

## IN BRIEF

### Radhanagari irrigation dam overflowing

Kolhapur, Jul 25 (UNI) The Radhanagari irrigation dam, the main drinking water resource of Maharashtra's Kolhapur city and neighbouring areas, was filled to its capacity at 10-05 pm tonight with its third and sixth automatic door open.

According to the district irrigation department, the water storage capacity of the dam is 8.35 TMC and total 4356 cusec water was discharged from the two automatic doors in Bhogavati river.

Meanwhile, with water discharge from the Radhanagari irrigation dam and heavy rainfall in the western parts of the Kolhapur district, the water level of the main river Panchangaga has increased to 24.02 feet, at Rajaram Bandhar.

### Teen commits suicide after disturbing dream of late mother

Solapur, July 25 (UNI) : A promising 16-year-old student ended his life at his maternal uncle's residence in Maharashtra's Solapur early today, leaving behind a note citing an apparition of his deceased mother as the catalyst.

Shivsharan Bhutali Talkoti, who scored 92% in his recent Class 10 examinations and was preparing for NEET, had lost his mother three months back

According to police authorities, the teenager's suicide note revealed profound emotional distress. "I should have departed with my mother but remained for my uncle and grandmother," he wrote.

"Last night, she appeared in my dream asking why I grieve and told me to join her," he wrote, expressing deep gratitude toward his caregivers for their affection, while specifically requesting his grandmother not be sent to his father's household.

Officials confirmed the incident occurred at the victim's maternal family home where he had been residing since his mother's death. Forensic teams and crisis counsellors were dispatched to the location as standard protocol. The case has reignited discussions about adolescent mental health support systems in academic pressure environments.

## School ceiling collapses at Jhalawar district of Rajasthan, 7 children killed

Jaipur, July 25 (UNI) : At least 7 schoolchildren died and 27 others were injured when a portion of the ceiling of a government school collapsed in the Jhalawar district of Rajasthan on Friday morning.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, LoP Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagade, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, and former CMs Ashok Gehlot and Vasundhara Raje expressed grief and sadness over the tragic incident at Piplod village in the Manoharpur Thana region. They exhorted the authorities to ensure all possible relief and medical care to the injured and their families.

"The mishap at a school in Jhalawar, Rajasthan, is tragic and deeply saddening. My thoughts are with the affected students and their families in this difficult hour. Praying for the speedy recovery of the injured. Authorities are providing all possible assistance to those affected," PM Modi said in a tweet offering condolences to those who



Locals during the rescue work after a government school building collapsed, in Jhalawar district, Rajasthan on Friday.

have lost their loved ones in the mishap.

The mishap occurred at the Piplodi Government School during the assembly for morning prayers around 07:30 AM, burying several students and teachers under debris. Around 35 - 40 students and teachers were attending the prayer assembly. Efforts to rescue the children and teachers were made immediately by onlookers and villagers.

Later, police and rescuers joined in.

A police spokesman, quoting district police and hospital sources, said that 07 children, including two girls, were killed and 27 others injured.

The deceased children—4 from Manohar Thana and 3 from Jhalawar—were in age group of 7 to 14 years.

While 12 injured were being treated at the Jhalawar

District Hospital, 9 others were admitted at the hospital in Manohar Thana. 6 injured were discharged after the first aid, the spokesman said, adding four children required surgical intervention.

Dismayed and shocked villagers and families of the victim children have staged dharna and blocked traffic at the Guradi Square near Piplodi. They are demanding stringent action against

guilty ones and compensation to families of deceased and injured students.

The Chief Minister Sharma- sad and shocked by the tragic incident—has taken serious exception to prevailing state of (lack of) sensitiveness and alertness among school staff over safety and security-related issues.

Immediately after the report of the tragic happening, the CM swung into action, speaking to the Education Minister Madan Dilawar, the Jhalawar collector, and other district officials, and asked them to make every effort to save lives and provide best possible medical treatment and other needed facilities to injured ones. He also directed Minister Dilawar to rush to Piplodi to supervise rescue and relief work.

Chief Minister Sharma also instantly decided to review via video conferencing with district collectors, the condition of school buildings in all districts of the state and measures for safety and security in schools.

## IMD issues Orange alert for Mumbai, Thane

**Mumbai July 25 (UNI) :** The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued an orange alert for Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Thane, while neighbouring Palghar district is under a yellow alert, indicating continued heavy rains through the day due to active monsoon conditions along the Konkan coast.

According to IMD, heavy rains are likely to persist in isolated areas of Mumbai and surrounding districts over the next 24 hours. With high tide expected later in the day and continuous rainfall, the risk of further waterlogging remains high.

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has released a high tide warning for Mumbai from July 24 to July 27, forecasting tide heights exceeding 4.5 meters.

Meanwhile, several parts of Mumbai and its suburbs witnessed heavy rainfall between 8 am and 9 am on Friday, with the western suburbs recording the highest intensity of over 35 mm.

The Disaster Management Department of BMC issued a warning of heavy rain spells in the city for the next two hours, as per an update at around 1030 am.

As per the official rainfall data recorded between 8 am and 9 am, the highest rainfall was reported in the western suburbs. Malpa Dongri

**Municipal School in Andheri recorded 36 mm of rain in just one hour, followed by 30 mm at KW Ward Office and 29 mm at KE Ward Office.**

Other areas such as Chakala Municipal School (28 mm), Aarey Colony School in Goregaon (27 mm), and HBT School in Jogeshwari (26 mm) also recorded significant downpours.

In the eastern suburbs, Tembipada School in Bhandup recorded 24 mm, MCMCR Powai saw 22 mm, and Veer Savarkar Marg School registered 21 mm. Several other locations like Vikhroli, Vihar Lake, and Tagore Nagar reported between 18 to 20 mm of rainfall during the same period. The intense rain led to waterlogging in key low-lying areas, particularly the Andheri subway, where traffic was affected due to its temporary closure. Dewatering pumps were immediately activated, with over 50 pumps deployed across the city to manage accumulated water, 9 in the city region, 22 in the eastern suburbs and 20 in the western suburbs.

The BMC reported one tree fall in the city area, but no injuries were reported. Despite the heavy rain, railway services and BEST bus operations continued normally as of the latest official updates.

## Will act tough against language based violence, says CM Fadnavis

Mumbai, July 25 (UNI) : Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has warned that violence in the name of language will not be tolerated. "One can take pride in the Marathi language, but assaulting others for not knowing or speaking Marathi will not be accepted. Legal action will be taken against such offenders," he stated.

Fadnavis was speaking at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in Delhi during the foundation stone laying ceremony of a new Centre for Strategic and Defence Studies named after Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

and the inauguration of the Kusumagraj Chair for Marathi language studies last evening.

Highlighting the significance of Marathi, Fadnavis said it is an ancient language. "It was due to our request that Prime Minister Narendra Modi granted it the status of a classical language. Pride in Marathi is natural and justified, but violence in its name will not be tolerated. Those indulging in such actions will face strict legal consequences", he said.

He emphasized Marathi's contribution to the country, especially in

the field of theatre. "If any language has kept Indian theatre alive across the nation, it is Marathi", he said. Fadnavis added that research and academic study of the language is vital and the Kusumagraj Chair at JNU will work towards that objective. Fadnavis also stressed the importance of respecting all Indian languages. "Every citizen must take pride in their mother tongue. However, respecting other Indian languages is also our responsibility. We easily accept English but often neglect our native languages, which is not right," he said.

## Govt approves interest-free loans for minority students

Mumbai July 25 (UNI) : The government has approved a historic interest-free loan scheme for minority students pursuing higher education or entrepreneurial ventures.

Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar formally endorsed the initiative at a high-level meeting at Mantralaya.

Administered by the Minority Economic Development Corporation, eligible candidates can access loans of up to Rs15 lakh, with the state government covering the entire interest burden—effectively making the loans completely interest-free.

Modeled on the Annasaheb Patil Arthik Vikas Mahamandal framework, the new scheme mirrors existing financial

support structures.

Former minister Nawab Malik, who initially proposed the policy during his tenure as chairman, confirmed the development on Friday, stating, "This realizes our long-standing effort to ensure minority students have equitable financial opportunities." He highlighted the program's dual focus on both education and entrepreneurship.

In the same meeting, approval was granted for Maharashtra's first government-run engineering college for minority students, to be established in Chimbi under state supervision. Additional decisions included funding for the Dr.

APJ Abdul Kalam Employment Loan Scheme, setting standardized annual student intake capacities, and directives to streamline the scholarship distribution process. Deputy Chief Minister Pawar also ordered the immediate operationalization of the Minority Research and Training Institute in Aurangabad, including filling all 11 sanctioned staff roles. He emphasized strict implementation deadlines for all socioeconomic initiatives aimed at benefiting minority communities. Attendees of the meeting included cabinet members Dattatray Bhanare and Hassan Musharraf, former minister Nawab Malik, legislator M. Ail Aye Thana Malik, and senior bureaucrats.



### Sanjay Raut claims Maha to get 'New Cabinet' as Sena daily ....

Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP and chief party spokesperson Sanjay Raut today made a big claim that Maharashtra is likely to get a "new cabinet" soon, even as Friday's edition of the Sena-run Marathi daily newspaper 'Saamna' named eight ministers in the BJP-led Mahayuti government, who may be removed from their posts. "There is a chaotic atmosphere in the state government. Now that the situation has gone out of hand, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has reached Delhi and the Maharashtra government is under the control of (Union Home Minister) Amit Shah. A situation has arisen, and big decisions are going to be taken.

(See on page 3)

### MY Bharat to lead Kargil Vijay Diwas Padyatra on July 26



In a stirring tribute to India's gallant soldiers, MY Bharat (Mera Yuva Bharat), under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, will host the 'Kargil Vijay Diwas Padyatra' on July 26 in Drass, commemorating the 26th anniversary of India's victory in the 1999 Kargil War. The padyatra will be led by Union Minister Dr Manssukh Mandaviya alongside Union Minister of State for Defence, Sanjay Seth. ( See on page 2)

### Rs1,480.71 cr released for handloom cottage industry in ....



According to the Fourth All India Handloom Census 2019-20, there are 31.45 lakh households across the country consisting of 35.22 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers in the country, Union Minister of Textiles, Giriraj Singh told the Rajya Sabha. (See on page 5)

### New Zealand name Phillips' replacement for Zimbabwe Test



New Zealand all-rounder Michael Bracewell has been named as a replacement for Glenn Phillips for the first Test against Zimbabwe. The 34-year-old is set to make a return in the Black Caps red-ball lineup for the first time since 2023. (See on page 7)



# Adhikari urges Lok Sabha Speaker to act against Kalyan Banerjee

He further wrote on X, “His derogatory remarks targeting Gujaratis, mocking and taunting the

He further stated that he would request Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel to initiate appropriate legal action against “this motormouth who crossed the line during his thoughtless rant.”



People stage a protest against Bijli Mahadev ropeway project, in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.

## 'India-UK Vision 2035' sets ambitious goals, deepens bilateral cooperation

Research and development of new capabilities, including

C o u n t e r i n g  
radicalisation and violent  
extremism, combating  
financing of terrorism and  
cross-border movement of  
terrorists, preventing  
exploitation of new and  
emerging technologies for  
terrorist purposes, tackling  
terrorist recruitment,  
strengthening bilateral and  
multilateral cooperation in  
these spheres, including in  
information sharing,  
judicial cooperation.

“Together, India and the UK aim to prevent exploitation by criminal organisations and to safeguard the UK-India living bridge, which reflects

“The India-UK Vision 2035 will be anchored in sustained high-level political engagement. Both countries reaffirm their commitment to regular

Both sides are committed to working towards early conclusion of a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT). "The Free Trade Agreement is only the start for our joint ambitious partnership for growth," the Vision says.

## MY Bharat to lead Kargil Vijay Diwas Padyatra on July 26

Following the padyatra, the two ministers accompanied by 100 youth volunteers, will visit the Kargil War Memorial to lay wreaths and offer homage

“These pre-event activities aim to cultivate civic awareness, celebrate

The press release stated that these efforts reflect the Prime Minister's vision of Jan Bhagidari in Rashtraniirman, this initiative brings together every stakeholder from youth to veterans in a shared act of national remembrance, reinforcing the role of citizens, especially the Amrit Peedhi, in nation-building.




## Amit Shah gives notice in RS for extension of President's rule in Manipur

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : The ongoing President's rule in Manipur is likely to be extended for a period of six months as Union Home Minister Amit Shah has given a notice in the Rajya Sabha. According to a parliamentary bulletin dated July 24, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Minister of Cooperation has given a notice on the following resolution which has been admitted. According to the Bulletin No. 65663, the resolution says, "That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 13th February, 2025 in respect of Manipur, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from 13th August, 2025." The resignation of Chief Minister N Biren Singh earlier this year led to the imposition of President's rule in Manipur from February 13. Ethnic violence erupted on May 3, 2023, after Kuki-Zo and Meitei communities clashed, leaving more than 250 people dead and some 60,000 others displaced. Most of the displaced people continue to live in relief camps. The violence followed tribals in the hill districts taking out a solidarity rally to protest the State government's alleged move to grant Scheduled Tribe status to the Meiteis concentrated in the Imphal Valley, which, along with the Jiribam area, comprises about 10% of Manipur's geographical area.

## UPSC declares result of combined Geo-Scientist (Main) Exam 2025: Interview to be conducted

The Commission has made it clear that the candidature of such candidates is provisional, pending their eligibility in all aspects. Such eligible candidates are required to submit original certificates in proof of their claims of age, educational qualification, caste/category, EWS, and disability (if any) at the time of the Personality Test. According to exam norms, a 15-day application period

will be available from July 29 to August 12, 2025 (6:00 PM) on the UPSC website <https://upsconline.gov.in>. Candidates need to update their educational qualification status and upload valid documents. In case of non-compliance, candidature stands cancelled. Within this period, candidates may also edit details like correspondence address, service details, higher education, and service option. These will be considered final. The Interview Schedule will be notified soon on the UPSC website, and candidates will also be intimated by email. No application for change of date for interview will be considered. Post-final results, the mark sheets will be hosted online for 30 days. Hard copy will be provided only on written request.

<p>Union Minister Dr Manssukh Mandaviya alongside Union Minister of State for Defence, Sanjay Seth. They will be joined by over 1,000 youth, veterans, armed forces personnel, families of martyrs, and civil society members.</p> <p>The 1.5 km walk will begin at 7 am from the grounds of Himabass Public High School, Drass, and will conclude at the grounds of Government Higher Secondary School, Bhimbet.</p> <p>Following the padyatra, the two ministers accompanied by 100 youth volunteers, will visit the Kargil War Memorial to lay wreaths and offer homage</p>	<p>says a press release.</p> <p>The event will also include a plantation drive under the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign, underscoring the alignment of patriotic duty with environmental consciousness and a commitment towards sustainable development in a Viksit Bharat 2047.</p> <p>In the run-up to the event, MY Bharat organised a series of local engagements including essay writing, painting, elocution competitions and Yuva Samvads (youth dialogues).</p> <p>"These pre-event activities aim to cultivate civic awareness, celebrate</p>	<p>Padyatras initiative which aims to foster national pride, deepen civic engagement, and strengthen the spirit of unity among the youth through commemorative and participatory programmes across the country.</p> <p>The press release stated that these efforts reflect the Prime Minister's vision of Jan Bhagidari in Rashtranirman, this initiative brings together every stakeholder from youth to veterans in a shared act of national remembrance, reinforcing the role of citizens, especially the Amrit Peedhi, in nation-building.</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <b>GOVERNMENT OF INDIA</b>  <b>Ministry of Education</b>  <b>(Department of School Education &amp; Literacy)</b> </div> <hr/> <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF JOINT DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY (CIET) NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING (NCERT)</b> </div>
			<p>Applications/Nominations are invited in prescribed proforma from eligible candidates for the post of Joint Director, Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), having Pay Scale of Rs.1,44,200 – 2,18,200/- (Academic Level – 14) (pre-revised pay band of Rs.37,400 to Rs.67,000/- (PB-4) with AGP of Rs.10,000/-. The appointment shall be made by deputation or short-term contract on tenure basis. The deputation/appointment will be for a period upto 5 years or till the age of 65 years or until further orders, whichever is earliest. For Eligibility and other details refer the detailed advertisement on NCERT website viz <a href="http://www.ncert.nic.in">www.ncert.nic.in</a></p> <p>Applications/Nominations, duly prepared in the prescribed proforma should reach Ms. Anu Jain, Joint Director to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Education, Department of School Education and Literacy, Room No. 100, D-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001, through proper channel, within 30 days from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment news.</p> <p>Note: Those who had earlier applied for the post of Joint Director, CIET, NCERT in response to the Advertisement published in the Employment News dated 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2025, may not apply.</p>
 <div style="text-align: center;">   <b>राष्ट्रीय नाट्य विद्यालय</b>  <b>NATIONAL SCHOOL OF DRAMA</b>  <small>(An Autonomous Institution of the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India)</small>  <b>Sanskaar Rang Toli (T.I.E. Co.)</b>  <b>Bahawalpur House, Bhagwandas Road New Delhi – 110001</b> </div>			
<div style="text-align: center;"> <b>VACANCY FOR COORDINATOR (SANSKAAR RANG TOLI)</b> </div> <p>National School of Drama invites online applications to fill-up the vacant posts of Coordinator for its Sanskaar Rang Toli (Theatre-in-Education Company) New Delhi. Coordinator will be appointed on a consolidated salary @ Rs. 50,000/- per month The appointment will be on contract basis.</p> <p>For details, please visit our NSD website <a href="http://www.nsd.gov.in">www.nsd.gov.in</a> Please attach all testimonials, proof of age etc. with the online application form. Online Application will start from 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. to 14th August, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.  <b>cbc 09130/12/0009/2526</b></p>			<div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>cbc 21104/12/0004/2526</b> </div>



# Marathwada braces for critical rain window amid crop crisis

Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar, July 25 (UNI) : Marathwada's eight districts face a crucial weather window this weekend as a monsoon trough stretching from the northeast Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal channels moisture inland.The India Meteorological Department forecasts moderate showers with isolated heavy bursts through Saturday, upgrading its alert to orange for tomorrow following today's yellow advisory.

The region anticipates thunderstorms with 30–40 km/h gusts and cloud-to-ground lightning. This weather pulse arrives amid severe agricultural distress, with Marathwada recording a 25–40% seasonal rainfall deficit—just 127 mm against the normal 170 mm. Approximately 49 lakh hectares of soybean, cotton, and pigeon pea crops require reseeded due to poor germination and pest outbreaks exacerbated by prolonged

overcast conditions. Reservoir levels reveal stark disparities: While the Jayakwadi project has risen to 66% live storage capacity from upstream inflows, 10 of 11 major dams average only 48.98% storage. Many smaller reservoirs remain critically low at under 25% capacity. Agricultural officers are urging immediate implementation of moisture-conservation techniques, including ridge-furrow sowing, mulching, and pheromone-trap deployment, to combat bollworm and stem-borer infestations. Meanwhile, state authorities are preparing a 350 crore rupee re-sowing support package. Meteorologists suggest potential relief mid-next week if a developing Bay of Bengal low-pressure system tracks west-northwest into central India, offering hope for sustained rainfall to alleviate the current agricultural emergency.

# Nandani villagers protest Bombay HC order to transfer elephant 'Mahadevi' to Gujarat

Kolhapur, July 25 (UNI) : Inhabitants of Nandani village in Maharashtra's Kolhapur district and members of ' Hatti Bachao Kruti Samiti (Elephant Save Action Committee—ESAC) today took part in a protest against the Bombay High Court order to relocate the elephant Mahadevi from the local Jain monastery to a sanctuary in Gujarat.Hundreds of villagers led by the members of ESAC took out a silent march in Nandani after news spread that a team from the Gujarat facility was coming to take Mahadevi.

They expressed their strong opposition to shifting Mahadevi to Gujarat, citing their long association with the pachyderm and legal permission for their 1200-year old tradition to use the animal for religious purposes.

# CPI (M) condemns Bombay HC's observation on party plea for Gaza rally

Mumbai, July 25 (UNI) : The CPI(M) today strongly condemned the observations made by a bench of Bombay High Court while rejecting the party plea, which challenged the Mumbai Police's refusal to allow a protest action against the ongoing Israeli genocide in Gaza region of Palestine.In a statement issued by the Politbureau of the CPI(M), it said that while rejecting the plea, the court went to the extent of calling into question the patriotism of the party."Ironically, the bench appears to be unaware of either the provisions of the Constitution, which enshrines the rights of a political party, or the history of our country and our people's solidarity with the Palestinians and their legitimate right to homeland. The observations smack of distinct political bias in line with the central government."

“You don't know the dust it could kick up. Getting on to the Palestine side or the Israel side. Why do you want to do this? It's obvious, going by the party you represent, that you don't understand what this could do to the foreign affairs of the country.” The court further remarked, “You are an organisation registered in India. If you could take up issues like garbage dumping, pollution, sewerage, and flooding. We are just giving examples. You are not protesting on those but on something happening thousands of miles outside the country.” The observations overlook the fact that Mahatma Gandhi in the 40s of the last century, the national movement, and the subsequent foreign policy of independent India had not flinched from supporting the cause of Palestinian people's right to freedom and homeland.



BMC workers check water level on a flooded road during rain, at Andheri subway, in Mumbai.

# Sanjay Raut claims Maha to get 'New Cabinet' as Sena daily reveals 'hitlist'

Mumbai, July 25 (UNI) Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP and chief party spokesperson Sanjay Raut today made a big claim that Maharashtra is likely to get a "new cabinet" soon, even as Friday's edition of the Sena-run Marathi daily newspaper 'Saamna' named eight ministers in the BJP-led Mahayuti government, who may be removed from their posts.

"There is a chaotic atmosphere in the state government. Now that the situation has gone out of hand, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has reached Delhi and the Maharashtra government is under the control of (Union Home Minister) Amit Shah. A situation has arisen, and big decisions are going to be taken. I have been saying that four ministers will exit from the cabinet. Now, discussions are underway in Delhi to clean up the cabinet and bring in a new cabinet," Raut said.

"Since the past few days, the burden of corruption in the government, anti-farmer statements by ministers, scams, details about ministers running ladies' bars, and bags of money have come to light and Fadnavis is unable to control things," he said.

Raut further said that yesterday, a Jharkhand Police team came to Maharashtra, arrested businessman Amit Salunkhe and took him away with them. Amit Salunkhe is the director of Sumit Facility and the alleged mastermind of the '108 ambulance' scam in the state.

"This scam is worth Rs 800 crore. Apart from that, Amit Salunkhe is the financial backbone of the Shrikant Shinde Medical Foundation (run by Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's son Shrikant Shinde). Amit Salunkhe diverted the money from the scam to this foundation. Amit Salunkhe is close to Shrikant Shinde and Eknath Shinde," he said.

"This arrest is not simple. The government wants to find out where the money went. The threads of this case have reached the Maharashtra state cabinet. It is important that a person close to Shrikant Shinde has been arrested and now this case will be sent to the Enforcement Directorate (ED). An investigation will be conducted into how much money was made, how much went to the foundation, how much was used in the elections and how much money went to whom," Raut said.

It is learnt that the Anti-Corruption Bureau of Jharkhand Police arrested Amit Salunkhe in connection with the liquor scam case in Jharkhand and that Salunkhe is a close associate of Chhattisgarh-based liquor businessman Siddharth Singhania.

The arrest was made based on facts revealed during Singhania's interrogation, sources said. In a related development, Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena's daily Marathi newspaper 'Saamna' revealed in its Friday edition that eight ministers in the BJP-led Mahayuti government will

soon be removed from their posts, in a cabinet reshuffle.

According to the daily 'Saamna', these ministers are Agriculture Minister Manikrao Kokate, Minister for Social Justice Sanjay Shirsat, Minister of State for Home Affairs Yogesh Kadam, Minister for Food & Drugs Administration Narhari Zirwal, Minister of Ports Development Nitesh Rane, Rural Development Minister Jayakumar Gore, Minister for Employment Guarantee Scheme Bharat Gogavale and School Education Minister Dada Bhuse.

The newspaper also hinted at the possibility of BJP MLA Sudhir Mungantiwar being made the Speaker of the Assembly, and present speaker Rahul Narvekar getting a ministerial post.

Pressure to remove Agriculture minister Manikrao Kokate has intensified after he was caught using a gambling application on his mobile phone in the premises of the state assembly. Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar has hinted at Kokate's exit, according to the daily.

Minister for Social Justice Sanjay Shirsat is embroiled in controversy after bundles of currency notes were found at his house. Earlier, he was accused of rigging the auction of a hotel which was to be purchased by his son. Shirsat is likely to exit the cabinet, the daily reported.

Minister of State for Home Affairs Yogesh Kadam has been in trouble after a ladies' dance bar was found to be running in the name of his mother and he

# Police mandate cross-agency crackdown on illegal tobacco sales

Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar, July 25 (UNI) Deputy Commissioner of Police Ratnakar Navale has called for intensified awareness campaigns targeting youth and parents during the quarterly District Tobacco Control Committee meeting. Emphasising enforcement of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) 2003, Navale highlighted the urgent need to educate families about health risks and legal restrictions surrounding e-cigarettes and tobacco products in prohibited areas.The meeting convened health officials including Dr. Jitendra Dongre and Dr. Varad

Shinde, municipal health officer Dr. Lakshmi Pisare, Food and Drug Administration representatives, Rural Police Inspector Shinde, Dr. Javed Qureshi, and district advisory member Mhalge. Attendees unanimously identified rising addiction rates among students as a critical concern, directing the Tobacco Control Cell to develop targeted educational programs about substance abuse consequences.Navale mandated coordinated operations between police and FDA authorities to eliminate illegal gutkha and tobacco sales. Specific directives require all police stations to conduct regular inspections of commercial

establishments within their jurisdictions, issue penalties using standardised challan books, and submit monthly compliance reports. The DCP further ordered compulsory display of "tobacco-free office" signage across government buildings and periodic enforcement drives at markets, transit hubs, hotels, and food stalls.Stressing zero tolerance, Navale instructed officials to immediately penalise any tobacco consumption observed in office premises during inspections. The measures aim to curb accessibility while strengthening legal compliance mechanisms across the district.

# Govt to provide ID cards and insurance coverage to snake rescuers

Mumbai, July 25 (UNI): The Maharashtra government is set to provide official identification cards and accident insurance worth Rs 10 lakh to snake rescuers as a way to ensure their personal safety and give recognition to their work.

Revenue Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule said that an effort has also been undertaken to grant these snake rescuers the status of frontline workers, and a recommendation in this regard will be soon made to Chief Minister evendra Fadnavis."Snake rescuers always come forward to protect villagers from the troubles caused by wild animals. Often risking their own lives, they catch snakes and release them safely into the wild. In recognition of their

valuable service, there has long been a demand to provide them with accident insurance cover," he added. The minister further asserted that a detailed operational plan will be formulated for this initiative. The decision aims to grant official recognition to the work of snake rescuers while ensuring their personal safety.

# Mumbai police bust sex racket, rescue three Vietnamese women

Mumbai, July 25 (UNI) : Three Vietnamese girls were rescued as the Mumbai police busted a high-profile sex racket involving foreign nationals at a guest hotel in the suburban Andheri area, an official said here today. The three rescued Vietnamese girls were allegedly forced into prostitution. The police carried out a raid after receiving a tip-off that a 35-year-old man was running a prostitution racket inside the Empire Suite Hotel near Times Square on Andheri-Kurla Road. The raid led to the rescue of the Vietnamese women. Detailing the operation, as official said after verifying the initial information, the police sent a decoy customer, who was allegedly offered sex services by the

hotel manager for Rs 6,000. He led the decoy customer to a room on the eighth floor. There, the decoy met a foreign woman, who later admitted to being involved in prostitution along with two other Vietnamese women staying in another room.

**WESTERN RAILWAY**  
**VARIOUS WORK**

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (Coaching) Mumbai Central-08. invites **Sr.No.01. Tender Notice No: WR-MMCTOECOAA (ECTD) 8/2025 (Computer no. 611029) O/o Sr. DEE/CHG/BCT/WR. Name Of Work:** Provision of refurbishment of Sets of RMPUs of LHB AC coaches. Under Bulk RSP-2024-25. **Approx. cost of work:** Rs. 91,22,580/- . **Bid Security:** Rs. 1,82,500/- . **Sr.No.02. Tender Notice No: WR-MMCTOECOAA (ECST) 4/2024 (Computer no. 585768) O/o Sr. DEE/CHG/BCT/WR. Name Of Work:** Provision of Composite pantry for replacement of old pantry equipment in LHB Type Rajdhani coaches. **Approx. cost of work:** Rs. 1,91,670/- . **Bid Security:** Rs. 3,800/- . **Date and time of Submission of both Tenders:** Till 20.08.2025, 15:00 Hrs. **Date & time opening of both Tenders:** On 20.08.2025 at 15:30 Hrs. For further details please visit our website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) **0428**  
**Like us on :** [Facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

# Minister Rane should resign after RSS chief's meeting with Muslim leaders: Raut

Mumbai, July 25 (UNI) : Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut today said with Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat holding talks with Muslim religious leaders, Nitesh Rane should immediately resign from the Maharashtra ministry.Raut took a swipe by saying that Bhagwat's visit to the mosque goes against Nitesh Rane's ideology. Bhagwat recently visited a mosque in Delhi and interacted with local Muslim leaders. He met Umar Ahmed Ilyasi, the head of the All India Imam Organisation. Several other Muslim leaders were also present during the meeting, which took place behind closed doors and lasted for about an hour. Raut said If Bhagwat is discussing matters with prominent clerics of the Muslim community, trying to understand their views, and showing sympathy towards them, then leaders who wear tilak (a symbol of Hindu identity) might be feeling uneasy. One of them is probably Nitesh Rane. He should resign immediately, said Rane.He should not remain a minister. Rane should resign from his post to protest Bhagwat's visit to the mosque, said the Shiv Sena (UBT) MP.He further said, if those sitting in the cabinets of Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis and UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath do not approve of Mohan Bhagwat's discussions with Muslim religious leaders, then they should also step down immediately. If Nitesh Rane does not agree with the RSS chief's actions and views, then he should demit his post.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY		
E-(IREPS) TENDER NOTICE NO. 22UBL 2025-26 Date: 18.07.2025		
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender (IREPS) for the following work.		
SN	Name of work	Approx.Value
1	Hubballi Division: Karaigi-Dharwad (KJG-DWR)	Rs. 2,65,53,459.00
Section-Construction of pedstrain/Two wheeler subway in view of safety for increasing sectional speed to 130Kmph (at Km.471/100-0) 01 No.		
2	Hubballi Division:Proposed Rehabilitation Replacement of Br. ,203 at Km.504/607 and Br.204 at Km.504/223 with RCC Box Bridge in Hubballi-Londa (UBL-LD) section in between Mugad- Kambarganvi (MGD-KBI) stations	Rs. 1,54,38,216.00
3	Hubballi Division: <b>Sub Work-I</b> ) Gadag-Hotgi (GDG-HG) Sction-TFR- 88.55Tkm. <b>Sub Work-II</b> ) Gadag-Hotgi (GDG-HG) Section-TTR with TWS for 12 Nos point & Crossings on Main lines in Jumnal( JML) yard & Mulvad (MVD) yard.	Rs. 1,54,08,088.00
4	Hubballi Division: <b>Sub Work-I</b> ) Vyasa Colony-Kotturu (VC-KTY) Section:- CTR(P) for a length of 0.925Tkm. <b>Sub Work-II</b> ) Hubballi Division: Vyasa Colony-Kotturu (VC-KTY) Section:-TFR (Without ERC)-22.640 Tkm	Rs. 80,64,501.00
5	Hubballi Division- Miscellaneous annual Maintenance Activities for Quarters and Service buildings under in Assistant Divisional Engineer/Balari Jurisdiction. ( <b>Special Works-1</b> )	Rs. 1,45,69,143.00
6	Hubballi Division- Miscellaneous annual Maintenance works of Quarters/Service buildings under Assistant Divisional Engineer/Gadag Jurisdiction. ( <b>Special Works-2</b> )	Rs. 1,24,59,072.00
Last date for Submission of bids : <b>Upto 11.00 hrs on 18.08.2025</b>		
For details log on : <b>www.ireps.gov.in</b>		
Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-Ordination, Hubballi		
<b>PUB/326/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26</b>		
Download the UTS Mobile App from <b>Google Play Store</b> for ease of booking of unreserved tickets		
<a href="#">f</a> South Western Railway - SWR <a href="#">✉</a> SWRLRY <a href="#">📺</a> @SWRAILWAYHQ <a href="#">📱</a> @sw_railways		

**CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**REPAIRS OF BRIDGES AND VARIOUS OTHER WORKS**

Sr.No.1 Name of Work: Misc. repairs of bridges by pointing, grouting, guniting, scour filling, side drain repairing, wing wall repairing, floor repairing, bridge numbering & Nalah training etc. under ADEN N LNL. **Approximate Value:** ₹158.64 Lakhs. **EMD:** ₹ 229300/- . **Completion Period:** 12 Months. **Sr.No.2 Name of the Work - KJT-LNL:** Provision of inspection steps for inspection of high cutting, catch water drain, high level protective works such as rockfall barrier, boulder netting, protective works in deep valley side, viaducts & other major bridges in SE ghat section. **Approximate Value:** ₹448.77 Lakhs. **EMD:** ₹ 374400/- . **Completion Period:** 12 Months. **Sr.No.3 Name of the Work - KJT-LNL:** a) Provision of Dynamic Rockfall Barrier for a length of 300m on Hill of MID line at Km 119/900-120/200 with provision & fixing 300mm x 300mm size rhomboidal shaped cable panel/mesh between KJT-LNL SE ghat section. b) Provision of Dynamic Rockfall Barrier for a length of 60m on Hill of MID line at Km 116/530-590 (secons berm) at PA end of Tunnel No. 30 between KJT-LNL SE ghat section. c) Provision of Dynamic Rockfall Barrier for a length of 130m on Hill of MID line at Km 117/34 on KJT-LNL section. **Approximate Value:** ₹1063.91 Lakhs. **EMD:** ₹682000/- . **Completion Period:** 12 months. **Sr.No.4 Name of the Work:** A) Enhancement of waterway for Br. No. 62/2, Br. No. 63/1 & Br. No. 62/1 by box pushing method on DW-PNVL section in jurisdiction of DEN (E) BB. **Approximate Value:** ₹1427.74 Lakhs. **EMD:** ₹863900/- . **Completion Period:** 18 Months. I) Tender Closing Date & Time of Aforesaid Tender: Up-to 11.00 hrs. of Sr.No.1 on 07/08/2025, Sr.No.2 on 08/08/2025, Sr.No.3 on 18/08/2025 and Sr.No.4 on 25/08/2025, will be opened after 11.00 hrs. II) The prospective tenderers are requested to visit the website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://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](http://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, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai-400001. **Open E-Tender Notice No.:** CR-DRM(W) BB-2025-20 of 23/07/2025.

रस्वे काटक को बंद स्थिती में धार करना मना है



STANDARD POST

Maldives intensifying efforts to attract Indian tourists amid shifting dynamics

The Maldives, a tropical paradise known for its pristine beaches and luxurious resorts, is doubling down on efforts to woo Indian tourists, who have historically been a cornerstone of its tourism industry. Maldivian Minister for Tourism Thoriq Ibrahim outlined ambitious plans to bolster connectivity and enhance the travel experience in order to woo tourists from Non Metro cities of India.

“What we are trying to do right now is to have more direct connections from Indian cities, the tier-one cities and tier-two cities.

“We would like to increase the frequency of flights to Maldives, maybe two flights a day or three flights a day from some of the cities. We are trying to include the tier-two cities like Lucknow, Pune and other cities also to be included in the direct flight to Maldives,” the Minister said.

According to the Maldives Ministry of Tourism, India was the top source market for tourists in 2023, with 209,198 Indian visitors, followed closely by Russia (209,146) and China (187,118). However, in 2024, after social media bashing and diplomatic acrimony between India and Maldives, the number of Indian tourist arrivals significantly declined, while Chinese visitors surged, reshaping the Maldives’ tourism landscape. This drop saw India slip from the top spot to sixth place in visitor rankings. Meanwhile, Chinese tourist arrivals soared by 281% in the first quarter of 2024, with 67,399 visitors compared to 17,691 in 2023, making China the leading market. The decline in Indian tourist numbers followed a diplomatic row sparked in January 2024, when three Maldivian deputy ministers made derogatory remarks about Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to Lakshadweep, prompting a “Boycott Maldives” campaign on Indian social media. The controversy led to widespread cancellations, with travel platforms like EaseMyTrip temporarily suspending Maldives bookings. With Prime Minister Modi’s current visit to the Maldives, the local tour operators are eager to mend ties and recapture the Indian market, which contributed over 240,000 visitors in 2022 and 211,000 in 2021, even during the pandemic.

The country is aiming for long terms policy shifts and to target the middle-class income group from tier-2 cities of India. Currently, airlines like Air India, IndiGo, and SpiceJet offer non-stop flights to Velana International Airport in Malé, while foreign carriers provide additional options, often with layovers.

In a bid to move past the 2024 tensions, Thoriq Ibrahim urged Indian tourists to “forget the bitter past” and embrace the Maldives’ hospitality.

“Our bilateral relationship is excellent, and people-to-people ties must be further developed,” he said. Expressing optimism about enhanced cooperation, Thoriq said: “We should actually move on. The bilateral relationship that we are seeing right now is excellent and I hope this will be enhanced as we go along.”

The Maldives is also enhancing its internal infrastructure to ensure seamless travel experiences, with 20 operational regional airports, including five international ones, and 19 more under development. Projects like the redevelopment of Hanimadhoo and Gan International Airports, supported by India’s Airports Authority, are set to boost accessibility to its 1,000 plus islands.

“We want tourists to reach their destinations as quickly as possible,” the Minister said.

Interestingly, the hospitality sector in the Maldives relies heavily on Indian professionals, with many employed as technicians, engineers, managers, and accountants across resorts and hotels. Approximately 70% of Maldivian employment is linked to tourism, with Indians playing a significant role in both direct and indirect job creation.

Recent initiatives, such as the introduction of RuPay card transactions also aim to simplify payments for Indian tourists, reinforcing both India and Maldives’ commitment to reclaim the cordial people-to-people relations. With ongoing development of airports and plans for monthly promotional events in India, the island nation is aiming to rebuild its tourism bridge and boost the tourism industry, that is the backbone of its economy.

Ferty9 Introduces AI-Based Male Fertility Testing on World IVF Day

(Standard Post Bureau)  
On World IVF Day, Ferty9 Fertility Centre marked a major leap in fertility care by unveiling the LensHooke X12 PRO, an AI-powered semen analyser, at a special event in Secunderabad. With this, it becomes the first IVF chain in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to implement the technology across all its centers, reinforcing its commitment to precision diagnostics and inclusive reproductive care.

The milestone was celebrated at Ferty9’s Secunderabad centre in the presence of popular actress Ms. Laya, whose appearance added a heartfelt note to the occasion. Couples who had successfully conceived and delivered through Ferty9 also joined the celebration, sharing powerful stories of resilience and renewed hope. A symbolic cake-cutting ceremony captured the spirit of the “TogetherinIVF” campaign.

The development comes at a time when India’s Total Fertility Rate



Dr Jyothi C Budi, Medical Director, Ferty9, Tollywood Actress Laya, and Mr Vinesh Gadhiya, Executive Director and CEO, Ferty9, launched the AI-Powered Semen Analyser on the occasion of World IVF Day.

(TFR) has declined to 1.9, below the replacement level of 2.1. In Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the numbers are even lower at 1.7 and 1.8. The urgency for equitable fertility care, especially for male-factor infertility, has never been greater. “High levels of DNA

fragmentation are associated with 20 to 25% higher miscarriage rates, lower birth weights, and an increased risk of preterm birth. In unexplained recurrent pregnancy loss, up to 25 to 30% of men show elevated DFI,” said Dr. Jyothi C Budi, Medical

Director, Ferty9. “With this advanced technology, we can analyse thousands of sperm cells in minutes, assess DNA integrity accurately, and make more informed treatment choices. This helps us select better-quality sperm, improve embryo development, and

increase the likelihood of successful outcomes of fertility treatments.”

While poor sperm quality is a key factor in male infertility, traditional testing often overlooks DNA damage that lies beneath the surface. Even sperm that appear normal under a microscope may carry fragmented DNA, impacting fertilization and embryo viability. Manual testing methods also suffer from human error and limited scope.

Ferty9’s adoption of the AI-powered system bridges this critical diagnostic gap. The platform analyses over 3,000 sperm cells per sample in under six minutes, offering precise insights into count, motility, morphology, and DNA integrity. By identifying both single and double-strand DNA breaks, embryologist can select the most viable sperm for fertilization, reducing IVF failure rates and improving pregnancy outcomes. “Male infertility contributes to nearly 50% of all cases, yet 95% of first consultations are initiated by women,” said

Mr. Vinesh Gadhiya, CEO and Executive Director, Ferty9 Fertility Centre. “That imbalance must change. With the introduction of the LensHooke X12 PRO, an advanced AI-based semen analyser, we’re creating a more inclusive and data-driven approach to fertility care. Technologies like this reduce unnecessary cycles, lower emotional and financial strain, and give couples real hope with real science behind it.”

As part of the TogetherinIVF campaign, Ferty9 is offering a limited-time Fertility Assessment Package exclusively for couples at ₹599, which includes a consultation with a fertility super specialist, ultrasound, AMH test, and semen analysis. Couples ready to start treatment can also avail 50% off on IUI and 25% off on IVF treatment until July 31, 2025. With this rollout, Ferty9 reinforces its position as a leader in fertility care, committed to transforming outcomes through empathy, precision, and the power of AI.

Leakage of urine while laughing or even with slight movement

(Standard Post Bureau)

A woman, once known for her active lifestyle, had been suffering from a distressing medical condition that made even stepping out of her home difficult. She experienced involuntary urine leakage while laughing, coughing, bending, or making even slight movements a condition medically termed Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI). Due to the severity of her symptoms, she had to rely on adult diapers. Despite consulting multiple doctors, her condition remained unresolved until she visited KIMS Cuddles Hospital in Secunderabad.

At KIMS Cuddles, she received treatment under the care of Consultant Urogynecologist and Laparoscopic Surgeon, Dr. N. Bindu Priya. Explaining the case, Dr. Bindu Priya said, “We performed a thorough evaluation and found that the patient had previously undergone a

hysterectomy and was suffering from chronic pelvic pain. In most cases, SUI is managed by inserting a synthetic mesh sling. However, due to her long-standing pain, placing a mesh was not advisable.”

After discussing all treatment options with the patient, the team decided to proceed with an autologous rectus fascial sling surgery a procedure in which a sling is created using the patient’s own tissue. The surgery was performed successfully.

Post-operatively, the patient experienced difficulty in passing urine. Further investigations revealed that this was not due to the sling being too tight, but rather due to insufficient relaxation of the pelvic muscles. To address this, a combination of medications and physiotherapy was prescribed to improve bladder function. The patient responded well to this multidisciplinary approach, and

her SUI symptoms were completely resolved.

Even during a later episode of severe flu (cold and cough ) that would typically worsen SUI there was no urine leakage. This brought significant relief to the patient and improved her confidence and quality of life.

Dr. Bindu Priya emphasized that in such complex cases, surgical treatment alone is not sufficient. A collaborative approach involving specialists from various departments, along with appropriate follow-up care, is critical to achieving complete recovery. The availability of expert multidisciplinary support at KIMS Hospitals played a vital role in successfully managing this case. The patient and her family expressed heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Bindu Priya and the entire KIMS Cuddles team for resolving a condition that had significantly impacted her life and restoring her confidence through a complete and lasting solution.

Homemade vegetarian protein drinks for Bodybuilding

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : In today’s health-conscious world, more people are turning to natural alternatives to support their well-being. Choosing homemade, nutrient-rich drinks over chemical-based protein supplements is a smarter and safer option.

While commercial protein drinks may offer quick results, they often contain artificial additives, preservatives, and synthetic ingredients that can be harmful over time.

On the other hand, homemade drinks made with seeds, and dairy or plant-based proteins provide essential nutrients without adverse side effects.

Here are some natural, non-supplement drinks that can help boost protein intake:

Ancient/Traditional Drinks

1. Sattu Sherbet (Indian):

Sattu is a flour made from roasted Bengal gram (chickpea). It’s incredibly nutritious and a traditional protein source, especially in North and East India. Sattu sherbet is a refreshing drink made by mixing sattu with water, jaggery or salt, and spices like black salt and roasted cumin powder.

Protein Specification:

Rich in protein (around 20-25g per 100g of sattu powder, so a drink with a good amount can contribute significantly), fiber, and iron. It’s known for its cooling properties.

Preparation: Mix 2-3 tablespoons of sattu powder with a glass of water. Add a pinch of black salt, a squeeze of lemon juice, and a dash of roasted cumin powder for a savory version, or jaggery/sugar for a sweet one.

2. Nut Milks (Homemade):

While often seen as modern, making milks from nuts like almonds or peanuts has ancient roots. These can be made by soaking nuts, blending them with water, and straining.

Protein Specification: Varies by nut type. Almond milk (store-bought) is often low in protein unless fortified, but a homemade, less-strained version can offer more. Peanut milk can be particularly protein-rich. (e.g., 100g of peanuts has approx. 25g protein, so a milk made from a substantial amount would be good).

Soak 1/2 cup almonds or peanuts overnight. Drain, blend with 2-3 cups of fresh water until creamy. Strain through a nut milk bag or fine sieve. Sweeten if desired.

3. Lassi/Buttermilk

(Indian, Lacto-vegetarian):

Traditional Indian yogurt-based drinks. Lassi is a blend of yogurt, water, and sometimes fruit or sugar (sweet lassi) or spices (salted lassi). Buttermilk (chaas) is thinner, made from yogurt, water, and spices.

Yogurt is a good source of protein. A glass of lassi or chaas can provide 5-10g of protein, depending on the amount of yogurt used. They also provide probiotics for gut health.

Blend 1 cup plain yogurt with 1/2-1 cup water. For sweet lassi, add sugar/honey and fruit (e.g., mango). For salted lassi/chaas, add black salt, roasted cumin powder, and chopped coriander/mint.

Ragi Malt/Porridge (Indian):

Ragi (finger millet) is an ancient grain often consumed in South India. Ragi malt is a nourishing drink/porridge made from ragi flour, often cooked with water or milk (dairy or plant-based) and sweetened.

Ragi itself isn’t exceptionally high in protein (around 7g per 100g), but it offers methionine, an essential amino acid often lacking in other cereals. When combined with legumes or nuts (as often is in traditional diets), it

contributes to a complete protein profile.

The Wrestler’s Secret Weapon (Vegetarian-Friendly)

Badam Ragda is a traditional Indian drink, essentially a rich, wholesome concoction primarily made from soaked and ground almonds, often blended with various nuts, seeds, dried fruits, and spices. It’s known for its cooling properties despite almonds being inherently “warming.”

Why Wrestlers (& Active Vegetarians) Love It: High-Quality Plant Protein: Almonds are a significant source of plant protein (around 6g per 30g serving) and contribute to muscle repair and growth after strenuous workouts. When combined with other nuts/seeds, it provides a broader amino acid profile.

Energy & Stamina (Dam Kasi): Rich in healthy fats (monounsaturated fats from almonds), complex carbohydrates (from ingredients like mishri/jaggery, if added), and natural sugars, it provides sustained energy for recovery and builds “dam kasi” (stamina) crucial for wrestling.

Nutrient Powerhouse: Vitamins & Minerals: Loaded with Vitamin E (a powerful antioxidant, essential for recovery),

Magnesium (aids muscle function, protein synthesis, and reduces fatigue), Calcium (for bone health), Iron, Zinc, and B vitamins.

Fiber: Aids digestion and gut health, which is vital for overall nutrient absorption.

Antioxidants: Ingredients like almonds, cardamom, and rose petals offer antioxidant properties, helping combat oxidative stress from intense training.

Cooling & Balancing: Despite almonds’ “warm” nature, traditional Badam Ragda often includes ingredients like fennel seeds (saunf), poppy seeds (khus khus), green cardamom, black pepper, and dried rose petals. These ingredients are believed to have cooling effects, balancing the body’s heat generated during intense physical activity and maintaining testosterone levels.

Holistic Recovery: Beyond just protein, it’s considered a complete food source for wrestlers, aiding in overall physical strength, muscle recovery, and mental well-being, aligning with Ayurvedic principles of a balanced diet.

Natural & Wholesome: It’s a whole-food approach to post-workout nutrition, free from artificial additives,

sweeteners, or highly processed ingredients found in many modern supplements.

Traditional Wisdom: It’s a time-tested recipe passed down through generations of pehalwans, proving its efficacy in fueling their intense training and recovery. Some traditional methods even involve crushing ingredients with a neem wood pestle, believed to impart medicinal properties.

Common Ingredients (Variations Exist):

- Soaked Almonds (Badam)
- Poppy Seeds (Khus Khus)
- Melon Seeds (Magaz / Kharbuje ke Beej)
- Fennel Seeds (Saunf)
- Green Cardamom (Elaichi)
- Black Pepper (Kali Mirch)
- Dried Rose Petals
- Sweetener: Mishri (rock sugar) or Khand (unrefined sugar), jaggery, or sometimes just water.

- Sometimes a pinch of ginger (sonth) for digestion.

For a vegetarian looking to complete protein goals and support muscle building naturally, Badam Ragda is an excellent traditional choice, especially after a demanding workout.



# WHO report highlights deaths due to toxic chemical-laced drugs exported from India

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : A joint report by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has highlighted cases where toxic chemical laced drugs like cough syrups supplied from India contributed to serious health crises in countries like The Gambia and Indonesia.

The WHO-UNODC report, titled “Contaminated Medicines and Integrity of the Pharmaceutical Excipients Supply Chain”, examines eight incidents across countries including India, The Gambia, and Indonesia. It noted that children suffered preventable harm or death after consuming cough syrups contaminated with hazardous chemicals like diethylene glycol (DEG) and ethylene glycol (EG).

In the Indian case, the report refers to an incident from November 2019 in Ramnagar, Jammu and Kashmir, where over 20 children fell seriously ill after consuming a locally made cough syrup. Twelve children died due to acute kidney injury (AKI), and several others were left with permanent health complications. Lab tests

confirmed that the syrup contained 34–36 per cent diethylene glycol (DEG) that should never be present in medicines, said the report.

DEG is sometimes found in propylene glycol (PG), a solvent used in medicine production. If PG is not tested properly before use, or if lower-quality industrial PG is used to cut costs, the risk of DEG contamination becomes high. The report pointed out that in this case, the manufacturer failed to test the raw materials, violating pharmaceutical norms.

The report further revealed that the manufacturer had received 16 prior warnings from state drug regulators for producing substandard medicines.

After the Ramnagar deaths, noted the report, the company rebranded the syrup and continued selling it through a sister company in a neighbouring state. This rebranded product also tested positive for DEG. Although regulatory action led to a temporary suspension of the manufacturing licence, the plant resumed operations for products not using PG. The WHO report also highlighted a similar

and even more deadly case which occurred in The Gambia between July and September 2022, where 66 children — most under two years of age — died after consuming paediatric syrups imported from an Indian pharmaceutical firm. The case was much publicized in media too, prompting the Indian government to intervene. The products were manufactured in December 2021 but were not licensed for sale in India, where regulatory checks are stricter.

Following the deaths, independent tests confirmed the presence of DEG and ethylene glycol (EG) in the syrups. WHO issued a global alert, and The Gambia carried out a nationwide recall of cough and paracetamol syrups. Indian authorities ordered the suspension of the manufacturer’s operations after inspections uncovered multiple violations of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP).

The report added that the manufacturer procured PG from a local supplier, who falsely claimed it came from a reputed global company. That company denied supplying any

material. Investigations found that industrial-grade PG was falsely labelled as pharmaceutical-grade, and no quality testing was carried out—highlighting a serious failure of supply chain integrity.

In Indonesia, a similar tragedy occurred in 2022, where over 300 children fell ill, many fatally, due to DEG/EG-contaminated syrups. A criminal network had distributed falsely labelled excipients with fake quality certificates, which were used by several manufacturers. The authorities revoked over 100 product licences and launched legal action.

Earlier incidents in Panama (2006), Haiti (1996), and China (2008) also involved DEG-laced medicines. The common thread in all these cases was poor oversight, falsified documentation, and failure to test raw materials.

The report has also traced at least 21 recorded incidents of mass poisonings involving contamination with DEG/EG leading to over 1000 reported deaths spanning period from 1937 to 2019. These incidents mainly involved medicines but also toothpaste and

alcoholic drinks

However, in response to these tragedies, several countries have introduced reforms. India now mandates DEG/EG testing for all syrups meant for export and publishes public recall notices. The Gambia has started third-party testing of all imported medicines and plans to set up a national quality control lab. Indonesia has revised its safety limits for DEG/EG and increased regulatory checks. While commenting that during the course of research, it became evident that intentional criminal actions, such as the falsification of pharmaceutical excipients, are a persistent and widespread threat to global public health, the WHO report said, “These are not isolated incidents but represent a deeper, systemic issue affecting the integrity of medicine supply chains.”

The recently released 120-page WHO-UNODC report has stressed the urgent need for mandatory testing of pharmaceutical excipients, stronger regulation — especially for export-only medicines — and strict penalties for GMP violations and falsification of pharmaceutical documents.

Rs1,480.71 cr released for handloom cottage industry in last five years: Minister Giriraj Singh

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : According to the Fourth All India Handloom Census 2019-20, there are 31.45 lakh households across the country consisting of 35.22 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers in the country, Union Minister of Textiles, Giriraj Singh told the Rajya Sabha. “For the development of handlooms and the well-being of weavers, the Ministry of Textiles is implementing two significant schemes - National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS). From 2020–21 to 2024–25, Rs1,516 crore was sanctioned and Rs1,480.71 crore was released under NHDP and RMSS,” the minister said in a written reply. He also stated that the handloom industry is still mostly unorganized and the Government does not offer direct employment to the weavers. Rather, traditional skill-based jobs still sustain livelihood in this industry.

The government schemes provide monetary aid for procurement of raw materials, improved looms, solar lights, construction of workshops, skill upgradation, innovation in product and design, marketing, concessional loan facility under the MUDRA scheme, and social security benefits.

Over 200 day care cancer centres to be set up soon across States

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : In a move aimed to strengthen cancer care infrastructure, more than 200 Day Care Cancer Centres (DCCCs) have been approved for establishment across the country for 2025–26, the Government told Lok Sabha today. Based on the data provided, Uttar Pradesh will lead the country with the highest number of cancer centres, followed by Telangana, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Jharkhand.

“These centres will primarily be set up in district hospitals, subject to the availability of space and requisite logistics. However, based on feasibility and proposals received from the States, DCCCs may also be established in other Government healthcare facilities, said Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Prataprao Jadhav in a written reply to a query raised by an MP.

He said that the estimated unit cost for establishing a DCCC is up to Rs 1.49 crore, depending on local requirements and existing gaps in infrastructure. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare undertook a national gap analysis using data from the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) cancer registry. The planning and allocation process was carried out in consultation with States, following the announcement made in the Union Budget 2025–26. Districts with a high cancer burden were given priority, said the Minister on the criteria for setting up the centres.

Proposals submitted by States and Union Territories were reviewed and finalized by the National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC), with a focus on optimal resource utilization and preventing duplication of services.

Uttar Pradesh will have the highest number of cancer centres, with a total of 75 locations across various districts such as Moradabad, Bareilly, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Saharanpur, Jhansi, Bijnor, and many more. This makes it the leading state in terms of planned cancer care coverage.

Telangana stands second with 33 locations, including districts like Rangareddi, Nalgonda, Khammam, Mehbubnagar, Nizamabad, Medak, and others. The wide distribution across the state indicates a robust expansion of healthcare infrastructure.

In third place is Maharashtra, which is set to establish cancer centres in 27 locations, including major districts such as Nagpur, Thane, Aurangabad, Kolhapur, and Solapur. This reflects Maharashtra’s significant focus on expanding cancer care access throughout its regions.

Next is Karnataka, with 16 locations including Bengaluru, Mysuru, Ballari, Tumakuru, and Udupi. The state is ensuring regional representation in its cancer centre planning, especially in both urban and semi-urban zones. Jharkhand also plans cancer centres in 16 districts, such as Ranchi, Dhanbad, Bokaro, and Deoghar, as per the data.

BJP slams Cong for 'absurd allegations' against EC

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today took strong exception to Congress and its leader Rahul Gandhi’s “absurd allegations” against the Election Commission over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, accusing them of reflecting a mindset that evaluates constitutional bodies based on their election victories. In a press briefing here, BJP national spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi lambasted the Congress, asserting that its current leadership still harbors the same authoritarian tendencies as the time when former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi imposed the Emergency. He pointed out that both the Congress and the INDI Alliance were continuing the same narrative that questions the legitimacy of institutions depending on political outcomes. “On the issue of elections, Congress, the INDI Alliance, and particularly Rahul Gandhi, are making baseless accusations. This attitude reflects a mindset that has not evolved even after 50 years since the Emergency. If Indira ji said that the credibility of Constitutional bodies should depend on whether she won the elections or not, today Rahul Gandhi is echoing that by claiming that the credibility of the Election Commission will be judged based on their electoral results,” Trivedi remarked.

The BJP leader also sought to remind Congress of its contradictory stance on the Election Commission, especially regarding the Maharashtra Assembly elections. In this regard, he cited a statement from Ashish Dua, the former AICC Secretary in charge of Maharashtra (2018-2024), who in an article analyzing Congress’ defeat in Maharashtra, admitted that their loss was due to internal shortcomings within the Congress party and the INDI Alliance, and not because of the Election Commission.

Trivedi also highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s record-breaking tenure as the second-longest serving Prime Minister of India. He pointed out that PM Modi has surpassed Indira Gandhi’s record of consecutive days in office, having served for 4,078 days, making him the longest-serving PM after Jawaharlal Nehru.



**TATA MEMORIAL CENTRE**  
ADVANCED CENTRE FOR TREATMENT, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN CANCER (ACTREC)  
SECTOR-22, KHARGHAR, NAVI MUMBAI 410 210  
Grant-in-Aid Institution of Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India  
**POSITIONS AVAILABLE**



Advertisement No.: ACTREC/ADVT/A-11/A-12/202522/07/2025

ACTREC invites applications for the following posts as approved by competent authority:

Sr. No.	Name of the post
1	Assistant Professor 'E' (Pathology) (1-UR)
2	Consultant 'D' (Pathology) (2-UR)
3	Scientific Officer 'E' (Transplant Immunology and Immunogenetics Laboratory) (1-UR)
4	Scientific Officer 'C' (Center for Cancer Epidemiology) (1-OBC)
5	Scientific Officer 'C' (Information Technology - Networking) (1-OBC)
6	Scientific Assistant B (Nuclear Medicine) (1-UR, 1-SC, 1-OBC)
7	Scientific Assistant 'B' (Cancer Cytogenetic Lab) (1-OBC)
8	Scientific Assistant B (Animal Sciences) (1-UR)
9	Co-ordinator B (Medical Purchase/Stores) (1-OBC)
10	Co-ordinator B (Medical Administration) (1-SC)
11	Technician 'A' (CRI Labs) (4-UR)

Online registration of applications made available from 22/07/2025 to 22/08/2025.  
Last date for online application is 22/08/2025 up to 05.30 p.m. (Indian Standard Time).  
For more details please visit our website <https://actrec.gov.in>  
It is mandatory to submit ONLINE application.  
Any addendum or corrigendum to this advertisement will be uploaded on above website.  
**cbc 48160/12/0002/2526** Chief Administrative Officer, ACTREC

Experts. officials brainstorm on Blue Economy in Ministry of Earth Sciences workshop

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : The importance of the Blue Economy, that deals with the sustainable use of ocean resources, in boosting economic growth covering multiple sectors including FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) and exports was highlighted at a national level brainstorming session here today.

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) hosted the session headlined ‘Blue Economy Investments’ with experts and officials deliberating on varied economic activities related to oceans, seas, and coasts.

The national-level workshop was intended to promote a better understanding of three thematic domains, including Trade and Investments, Startups and Innovation, and Ease of Doing Business. M.Ravichandran (Secretary, MoES) chaired the event with other dignitaries and stakeholders from different sectors, including government, private sector, academia, and financial institutions. Panelists presented different deliberations about the potential of the ‘Blue Economy.’

They highlighted the importance of the ‘Blue Economy’ in economic growth and different sectors, including FDI (Foreign Direct Investment), exports, and employment. Panelists also exchanged their ideas on the challenges faced by stakeholders.

SC sends ‘Udaipur Files’ movie release challenge to HC, refuses to extend stay

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : The Supreme Court today relegated to the Delhi High Court the petitions challenging the Central Government’s order allowing the release of the movie 'Udaipur Files' subject to six further cuts, while refusing to extend the stay on the film’s release.

A Bench comprising Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi said it would pass an order requesting the High Court to consider the challenge to the revisional authority’s order on Monday itself.

The Court recorded that the producer’s petition before it was withdrawn, while the accused’s petition was closed with liberty to pursue the matter before the High Court.

Clarifying that it had not expressed any opinion on merits, the Bench told petitioners to approach the High Court. Justice Surya Kant remarked, “Please don’t waste time here. Go to the High Court.”

Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal, representing the petitioners, urged the Court to restrain the film’s release till the High Court considered their plea. However, Justice Kant refused to pass any interim order, stating, “Meanwhile, nothing.”

Senior Advocate Gaurav Bhatia, for the producers, argued that petitioners before the High Court could not seek interim relief from the Supreme Court, particularly when the producers wanted to withdraw their petition.

Referring to a similar matter involving the movie 'The Kerala Story', he said,

“I have lost twelve days already.” Justice Kant, on a lighter note, replied, “Don’t think you were in losses in these 12 days,” noting the publicity generated by the litigation. A counsel for an intervenor submitted that the petitioners’ concerns were imaginary, citing no adverse consequence from earlier films like ' the Kashmir Files' and the 'Kerala Story'.

He criticised the “hyper sensitivity syndrome” of petitioners seeking to act as a “super censor.”

Bhatia added that any interim order now would cause further damage to the producers. Sibal, in response, argued that the present case was different as the petitioner had watched the film and was challenging its content, also citing the Supreme Court’s hate speech judgment in Amish Devgan v. Union of India.

Justice Joymalya Bagchi observed that the Wednesbury principle would apply when an expert body had taken a decision.

(The Wednesbury principle establishes a standard for judicial review where courts can overturn decisions made by public bodies if those decisions are so unreasonable that no reasonable authority could have made them.)

Ultimately, the Bench directed that the High Court hear the matter on Monday, reiterating that it had not expressed any view on the merits.

Yesterday (July 24), the Court indicated it may remit the matter to the Delhi High Court for interim relief.

Over 41 cr Ayushman cards created, 31,466 hospitals empanelled under AB-PMJAY

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : Over 41 crore Ayushman cards have been generated under the Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Prataprao Jadhav, informed the Lok Sabha today.

The flagship health insurance scheme has so far authorised more than 9.84 crore hospital admissions, amounting to over Rs 1.40 lakh crore. The scheme aims to provide financial protection for secondary and tertiary healthcare to the most economically vulnerable sections of the population.

Currently, a total of 31,466 hospitals have been empanelled under AB-PMJAY across the country. Of these, 14,194 are private hospitals, highlighting the growing role of the private sector in delivery of care under the scheme, said the Minister in a written reply.

In January 2022, the Government revised the beneficiary base under AB-PMJAY from 10.74 crore to 12 crore families, thereby extending coverage to the bottom 40% of India’s population. This marked a significant step toward broader inclusion, he added. Further expansion was undertaken in March 2024, when eligibility was

extended to include approximately 37 lakh Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs), and their family members. This move recognised the contribution of frontline health and nutrition workers. As per the data, 10.45 lakh Ayushman cards have been issued to the families of ASHA workers, 15.01 lakh to AWWs, and 15.05 lakh to AWHs. To cover more beneficiaries, the scheme has been extended to cover 6 crore senior citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of socio-economic status.



**TRIBAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING DEVELOPMENT FEDERATION OF INDIA LIMITED (TRIFED)**  
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)  
HEAD OFFICE: NSIC Business Park, NSIC Estate, Okhla Phase-III, Okhla Industrial Area, New Delhi-110020



**TRIFED invites Bids (GEM/2025/BI/6417734)**

Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED), under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, has published a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Appointment of an Agency for a third-party evaluation study:

- to assess the effectiveness of the following Central Sector Schemes: Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM), Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PMJANMAN) & Promotion of Tribal Products from North Eastern Region (PTP-NER).
- to conduct a Need Assessment Study of TRIBES INDIA Stores.

For complete details about scope of work, timelines, eligibility criteria and bid submission guidelines, visit: [www.trifed.tribal.gov.in](http://www.trifed.tribal.gov.in), | [www.gem.gov.in](http://www.gem.gov.in)

**cbc 43104/12/0007/2526**





**EXPRESSWAY**  
SERVICES PVT. LTD.  
HYDERABAD



# Root makes 150, Stokes unbeaten on 77 as England take 186-run lead over India



Manchester, July 25 (IANS) : Joe Root made a scintillating 150 and became the second-highest run-scorer in Tests, while skipper Ben Stokes came after hobbling off due to a cramp and be unbeaten on 77 as the duo played huge roles in England taking a substantial 186-run lead over India on day three of fourth Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy Test at Old Trafford on Friday.

Resuming from 225/2, England added a whopping 319 runs for the loss of five wickets. But the highlight of day three’s play was Root combining the precision of a surgeon and composure of an artist to overtake Jacques Kallis, Rahul Dravid and Ricky Ponting for being at second place in all-time Test run-scorers’ list through his 38th Test hundred.

He also shared a 144-run stand with Ollie Pope, who made 71, before Stokes made his highest batting score of this series. With Stokes and Liam Dawson

(21 not out) at the crease, England can be hopeful of building the lead and pile more misery on a hapless Indian bowling line-up, who missed their lengths, bereft of ideal tactics, and gave away easy runs.

If this wasn’t enough, then Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj had to go off the field at times during second session due to ankle concerns, though the former did come back to the field. On a day where they conceded a total above 500 for the first time after 2021, India are now staring at a massive challenge to stage a comeback into the match.

The morning session began sedately before Root flicked Bumrah for four, and was followed by him and Pope taking a boundary each off Siraj. Root survived a run-out chance on 22 when Jadeja’s throw from point was off target. To add to India’s agony, neither mid-off or mid-on backed up to the stumps.

The duo continued to take boundaries off India’s

frontline pacers before Pope reached his 16th Test fifty off 93 balls. As soon as Root crossed 31, he went past Rahul Dravid and Jacques Kallis to be the third leading run-getter in Tests. When India finally got off-spin all-rounder Washington Sundar to bowl from 69th over, Root brought up his 104th fifty-plus score off 99 balls, before lunch break arrived. Post lunch, Sundar struck as Pope looked to guide the spinner through the leg-side, but got a thick edge behind and KL Rahul took a good catch at slip to dismiss the batter.

India’s decision to not take the new ball and persist with Washington paid off when he got the ball to dip away from Harry Brook in the air, leaving the batter stranded and substitute keeper Dhruv Jurel completed the stumping to dismiss him for just three. Root and Ben Stokes hitting a few boundaries meant England finally got into taking the all-important lead.

After spending 18 balls in the 90s, a clip down the leg-side off Anshul Kamboj on the first ball of 96th over brought up Root’s second century of the ongoing series and 12th ton against India. He soaked up the loud applause from the crowd shouting ‘ROOOOT’ around Old Trafford.

The opportunity for the crowd to applaud and shout in Root’s praise again came in the 101st over when Root guided Kamboj for a single behind point and go past Ponting to become the second-highest all-time run-scorer in Tests, before tea break came.

The final session began with Jasprit Bumrah taking the bowling duties, but did not look at his best self. Root continued to be at his best by driving Shardul Thakur past mid-on for four, before Stokes creamed a half-volley from Bumrah through cover for another boundary.

After notching up his 36th half-century, Stokes reverse-swept Ravindra Jadeja for four, before pulling Washington Sundar for another boundary. After feeling some discomfort in his left calf in the 115th over, Stokes retired hurt at the end of the 116th over on 66 off 116 balls, with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) saying the all-rounder is dealing with a cramp. After registering his 16th 150-plus score in Tests, Root’s superb innings came to an end on exactly 250 when he was stumped off a ripper of a delivery from Jadeja that spun and bounced past the outside edge.

## Ponting tips Root to overtake his Test tally in Manchester

Manchester, July 25 (UNI) : ICC Hall of Famer Ricky Ponting believes Joe Root is en route to overtaking his run tally in Test cricket on Day 3 of the Manchester Test.

Root, who finished unbeaten at the score of 11 on Day 2 against India, is 108 runs behind Ponting in the all-time Men’s Test cricket run charts. Speaking to Sky Sports ahead of the third day’s play at Old Trafford, Ponting said, “If he keeps going on like this, that could very well happen today.” “It’s a great day for batting and what a remarkable career it’s been for Joe. How he’s transformed from someone that couldn’t go on past fifty to hundreds. Now it seems like every time he gets to fifty, you just mark him down for a hundred, or a big hundred,” he said.

“Just looking at some of the numbers, 37 Test match hundreds, 13000 runs, what an amazing career to-date,” Ponting said. Root is currently the fifth-highest run-getter in the longest format – 18 runs behind Rahul Dravid and 19 runs behind Jacques Kallis, who are fourth and third, respectively, an ICC report said. Ponting also added that there is more to come from Root, and that the England talisman can also overtake Sachin Tendulkar as the all-time run scorer in the format.

## Back operation to sideline Ter Stegen for three months

Madrid, July 25 (UNI) Marc-Andre ter Stegen will be out for at least three months after the FC Barcelona goalkeeper has announced that he will undergo surgery for a back injury. The news comes at a difficult time for the German international, who missed nearly all of last season with a torn cruciate knee ligament. Barcelona signed Wojciech Szczesny to cover his absence and renewed the Polish goalkeeper’s contract earlier this month.

The club has also activated the 25 million euros release clause to bring in Joan Garcia from Espanyol, casting doubt on ter Stegen’s place in the squad as the club looks to trim its wage bill. “Today is a personally difficult day for me,” ter Stegen wrote on Instagram, adding that he felt “invery good shape, although unfortunately I am not free from pain.” “After intensive discussions with the FC Barcelona medical team and external experts, the quickest and safest way for me to fully recover is through back surgery.”

This will be the goalkeeper’s second back operation. He noted that he missed 66 days after the first procedure, but that “this time, the doctors believe about three months will be necessary as a precaution, to avoid any risks.” The operation means ter Stegen will be sidelined until at least the end of October, making it unlikely that Barcelona will register him in the first-team squad for the first half of the season.

# UP Warriorz appoint Abhishek Nayar as head coach ahead of upcoming WPL season

Mumbai, July 25 (UNI) : Ahead of Season 4 of the Women’s Premier League, the UP Warriorz have made a strong statement of intent, by appointing the decorated and experienced, Abhishek Nayar as their Head Coach.

Nayar played a key role as assistant coach in helping KKR clinch the IPL title in 2024, and was also a part of the coaching set-up for Team India when they won the Champions Trophy earlier this year.

The Announcement was made in collaboration with renowned stand-up comedian Zakir Khan, who has been onboarded as the face of UP Warriorz fans, on social media. The intriguing announcement video was shot at Abhishek Nayar’s alma mater, Bombay Scottish school.

A respected figure in the Indian cricket circles, Nayar brings with him a deep understanding of the game, a proven track record in player development, and years of experience across various coaching roles at

# India's Top 5 Mountaineering Institutes reach new peaks

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) Mountaineering is the ideal activity to connect with nature, learn life skills, get fit and de stress. India offers immense opportunity for mountaineering as the country hosts more than 70 per cent of the gigantic Himalayan mountain chain. India has several mountaineering institutes both government and private, we list the best five institutes that offer quality training and are managed by the Ministry of Defence.

1) Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI) in Darjeeling, West Bengal: Is the oldest institute, it was established on November 4, 1954 to commemorate the successful first ascent of Mount Everest by Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary. The duo achieved the feat on May 29, 1953. The HMI offers courses like Adventure, Basic and Advanced Mountaineering, Search and Rescue, Method of Instruction, and Special Courses in Sport and Rock Climbing.

2) The Nehru Institute of Mountaineering (NIM) in Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand: NIM was established on November 14, 1965. Uttarkashi was selected as the home of NIM, primarily because of its close proximity to the Gangotri region, which has the excellent climbing and training potential in India. NIM provides Basic Mountaineering, Advanced Mountaineering, Search and Rescue, and Method of Instruction courses. NIM is recognized as one of Asia’s top mountaineering institutes.

3) The Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering & Winter Sports (JIM&WS), Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir (UT): JIM & WS was established in 1983 at Aru, it offers Basic & Advanced Mountaineering, Method of Instruction, Basic & Advanced Skiing, High Altitude Trekking, Rock Climbing, Winter Sports, and Basic Paragliding. The institute provides facilities for rock craft, ice craft, stream crossing, has a glacier in close vicinity and slopes for skiing in winters. The institute is perhaps the best for learning skiing as the Pahalgam region receives high quantity of snow.

4) Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (ABVIMAS), Manali, Himachal Pradesh: ABVIMAS was founded on September 16, 1961, initially as the ‘Western Himalayan Mountaineering Institute’. It is now the largest adventure sports training center in India, offering Basic & Advanced Mountaineering, Method of Instruction for both mountaineering and skiing, various Snow Skiing courses, Water Sports (Sailing, Water Skiing, River Rafting), and Elementary Search & Rescue.

5) National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (NIMAS) Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh: NIMAS is the latest institute, established on May 30, 2013 NIMAS it is unique as the sole national-level institute mandated to conduct adventure courses across land, air, and water verticals.

both domestic and international levels.

A former Indian international all-rounder and a key figure in Mumbai’s domestic cricket setup, Nayar has seamlessly transitioned into one of the most influential coaches in the Indian cricketing ecosystem. His journey as a coach has been defined by his ability to mentor and nurture young talent and help top athletes push past their limits.

This isn’t Nayar’s first time being associated with the UP Warriorz since he also spent a brief stint with the team during their off-season training camps post Season 1. The franchise is confident that him stepping into the head coach role will bring consistency and strength to the team’s preparations.

Nayar’s expertise and ability as a coach is well documented and was seen in the IPL when he was the Assistant Coach of Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR).

Hailing from Mumbai,

Nayar had been part of KKR since 2018 and has worked closely with players like Shubman Gill, Venkatesh Iyer, and Rinku Singh since their early years. In 2024, Nayar also served as the assistant coach of the Indian men’s national team, where he worked under Head Coach Gautam Gambhir.

During his time with the Indian team, he worked closely with the top batters in the team, and KL Rahul personally credited Nayar for helping him regain his form in the T20 format. Among the other players he has worked with behind the scenes are also the likes of former India captain Rohit Sharma and former India wicket-keeper batter Dinesh Karthik.

Speaking on his appointment, Abhishek expressed his excitement and said, “I really enjoyed my time working with the UP Warriorz before and I’m thrilled to take on this new role. WPL is a fantastic platform for women’s cricket and I’m looking

## New Zealand name Phillips’ replacement for Zimbabwe Test

Harare, July 25 (UNI) : New Zealand all-rounder Michael Bracewell has been named as a replacement for Glenn Phillips for the first Test against Zimbabwe.

The 34-year-old is set to make a return in the Black Caps red-ball lineup for the first time since 2023.

Bracewell last featured in a Test match during Sri Lanka’s tour of New Zealand in 2023.

Having made his debut in the longest format back in 2022, Bracewell has 24 wickets and 259

runs to his name from eight matches, an ICC report said.

“Glenn’s injury provided a gap in the Test squad and Michael is the closest like-for-like replacement,” head coach Rob Walter said in a statement from New Zealand Cricket.

“Michael’s experience and skillset will be a great asset and allows us to keep the same balance of the team,” he said.

"Given he's here with the T20 squad and his availability aligned for the first Test, we're using the opportunity to include him in the squad," Walter said.

"We'll get through the first Test and then we'll make a decision whether we'll replace him for the second Test," he added.

Currently featuring in a T20I tri-nation series that also includes South Africa, Zimbabwe and New Zealand will lock horns in a two-Test series in Bulawayo starting July 30.

# I am working on my speed and attacking abilities: Boxer Hitesh Gulia

New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) India’s 70 kg boxer Hitesh Gulia who won the Gold and Silver medal respectively at the World Boxing Cup Brazil 2025 and World Boxing Cup -Astana, Kazakhstan 2025, says he is working on increasing his speed and sharpening his attacking abilities in order to further improve his game.

In an exclusive interview to UNI on the sidelines of the felicitation function held for the Indian boxing contingent that participated in the two events, Gulia said:

"My footwork is quite good. I am working further on my attack and on

increasing my speed."

Gulia characterises his boxing style as slow-paced and tactical. "I like to assess the opponent during bouts and mould my game accordingly. Every opponent is different; hence one needs to be flexible."

The 20-year-old said that the two tournaments were of very high quality, and added that his match against Brazil’s Kaian Oliveira was the toughest he has played so far.

Gulia lost 0-5 to Oliveira in the Gold medal match in Astana.

“All matches in Brazil and Astana were tough, but

the final match against the Brazilian in Astana was the toughest game I have ever played.”

The Jhajjar native said that he will now be preparing for the ‘World Boxing Championships 2025’ that will be held in Liverpool, England, from September 4-14.

"I will now be preparing for the upcoming World Championships that will be played in September. I will be leaving for the camp in NIS (National Institute of Sports) Patiala." "Gulia idolises veteran boxer-turned-coach Suranjay Singh and Beijing Olympics Bronze medalist Vijender Singh.

# Joe Root surpasses Ricky Ponting's record Test runs

Manchester, July 25 (UNI) Joe Root carved a golden chapter in the history of Test cricket at Old Trafford today, overtaking not just one but three all-time greats - Rahul Dravid, Jacques Kallis, and Ricky Ponting — in a single day.

With a composed single steered to third man off Anshul Kamboj, Root moved past Ponting’s tally of 13,378 Test runs, becoming the second-highest run-scorer in the format’s history. It was a performance befitting England’s modern-day batting titan. Root had already crossed the tallies of Dravid (13,288) and Kallis (13,289) earlier in the day, and the moment he overtook Ponting was met with a resounding roar from the Manchester crowd. The chants of Rooooooot echoed through the stands as the England fans acknowledged yet another historic milestone from their beloved No. 4. With only Sachin Tendulkar’s monumental 15,921 runs

ahead of him, Root now stands as a giant of the modern game, having left behind some of the finest names the sport has ever produced. The day also witnessed Root bringing up his 38th Test century, a classy and measured innings reached with a delicate glance to the fine leg boundary. It was a hundred built on patience, shot selection, and characteristic calm, despite facing tricky conditions and a disciplined Indian attack. His celebration was typically modest—raising his bat, removing his helmet, and soaking in the standing ovation as captain and teammates embraced him warmly. This latest century also elevated Root to joint fourth on the list of most Test hundreds, drawing level with Kumar Sangakkara. He now trails only Tendulkar (51), Kallis (45), and Ponting (41), having moved ahead of both Rahul Dravid and Steven Smith, who have 36 each.

**Printed, Published and Owned by**  
**Mohammed Shafi**  
**Printed at Modi Print & Co.,**  
**Gala No. : MFL-IF, Devidayi Industrial Estate,**  
**Near Brittanias Factory, Darukhana, Reay Road (E),**  
**Mumbai - 400 010. Maharashtra and**  
**Published from # Room No:106, Ground Floor,**  
**Flat No.40, Malvani Gate, Near Collector Compound,**  
**Near Quadri Masjid, Malad (W), Mumbai-400 095**

**Editor: Mohammed Shafi**  
**R.N.I.No. : MAHENG/2014/59632**  
**Cell : 9849881368**  
**Email : standardpostmumbai@gmail.com**



# Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and MoS Ravneet Singh Bittu Review Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Simhastha 2027 Rail Plans

## Emphasis on Adopting Best Practices From Maha Kumbh 2025

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 25 : As in the case of Prayagraj Maha Kumbh, the Ministry of Railways has started advance preparations for Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Simhastha to be held in 2027. The Union Railway Minister Mr Ashwini Vaishnaw and MoS Shri Ravneet Singh Bittu took an extensive review of the plans. GM Central Railway, DRM Bhusaval division, and other officials briefed the Ministers and the Railway Board on its planning and execution status. Strengthening connectivity to the Mela area: Railways will undertake comprehensive infrastructure and operational upgrade for Simhastha. It has prepared an integrated plan to expand the capacity of stations across the region. The goal is to ensure streamlined passenger movement during the Nashik Simhastha 2027.

The Railway Minister urged the officials to adopt best practices which emerged from the Maha Kumbh 2025 experience. The Minister advised the officials to develop adequate facilities in all nearby stations of Nashik. He emphasised on the need to have sufficient stabling capacity for seamless transport.

Officials informed that the passenger traffic will be managed at 5 key stations which are within the vicinity of the Mela area. These are Nashik Road, Devlali, Odha, Kherwadi and Kasbe Sukene stations. Upgrading infrastructure, enhancing passenger amenities: The railway officials shared the details of infrastructure works and passenger amenities proposed at each of the 5 identified stations. The works planned at these stations are projected to cost over Rs 1,011 crore.

Nashik Road: Platform-



4 will be made bi-directional. Platform-1 will be extended to accommodate 24-coach trains. A 12m wide FOB will be constructed. Goods shed is proposed to be used as a holding area.

Stabling lines are being developed at Nashik Road. The platform surface, boundary wall, and Mela Tower will also be upgraded.

Devlali: Additional platforms will be constructed. Two 6m wide

FOBs will be built. Advanced coach and wagon examination facilities (with 3 stabling lines & 2 pit lines) are also planned to be built. A Sewage Treatment Plant is proposed to be set up.

Odha: An island platform with loop lines will be developed. Four 6m wide FOBs will be built. Long-haul loop line and yard remodeling are also planned. 5 stabling lines are proposed to be built.

Kherwadi: A new down

platform will be constructed. Two 6m wide FOBs will be built. Yard remodelling is also proposed to be undertaken.

Kasbe-Sukene: Platforms will be extended. Two 6m wide FOBs will be built. A common dispatch facility will be set up.

In addition to the above, various passenger amenities are planned to be developed at all 5 stations. These include Cover Over Platforms, water tanks, new toilets, and water-proof

holding areas. The circulating areas, pathways, entry/exit roads, and Passenger Information Systems are also planned to be upgraded.

Railways is on track to execute the above works well within the timeframe of 2 years. Out of the total 65 proposed works, estimates of 33 have already been sanctioned.

Special trains for Simhastha: The anticipated footfall is over 3 crore pilgrims, nearly 50 times that of the Simhastha 2015. With this in mind, Railways is planning to run a significantly higher number of special trains.

Long-distance specials and short-distance MEMU services will be provided to pilgrims travelling from across India. These will connect Nashik to important stations including Kamakhya, Howrah, Patna, Delhi, Jaipur, Bikaner, Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur and Nanded.

A round-trip special circuit train will also run. It will connect the 3 Jyotirlingas - Trimbakeshwar, Grishneshwar, and Omkareshwar.

Ensuring efficient crowd management: Large holding areas are being developed at each major station to ensure smooth movement of pilgrims. A centralized command and control centre is proposed to be set up. It will be equipped with CCTV cameras for effective monitoring and AI tools for predictive scheduling.

Joint meeting with CM Maharashtra: Railway officials are continuously in touch with the state government officials. There is close coordination between Railways and Maharashtra state government. In the coming months, a joint review of progress will be held with Maharashtra CM Shri Devendra Fadnis.



## Dharam Veer Meena, GM, Central Railway inspects The Signal and Telecom Training Institute, Byculla- Inaugurates new hostel for trainees

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 25 : Mr Dharam Veer Meena, General Manager, Central Railway inspected The Signal and Telecom Training Institute, Byculla and inaugurated the newly constructed Jaigad Hostel for trainees on 23.07.2025.

The Jaigad Hostel with 36 rooms has a capacity to accommodate 144 trainees. It has a Gym, Recreation room, Dining room and Wi-Fi facility.

The Signal & Telecom Training Institute, Byculla which is part of the Signal & Telecom Workshop Byculla, imparts training to about 1500 trainees on an average every year from two

Zones, viz. Central Railway & West Central Railway. Set up in 1968, the Institute conducts more than 100 courses every year for Artisans and Engineers which include Initial Apprentice Course, Foundation Course, Refresher Course, Special Equipment Course and KAVACH training.

Shri Maninder Uppal, Principal Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer, Shri Amrendra Singh, Chief Workshop Manager, Signal & Telecom Workshop Byculla, Principal Head of Departments, Divisional Railway Manager, Mumbai Division and Other Senior Officers of Central Railway were also present during the inspection.

## Railways to operate special trains to cater to the needs of passengers during Ganesh Utsav-2025

**Tatkal ticket booking system has been modified to curb the potential malpractices by unscrupulous elements: Union Railways Minister Mr Ashwini Vaishnaw**

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 25 : Indian Railways have decided to operate Special trains to cater to the needs of passengers during Ganesh Utsav-2025.

The halts of Ganpati Special trains serving over Konkan Railway have been planned at Kolad, Indapur, Mangaon, Goregaon Road, Veer, Sape Warmne, Karanjadi, Vinhere, Diwandkhavati, Kalambani Budruk, Khed, Anjani, Chiplun, Kamathe, Sawarda, Aravali Road, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Nandgaon Road, Kankavali, Sindhudurg, Kudal, Zarap, Sawantwadi Road, Madure, Thivim, Karmali, Madgaon Jn, Karwar, Gokama Road, Kumta, Murdeshwar, Mookambika Road, Kundapura, Udipi, Mulki and Surathkal.

Railways operates special trains to supplement the availability of accommodation in regular train services and to cater to the extra rush of passengers during peak seasons, festivals, special

events etc., subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc. The loads of existing services are also augmented this way.

This apart, tatkal ticket booking system has been modified for bringing about ease of access and transparency and to curb the potential malpractices by unscrupulous elements. With effect from 01-07-2025, authorized ticketing agents of Railways are not allowed to book opening day Tatkal tickets during the first thirty minutes for air-conditioned (AC) as well as non-AC Classes, that is, they shall not be allowed to book opening day Tatkal tickets from 10:00 hours to 10:30 hours for AC Classes and from 11:00 hours to 11:30 hours for non-AC Classes. Railway Protection Force (RPF) has also taken certain steps to curb black marketing of Tatkal reservations.

Firstly, regular drives are conducted by RPF against persons/agencies found involved in unauthorized carrying on of

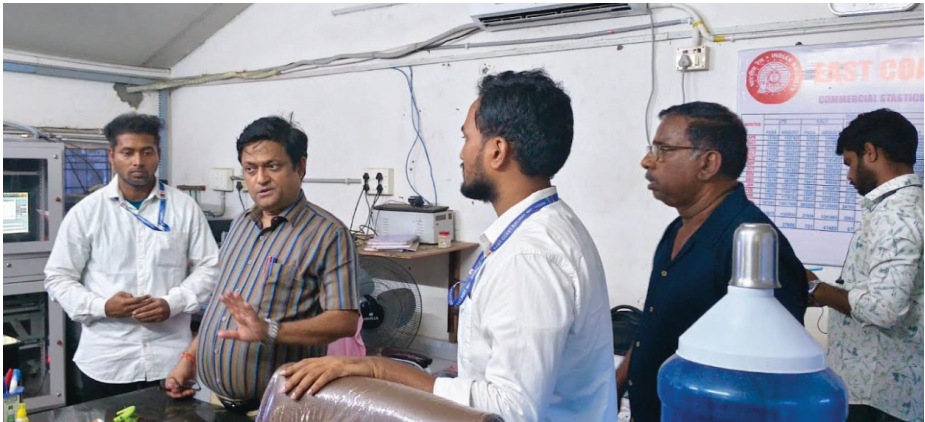
business of procuring and supplying of railway tickets. The offenders are booked under section 143 of the Railways Act. Cases having wider ramifications and involving ingredients of other offences are dealt in coordination with other law enforcement agencies like Police & CBI.

RPF conducts regular checks in mass contact areas such as Passenger Reservation System (PRS) centers, Booking Offices, Platforms, Trains etc. to prevent unauthorized ticketing activities including the use of scripting software. Such checks are also intensified during peak period like festivals, holidays etc.

General public are also educated through Public Address System and media, not to buy tickets from unscrupulous elements and consequences of buying tickets from these sources.

This was stated by the Union Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & Information Technology Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw in reply to an unstarred question in the Rajya Sabha today.

## ECoR, DRM Waltair inspects Naupada - Visakhapatnam section



(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 25 : Mr Lalit Bohra, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of Waltair Division, conducted a comprehensive inspection of the Visakhapatnam-Naupada railway section today. During this exercise, he undertook a footplate inspection between Visakhapatnam and Naupada, focusing on track conditions, curves, bridges, points and crossings, signaling arrangements, and other vital safety parameters.

DRM Mr Lalit Bohra

thoroughly checked the section for adherence to safety protocols, scrutinizing the maintenance of tracks, bridges, and signaling systems.

Special attention was paid to the punctuality and responsiveness of railway staff to ensure smooth and secure train operations.

At Naupada Railway Station, a thorough review of registers, operational modules, and safety-related documentation was conducted by DRM. Shri Lalit Bohra interacted with station staff and gangmen to

understand their working practices and gauge requirements aimed at further improving passenger convenience. He listened carefully the staff grievances.

DRM emphasized the importance of full knowledge of operational regulations among trolleyman.

He advised all the trolley operators to ensure thorough inspection of equipment—including brakes and working timetables—before commencing operations and follow all the safety protocols as advised by the Railway Board from time to time.

## SWR to Operate Special Trains for Velankanni Festival

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 25 : South Western Railway has decided to operate special trains for the convenience of devotees traveling to the annual festival at the Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health in Velankanni, Tamil Nadu. This major Christian pilgrimage center, also known as the “Our Lady of the East”, will host its annual festival from August 29 to September 8.

Every year, lakhs of devotees from across the country, including Goa and Karnataka, visit Velankanni during this time. To ease the passenger rush, SWR will run special trains between Vasco-Da-Gama and Velankanni for three trips in each direction. These trains aim to ensure smooth and comfortable travel for devotees attending the festival. Train No. 07361 Vasco-Da-Gama - Velankanni Special Express will depart Vasco-Da-Gama at 21:55 hrs on 27th August, 1st September, and 6th

September 2025 (Wednesday, Monday, and Saturday) to reach Velankanni at 03:45 hrs on the respective days (Friday, Wednesday, and Monday).

In the return direction, Train No. 07362 Velankanni - Vasco-Da-Gama Special Express will leave Velankanni at 23:55 hrs on 29th August, 3rd September, and 8th September 2025 (Friday, Wednesday, and Monday) and reach Vasco-Da-Gama at 03:00 hrs the following days (Sunday, Friday, and Wednesday). The trains will stop at Madgaon, Sanvordem, Kulem, Castle Rock, Londa, Dharwad, SSS Hubballi, SMM Haveri, Davangere, Chikjajur, Birur, Arsikere, Tumakuru, SMVT Bengaluru, Krishnarajapuram, Bangarapet, Morappur, Bommiadi, Salem, Namakkal, Karur, Kulitalai, Tiruchchirappalli, Thanjavur, Nidamangalam, Thiruvavur, and Nagappattinam in both directions.