhi, July 21 (UNI) The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed an appeal filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) challenging the Karnataka High Court's decision to quash summons issued to Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife, BM Parvathi, in connection with the Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scam case. A bench comprising Chief Justice of India BR Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran observed that political battles should be fought outside the court and questioned the ED's role in pursuing such cases.

"Unfortunately, I have some experience in Maharashtra. Please do not force us to say something. Otherwise, we will have to say something very harsh about the Enforcement Directorate. Let political battles be fought among the electorate. Why are you being used for it?" CJI Gavai remarked. Appearing for the ED, additional solicitor general SV Raju said, "Okay, we will withdraw. But let it not be treated as a precedent."

Rejecting the appeal, the court said it found no error in the reasoning adopted by the High Court single judge who had quashed the summons. "We do not find any error in the reasoning adopted in the approach of the single judge. In the peculiar facts and circumstances, we dismiss it. We should thank you, ASG, for saving some harsh comments," the bench added.

The case relates to allegations of corruption and irregular allocation of land by MUDA to Parvathi.

As per the complaint, over three acres of land were 'gifted' to her by her brother Swamy, who had bought it in 2004 after it was acquired and de-notified.

Although MUDA developed the land despite its private ownership, Parvathi sought compensation, allegedly receiving inflated compensation, including 14 developed alternate plots valued far higher than the original land under a 50:50 scheme. She later surrendered the land back to the authorities.

Earlier, on March 7, Justice M Nagaprasanna of the Karnataka High Court quashed the ED's summons issued to Parvathi as well as to Minister Byrathi Suresh, who was not named as an accused but was sought to be questioned by the agency. This led to the ED approaching the apex court, which has now upheld the High Court's decision.

Centre has no proposal for development of drone corridor to tackle nature's fury in Odisha

Bhubaneswar, July 21 (UNI) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has not conducted any feasibility studies to boost drone and small aircraft logistics in cyclone and flood-prone areas, Murlidhar Moho, Minister of State civil aviation told the Rajya Sabha today.

To a query by Odisha RS member Sujeet Kumar on whether the Central Government proposes to build dedicated drone lanes in the State of Odisha for use in medical supply delivery, disaster response, and agricultural service, the Minister said "there is no such proposal under consideration currently in the Ministry of Civil Aviation". The Ministry of Civil Aviation has undertaken several initiatives under the Regional Connectivity Scheme- Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) to enhance regional air connectivity in Odisha, beyond the capital city of Bhubaneswar, the Minister informed.

growth." Operated by the West Assam Milk Producers' Cooperative Union Ltd. (WAMUL) under the Purabi Dairy brand, the Panjabari plant is the largest dairy processing facility in Northeast India.

Tech& Career

No matter where your career takes you in the future, the memory of your first job will live with you for the rest of your life. Your first job, which represents your transition from college to the corporate world, must be replete with learning opportunities and provide a strong platform for building a solid foundation that can ensure that your career is on the growth track.

Profile first

The work you do is very important. A very crucial parameter in choosing your first job is the profile on offer. Choose a job that exactly fits your interests, does justice to your educational qualifications and career aspirations and is something you are passionate about.

Explains Nishant Kantawala, founder and CEO, IndieMix, "Many freshers make the error of ranking salary as the most important criteria while evaluating job offers. Always remember that money is not always important. You have the rest of your career to grow your earnings. Instead, focus on the quality of work you pursue."

Considering the fact that most companies are branching out to multiple locations today, both in India and abroad, freshers must also be open to exploring locations beyond their home city. To veto an interesting opportunity just because it involves re location may be a decision you will later regret; working in varied locations will enrich your personality and add value to your profile.

Learning is the key

Since your first job is all about learning and development, ensure that you imbibe crucial skills that are integral in building your career.

"You should work in an organisation

which supports and facilitates learning to the best of its ability. For example, an organisation with an extensive training and development programme for workers would be highly beneficial. Planned training programmes will give structure and rigour to your training," believes Prabha Shankar, recruitment consultant, Shell Consulting India.

Agrees Srishti Roy, creative head, Orange Vistas, "I was recruited from campus as a trainee at my first job with a leading creative agency. It was an extremely well planned, hands-on experience, exposing me to all aspects and workings of the business. This gave me a very grounded, yet holistic view of the industry and helped me perform well at work."

Corporates vs start-ups

There is no right or wrong answer to

the debate between working at an established corporate or a start-up.

A first job with an established corporate will add weight to your CV and give you the opportunity to learn coveted business practices. However, life at a start-up will be dynamic and provide you a range of hands-on experiences across different profiles. While both start-ups and corporates have their merits and demerits, remember that the industry you choose to work in matters more.

"My advice would be to enter a booming or upcoming sector or industry. There is no point joining a sector which is incurring losses, as this limits your growth, learning, opportunities and the buzz of activity within the sector" opines Kantawala.

Lasting impression

It's all too easy to get misguided while choosing your first job. People around you will always have an opinion on the matter --whether family relatives or peers. Additionally, companies and hiring agent will make their own pitches to you. Spend time doing thorough research on the company, its policies,



the industry, etc, to craft your own point of view.

Don't hesitate to ask your recruiter questions. Many freshers hesitate to seek clarifications to their doubts as they are unsure about how their questions will be received. Obtain absolute clarity about the job before you take a binding decision.

Don't make the error of looking at your first professional stint as just another job; rather, value it as the building blocks of your career.

Mesh networks may become the 'New web'



At a time when web users in India are fighting for an open internet, an alternate technology that provides connectivity without internet or mobile coverage is gaining ground.

Called mesh networks, the technology allows smartphones to connect to one another via Bluetooth and peer-to-peer Wi-Fi. The more the number of users, the stronger the networks, which is why these are sometimes called self-healing networks. A number of Indian firms — AirJaldi Networks and Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF), among them — are using this technology to provide internet connectivity in rural areas. US-based startup Open Garden Technologies, a pioneer in this technology, is also active in India through its messaging app Firechat.

"When we started the company, we always wanted to advocate net neutrality, access to information. What you want is to preserve the integrity and the level of innovation happening on the internet," said Micha Benoliel, CEO of Open Garden. Jayant Kolla, analyst at research firm Convergence Catalyst, said it is easy to leverage mesh networks for simple applications like messaging, either between people

or devices. Firechat came to use in Kashmir at the end of March when the state experienced relentless rainfall, invoking memories of last year's flood."During these days, we saw how Firechat is useful by enabling crowd-sourcing of information at the hyper local level, and instant dissemination at the global level," said Benoliel, whose app has been used around the world during crises as well as in civil disobedience movements such as Hong Kong's Umbrella Revolution.

DEF, a non-profit, has provided connectivity to 30 rural schools and more than 50 village councils in Madhya Pradesh through mesh networking. Himachal Pradesh-based AirJaldi provides wireless connectivity in six states in the country. Providing full-scale wireless connectivity with mesh networks is a different game altogether, said Kolla. To establish connectivity through mesh networks, an operator would need small cell towers that in turn would talk to a base station and finally to an internet service provider, which makes this a difficult business to scale, he said. "But the advantages they provide for a geography like India, with little connectivity and penetration, is undeniable," said Kolla.

A new research done on email usage has found that nearly 90 percent of users reply to their emails within a day and majority of them reply within just two minutes.

Many of us reply to our

Emails in just 2 mins

Researches of Yahoo Labs in California and Spain analyzed the email habits of 2 million users who exchanged 16 billion emails in 7 months and observed that emails that were replied within just 2 minutes were as short as between 5 and 43 words, ABC News reported. The research later discovered that the frequency of reply as well as the

length of the email was increased as the email exchanges or conversation progressed, but at the end, e-mailers lost steam possibly because there was nothing left to say.

The researchers also observed that

emails sent on the weekend or overnight got slower and shorter, and the ones sent in the morning had faster and longer replies.

On the other hand research showed that teens and youngsters answered their emails faster than any other group whereas ones over 51 years of age took an average of 47 minutes to send an email.

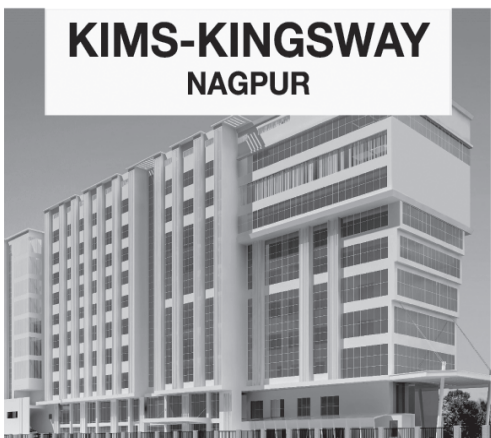
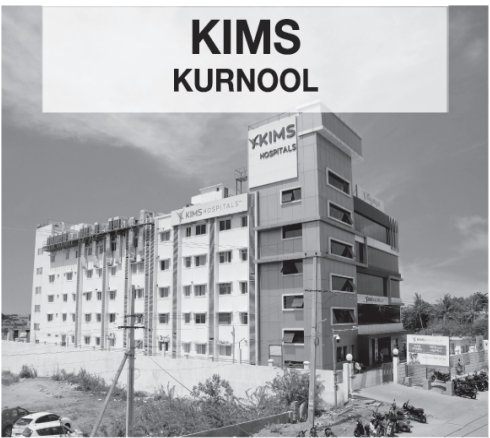
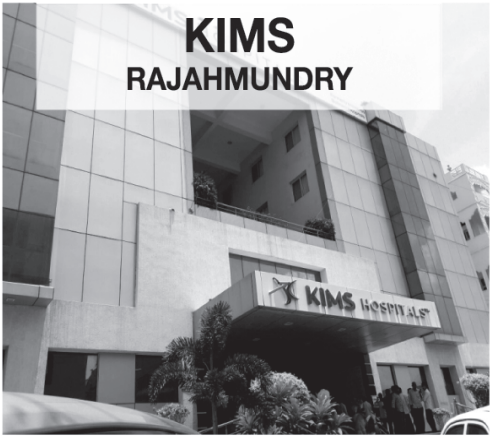
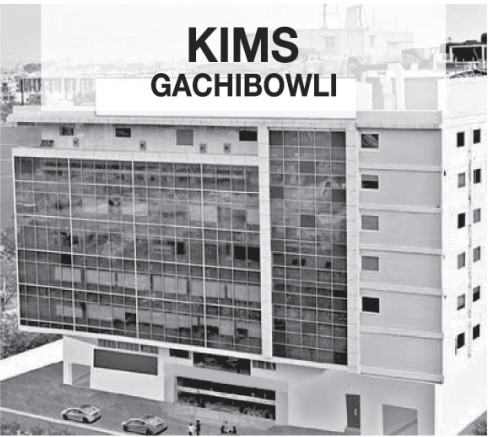
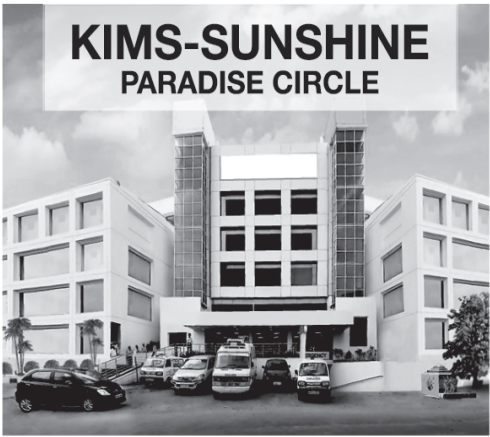
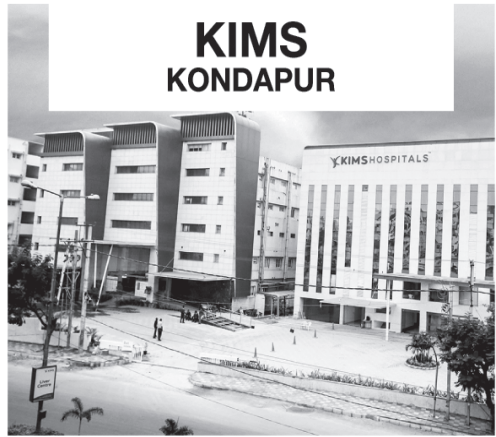
Also people who were bombarded with 100 emails or more per day only bothered answering about 5 percent of them, compared to a 25 percent average email response rate for people who had less amount of mails to manage.



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ISL clubs aim for positive momentum

Kolkata, July 21 (UNI) The Durand Cup is set to kick off its 134th edition, starting on July 23.

Established in 1888, the Durand Cup is the oldest football tournament in Asia. Named after its founder, Henry Mortimer Durand, the iconic competition holds a significant distinction in Indian football.

The tournament will feature 24 teams competing, with six group winners and the two best second-placed teams advancing to the knockout round.

ISL teams have participated in every edition since the 2021 campaign and have won each of those editions. The competition has also helped youngsters and foreigners get into the groove in Indian football in the past.

For the 2025 edition the total cash prize money pool will increase three times to Rs 3 Crore. Along with the winners and runners-up, teams reaching the semi-finals and quarterfinals along with three individual awards will also receive a share of the prize pool.

Kolkata will host two groups and a total of 15 matches, including a quarter-final and one semifinal. The final will be played at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (VYBK).

East Bengal FC, Mohun Bagan Super Giant, Mohammedan SC, NorthEast United FC, Jamshedpur FC, and Punjab FC are the six Indian Super League (ISL) clubs that will participate in this year's tournament.

The Red and Gold Brigade will kickstart the campaign, as they will feature in the opening match against South United FC. Drawn in Group A, East Bengal FC will face Indian Air Force FT and Namdhari FC in the other group stage fixtures.

East Bengal FC were runners-up in the 2023 edition but endured a disappointing campaign in 2024 after losing out to Shillong Lajong FC in the quarter-finals. Oscar Bruzon's side will be aiming

to bounce back strongly as they go again.

The Mariners, the runners-up of the 2024 edition, and the Black and White Brigade find themselves in Group B. Both Kolkata giants are placed in the same group, along with Diamond Harbour FC and BSF FT. The Kolkata derby arguably is the biggest game to watch out for in this group, where Mohun Bagan Super Giant face Mohammedan SC on July 31 at the Kishore Bharati Krirangan in an evening fixture.

Other ISL sides, Jamshedpur FC and Punjab FC, are placed in Groups C and D, respectively. The Men of Steel will play all three group-stage matches at the JRD Tata Sports Complex in Jamshedpur, a venue where they proved formidable during the ISL 2024-25 season. On the other side, the Shers will travel to Kokrajhar for their Group D fixtures.

Jamshedpur FC did the double over Punjab FC in the ISL 2024-25 season and will be looking to continue their winning run against the Shers under the tutelage of head coach Khalid Jamil. Meanwhile for Punjab FC, the target will be to better their quarter-final finish from the 2024 edition, where they lost to Mohun Bagan Super Giant on penalties.

Defending champions, NorthEast United FC, are drawn in Group E. Having won their first club trophy in the previous edition, Juan Pedro Benali's side will be raring to go again and put on a strong show in front of their home fans.

Joining the Highlanders in this group are Rangdajied United FC, Shillong Lajong FC, and the Foreign Services Team, with all group fixtures set to be played at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Shillong.

NorthEast United FC's clash with Shillong Lajong FC also promises to be a thrilling encounter and is set to reignite the Northeast rivalry, a rematch of the 2024 semis where NEUFC came out on top after a hard-fought 2-0 win.

Arsenal short of numbers after £123m spend: Arteta

London, July 21 (UNI) : Mikel Arteta said Arsenal are "short on numbers" and are looking to "improve the depth and quality" of the squad.

The Gunners have been busy in the transfer market and have completed deals for Martin Zubimendi, Kepa Arrizabalaga, Christian Norgaard and Noni Madueke for a total of about £123.5m. They are also still in negotiations for the 73.5m euros (£63.5m) transfer of Sporting striker Viktor Gyokeres and working to bring in young defender Cristhian Mosquera from Valencia.

Arsenal had been hoping to finalise a deal for Sweden international Gyokeres and include him on their pre-season tour but a transfer has yet to be completed, although Arteta has not ruled out new signings joining them in Asia.

"I cannot comment on any player who is not part of our group yet. When we have something concrete to offer in any case to any player, we will do that," Arteta said when asked about the arrival of 27-year-old Gyokeres.

Asked whether there could be more new signings joining his 30-man squad while they are travelling, Arteta said: "There's still a long time in the window and we are seeking still." "In terms of numbers, we are short and we have to improve the depth and quality of the squad. We are constantly looking in the market.

"Until that happens, [we] focus on the players we have - and I'm very pleased with what I have seen in the last 10-15 days."

Arsenal are in Singapore for matches against AC Milan and Newcastle before they travel to Hong Kong for a game with rivals Tottenham, according to a BBC news.



In this image posted by @BCCI on X, players and coaches of Indian cricket team and Manchester United during an interaction, in Manchester, England on Monday.

Sports instill courage, strength & determination in youth: CM Sai

Raipur, July 21 (UNI) : Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai attended the closing ceremony and prize distribution event of the WAKO India National Kickboxing Championship 2025, held at the Sardar Balbir Singh Juneja Indoor Stadium here last evening.

Welcoming around 1,200 athletes and 300 coaches from 28 states across India, CM Sai said it was a matter of pride for Chhattisgarh, the maternal home of Lord Shri Ram and the sacred land of Mata Kaushalya, to host a prestigious national sporting event. He thanked the WAKO India National Kickboxing Federation for choosing Chhattisgarh as the host state.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister highlighted the unique cultural and

ecological identity of Chhattisgarh.

Describing it as a small but resource-rich state in central India, he said, "Nearly 44% of Chhattisgarh is covered by lush green forests, including the remote and dense Abujhmad region, where even sunlight struggles to reach."

He also spoke of the state's scenic waterfalls, ancient caves, mineral wealth, and vibrant tribal culture.

Sai reiterated that, in line with Union Home Minister Amit Shah's firm resolve, Naxalism in the state is nearing its end.

He urged participants to take time to explore the state's natural beauty and cultural heritage during their stay.

"Kickboxing instills courage, resilience, and determination in youth," he

remarked, adding that the championship would significantly boost Chhattisgarh's growing presence on the national sports map. Commending the Kickboxing Association of Chhattisgarh for its successful organisation of the event, the Chief Minister said, "Sports are an essential part of life. They not only enhance physical fitness but also nurture discipline, confidence, and dedication."

Encouraging athletes to pursue their dreams with hard work and passion, he said, "Victory and defeat are part of the journey, but the real objective should be to discover and sharpen one's inner potential."

Highlighting the government's commitment to sports, CM Sai praised Prime Minister Narendra

Modi's Khelo India programme and noted that all 33 districts of Chhattisgarh have been brought under its ambit to ensure equitable opportunities for athletes from both urban and rural areas. He said the state is actively developing sports infrastructure, improving training standards, and offering incentive schemes. He also announced that athletes winning medals at prestigious international events such as the Olympics are eligible for cash awards ranging from Rs 1 crore to RS 3 crore.

Outlining the Chhattisgarh Sports Promotion Scheme, the Chief Minister said it includes upgradation of playgrounds, provision of modern equipment, financial support to sports clubs, and the revival of traditional sports.

Owen stars on debut to steer Australia to victory against West Indies

Jamaica, July 21 (UNI) : Mitch Owen has crowned a dream debut for Australia with a blistering 26-ball half-century in his first knock for Australia to lead his country to a series-opening T20 win against the West Indies here today.

Owen's (50 off 27) first scoring shot in international cricket was as six off retiring veteran Andre Russell and he proceeded to hit five more to help Australia overhaul West Indies' 8-189 with seven balls to spare.

Cameron Green (51 off 26) also played a crucial hand with five sixes of his own in an 80-run fifth-wicket stand with Owen following Ben Dwarshuis' career-best 4-36 that had earlier put the brakes

on the hosts' fast start after they were sent in by Aussie skipper Mitch Marsh.

Tasmanian allrounder Owen, fresh off a player-of-the-tournament campaign at Major League Cricket in the United States, also claimed a wicket with his third ball for Australia as he showed no signs nerves in his step up to international level.

The 23-year-old took on experienced spinner Akeal Hosein to ice the game, crashing the left-arm out of the ground with the ball nestling under a parked bus amid a 20-run over that yielded three sixes.

He perished the ball after hitting Alzarri Joseph

for six to bring up his maiden fifty in his first innings, as Cooper Connolly (13) also fell in a nervy finish for Australia as Dwarshuis (5 not out) and Sean Abbott (5no) got them over the line by three wickets with five singles in the penultimate over.

Jason Holder was denied a chance to make it an even tighter finish when he had Abbott dropped at fine leg from the final ball of the 18th over with seven runs still required to win.

Jake Fraser-McGurk failed to make the most of his last-minute recall when Australia's chase began as his missed three of his first six balls faced before toe-ending an attempted pull off Holder to mid-off to be out for two off seven.

Marsh (24 off 17) launched Hosein onto the roof of the Kingston Cricket Club and then put Holder over the scoreboard but fell to Joseph's first ball trying to repeat the dose as he feathered an edge behind that was given out following a DRS referral.

Green started his innings with three sixes in the five balls following his skipper's departure to take the tourists to 2-64 after the six-over Powerplay, but West Indies seized the momentum when the field went back as Joseph was again in the action at fine leg when Josh Inglis (18 off 8) top edged a sweep shot. Glenn Maxwell (11)

came and went as his top edge also brought his downfall off Gudakesh Motie, but Owen's first scoring shot for Australia cleared the rope as he launched veteran Russell with horizontal bat over long off.

Roston Chase took out his frustrations from a tough initiation as Test captain over the past few weeks by slamming his fastest T20 half-century from just 25 balls after West Indies were sent in by Marsh.

Openers Brandon King (18 off 12) and Shai Hope (55 off 39), along with Chase (60 off 32), powered the hosts to 1-103 at the halfway mark before the wheels fell off at the death. Dwarshuis (4-36) copped the treatment as he conceded 21 from his first two overs but responded with three wickets in four balls in the penultimate over of the innings to finish with career-best T20 international figures.

West Indies lost 6-30 to end their innings as they crashed from 2-159 to 8-189 from their 20 overs.

King, who was the Windies' shining light with the bat in his debut Test series that they lost 0-3, and white-ball skipper Hope gave the home side a rollicking start as they raced to 0-32 from the opening three overs.

Marsh swung the change straight away and left-arm spinner Connolly

delivered with his maiden T20 wicket for Australia as King ran past a shorter delivery and was stumped by Inglis.

Chase exploded after managing only nine runs from his first 10 deliveries faced, as Connolly's second over cost him 15, with Zampa's second also expensive as the right-hander lofted him for a glorious straight six into the sight screen to take 12 off the over.

A clever assortment of ramps and precision touch through the off-side saw Chase take 16 runs from next Abbott (1-40) over – the 10th off the innings – with four boundaries behind that wicket.

He reached his third T20 international fifty immediately after the interval by slashing Nathan Ellis (1-31) over backward point to the fence to raise his bat in his second innings at No.3 after batting at eight in their previous match against Ireland last month.

Zampa (0-30) bounced back to concede just four in an excellent 12th over of the innings and Dwarshuis was rewarded with his first of the night as Chase holed out to Maxwell at long on.

Hope took over after his departure, greeting Maxwell's first ball of the evening by belting him over the new Sabina Park scoreboard – which had its official unveiling before the match – and onto the road.

Draper targets US Open return after arm injury

London, July 21 (UNI) : British number one Jack Draper has withdrawn from forthcoming tournaments in Toronto and Cincinnati because of an arm injury.

But the 23-year-old is targeting a return at the US Open, which begins on August 24.

Draper, who reached the US Open semi-finals in 2024, said on social media: "After Wimbledon

I picked up an injury in my left arm, nothing serious. "I have to make sure it recovers fully for the rest of the season."

The Canadian Open gets under way on July 26, while the Cincinnati Open starts on August 4.

Draper was knocked out of Wimbledon in the second round as he lost in four sets to Croatia's Marin Cilic, according to a BBC news. He is not the only big name to withdraw from the Canadian Open, with Wimbledon champion Jannik Sinner and 24-time Grand Slam winner Novak Djokovic also confirming they will not play.

In conclusion, CM Sai congratulated all participants for their spirited performances and expressed hope that Chhattisgarh will soon become a frontrunner in India's sporting achievements.

Also speaking at the event, Member of Parliament Brijmohan Agrawal emphasized the importance of kickboxing for girls as a means of self-defence. He encouraged students to incorporate sports into their daily routines, noting, "A healthy body nurtures a healthy mind."

He lauded the government's efforts in building sports academies and infrastructure across the state under CM Sai's leadership.

The event was attended by WAKO India National Kickboxing

Federation President Santosh Agrawal, Chhattisgarh Kickboxing Association President Chhagan Mundra, State Minority Commission Chairman Amarjeet Chhabra, Observer Renu Pareekh, Murli Sharma, public representatives, and hundreds of sports enthusiasts. In the final medal tally, Punjab emerged as champions with 22 gold, 18 silver, and 26 bronze medals. Maharashtra claimed second place with 21 gold, 16 silver, and 29 bronze medals, followed by Tamil Nadu in third place with 12 gold, 14 silver, and 15 bronze medals. Chhattisgarh stood sixth, earning national recognition with 8 gold, 13 silver, and 37 bronze medals, an achievement celebrated by the state. The Assam Rifles team was awarded the title of Most Disciplined Team.

Gothia Cup winning Indian team felicitated

New Delhi, July 21 (UNI) Special Olympics Bharat hosted a heartfelt felicitation ceremony today to honour the outstanding performance of the Indian football teams at the recently concluded Gothia Cup 2025, held in Gothenburg, Sweden. The ceremony was graced by President of Special Olympics Bharat Dr. Mallika Nadda and Minister of State, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Raksha Khadse along with support from SKF, Special Olympics Bharat Boys' Team and the Haryana U-15 Girls' Team were selected to represent India at the 2025 Gothia Cup, which also completed 50 years of its inception in this edition.

The Special Olympics Bharat boys' team defended their title with unmatched resolve, emerging Gothia Cup champions for the second consecutive year. Their journey was a powerful display of confidence, camaraderie, and rising above limits- qualities that define not just the team, but the inclusive movement they represent.

India lifted the 2025 Gothia Cup after dominating the final and defeating Poland by 3-1. Ankush Kumar (8', 14') scored a brace and Saheer Muhammad (29') scored a goal as well, emerging as the stars in the final for India. Saheer also emerged as the top goalscorer for India, recording a total of 7 goals while Ankush and Stalin Kumar followed with 3 and 2 goals respectively.

Raksha Khadse, Hon'ble Union Minister of State, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, said, "These young athletes have reminded us of what India truly stands for- unyielding courage, quiet determination and the unstoppable strength of unity. Watching them not just participate, but rise as champions and changemakers on a global platform, stirs pride in every Indian heart. Their journey is more than a victory — it is a powerful reflection of the India we believe in, where every child, regardless of background or ability, deserves the chance to shine."

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Details of Security Enhancements Post-Bomb Blasts and Ongoing Safety Initiatives

Mumbai, July 21 : In light of the recent Hon'ble High Court ruling and subsequent media queries, regarding the security measures undertaken by Western Railway, post major bomb blast incidents, and the progressive enhancement of security infrastructure over the years, along with key projects currently in the pipeline:

Security Enhancements Post-Bomb Blasts:

Following the major bomb blast incidents, especially 11 July' 2006 Mumbai suburban serial train blasts and other subsequent threats, Indian Railways have significantly overhauled its security strategy in coordination with RPF, GRP, Intelligence agencies, and local administration. The steps taken include:

Formation of Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) at major stations.

Deployment of Bomb Detection & Disposal Squads (BDDS).

Increased RPF-GRP joint patrolling in sensitive areas.

Enhanced intelligence

coordination with State and Central agencies.

Special focus on anti-sabotage checks before peak hours.

Random baggage screening at high-risk stations and trains.

Progressive Measures Implemented Over the Years:

Integrated Security System (ISS):

Launched to strengthen surveillance through CCTV coverage, baggage scanners, and bomb detection devices.

3048 CCTV installed across Mumbai Suburban stations.

Out of total 451 ladies coaches, 305 CCTV installed in 146 suburban local trains.

High-definition IP-based CCTVs installed at major stations.

Real-time video feeds integrated with station control rooms and monitored by trained RPF personnel.

Baggage Scanning & Screening:

05 X-ray baggage scanners installed at selected sensitive stations

of Mumbai Division.

Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMDs) and Hand-Held Metal Detectors (HHMDs) used at entry points.

Total 217 HHMDs provided at important stations of Mumbai Suburban.

16 DFMD installed at selected sensitive stations of Mumbai Suburban.

Random checking of luggage through Baggage scanner and DFMD at important stations is being done.

Facial Recognition System (FRS):

Integrated with 470 CCTVs for identification of wanted/criminal elements over Mumbai Suburban stations.

Deployment of Canine Squads:

07 sniffer Dog squads regularly deployed for sniffing and bomb detection duties across major stations of Mumbai Suburban.

Regular checking at stations and coaches of important trains are being done at important stations through K-9 Dogs to

prevent/detect carriage of explosive items.

Train Escorting:

RPF escort parties provided in over 64 trains daily, with a focus on vulnerable sections.

"Meri Saheli" teams have been deployed in 08 trains under Mumbai Division to ensure the safety of women passengers. On average, assistance is being provided to approximately 144 female passengers daily.

Drone Surveillance:

Conducted in select yards and stations for aerial monitoring over Mumbai Suburban.

Key Projects in Pipeline / Recent Upgrades:

CCTV Coverage Expansion:

652 Non STQC cameras which were installed under VSS phase –I, are proposed to be shifted from 19 stations Mumbai Suburban.

Additional 407 cameras are proposed in revised survey of VSS works.

Real-time monitoring from Central Command Centres (Zonal/Divisional level).

Final Phase Admissions for PG programmes in MANUU

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, July 21 :Maulana Azad National Urdu University is inviting online applications for admission in different merit based Post Graduate programmes.

The applications will be accepted from July 22 to 27, 2025. This will be the final phase of admissions for academic year 2025-26. According to Prof. M. Vanaja, Director, Directorate of Admissions, the candidates who wish to apply afresh and those who had applied earlier and did not get admission can avail this opportunity.

For verification of documents, the candidates have to report in person at the concerned department at Hyderabad/Lucknow/ Budgam campus on July 29. The list of eligible/selected candidates for School of Languages/Law/Sciences will be displayed on July 31 and fee can be paid on August 01 & 02, whereas eligible/selected candidates list for School of Social Sciences/Management/MCJ will be displayed on August 01 and fee payment date is August 02 & 03.

For details visit University website www.manuu.edu.in or email to admissionsregular@manuu.edu.in for assistance and for general queries admission help desk can be contacted on 040- 23006612 Extn- 1801.

Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, GM, SCR Presents ‘Employee of the Month’ Safety Awards to 04 Employees

Safety and Punctuality Review Meeting held by General Manager, SCR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, July 21 : Mr Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, General Manager, South Central Railway presented “Employee of the Month” safety awards for the month of June, 2025 to four employees during safety review meeting held today at Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad. The Employee of the month awards are given to the staff, who have shown alertness and dedication to the duty preventing unsafe conditions. Shri Neeraj Agrawal, Additional General Manager, SCR also participated in the meeting along with all the Principal Heads of Departments. Divisional Railway Manager's (DRMs) of all six Divisions i.e. Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Guntakal, Guntur and Nanded joined the review meeting through video conference.

The General Manager presented the “Employee of the month” safety awards to the staff pertaining to Secunderabad Division - 01, Vijayawada Division - 02 and Nanded Division - 01. The employees belong to various categories like Points Woman, Travelling Ticket Inspector and Train Manager. The General Manager congratulated the awardees and appreciated them for the devotion in discharging their duties with utmost dedication. He stated that these awards will inspire and motivate other employees to be more vigilant and work sincerely to ensure safe working.

Later, the General Manager while emphasizing on the safety of train operations stated that, special drives to be carried out by the officers/supervisors in view of



monsoon. He instructed to intensify the track patrolling focusing on newly constructed RUBs and other vulnerable areas to watch the water stagnation/water bodies along the track side which may lead to soil erosions due to heavy rains. He also instructed the officials to intensify the security checks along with the track to protect the assets related to track and signaling from miscreant activities in tampering the signals to ensure safe movement of the trains. He also instructed officials to adhere all safety precautions at work site and avoid shortcuts methods.

Shri Sanjay Kumar

Srivastava while discussing on the Level crossings (LCs) he instructed the DRMs to take necessary steps to provide CCTVs at all the manned non interlocked LCs gates for enhance safety of trains and road traffic. He also instructed to take all the safety measures to protect the empty rakes at all the stabling yards and keep more surveillance on miscreant activities to avoid fire incidents etc.

Shri Sanjay Kumar Srivastava instructed to conduct safety drives covering all the safety related areas like crew lobbies, level crossing gates, signalling etc., While discussing on the crew working hours, he

instructed officials to make meticulous action plan focusing on providing proper rest to the on-duty crew at proper time and interval.

The General Manager while reviewing the Punctuality, instructed officials to bring out some system improvements so as to further improve the punctuality of passenger train operations. He also stated that, while taking the blocks for track maintenance works involve all the concerned departments to make a meticulous action plan in advance to have the less impact on the Passenger/Mail/Express train movements to improve the punctuality further.

Congress Workers Storm Collector's Office, Police Watch Helplessly



(Standard Post Bureau)

Dharashiv, July 21 : Congress workers, protesting the Public Safety Act draft which they claim suppresses the fundamental rights of citizens, directly entered the Collector's Office and raised slogans, demanding that the Governor not sign the draft. Police officers and personnel on duty were seen standing by, helplessly.

More details on the matter are as follows: The Maharashtra government recently approved the Public Safety Act. The provisions of this act are against democratic principles, which will lead to the suppression of ordinary citizens' freedom and civil rights.

For justice, Congress officials and workers, who have always protested on the streets through constitutional means outside the Collector's Office, burned the draft as usual outside the office and then directly entered the Collector's Office, reverberating the premises with slogans.

Police at the main entrance allowed the protesters to enter while demonstrating.

The in-charge officer and personnel of Anandnagar Police Station, who were on security duty, stood by with folded hands, helplessly allowing the workers to enter the Collector's Office. It was here that the Congress officials and workers fulfilled their desire for publicity by shouting slogans.

The protesters have now started a new trend of directly entering the Collector's Office.

Since the police on duty are merely watching, the district administration and police administration will face serious consequences in the future.

There was a discussion going on in the Collector's Office that the Congress members, who usually protest through legitimate means, have shown their uncivilized behavior by entering the Collector's Office.

Indus Hyderabad produces IB World Topper in Class of 2025



(By Snaps India)

Hyderabad, July 21 : Indus International School Hyderabad proudly celebrates the remarkable achievements of its 2025 Batch students in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP).

The toast of the celebrations is Anya Rao Polasani, who joined a rare league of international IB toppers with a perfect 45/45 score. The distinction that she has achieved is so very rare that only about 0.1 per cent of IB Diploma candidates worldwide hit the perfect score each year.

In 2025, out of over 2.02 lakh students globally, a

mere 200 attained the maximum 45/45, according to official estimates.

Anya's brilliant achievement is a testament to her academic excellence, resilience and the future-ready mindset fostered at Indus.

Following Anya in the merit list are 11 more Indus students, who secured 40+ score, underscoring the school's strong academic culture and support systems.

The Class of 2025 Super Dozen:

1. Anya Rao Polasani (45/45)
2. Sidharth Nimmagadda (43)
3. Donghyun Shin (42)
4. Sheik Nashitah

5. Hansika Reddy Araveti (40)
6. Jasraj Hari Krishna Budigam (40)
7. Urvi Gupta (40)
8. Anya Maryala (40)
9. Navya Sri Lalitha Vatluri (40)
10. Srivalli Konakanchi (40)
11. Kevin Viral Shah (40)
12. Tejas Shreekant Mandke (40)

The institute's Principal Ms Farida Fraz expressed her pride at the spectacular showing, while stating, “These results reflect our students' commitment, the tireless efforts of our faculty, and the shared vision of excellence at Indus. We are especially proud of Anya, whose accomplishment places her among the top performers globally. Our mission is to keep nurturing individuals who can lead with purpose and compassion. On this occasion, we extend our gratitude to Lt. Gen. Arjun Ray (Retd.), CEO of the Indus Trust, for his visionary leadership and enduring belief in holistic, transformative education.”

The 2025 Batch leaves behind a legacy of excellence and purpose, ready to step into leading universities across the globe, carrying with them the values that define Indus: love, empathy, discipline, and respect.

Prashant Kishore slams Kushwaha for demanding change of JD(U) leadership

Patna, July 21(UNI) " Jan Suraaj " founder Prashant Kishore today slammed Rastriya Lok Morcha (RLM) president Upendra Kushwaha for demanding change of JD(U) leadership, saying if he had no faith in leadership of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, it would be better for him to leave NDA with immediate effect.

Prashant during his " Bihar Badlao Yatra " in Siwan district of the state, said that Kushwaha had demanded change of leadership of JD(U) by replacing Nitish Kumar with someone else.

It meant that Kushwaha had no faith over leadership of Kumar and in this situation, it would be

better for him to leave NDA as soon as possible, he remarked.

"Under the leadership of Kumar, Kushwaha was MLC and also Minister in NDA government in Bihar but now he is raising question over his leadership," Jan Suraaj leader said adding that Kushwaha was sent to Rajya Sabha

with support from Kumar.

How could it be possible that Kushwaha after getting so much benefits from Kumar, he was not prepared to accept his leadership, he wondered.

Both receiving benefits and refusing to accept leadership of Kumar, would not run together, he emphasised