

IN BRIEF

Govt expands fast-track courts for women's atrocity cases

Mumbai, July 29 (UNI) : The Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, today approved the creation of dedicated special courts in Gondia, Ratnagiri, and Washim districts to accelerate the resolution of cases involving atrocities against women. This expansion aims to replicate the success of the state's existing network of 27 special courts dedicated to women's atrocity cases, which have demonstrated significant utility by disposing of a substantial backlog. The newly sanctioned courts will focus specifically on ensuring swift justice for female victims.

Each of the three courts will be staffed through external mechanisms with five regular positions: one District and Additional Sessions Judge, one Stenographer, one Superintendent, one Senior Clerk, and one Junior Clerk. Additionally, each court will receive two human resource personnel: two Constables.

The Cabinet sanctioned an expenditure of Rs 2.39 crore to establish and operationalise these judicial facilities in the designated districts.

Cong slams for mob lynching in Khamgaon

Nagpur/Akola, July 29 (UNI) : Congress President Harshwardhan Sapkal today strongly condemned the recent mob lynching incident in Khamgaon, Akola district and held Maharashtra's Home Minister Devendra Fadnavis accountable for the growing atmosphere of lawlessness in the state.

Speaking to reporters, Sapkal said that under Fadnavis' leadership, the Home Department has failed to ensure public safety and maintain law and order.

He said that the horrific lynching in Khamgaon is not an isolated event, it is a direct consequence of the ongoing encouragement to mob mentality and the weakening of democratic values.

Sapkal demanded strict action against the culprits and questioned the silence of the state government over such serious crimes.

PM Modi slams Cong for lack of support to Op Sindoor, asserts India's resolve against terror

New Delhi, July 29 (UNI) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi today strongly defended Operation Sindoor and slammed the Congress for failing to support India's armed forces.

Making a statement in Lok Sabha during the debate on Operation Sindoor the Prime Minister said that while the international community backed India's actions, the Congress did not extend the same support at home.

"India's bravery received global support, but sadly, not from the Congress," Modi said.

The Prime Minister highlighted that out of 193 countries, only three stood by Pakistan during the operation. "No country opposed India's measures to safeguard its national security. In fact, we received widespread support from

across the world and no world leader told India to stop the Operation," he said.

Taking a direct aim at the Congress, Modi said, "The courage of our soldiers was questioned by the Congress. Right after the attack, instead of standing with the nation, they began asking, 'Where is Modi's 56-inch chest?'" He accused the opposition of politicizing the tragic Pahalgam terror attack and undermining the morale of the armed forces by repeatedly questioning the intent and execution of Operation Sindoor.

"You may gain headlines with such comments, but you will never win the hearts of the people," he added.

Modi also recounted his interaction with US Vice President J D Vance during the operation.

"On the night of May 9, the US Vice President tried

to contact me for over an hour while I was in an important meeting with our armed forces. When I returned his call, he warned of a massive Pakistani offensive. I made it clear if Pakistan initiates an attack, they will pay a heavy price. By morning, India had already dealt a decisive blow to their military capabilities," he said. Reiterating India's uncompromising stance on national security, the Prime Minister outlined three clear principles driving Operation Sindoor--India will respond to terror attacks on its own terms, in its own way, and at a time of its choosing, nuclear threats or blackmail will no longer deter India and there will be no distinction between governments that support terrorism and the masterminds behind such attacks. He emphasized the coordination and synergy

between the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force during the operation, stating that their unified effort "shook Pakistan to its core."

In a sharp rebuke, Modi said the Congress has increasingly aligned its rhetoric with that of Pakistan. "India is moving forward with self-reliance and strength, but Congress seems to be depending on Pakistan for its talking points," he said, triggering loud protests from opposition benches.

The Prime Minister also recalled Congress's scepticism following previous surgical strikes, saying, "They demanded proof. And when presented with evidence, they claimed they had also conducted surgical strikes."

"There were instances of terrorism in past as well. Then the terror masterminds

used to be stress free. Now, they spend sleepless as they know that India will come and kill them. From Sindoor to Sindhu, we acted against Pakistan," said PM Modi.

The Prime Minister said that during Op Sindoor, for the first time the world saw the strength of Made-in-India. "Made-in-India weapons exposed Pak's weapons. Our forces demolished terror bases. We proved that India won't bow to Pakistan's nuclear blackmailing. Their air bases are still in the ICU," he said, adding that in 22 minutes, Indian forces avenged April 22. "What happened in Pahalgam on April 22 was cruel. The way terrorists killed the people after asking their religion was the heights of cruelty...I am here to show the mirror to the people who can't see the side of India", he added.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma during a meeting, in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Govt approves Rs 200-Cr Umed Malls to market rural women's products

Mumbai, July 29 (UNI) : In a significant move to empower rural women entrepreneurs, the Maharashtra Cabinet today sanctioned the creation of 'Umed Mall' district sales centres across 10 districts. The initiative, backed by a 200-crore rupee fund, aims to secure robust market access for products crafted by women's self-help groups (SHGs).

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis chaired the meeting that approved the project under the Rural Development Department's 'UMED-Maharashtra State

Rural Livelihoods Upliftment Mission'. These malls will serve as dedicated platforms connecting SHG products with local and national markets, fostering rural entrepreneurship among women.

The rollout will occur in phases, with the initial 10 districts selected first before expanding statewide. Each Umed Mall will be constructed on land provided by the Zilla Parishad, with a maximum expenditure cap of 20 crore rupees per facility.

The design includes circular grain provision for

SHGs within the mall and dedicated communication and training halls specifically for women members. District selection will prioritize Zilla Parishads offering centrally located land readily available for the project. Implementation responsibilities rest with the Chief Executive Officer of the Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission, who will manage tendering, planning, and execution. Post-construction, maintenance and repairs of the Umed Malls will be handled by the respective Zilla Parishads.

Cabinet approves Chief Minister's prosperous Panchayati Raj Abhiyan

Mumbai, July 29 (UNI) : In view of THE upcoming local body elections in the state, the Maharashtra Cabinet today approved the implementation of the Chief Minister's Prosperous Panchayati Raj Abhiyan.

Under this initiative, high-performing Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis, and Zilla Parishads will receive incentive-based awards.

A total of 1,902 awards will be distributed through the state's Rural Development Department.

To boost the market access for farmers and women's self-help groups in rural areas, the Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission will establish 'Umed Malls' (District Sales Centers) in 10 districts.

These centres aim to offer consumers quality products at affordable prices while ensuring farmers and SHGs have a stable and rightful market.

In a long-awaited reform, the Cabinet during the day approved amendments to the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and

Regulation) Act, 1963 to ensure better regulation of Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs). Additionally, a decision has been taken to implement the 'e-NAM' scheme more effectively, with the goal of establishing nationally recognized market platforms.

Addressing the rising number of atrocities against women, particularly in rural areas, the Cabinet has approved the establishment of special courts in Gondia, Ratnagiri and Washim to expedite such cases.

Given the rapid population growth in Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad, and the increasing burden on the Pune District and Sessions Court, the Cabinet also approved the establishment of two new courts in Pimpri-Chinchwad—a District and Additional Sessions Court and a Senior Civil Court. Approval has also been granted for the creation of required posts for these courts.

Significant funding approvals were made for irrigation infrastructure upgrades in Wardha district:



Mamata Banerjee's post on social media triggers ...

A day after the Delhi police rejected Mamata Banerjee's claim that a Bengali-speaking woman and her child were assaulted by their personnel, the West Bengal Chief Minister today challenged the Delhi Police claiming that the video was real. "I spoke about that child yesterday (Monday). They were taken from one police station to another, one after another. I had mentioned it in the meeting yesterday itself—check the record. I had said they would be threatened, and that was exactly what had happened. We want those who were 'attacked' to return.

(See on page 2)

Rahul Gandhi challenges PM Modi to clarify Trump's



Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, today challenged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to address the House and clarify whether US President Donald Trump was lying about mediating a ceasefire between India and Pakistan durin Operation Sindoor. Participating in a debate on Operation Sindoor in the Lok Sabha, Gandhi said, (See on page 8)

US uses Iranian nuclear program as excuse for confrontation ...



Tehran's nuclear program and uranium enrichment are just an excuse for the United States to target Iran, Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Tuesday. "All their talk about nuclear issues, [uranium] enrichment, human rights, and such things are nothing but excuses.

(See on page 5)

Mitchell Santner to lead NZ in Latham's absence



Mitchell Santner will lead New Zealand in the opening Test against Zimbabwe starting tomorrow in Bulawayo, stepping in for regular skipper Tom Latham, who has been sidelined with a shoulder injury. Santner, the Black Caps' white-ball captain, takes over red-ball leadership duties after a strong outing in the recent T20I Tri-Series in Harare,

(See on page 7)

RS debate on Op Sindoor: Opposition raises security lapse issues in Pahalgam attack

New Delhi, July 29 (UNI) The Opposition parties today slammed Centre's BJP-led ruling NDA over alleged security lapses during the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack while participating in the discussion on Operation Sindoor in Rajya Sabha today.

Sagarika Ghosh of the Trinamool Congress, referring to Prime Minister

Narendra Modi's remark on Operation Sindoor, said that "instead of sindoor, it is politics that flows through his veins". She was referring to Modi's statement at a public rally that sindoor flows in his veins instead of blood.

Ghosh said the administration and intelligence agencies failed in Pahalgam, which led to the incident. She questioned

why the government does not want to guarantee the security of villages located along the border with Pakistan.

DMK's Tiruchi Siva, participating in the discussion, said that the government does not respect democratic traditions. The opposition supported the government after Operation Sindoor, and many opposition leaders

were part of the delegations sent abroad, but the government refused the opposition's demand to call a special session of Parliament to discuss the issue, he alleged.

Siva also said that the Prime Minister's absence from the House is a disrespect to democratic traditions. He pointed out that after the Pahalgam attack, the Prime Minister

went to Bihar and announced steps against Pakistan from there. The Prime Minister also went on foreign visits, but his presence in the House was rarely seen. This, he said, is against democracy. The DMK leader added that the decision to suspend the Indus Water Treaty after the Pahalgam attack was not appropriate. He said the decision was against the citizens.

Mamata Banerjee’s post on social media triggers political controversy

Kolkata, July 29 (UNI) : A day after the Delhi police rejected Mamata Banerjee’s claim that a Bengali-speaking woman and her child were assaulted by their personnel, the West Bengal Chief Minister today challenged the Delhi Police claiming that the video was real.

"I spoke about that child yesterday (Monday). They were taken from one police station to another, one after another. I had mentioned it in the meeting yesterday itself — check the record. I had said they would be threatened, and that was exactly what had happened. We want those who were ‘attacked’ to return. And then the truth will come out — who is right and who is lying will be proven," the chief minister said, while addressing a government programme in Illambazar,

Birbhum.The incident that triggered controversy came to the fore when Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee shared a video on social media on Sunday, claiming that even a child was not been spared from what she described as "linguistic terrorism."

In the video, a young man is seen pointing to injury marks on his son's body, alleging that the police had beaten the child and caused a wound on his forehead.

According to reports, the child and his mother — the wife of a migrant worker — had travelled from West Bengal to Delhi in search of work and were allegedly assaulted by the police.

Banerjee used the incident to launch a sharp attack on the BJP-led Central Government and the ruling party in Delhi, expressing outrage over the

treatment of Bengali-speaking individuals in the capital.

Hours after the video went viral, the Delhi Police responded, stating that they had investigated the woman featured in the clip. She had initially alleged that “four policemen came to their house, took them away to a secluded place, and demanded Rs 25,000.”

However, during questioning, the woman reportedly admitted that a relative of hers — a political worker based in Malda district — had instructed her to make the video. According to the police, the footage was then shared with this relative and later circulated with the intention of defaming the Delhi Police.

“Based on technical and local intelligence, as well as CCTV footage, we have gathered various

pieces of evidence. From this, we have concluded that the story narrated by the woman is baseless,” a senior police officer told the media.

The incident has triggered a political controversy as Leader of the Opposition Suwendu Adhikari announced that an FIR would be filed against Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, citing the Delhi Police’s version of events.“I have asked Soumendu (his brother and BJP MP from Kanthi) to file a police complaint,” Adhikari said in a press conference today. Taking a swipe at the Chief Minister, he added, “She is spreading false information. She could easily win an international award for spreading rumours.”Later in the day, Soumendu Adhikari filed a formal complaint at Delhi’s Mandir Marg police station.

Bihar state fair authority to manage 'Sitakund Fair'

Patna, July 29 (UNI) : Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary today said that the historic and mythological month-long 'Sitakund Fair' in Munger district will now be managed by the management of the Bihar State Fair Authority.

Choudhary said that the fair holds significant mythological, religious, social, cultural and tourism-related importance. Every year, lakhs of devotees from Munger and nearby districts including Bhagalpur, Khagaria, Begusarai, Saharsa, Purnia and Lakhisarai participate in the fair.

He also informed that nearly 5,000 foreign tourists visit the Sitakund temple annually for worship and sightseeing.

The Deputy CM said, “The historic and mythological Sitakund situated on the banks of the Ganga river, is located in Munger Sadar subdivision, about 8 kilometers from the Munger district headquarters. As per the myth this is the site where Goddess Sita underwent her trial by fire (Agni Pariksha).”

He further added, “The Sitakund Fair begins every year from the date of Maghi Purnima and continues till Phalgun Purnima, spanning approximately one month. Such fairs provide employment opportunities to the local people.”

He further informed that the Sitakund site houses kunds (sacred ponds) named after Goddess Sita, Lord Ram, Lakshman, Bharat, and Shatrughna.

Massive eviction drive underway in Assam to clear 3600 hectares of forest land

Guwahati, July 29 (UNI) : The BJP led government in Assam today started an eviction drive at Rengma forest area near Uriamghat in Assam’s Golaghat district, probably the biggest one carried out in recent times, to clear over 3600 acres of forest land which had been under illegal encroachment.

The state government had deployed adequate security personnel including the Assam Police nd the Forest personnel to ensure the eviction process was completed smoothly. About 1000 bulldozers and excavators rolled down the area identified for eviction this morning while thousands of policemen and forest personnel guarded the area.

A senior district administration official said that they have so far cleared only 4.2 hectares of encroached land and added that it will take another few days to clear the entire stretch under illegal encroachment.

“These are all forest land which had been under encroachment. Whatever is done has been done as per the law. The people who had been living in the area illegally had been served with notice and accordingly most of the residents have left the area already,” said a senior police official while adding that there were no opposition from the residents on the first day of eviction on Tuesday.

Sources in the forest department said that they have been able to demolish close to 300 structures which included residential structures as well as commercial establishments. The drive is likely to resume tomorrow, the sources said.

Some of the residents however, objected to the government move to evict them from the land and said that they have been living there since more than the last 40 years. Interestingly, most of the houses had electricity connections and there were government schools established in the area.

Some of the locals alleged that they were settled in the area by the earlier governments during the early 1980s to protect Assam’s land from encroachment by other states. Rengma forest area located close to the Assam–Nagaland inter-state border had the issue of encroachment from neighbouring states.

It may be mentioned here that the Assam government had recently started a series of eviction drives to clear the forest and government lands which had been under illegal encroachment.

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma visited the Uriamghat area last week and held discussion with the district and police administration over the eviction drives.

Mizo body calls for measures to prevent influx from Assam amid eviction drive

Aizawl, July 29 (UNI) : The Central Committee of the Young Mizo Association (CYMA) on Tuesday urged the Mizoram government to take immediate action to prevent a possible influx of people from neighbouring Assam, in light of the ongoing eviction drive in that state.

As the largest and most influential civil society group in Mizoram, with a membership exceeding four lakh both within and outside the state, CYMA expressed concern over the potential consequences of Assam’s efforts to remove illegal encroachers from its land.

At a meeting held on Monday, CYMA’s leadership discussed the situation and agreed on the need for the state government to adopt proactive measures to address the possibility of an influx. "In response to the Assam government's eviction drive, our primary concern is to ensure that Mizoram does not face any unregulated migration or illegal entry," said Malsawmliana, the organisation's General Secretary.

He further added that CYMA has called on the Mizoram government to implement tighter controls, particularly in the issuance of the Inner Line Permit (ILP)—a travel document required for entry into Mizoram and other protected areas. "We urge the government to exercise caution and ensure that only those with legitimate reasons for travel are granted access," Malsawmliana said.

Rain might have washed away 4,000 metric tonnes of coal, says Meghalaya Minister

Shillong, July 29 (UNI) : Minister Kyrmen Shylla has sparked controversy with his suggestion that the vanishing of more than 4,000 metric tonnes of

illegally mined coal from two designated depots might be due to getting "washed away due to heavy rainfall".

The 4,000 metric tonnes of coal was dumped at Diengngan village and Rajaju village depots in South West Khasi Hills district following the submission of the 31st interim report by the Justice (Retd) Brojendra Prasad Katakey panel to the Meghalaya High Court last week.On July 25, a division bench of the High Court comprising of Justice Hamarsan Singh Thangkhiew and Justice Wanlura Diengdoh had directed the state government to take strict action against officials under whose watch, coal has been lifted illegally and also to trace the persons involved in lifting the coal.

“Meghalaya receives the highest rainfall. There is a strong possibility that the coal might have been washed away due to the rain,” Shylla told reporters.

“If you remember there was an allegation that flooding in Assam was due to the heavy rainfall in Meghalaya and especially in East Jaintia Hills district, all waters (from the district) flows to Bangladesh. You never know because of the rain the coal might have got washed away,” he said.

However, the minister clarified that he does not have sufficient details to ascertain whether the disappearance was due to illegal practices or natural causes.

“I cannot blame it solely on rainfall. It may or may not be the reason. I do not have the full details to ascertain the cause of the disappearance of coal,” Shylla stated.

Earlier, the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) had recorded 1,839.03 MT of coal at a depot in Diengngan village. However, during a recent inspection, only 2.5 MT of coal was found along with residue and traces of coal.

Similarly, in the inspection that has been carried out at Rajaju village, approximately 8 tonnes of coal and some residue and traces of coal were found, out of 2,121.62 tonnes, as recorded by the MBDA.

Katakey was appointed by the Meghalaya High Court in April 2022 to recommend measures to the Meghalaya government in compliance with the directions issued by the Supreme Court and the National Green Tribunal (NGT), which banned the rat-hole coal mining in April 2014.

Ahead of Bihar polls, Sahani stakes claim to 60 seats, deputy CM post

Patna, July 29 (UNI) : Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) founder Mukesh Sahani has announced that his party will contest 60 seats in the 2025 Bihar Assembly elections and has staked claim to the post of Deputy Chief Minister.

He asserted that VIP holds a decisive vote share across the state and will play a crucial role in determining the next government.

In a post on the social media platform ‘X’, Sahani declared: “VIP will contest 60 seats in 2025, while candidates from our allied parties will contest the remaining seats.”

Popularly known as the ‘Son of Mallah’, Sahani added: “In 2025, our government will be formed. Tejashwi Yadav will be the next chief minister of Bihar, and the deputy chief minister will be a son of the Mallah from Bihar’s Extremely Backward Community.”

During a media interaction, the VIP chief said that this demand is not new but part of the 12-point agenda

unanimously approved by senior party leaders at the National Executive Meeting held in March.

He stated: “Those 12 agendas reflect our party’s vision, organisational strength, and electoral strategy. Our

leaders and workers have been actively working to implement them on the ground.”

Sahani reiterated that the VIP is an important constituent of the INDIA Alliance and will contest the upcoming elections in alliance with other INDIA bloc partners.“Our party leaders believe we should contest at least 25 per cent of the total Assembly seats in Bihar, which comes to around 60. We are confident of winning most of them. We have already demonstrated our strength when we contested independently,” he said.

However, he clarified that the seat-sharing arrangement is yet to be finalised. “The final decision on seat-sharing within the INDIA Alliance will be taken unanimously by the Coordination Committee,” he added.



Sahani also announced that 50 per cent of the VIP’s candidates will be from the Extremely Backward Classes (EBC), Scheduled Castes (SC), and Scheduled Tribes (ST).

“This decision reflects our commitment to social justice and inclusive politics. For communities that have been historically excluded from power, VIP is determined to provide leadership opportunities,” he said.

In addition, CYMA has directed its sub-headquarters, groups, and branches across the border districts to remain on high alert. The organisation has asked its members to take necessary steps to prevent any illegal influx from Assam, especially in light of the border’s proximity.

MoU signed to strengthen infrastructure facilities at IMA-Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar, July 29 (UNI) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on Tuesday between the Institute of Mathematics and Applications (IMA) and Odisha Construction Corporation Limited (OCCL) to strengthen the infrastructure facilities at IMA.The MoU was signed between Director of IMA Josabanta Jena and General Manager of OCCL Pratap Chandra Chaudhury in the presence of Science & Technology Minister Krushna Chandra Patra and Principal Secretary Chithra Arumugam. The state Government has sanctioned Rs.26.05 crore for construction of a new Library Building, staff quarters for faculties, additional floor on hostel and on academic block in the institute. The construction work will be completed within 2 years by OCCL.

	पनवेल महानगरपालिका ता. पनवेल, जि. रायगड, पिन नं. ४१० २०६	
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जाहिर निविदा		
उपायुक्त, पनवेल महानगरपालिका, पनवेल हे खालील बाबींकरिता जाहिर दरपत्रके सिलबंध लिफाफ्यात मागवित आहेत.		
कामाचे नाव :- पनवेल महानगरपालिका कार्यक्षेत्रामधील प्रगतीशील पनवेल चित्रमय प्रदर्शन भरविण्याकरिता त्रयस्त संस्थेची निवड करणेकामी करणेबाबत.		
नोंदणीकृत संस्थेकडून जनसंपर्क विभागामार्फत पनवेल महानगरपालिका कार्यक्षेत्रामधील प्रगतीशील पनवेल चित्रमय प्रदर्शन भरविण्याकरिता त्रयस्त संस्थेचे दर पत्रक मागविणेबाबत.		
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१.	१. बॅक ग्राउंड डिस्प्ले पॅनल २. बॅक ग्राउंड डिस्प्लेवर सनबोर्ड पॅनलची निर्मिती ३. पॅनल आकार ५ X ३ फुट असा असेल ४. विकास कामांच्या अनुषंगाने प्रत्येक पॅनल वर रंगीत छायाचित्रे व रेखाचित्रे यांचा वापर करावा लागेल. ५. पनवेल महानगरपालिकेतर्फे पुरविण्यात येणारी संकल्पना एकत्रित डिजिटल प्रिंट लॅमिनेशनसह पॅनलवर चिटकवणे. ६. प्रत्येक पॅनलला फोकस लाईट वापरणे. ७. एकूण ६० पॅनल तयार करणे. ८. आकर्षक दगडी भिंतीची पाश्र्वभूमी असलेली भित तयार करणे. ९. गणेशोत्सवासाठी (One Time Use) एक वेळेस उपयोगी पडेल असे पॅनल ६ X ६ फुट त्यावर २ किंवा ३ योजना असतील असे तयार करून घेणे.	
या कामी अटी व शर्ती खालील प्रमाणे :-		
१) महानगरपालिका / नगरपरिषदेमध्ये स्पर्धांचे आयोजन केल्याचा अनुभव दाखला / कार्यादेश व पात्रता समर्थनार्थ कागदपत्र, पॅनकार्ड, जी.एस.टी रजिस्ट्रेशन सर्टिफिकेट, संस्था नोंदणी सर्टिफिकेट, मागील ०१ वर्षांचे IT Return, अनामत रक्कमेचा डिमांड ड्राफ्ट इ. कागदपत्र असावे.		
२) आर्थिक लिफाफा क्र. २ मध्ये निवेदची आर्थिक बोली व सादर करावे.		
३) याकामी निविदा प्रपत्र रोख रक्कम भरणा करून दिनांक ०५/०८/२०२५ रोजी दुपारी २.०० वाजेपर्यंत कार्यालयीन वेळेत जनसंपर्क विभागात उपलब्ध होतील. तसेच संबंधित सल्लागार यांनी सिलबंद निविदा पनवेल महानगपालिकेच्या जनसंपर्क विभागात दिनांक ०५/०८/२०२५ रोजी सायंकाळी ५.०० वाजेपर्यंत सादर करण्यात यावी.		
४) जाहीर निविदा स्वीकारण्याचे अथवा नाकारण्याचे अधिकार निम्न स्वाक्षरीधारक यांना राहतील.		
५) नमुद केलेले दर हे सर्व प्रकारचे कर व वाहतुक खर्चासह समाविष्ट असावेत		
सही/- (प्रसेनजित कारलेकर) उपायुक्त, माहिती व जनसंपर्क विभाग, पनवेल महानगपालिका		

Supriya Sule alleges 4,800 cr Scam in 'Ladki Bahin' scheme; demands SIT probe

Mumbai July 29 (UNI): Nationalist Congress Party (SP) MP Supriya Sule has levelled serious allegations against the Maharashtra government of a scam to the tune of Rs 4,800 crore in its flagship Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin welfare scheme and demanded a probe by a Special Investigation Team (SIT). Questioning how verification failures occurred despite Aadhaar and bank details being mandatory for applicants, Sule said, “How were nearly 26.54 lakh women declared ineligible after initially being approved? And how were funds intended exclusively for women credited to men’s bank accounts.” “The scheme

was launched by the previous government just before the Assembly elections. If those applications were approved then, how are so many women suddenly ineligible now? How were applications under male names even approved in a scheme meant only for women? Isn’t this clear corruption?” she asked. Addressing reporters, Sule criticised the current administration for slashing funds in crucial sectors such as education, healthcare, and women’s welfare to sustain the scheme, even as the government itself admitted to financial strain. “We are happy that money has reached some

beneficiaries. But this is massive corruption—not a minor irregularity, but a ₹4,800 crore scam that has already come to light. Who knows how many more applications will be rejected and how many more women will be disqualified?” Sule stated. She reiterated her demand for an SIT probe into the alleged irregularities, particularly the disqualification of women and the diversion of funds to male beneficiaries. Sule also called for a thorough audit and investigation of the entire implementation process. If the state government fails to act, she warned, the matter will be raised in Parliament.

Postal Services suspended Aug 2 in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, Jalna

Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, July 29 (UNI): The Department of Posts will implement its Advanced Postal Technology APT 2.0 system across all post offices in the Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar and Jalna districts, commencing formally on August 4. This initiative forms part of the broader IT 2.0 modernisation project aimed at upgrading digital postal services. To facilitate the essential technical preparations required for activating the new APT 2.0 system, all postal services within these two districts will be suspended on Saturday, August 2. The Chief Superintendent of

Post Office, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, has officially notified the public that no postal transactions whatsoever will be possible at any post office in Aurangabad or Jalna on that date. Department officials stated that the core objective of the APT 2.0 system is to deliver better, faster, and more user-friendly services to customers. Designed with future requirements in mind, this modern system incorporates digital and smart features intended to significantly enhance efficiency and save time for users. The technology promises to bring greater transparency, increased speed, and an improved user experience to postal operations.

Adani gets SC nod for Rs 36,000-crore redevelopment of Mumbai's Motilal Nagar

Mumbai, July 29 (UNI) The Supreme Court has cleared the path for Adani Properties Pvt Ltd and the Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA) to redevelop Motilal Nagar in Mumbai's Goregaon (West) suburb through the construction and development agency (C&D) model. Dismissing the Special Leave Petition (SLP) filed by Motilal Nagar residents, the Supreme Court has given its nod for the Rs 36,000-crore redevelopment project to go ahead. The Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA) has received the Supreme Court’s clearance to proceed with the redevelopment of Motilal Nagar, a 142-acre cluster in

Mumbai’s suburb of Goregaon (West). A Supreme Court bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta dismissed a special leave petition filed by resident associations Jankalyankari Samiti headed by Madhavi Rane, Motilal Rahivasi Vikas Sangh and Gaurav Rane upholding Bombay High Court’s March 2025 order in favour of a holistic redevelopment of Motilal Nagar I, II and III. The development came after a division bench of Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice Bharti Dangre of the Bombay High Court had quashed a review petition by Motilal Nagar Vikas Samiti, led by Nilesh Prabhu and upheld the redevelopment of Motilal Nagar in Goregaon West on Friday.

As per the construction and development agency (C&D) agreement between MHADA and Estatevue Private Developers, a unit of Adani Realty, around 3,700 residents of the 142-acre layout will be rehoused in newly developed apartments measuring 1,600 square feet built-up area, while commercial spaces will get new 987 square feet establishments. MHADA will retain full control over the project, including ownership of land. The Maharashtra government has accorded ‘Special Project’ status to the redevelopment project whose estimated redevelopment cost is around Rs 36,000 crore, while the rehabilitation period is seven years from the project commencement date.



People stand near the wreckage of a vehicle after a collision took place between a bus with passengers on board and a truck, loaded with cooking gas cylinders, in Jharkhand's Deoghar district.

Ajit Pawar issues stern warning to party MLAs, ministers

Mumbai, July 29(UNI) Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar today issued a strict

warning to his party MLAs and ministers, stating that the party is being defamed due to their inappropriate behaviour.

"If anyone makes such a mistake again, don’t even bother to come to me, just walk away from there," Pawar told his party MLAs. His remarks come amid growing controversy surrounding Agriculture Minister Manikrao Kokate, whose resignation remains unexplained. Pawar convened a meeting with party ministers and legislators to address their increasing indiscipline. Kokate has recently been at the centre of criticism due to his controversial remarks against farmers and a viral video showing him allegedly playing the card game Rummy during a legislative session. Pawar reportedly confronted Kokate directly, asking, "How many more such statements will we tolerate? How many times should we forgive you?" Kokate reportedly assured Pawar that he would not repeat such behaviour and left the meeting looking visibly upset.

Cabinet allocates Thane land for Maharashtra-Goa Advocate Academy

Mumbai, July 29 (UNI) The Maharashtra Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, today approved the allocation of land in Thane district to the Maharashtra and Goa Lawyers Council, Mumbai, for establishing an Advocate Academy. The designated plot, located at Mouje Kalwa, Thane (Survey No. 226, Area: 1.01.90 hectares), will be granted to the council, which represents approximately two lakh advocates across both states. The academy aims to address the council's current space constraints, as it operates from limited premises within the Bombay High Court complex.

Mumbai, July 29 (UNI) Senior Congress leader Vijay Wadettiwar urged the Devendra Fadnavis government today to sprinkle cow urine on tainted ministers in his cabinet, make them sit in front of Lord Shiva's idol and purify them, if he cannot sack them from his cabinet. "If you (the government) do not want to remove tainted ministers from their posts, there is no problem in sprinkling 'Gomutra' (cow urine) of a holy cow on them. Do 'abhishek' (ceremonial sprinkling) on them after making them sit in front of Lord Shiva's feet and purify them. After that people can be told that they have been purified. They were impure because of their statements about honey traps and farmers. After abhishek with cow urine, the government can declare them as purified," he said sarcastically. "The deadline for the resignation of Agriculture minister Manikrao Kokate is ending today. Chhawa Sanghatana president Vijaykumar Ghadge Patil has informed that if a decision is not taken regarding the resignation of Kokate, the Chhawa Sanghatana will take farmers across the state and launch a protest," Wadettiwar said in Nagpur.

Meanwhile in Mumbai, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis gave a stern warning to his ministers after a cabinet meeting. At an internal meeting which lasted for 20 minutes, Fadnavis expressed strong displeasure over controversial statements and irregularities by his ministers. He warned that if such things continue, action will be taken against them. "This is the last chance. The government's work must not be hampered. If such things continue to happen, the government will be greatly discredited. We will take whatever action we want," Fadnavis told his ministers.

In a related development, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar who was widely expected to demand Agriculture minister Manikrao Kokate's resignation today, softened his stand and made it clear that action will be taken against his Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) ministers only if action is also taken against Deputy Chief Minister Eknath-led Shiv Sena's tainted ministers. However, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar pulled up Agriculture minister Kokate who was caught

playing an online rummy game on his mobile phone in the legislative assembly and had also called the Maharashtra government "a beggar" a few days ago. Agriculture minister Kokate met Deputy CM Ajit Pawar at the Mantralaya today morning and had a discussion for 25 minutes in Ajit's ante-chamber. The outcome of this discussion was not very good for Kokate and it was learnt that Ajit Pawar had pulled him up. During the talk in the ante-chamber, Deputy CM Ajit Pawar told Kokate,

"Kokate, the government is being defamed because of you. We should be careful while speaking." After this, Kokate apologised to Ajit Pawar for the incident and assured Ajit Pawar that such things would not happen in the future. For a while, it looked like Kokate would be asked to resign, until Deputy CM Ajit Pawar made it clear later that action against Kokate would depend on whether action would be taken against tainted ministers from the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena.

CENTRAL RAILWAY

MUMBAI DIVISION

Modification to the existing OHE in connection with the extension of PF-1 & 2 of Shelu & Bhivpuri Stations

Name of Work :- Modification to the existing OHE in connection with the extension of PF-1 & 2 of Shelu & Bhivpuri Stations of Mumbai Division of Central Railway. **Approx Value:-** ₹ 7947940.78/-, **EMD :-** ₹ 159000.00/-, **Cost of Tender Form :-** ₹ 0.00/-, **Completion Period :-** 2 months. The time and date for submission of tender will be up to 11:00 Hrs. on 18.08.2025. Complete details of E-tender are available at official Railway website <https://www.ireps.gov.in> the complete documents can be downloaded from the website. The details of tender is available in the "Notice Board" of the Sr. DEE (TD) KYN's office, Kalyan.

Open E-Tender Notice No.
KYN-LD-585-W-752-C-R1

Dt. 26.07.2025 **Sr. DEE (TD) KYN**

SUN 312 असुरक्षित तथा अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन के पास कार्य करना दंडनीय अपराध है

EAST COAST RAILWAY

Auction Catalogue No. WAT-VAC-003

Seq. No. AA/1: Lot No./Category: MSS-WAT-VSKP-STGen-86-25-1 (Misc-Static-Services-Static General), **DESCRIPTION:** CONTRACT FOR UTILIZATION OF VACANT SPACE TOWARDS PRS BACKSIDE GATE AT VISAKHAPATNAM STATION (OUTSIDE PLATFORM PREMISES) FOR STORAGE OF PAD, CATERING ITEMS AND WATER BOTTLES.

Seq. No. AA/2: Lot No./Category: MSS-WAT-VSKP-STGen-84-25-1 (Misc-Static-Services-Static General), **DESCRIPTION:** CONTRACT FOR UTILIZATION OF VACANT SPACE TOWARDS PLATFORM NO.8 (LINEN STORE) AT VISAKHAPATNAM STATION (OUTSIDE PLATFORM PREMISES) FOR STORAGE OF PAD, CATERING ITEMS AND WATER BOTTLES.

Seq. No. AA/3: Lot No./Category: MSS-WAT-VSKP-STGen-85-25-1 (Misc-Static-Services-Static General), **DESCRIPTION:** CONTRACT FOR UTILIZATION OF VACANT SPACE TOWARDS PLATFORM NO.1, SOUTH END VISAKHAPATNAM STATION (OUTSIDE PLATFORM PREMISES) FOR STORAGE OF PAD, CATERING ITEMS AND WATER BOTTLES.

Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee (for all Seq. Nos.), **Trips/Days:** 1096 (for all Seq. Nos.), **Lot Start Date & Time:** 05.08.2025 at 1100 hrs. (for all Seq. Nos.), **Lot End Date & Time:** 05.08.2025 at 1130 hrs. (for Seq. No. AA/1), 05.08.2025 at 1140 hrs. (for Seq. No. AA/2) & 05.08.2025 at 1150 hrs. (for Seq. No. AA/3), **Minimum Increase (%)**: 0.2 (for all Seq. Nos.), **Lot Status:** New in Draft Catalogue (for all Seq. Nos.).

Note: Complete information is available in website www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, **PR-408/Q/25-26** **Waltair**

CENTRAL RAILWAY

MUMBAI DIVISION

TENDER NOTICE No. 08/2025 DATED 25.07.2025 FOR PROCUREMENT OF MATERIALS

For & on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Materials Manager, Central Railways, Mumbai Division, Mumbai CSMT-400001 invites electronic tenders for supply of the following item: **Sr. No. 1, Tender No. - 92256323C, Description -** Metal Cots along with Mosquito Net Frames., **QTY. -** 341 Nos., **EMD AMT -** Rs. 108510.00/-, **Due Date -** 14.08.2025, **Sr. No. 2, Tender No. - 92255697, Description -** Design, Manufacture Supply Installation Testing, Commissioning and Proving of Hydraulic Re-railing equipment., **QTY. -** 01 Set, **EMD AMT -** Rs. 136000.00/-, **Due Date -** 11.08.2025, **NOTE:** 1. Above tenders are uploaded on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The firm who desires to participate against above e-tenders, are advised to register themselves electronically on the above website. Manual offers against these e-tenders will not be accepted. 2. Bidders will have to make online payment of EMD through IREPS. 3. For details of these tenders and other governing conditions, please visit the web site www.ireps.gov.in. 4. For any queries, please write to Sr. Divisional Materials Manager, Central Railway, DRM Office, Mumbai CSMT-400001. E-mail: srdmm@bb.railnet.gov.in **Note:-** This tender complies with the tender public procurement policy order 2017/ dated 15.06.2017.

SUN 311 असुरक्षित तथा अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन के पास कार्य करना दंडनीय अपराध है

IIFL HOME FINANCE LIMITED
IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park,
Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, MIDC
Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate,
Thane - 400604, Maharashtra
CIN No.: U65993MH2006PLC166475

By virtue of this notice, the general public and customers of IIFL Home Finance Limited are hereby informed that the IIFL Home Loan branch at BSEL Tech Park, Tower B, 1st Floor, Unit 110- B, Vashi, Navi Mumbai-400703, Maharashtra will be closed w.e.f. **November 01, 2025.**

All the customers and general public are requested to take note of the above and visit iiflhomeloans.com/locate-us to find other IIFL Home Loan branches near you.

पालघर नगरपरिषद, पालघर
सार्वजनिक बांधकाम विभाग
ई-निविदा सुचना (प्रथम)

मुख्याधिकारी पालघर नगरपरिषद, वैशिष्ट्यपूर्ण कामासाठी विशेष अनुदान योजने अंतर्गत १४ विकास कामासाठी शासनाकडील आवश्यक त्या वर्गातील नोंदणीकृत ठेकेदाराकडून/ सेवा पुरवठादाराकडून ऑनलाईन पध्दतीने ई-निविदा मागवित आहेत. ई-निविदा दाखल करण्याची मुदत दि. ३०/०७/२०२५ पासून सुरु होत असुन सविस्तर तपशिल शासनाच्या www.mahatenders.gov.in या संकेत स्थळावर उपलब्ध होईल.

जा. क्र. पानप/सा.बा./कार्या-२७९३/२०२५-२६
दि. २९/०७/२०२५

सही/-
मुख्याधिकारी
पालघर नगरपरिषद

पालघर नगरपरिषद, पालघर

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF GREATER MUMBAI

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Document No.	Bid No. 2025_MCGM_1204129_1
Name of the Organization	Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai
Subject	Procurement of Electro surgical Hand Piece at K. B. Bhabha Hospital, Kurla (W).
Scrutiny fee of Tender	Rs 1452/- + 18.0% GST
Bid Security Deposit / EMD	Rs 17,500/-
Date of Issue and sale of tender	30-07-2025 from 15.00 Hrs
Last date & time for sale of tender & Receipt of Bid Security Deposit	07-08-2025 upto 15.00 Hrs.
Website	https://Mahatenders.gov.in
Opening of Packet A	08-08-2025 after 15.00 Hrs.
Opening of Packet B	08-08-2025 after 15.10 Hrs.
Opening of Packet C	13-08-2025 after 15.00 Hrs.
Address for communication	Office of the : - Medical Superintendent, Khan Bahadur Bhabha Hospital, Kurla (W), Mumbai - 4700070.
Venue for opening of bid	On line in Medical Superintendent Office.
PRO/1142/ADV/2025-26	Sd/- Medical Superintendent Khan Bahadur Bhabha Hospital Kurla (W)
Keep the terraces clean, remove odd articles/junk/scrap.	

STANDARD POST

ISRO gearing up for July 30 INDO-US NISAR satellite launch starting launch rehearsal

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is gearing up for the July 30 evening launch of the Indo-US Earth observation satellite — NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) — and has begun launch rehearsals, an official said.

An ISRO official, who did not wish to be named, said that launch rehearsals are currently underway, although the formal countdown is yet to begin.

During the launch rehearsal, ISRO checks out all the rocket systems, stimulates the launch sequence including the fuel loading, countdown and others that includes aborting the launch.

India’s Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle-F16 (GSLV-F16) will lift off at 5.40 pm from the rocket port in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

Approximately 19 minutes after liftoff, the 420-tonne GSLV-F16 — an expendable launch vehicle — will deploy the NISAR satellite, which weighs around 2,400 kg, into a 747-km Sun-synchronous orbit (SSO) with an inclination of 98.4 degrees, according to ISRO.

Built at a cost of about USD1.5 billion, NISAR’s mission life will be five years and its mission is to observe earth in unprecedented detail.

A retired ISRO chairman clarified that NISAR is intended exclusively for Earth observation and not for strategic or military purposes, despite its sophisticated Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) capability, which allows it to image the Earth through clouds.

A retired chief of ISRO said NISAR is only for earth observation and not for strategic purposes though it has SAR that can look through the clouds.

The Indian Space Agency said, NISAR is a unique earth observation satellite and the first satellite to observe the earth with a dual frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (NASA’s L-band and ISRO’s S-band).

The satellite will observe earth with a swath of 242 km and high spatial resolution, using SweepSAR technology for the first time.

According to ISRO, the satellite will scan the entire globe and provide all weather, day and night data at 12-day intervals and enable a wide range of applications.

NISAR can detect even small changes in the Earth’s surface such as ground deformation, ice sheet movement and vegetation dynamics.

Further applications include sea ice classification, ship detection, shoreline monitoring, storm characterization, changes in soil moisture, mapping and monitoring of surface water resources and disaster response, the Indian space agency added.

The data gathered will assist in tasks as infrastructure monitoring, disaster response, biomass assessment, and agricultural management.

ISRO identified science and applications that were complementary to the primary mission objectives: agricultural monitoring and characterization, landslide studies, Himalayan glacier studies, soil moisture, coastal processes, coastal winds, and monitoring hazards.

The NISAR mission is the result of over a decade of close technical collaboration between ISRO and NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).

NISAR will be the first Earth-observing satellite with two kinds of radar — an L-band system with a 10-inch (25-centimeter) wavelength and an S-band system with a 4-inch (10-centimeter) wavelength.

The NISAR carries a 12m wide deployable mesh reflector mounted onto a deployable 9m boom developed by NASA’s JPL which shall be used by both-JPL-NASA developed L-Band SAR payload system and ISRO developed S-Band SAR payload.

Whether microwaves reflect or penetrate an object depends on their wavelength. Shorter wavelengths are more sensitive to smaller objects such as leaves and rough surfaces, whereas longer wavelengths are more reactive with larger structures like boulders and tree trunks. So NISAR’s two radar signals will react differently to some features on Earth’s surface. By taking advantage of what each signal is or isn’t sensitive to, researchers can study a broader range of features than they could with either radar on its own, observing the same features with different wavelengths. After the successful in-orbit check-out of the satellite, the science operations phase will start and extend for three years and contain all data collection required to achieve the L1 science objectives.

During this phase, the science orbit will be maintained via regular maneuvers, scheduled to avoid or minimize con?icts with science observations. Extensive calibration and validation activities will take place throughout the first five months, with yearly updates of 1-month duration.

The data acquired through S-band and L-band SAR from a single platform will help the scientists to understand the changes happening to Planet Earth.

The launch of the NISAR satellite was initially planned for 2022 or early 2023, but faced multiple delays. In 2025, the launch was expected to occur in June, but was postponed again.

Hypospadias - not a simple childhood issue

(Standard Post Bureau)

What is hypospadias? Hypospadias is a birth defect where the opening of the urethra on a male baby’s penis is located on the underside instead of at the tip. It occurs in approximately 1 of every 150 to 300 male infants. It is often associated with bending of the penis downwards called chordee in children which also needs to be addressed.

What causes this condition?

The exact cause is unknown, but genetics likely play a role, meaning it can sometimes run in families.

Is it a difficult condition to treat?

Hypospadias can vary in severity, with mild cases requiring less intervention and more severe cases needing more complex surgeries.

How is it diagnosed ?

It is usually identified at birth by a healthcare professional during a physical examination.

If my child is diagnosed with hypospadias what are the important points to be kept in mind?

Avoid Circumcision: Circumcision is usually not performed at birth for babies with hypospadias, as it may affect the surgical

repair.

Check for undescended testes : If a child has associated undescended testes especially on both sides then evaluation for checking the sex of the child in the form of karyotyping needs to be done .

Emotional support: Parents should be prepared to address emotional concerns related to their child’s condition and discuss any anxieties with their healthcare team.

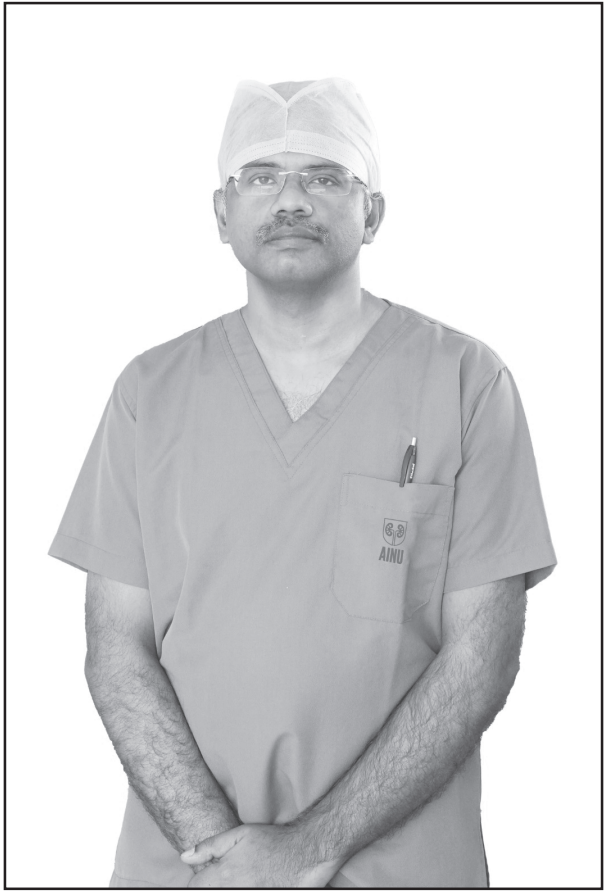
When to see a doctor:

If you suspect your newborn son has hypospadias, contact your pediatrician or a pediatric urologist immediately.

What is the treatment for this problem?

Most cases require surgical repair to ensure normal urination and sexual function later in life and is typically performed by an experienced pediatric urologist. It is imperative that experience is crucial in managing this condition as an improperly done first surgery can have long-term adverse effects on the quality of life of these children. In fact, we have a term called hypospadias cripples for patients who have multiple failed attempts at repair.

When is the right time to intervene for this



By Dr. P. Ashwin Shekar, Consultant Pediatric & Transitional Urologist, Asian Institute of Nephrology and Urology (AINU)

problem ?

Most boys with hypospadias will need surgery between 6 and 12 months old . However it also depends on the size of the penis as sometimes we need to delay surgery for better growth of the penis before surgery. In some older children testosterone supplementation may be needed prior to surgery to

increase the size of the organ .

Having said that in India, unfortunately we still see adolescents and adults who come to us with the problem as they are undiagnosed at birth or the parents had failed to notice it.

Can you briefly elaborate on the surgery for this condition?

The surgery involves

correction of the bend in the penis if present along with the repositioning the urethral opening to the tip of the penis

Depending on the severity, the procedure may be done in a single stage or in multiple stages

Following surgery what are the points that parents need to understand ?

In the immediate post-operative period, careful maintenance of dressing and catheter needs to be done .Any soakage of dressing or blockage of catheter needs to be brought to the attention of the surgeon Follow-up appointments with the urologist are crucial

How long follow-up is needed for children who are operated for hypospadias ?

All children with hypospadias needs to be followed up till puberty or longer as the chance of complications increase with duration of follow up.

What are the signs of urinary problem to watch out for in the long term ?

Some of the signs are straining to void, thinning of stream, ballooning of urethral tube deviation of stream development of recurrent bending of penis which may need to be addressed surgically .

What other issues that may need to be addressed

in children as they grow up into adulthood?

Children with proximal hypospadias can have psychosexual and fertility issues as they grow up due to factors like a small penis especially when they have been operated multiples times and have associated anomalies.

If a child with hypospadias operated in childhood develops problems in adolescence or adulthood whom should you approach ?

Ideally these children need to be managed by transitional urologist who are adult urologists trained in managing paediatric urological anomalies and are well versed with managing this complex condition in both children and adults. This is an upcoming field of urology which has started gaining traction in the west, which bridges the gap between paediatric and adult urology care as many of these children need lifelong care. We at AINU are in the process of developing a center of excellence for transitional care in the country which is a first if its kind in India to make sure our Indian children with complex anomalies get continuity of care all through their life, like their western counterparts.

Vidyamandir Classes Announces VIQ with Scholarships upto 100%

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(Standard Post Bureau)

Vidyamandir Classes (VMC), a pioneer in academic coaching for IIT JEE (Main & Advanced), NEET, Boards, and Olympiads, has announced the much-awaited dates for it’s Biggest, most Respected & awaited test - the Vidyamandir Intellect Quest (VIQ) 2025. The test will be conducted across multiple slots on 28th September, 5th, 11th, 12th, and 26th October 2025 and is open for students from Class 5 to Class 12.

Conducted in both online and offline modes, VIQ serves as a national-level aptitude and scholarship test that helps students assess their intrinsic potential for various Competitive & Scholastic exams. This year, registration for VIQ is absolutely free, making it accessible to students

across the country.

Sandeep Mehta (IIT Delhi Alumnus) Co-Founder, Vidyamandir Classes said, “This year’s VIQ goes beyond just being a test—it’s a launchpad for serious aspirants. Students enrolling early through VIQ can avail a host of exclusive benefits designed to boost their academic journey.

These include cash rewards of up to ₹2.5 crores and scholarships up to 100%, making quality education more accessible. Additionally, they can benefit from the lowest academic fee of the year, along with complimentary offline classes and e-study material tailored to their current academic needs. To further enhance their preparation, free practice tests and mock board exams are provided. As a

token of encouragement, all participants will receive e-certificates acknowledging their effort and participation. But that’s not all—this year, VMC has introduced a host of exclusive offers for students, in addition to the existing benefits. Top performers in the VIQ will be honored with Accolades, including medals and trophies, celebrating their exceptional achievements. Moreover, the highest achievers will earn a coveted opportunity to join VMC’s premier batches — the Citadel of Excellence (COE) and Illuminati—renowned for academic excellence and elite mentorship. VMC has always focused on holistic preparation backed by proven pedagogy, rigorous testing, and dedicated mentorship. VIQ embodies this philosophy by identifying bright minds early and giving them a platform to shine. With the chance to win scholarships, gain academic insights, and access premium VMC programs, VIQ is truly a game changer for every student aiming for academic excellence.

Students can register free of cost at www.vidyamandir.com and avail these extraordinary benefits & offers. VIQ is more than a test—it’s the beginning of a journey toward academic brilliance and future success.

CM Rekha Gupta calls for mass movement

New Delhi, July 29 (UNI) Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta today called for turning the "Delhi ko Kude se Azaadi" campaign into a mass movement from August 1 to August 31 to make the national capital cleaner and more beautiful.

In a post on social media platform 'X' (formerly Twitter), Gupta said that Delhi had created history today. "For the first time, every department and agency of the Delhi government is standing together, on one platform, with one commitment to make the capital clean," she stated. "This is not just administrative coordination but a symbol of 'Team Delhi's active participation in nation-building. We are determined to make Delhi clean and beautiful," the Chief Minister added.

Gupta further said that this campaign is a step towards taking Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Swachh Bharat Mission' to every household by awakening a new 'jan shakti'.

Tribute to Congress leader Arunesh Sharma at Gandhi Market

(Standard Post Bureau)

New Delhi, July 29 : In memory of Ex Congress Committee President and senior Congress Leader Late Arunesh Sharma @ Pinky bhai ,Birth anniversary observed at Gandhi Market, Under Matia Mahal Constituency, Free Food Distribution “ Kheer Bhandara “ Programme organised at Minto Road, It Was 68 th Birth Anniversary of Pinky Bhai. On This Birth Anniversary Pinky’s Brother Mr Arunesh Sharma @kalay bhai and Anitha Sharma Ex Congress

Corporator , Mr Afaq Hussain, salim Raza, Ayoub Ahmed , Mr Parvez Ahmed, Ansar Ahmed , Maqsood Zia, Satish Saini ,Raju Puri, Nikki Arora, Aitebar Ahmed,Ansar Ahmed, Ramesh Kalra, Anita Sharma Ex Corporator, Saleem Raza,Afaq Hussain, Nikki, Kartikya and other paid Tribute and Remembered his Sacrifices’ for Congress, Pinky Bhai was a Such a leader who Face Unbelievable Difficulties in Emergency In the Year of 1977, Even he was in Jail with Sanjay Gandhi.

SC agrees to open court hearing on JSW Steel’s review plea in Bhushan Power case

New Delhi, July 29 (UNI) In a significant development in the Bhushan Power and Steel Limited (BPSL) insolvency case, the Supreme Court allowed JSW Steel’s request for an open court hearing of its review petition challenging the apex court’s May 2, 2025 verdict, which had rejected its Rs 19,000 crore resolution plan and directed liquidation of BPSL.

A Bench comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) B.R. Gavai and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma on Monday issued notice on

the review petitions and scheduled the matter for hearing on July 31 at 3:00 PM in open court.

“Applications for listing review petitions in open court and applications for oral hearing are allowed. Issue notice,” the court ordered.

JSW Steel had filed the review petition on June 25, 2025, along with separate review petitions by the Committee of Creditors (CoC) and the Resolution Professional, contesting the May 2 ruling by a bench comprising Justice Bela M. Trivedi and Justice

Satish Chandra Sharma.

That ruling held that the CoC had erred in approving the resolution plan, which was found to be in violation of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).The apex court had consequently ordered the liquidation of BPSL.

JSW Steel’s resolution plan, offering over Rs19,000 crore to financial creditors, was approved by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) in September 2019 and later upheld by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

Putin calls Israeli PM Netanyahu, stresses importance of unity, sovereignty of Syria

Moscow/Jerusalem, July 29 (UNI) :Amid the IDF’s bombing of Syria following the violence between Druze and Bedouin communities in the southern region of Suwayda, Russian President Vladimir Putin held phone call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, during which he emphasised the importance of supporting the unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Syria, the Kremlin announced yesterday.

"Notably, Vladimir Putin emphasised the importance of supporting the unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and reinforcing its internal political stability by respecting the legitimate rights and interests of all the ethnic and confessional communities," the Kremlin said in a statement.

The Russian side indicated its readiness to help find diplomatic solutions regarding the Iranian nuclear program, the Kremlin said.

"The leaders agreed to continue the dialogue on current issues on the international and bilateral agenda," the statement added.

Shooting in New York office building leaves 5 dead, 6 injured

New York, July 29 (UNI) : A gunman killed four people and injured six others on early Monday evening before shooting himself dead inside an office building in Manhattan, New York City.

The 27-year-old gunman named Shane Tamura opened fire around 6 p.m. (2200 GMT) and died from "an apparently self-inflicted injury," CNN reported. The information was later confirmed by Mayor Eric Adams.Earlier, New York Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch said on X, "At this time, the scene has been contained and the lone shooter has been neutralized."

One of the victims was an off-duty New York Police Department officer, while the other three were civilians, local media reported.

The gunman reportedly came from Las Vegas as authorities found a vehicle with Nevada plates registered to Tamura at the scene, with a rifle case inside, according to the New York Post.

The shooter's motive is unclear until now.

China welcomes process of improving relations between Russia, US : Foreign Ministry

Beijing, July 29 (UNI) : China welcomes the improvement of relations between Russia and the United States, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Guo Jiakun said on Tuesday, commenting on a possible meeting between the Russian and US leaders in Beijing.

"Russia and the United States are permanent members of the UN Security Council and influential powers. China is happy to see the improvement of Russian-US relations, which contributes to stability and peace in the world," Guo told reporters.

Over 2,200 people evacuated amid flooding in Myanmar

Yangon, July 29 (UNI) : A total of 2,267 people from 461 households were evacuated in four townships of eastern Myanmar's Shan state due to flooding, according to the Myanmar Fire Services Department on Tuesday.

The flooding, caused by mountain runoff triggered by heavy rain early Monday morning, affected Yatsauk, Aungban, Kalaw, and Pindaya townships, an official from the department told Xinhua.

In Pindaya township, six people were killed and three injured as of Tuesday morning, he said.

Rescue teams from the Myanmar Fire Services Department transferred affected residents to monasteries and playgrounds, he said, adding that rescue operations are ongoing.

Rosocomos CEO Dmitry Bakanov meets with NASA management

Moscow, July 29 (UNI) : Roscosmos CEO Dmitry Bakanov has arrived in the United States to meet with NASA management and the crew of the Crew Dragon spacecraft, which includes Russian Oleg Platonov, the state corporation told journalists.

"Dmitry Bakanov arrived in Houston as the head of the Roscosmos delegation to meet with NASA management. This is the first face-to-face meeting of the heads of Russian and US space agencies in eight years," the statement said.

It is noted that first, he and the leadership of the US space agency will visit the structural divisions of the Johnson Space Center and get acquainted with their work.In addition, the Russian delegation plans to visit the Boeing production unit, where reusable manned transport spacecraft CST-100 Starliner is being developed, and hold talks with the management of the company's space program.

"On the eve of the launch of the Crew-11 mission, which is scheduled for July 31, Dmitry Bakanov will meet with the crew of the Crew Dragon spacecraft, which includes Roscosmos cosmonaut Oleg Platonov as part of the cross-flight program. For the Russian, this will be the first flight into space," the Russian space agency added.At the John F. Kennedy Space Center, the head of the state corporation will take part in events related to checking readiness for the launch of the next mission to the International Space Station.

Syria sends fourth aid convoy to Sweida amid ongoing tensions



Damascus, July 29 (IANS) : The Syrian interim authorities, in coordination with international organisations and local community partners, dispatched a fourth humanitarian aid convoy on Tuesday from Damascus to the southern Sweida province, according to state media.The convoy, comprising 22 trucks, carried 27,000 litres of fuel, 2,000 food baskets, 2,000 hygiene kits, 10,000 bottles of drinking water, 40 tons of flour, and various medical supplies, the official SANA news agency reported.

The delivery is part of ongoing efforts to support civilian populations in Sweida, which has experienced recent unrest and shortages following clashes and a fragile ceasefire agreement earlier this month. This marks the fourth convoy sent to the province since the agreement was reached.

The aid comes amid reports of protests in parts of Sweida, where demonstrators have accused the interim

government of imposing a de facto siege on the region, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based monitoring group. The observatory said civilians have taken to the streets in some areas, demanding improved access to basic services and humanitarian relief.

Declared on July 19, the ceasefire followed a harrowing wave of sectarian clashes, Israeli airstrikes and grave human rights violations, Xinhua news agency reported.

UN Special Envoy for Syria Geir Pedersen told ambassadors in the Security Council on Monday that the recent escalation had "rocked" the country's already precarious transition, and highlighted the need for "major course corrections" on security and political fronts."Syrians are reeling after appalling violence in Sweida -- violence that should not have happened and which also saw unacceptable foreign intervention," Pedersen said.According to the UN,

unrest erupted on the evening of July 12 following a series of mutual kidnappings that escalated into armed clashes between Druze factions and Bedouin tribes, eventually drawing in Syrian security forces.

The violence quickly spiralled, with reports of extrajudicial executions and looting. Graphic footage circulated widely on social media, fueling sectarian tensions and the spread of disinformation.

Although active fighting has largely subsided, Pedersen warned that the situation "remains tense and volatile." Civilians have borne the brunt of the violence, with hundreds reportedly killed and widespread accounts of abuses committed by both state and non-state actors. "I condemn the appalling violations committed against civilians and combatants in Sweida. I also condemn Israel's intervention," Pedersen said, referring to recent Israeli airstrikes near Sweida and Damascus that reportedly resulted in civilian and military casualties.

Regional army commanders of Thailand-Cambodia confirm ceasefire on border areas

Bangkok/Phnom Penh, July 29 (UNI) Regional army commanders of Thailand and Cambodia met today morning in border areas, discussing the implementation of the ceasefire reached a day earlier, both sides confirmed.

Thai army spokesperson Winthai Suvaree confirmed today that regional army commanders of both countries held meetings earlier in the day and agreed to a ceasefire and a freeze on troop movements ahead of the General Border Committee (GBC) meeting scheduled for August 5.

The spokesperson added that a ceasefire had already been in effect along the Thai-Cambodian border before the meetings.

Meanwhile, Cambodian Ministry of National Defence's Spokesperson, Lieutenant General Maly Socheata, in a press briefing today said that the commanders of Cambodian military region 5 and the Thai military region 1 held a meeting for more than 10 minutes."Both sides agreed to respect the ceasefire and stop increasing the number of troops in order to avoid confrontation and tension," she said.

"They also agreed to reconnect communication and provide information to each other."

The exchange of gunfire between Cambodian and Thai soldiers over disputed border areas began on July 24, and a ceasefire was reached on July 28.

US uses Iranian nuclear program as excuse for confrontation : Supreme Leader

Tehran, July 29 (UNI) : Tehran's nuclear program and uranium enrichment are just an excuse for the United States to target Iran, Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Tuesday.

"All their talk about nuclear issues, [uranium] enrichment, human rights, and such things are nothing but excuses. What upsets them is the fact that the Islamic Republic is able to produce new ideas in the various fields of science and knowledge – be it in the humanities, technical sciences, or religious sciences" Khamenei said.

Iran and the US have held five rounds of Oman-mediated talks on the nuclear program. The sixth round was scheduled for June 15, but the Israeli attack on Iran and the US bombing of Iranian nuclear sites scrapped those plans.

Iranian officials reject accusations that Iran has been secretly making a nuclear weapon, stressing that Tehran is ready to

resume talks with Washington without preconditions. In particular, Iran opposes the US demand to stop uranium enrichment.Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said that Tehran had no plans to hold talks with Washington yet, arguing that conditions for a new round of consultations have not matured.Iran and the EU3 countries — France, Germany, and the United Kingdom — held nuclear talks in Istanbul on July 25 for the first time since the end of "the 12-day war." The talks took place amid EU3's threats to reimpose sanctions on Tehran if a new nuclear deal is not reached by the end of summer. As a deterrent, the Iranian parliament has drafted a bill to withdraw the Islamic Republic from the Non-Proliferation Treaty if the European trio reimposes sanctions envisaged by the 2015 nuclear deal, which remains formally in effect.

15 injured as passenger bus overturns in Philippines

Manila, July 29 (UNI) : A passenger bus rolled off a highway in Bohol province in central Philippines on Tuesday morning, injuring 15 Filipinos, police said.

Police said the crash occurred before 9 a.m. local time while the bus was negotiating a sharp curve along a highway in Bilar town.

Emergency workers rushed to the scene and transported the injured to local hospitals.The cause of the crash remains under investigation. However, an initial report revealed that the driver had lost control of the vehicle.

Thailand accuses Cambodia of violating hours-old ceasefire

Bangkok, July 29 (UNI) : Cambodia is violating the ceasefire on a large scale, Thailand has reported this to the witnesses of the agreements, Malaysia, the United States and China, Thai Acting Prime Minister Phumtham Wechayachai said today.

"Cambodian troops are violating the ceasefire regime on a large scale and systematically. We have reported this to the countries that witnessed yesterday's agreements

with Cambodia — Malaysia, as the ASEAN chair, the United States and China," the official told reporters.

Wechayachai has also asked evacuated Thai citizens not to leave shelters or return to their homes in the border zone until authorities issue a special announcement.

Meanwhile, the Cambodian Defense Ministry denies violating the ceasefire agreement, ministry spokeswoman Lt.

Gen. Maly Socheata said. "We strongly reject the claims made by the Thai military spokesperson, who alleged gunfire exchanges and violations of the ceasefire agreement. Cambodian forces have strictly implemented, and will continue to strictly implement, the army command's instructions and the ceasefire agreement, which took effect at midnight," the spokeswoman was quoted

as saying by the Khmer Times newspaper. Border tensions between Thailand and Cambodia escalated into an armed conflict on July 24. Civilian casualties were reported on both sides. The incident followed a clash on May 28 between Thai and Cambodian military personnel in a disputed neutral zone, which left a Cambodian soldier dead. Some 140,000 people have been evacuated from the

conflict zone on the Thai side since July 24. On Monday, ceasefire negotiations between Thai Acting Prime Minister Phumtham Wechayachai and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet took place in Kuala Lumpur, mediated by Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim. Following the talks, the Malaysian leader said that the parties had agreed to establish a ceasefire starting at midnight.

Transnistrian Prez Krasnoselsky expresses gratitude to Russian peacekeeping forces

Tiraspol/Moscow, July 29 (UNI) Transnistrian President Vadim Krasnoselsky has expressed his gratitude to Russia for its peacekeeping operations in the separatist state and advocated for Moscow’s continued support.

"In today’s context, it is critically important that the ongoing peacekeeping operation continues and its format remains unchanged," Krasnoselsky said in his address, dedicated to the anniversary of the deployment of the Russian peacekeeping forces in Transnistria.

The Transnistrian leader recalled that 33 years ago, the deployment of

Russian peacekeepers stopped the bloodshed "unleashed by the Moldovan leadership during their armed attack on the Transnistrian people."

Krasnoselsky added that Tiraspol remains committed to resolving the conflict exclusively through peaceful means and emphasised the need for mutual respect and constructive cooperation with Moldova.

"I am deeply convinced that Russia, as the guarantor of peace on the Dnister, has always upheld and continues to uphold the inviolability of the previously reached agreements underpinning the current peacekeeping format. Transnistrians are

grateful to the Russian Federation for its contribution to strengthening security and stability," Krasnoselsky said.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Galuzin also congratulated the peacekeepers in Transnistria on the operation's 33rd anniversary, saying they had laid the groundwork for a peaceful settlement.

The official added that the collective peacekeeping operation that launched on July 29, 1992 and included Russia, Moldova, and Transnistria remains "unique and relevant to this day."

Transnistria, where 60% of residents are ethnic

Russians and Ukrainians, sought independence from Moldova before the USSR’s collapse, fearing Moldova would join Romania amid nationalist sentiments.

In 1992, after Moldova’s failed attempt to resolve the issue by force, Transnistria became a territory beyond Chisinau’s control.

This year marks the 33rd anniversary of the start of the peacekeeping mission. Russian military personnel, alongside Transnistrian and Moldovan military observers, maintain peace in the conflict zone.

The peacekeepers are stationed at posts and checkpoints positioned across key sections of the security zone.

IMF says inflation pressures building gradually in US

Washington, July 29 (UNI) : The United States is experiencing a gradual increase in inflation pressures, International Monetary Fund (IMF) Economic Counsellor Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas said on Tuesday.

"While global inflation continues to decline, the latest price data suggests that inflation pressures are building gradually in the US," Gourinchas told reporters.He pointed out that US import prices in dollars have remained largely unchanged or even increased in 2025.That means that the cost of tariffs will be borne by US retailers and customers as firms start to pass through higher costs into their prices, Gourinchas added.



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Mitchell Santner to lead NZ in Latham's absence

Bulawayo, July 29 (UNI) Mitchell Santner will lead New Zealand in the opening Test against Zimbabwe starting tomorrow in Bulawayo, stepping in for regular skipper Tom Latham, who has been sidelined with a shoulder injury.

Santner, the Black Caps' white-ball captain, takes over red-ball leadership duties after a strong outing in the recent T20I Tri-Series in Harare, where he led New Zealand to an unbeaten title win. The all-rounder brings with him the experience of 30 Tests, with 1066 runs and 74 wickets under his belt.

New Zealand's team management confirmed that Latham, who sustained the injury while fielding during a domestic T20 game in England, has not recovered sufficiently to be part of the playing XI. However, he will remain with the squad in Zimbabwe, with the hope of regaining fitness ahead of the second Test.

Head coach Rob Walter expressed disappointment over Latham's absence but said the team was optimistic about his return. "It's never great when you lose your captain, who's a worldclass opening batsman and a great team man," said Walter. "We'll continue to assess and see whether a replacement player is necessary, but at this stage we are hopeful that he'll recover in time."

On Santner's promotion, Walter added, "Mitch did a wonderful job with the T20 squad in the recent series. Whilst the format is different, he certainly has the respect of the players and will be supported by some highly experienced Test cricketers, so I trust that he's going to do a great job."



Indian Men's cricket team members during an event hosted by the High Commission of India in London.

Kho Kho secures spot in major national sports calendars

New Delhi, July 29 (UNI) : In yet another major milestone for Kho Kho, the sport has now been formally included in the annual sports calendar of All India Electricity Sports Control Board (AIESCB), the premier governing body committed to the regulation and advancement of sports within the electricity sector across India which is a development that underscores the sport's rising stature. The announcement was made during the AIESCB's General Body Meeting held in Mumbai, where the sport was recognised as an official discipline alongside 16 other sports like cricket, football, kabaddi, badminton, hockey, tennis among others. This significant development marks a growing trend among government and semi-government organizations to embrace

Kho Kho as a mainstream sport, thereby expanding its presence across major sporting calendars of various, government, non-government and autonomous bodies. With Kho Kho being included in the AIESCB's sports calendar, players now have increased avenues for stable careers through employment quotas in sports, providing further motivation for aspiring athletes to take up the game professionally. Kho Kho is already part of the sporting calendars of Services Sports Control Board and Railways Sports Promotion Board.

The development not only highlights the sport's evolution from traditional roots to a professional format but also creates new employment opportunities through departmental teams and job reservations in various government sectors. "Kho Kho's

inclusion in major sports calendars is much more than a symbolic recognition, it's a validation of the sport's growing relevance across India," said Sudhanshu Mittal, President of the Kho Kho Federation of India. "We are witnessing a major shift where a traditional Indian game is now commanding space at the highest institutional levels. This will inspire thousands of youth from rural and semi-urban India to pursue Kho Kho as a viable career option."

In a further affirmation of the sport's growing national stature, Kho Kho was also introduced for the first time in the Supreme Court of India's Annual Sports Meet earlier this month. This inclusion by a prestigious institution of national importance indicates the expanding visibility of Kho Kho in elite circles, both in terms of participation and

recognition.

The increasing adoption of Kho Kho by government and autonomous bodies contributes to the broader nationwide movement that aims to democratize sports participation and provide platforms for indigenous games to thrive. As the sport continues its upward trajectory, inclusion of the sport in major sporting calendars are playing a pivotal role in shaping a future where Kho Kho athletes have access to structured employment, sustained growth opportunities, and a pathway to represent India at national and international events. With more government bodies expected to follow suit, the future of Kho Kho as a sport and profession looks increasingly bright, bringing pride to its rich heritage and newfound momentum to its modern resurgence.

India women's team clubbed with best Asian teams

Sydney, July 29 (UNI) The Indian women's football team has been drawn into a formidable Group C alongside continental heavyweights Japan, Vietnam and Chinese Taipei for the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026, to be held in Australia from March 1 to 21. The draw ceremony, conducted at the Sydney Town Hall, saw Indian midfielder Sangita Basfore, who netted twice in India's final qualifier against Thailand, serve as one of the three draw assistants, along with Australia's Tameka Yallop and Korea Republic's Jeon Yu-gyeong. Placed in Pot 4 prior to the draw, based on the latest FIFA rankings released on June 12, India (world No. 70) face a daunting group stage. Japan, Asia's highest-ranked team at world No. 7, are joined by Vietnam (No. 37) and Chinese Taipei (No. 42) in Group C.

Twelve teams have been split into three groups of four for the group stage of the 21st edition of Asia's premier women's football tournament, the oldest of its kind on the continent. The top two teams from each group and the two best third-placed sides will qualify for the quarterfinals.

India booked their spot in the tournament by topping Group B in the AFC Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers, registering victories over Thailand, Iraq, Timor-Leste and Mongolia. This will mark India's first full-fledged appearance in the tournament since 2003. The Blue Tigresses did feature in the 2022 edition as hosts but were forced to withdraw following a COVID-19 outbreak in the squad. Historically, India's best performances in the tournament came in the early 1980s, when they finished runners-up in 1980 and 1983, and secured a third-place finish in 1981.

Australia, as hosts, and the top three teams from the 2022 edition -- China, South Korea and Japan -- received automatic qualification. The 2026 tournament will be hosted across three cities -- Sydney, Perth and Gold Coast. Defending champions China, who have won a record nine titles, will look to extend their dominance on the continental stage.

Jamshedpur beat Indian Army 1-0 to top Group C

Jamshedpur, July 29 (UNI) Sanan Mohammed's 52nd-minute strike handed Jamshedpur FC a gritty 1-0 win over Indian Army FT in their Group C clash at the 134th Indian Oil Durand Cup here at the JRD Tata Sports Complex today.

This marked Jamshedpur's second consecutive victory in the group stage, taking them to six points from two matches and putting them firmly at the top of the group, with a place in the knockout stage now within touching distance. The match began with Indian Army dominating early exchanges. The Armymen could have been two goals up within the opening 15 minutes, with Samir Murmu's narrow miss and Samananda Singh's wide header both threatening the Jamshedpur goal. Army midfielders Lethaolen Khongsai and P Christopher Kamei controlled the tempo as the hosts struggled to assert themselves.

Despite Indian Army's control, the Red Miners held firm, with goalkeeper Amrit Gope making key interventions, including a fingertip save to deny Army skipper B. Sunil just before

the break.

Khalid Jamil's tactical reshuffle after halftime paid immediate dividends. Substitutes V.P. Suhair and Nikhil Barla brought attacking verve, and in the 52nd minute, a long throw-in led to the breakthrough — Karthik Choudhary's header fell to Sanan Mohammed, who calmly chested the ball down and slotted it home past Sayad Bin Abdul Kadir.

Although Indian Army continued to enjoy more possession and tested the Jamshedpur defence late in the game, including a powerful strike from Liton Shil that rattled the crossbar, they couldn't find the equaliser.

Tensions flared in stoppage time when Army goalkeeper Sayad Bin Abdul Kadir was sent off for a last-man foul on Jayesh Rane outside the box. With no substitutes left, defender Samananda Singh donned the gloves for the final moments.

Suhair nearly doubled Jamshedpur's lead with a late attempt that also struck the crossbar, but the solitary goal was enough for the hosts to seal the win and move closer to a spot in the quarterfinals.

134th Durand cup to begin today in Manipur

Imphal, July 29 (UNI) : The 134th Durand Cup, 2025, will begin tomorrow at the Khuman Lampak Main Stadium in Imphal, organized by the Indian Army and the Department of Youth Affairs & Sports (YAS), Government of Manipur.

The Manipur Police has announced special traffic arrangements around the stadium starting tomorrow.

Dr. Mayengbam Veto Singh, Director of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of Manipur, stated that the 134th edition of the Durand Cup will be the first major sporting event in the state since the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said six matches will be hosted in Manipur during the tournament, scheduled for July 30, August 1, 4, 7, 10, with the final match on August 12. Four teams will compete in the Imphal leg of the tournament — Real Kashmir FC and the Indian Navy Football Team from outside the state, and local teams NEROCA FC and TRAU FC. On July 10, Imphal warmly welcomed the 134th edition of the Indian Oil Durand Cup with a grand trophy tour, marking the return of Asia's oldest football tournament to the Manipur capital after a two-year hiatus. The three iconic trophies — the Durand Cup, the Shimla Trophy, and the President's Cup — were formally unveiled. According to CC Sopenla, SP Traffic, three gates will be open to the general public, and six parking areas have been designated. Traffic diversions will be in place around the stadium, and security personnel will be deployed to assist visitors.

McKeown outswims Smith to defend 100m backstroke world title

Singapore, July 29 (UNI) : Australia's Kaylee McKeown reaffirmed her dominance in women's backstroke by edging out arch-rival Regan Smith in a high-octane final to win the 100m backstroke title at the 2025 World Aquatics Championships.

Competing under the lights in Singapore, the two-time Olympic champion surged past Smith in the final stretch

to clock a championship-record 57.16 seconds — a stunning comeback after trailing by 0.22 seconds at the halfway mark.

World record-holder Smith of the United States settled for silver with a time of 57.35 seconds, while fellow American Katharine Berkoff touched home in 58.15 to take bronze. The triumph marked a successful title defence for McKeown,

who had won the same event at the 2023 World Championships in Fukuoka. It was also yet another win over Smith, whom she had beaten in the finals of both the Paris 2024 Olympics and the Fukuoka Worlds.

Speaking after the race, McKeown admitted she had been hesitant to contest the event due to mental and physical fatigue following the

Olympics. "It's always really nerve-wracking, especially off the back of the Olympics. Probably a little bit more nervous than I would have liked going into tonight, but it's paid off," she said. Asked whether she had found her joy in swimming again, the five-time Olympic gold medallist responded, "I certainly have and I hope to continue that for the rest of the week."

With her mother cheering from the stands, the 23-year-old Australian underlined her status as one of the sport's modern greats — extending a personal winning streak over Smith that dates back to the Tokyo 2020 Games.

The World Aquatics Championships continue this week with more medal events in swimming, diving, and artistic disciplines.

Gambhir in heated exchange with Oval Groundsman

London, July 29 (UNI) : India's build-up to the final Test at The Oval took an unexpected turn when head coach Gautam Gambhir was seen involved in a heated exchange with Lee Fortis, the head groundsman at Surrey. The incident, which unfolded during today's optional training session, cast an uneasy shadow over what was expected to be a routine practice ahead of the high-stakes series decider.

Eye witnesses described Gambhir wagging his finger at Fortis in what appeared to be an animated disagreement.

Reportedly, the dispute stemmed from his objections to India using parts of the main square for warm-ups and drills. Groundsmen are

traditionally protective of the square, and with The Oval set to host more domestic matches through early September, Fortis was reportedly anxious to limit traffic around the pitches.

India's assistant coach Sitanshu Kotak confirmed tensions on the ground, admitting that the team felt "awkward" after being instructed to maintain a 2.5-metre distance from the pitch, despite not wearing spikes.

"When some of us coaches went to see the wicket, a member of the groundstaff said stay away at least 2.5 metres, which was a little surprising," Kotak said. "Because it is the pitch, the match is starting day after, it will be a five-day Test, and we're standing in our joggers, so

we felt a little awkward."

Kotak did not directly comment on the Gambhir-Fortis confrontation but defended the team's conduct. "(We were) just looking at the wicket, with rubber spikes... There's nothing wrong with that. Curators also need to understand the people they are talking to, they are highly skilled and intelligent," he said. "For example, if you go on the ground now where we practised, you won't even see that any bowler in the outfield would have marked it with his spikes. That all comes from the head coach. We try and see this ground also doesn't get damaged."

The assistant coach suggested that the tone of communication may have triggered the episode.

Chandrakant Pandit steps down as KKR Head Coach

Kolkata, July 29 (UNI) : Chandrakant Pandit has decided to part ways with Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) and will not continue as the franchise's Head Coach, the team confirmed today.

Pandit, who took over the coaching reins ahead of the 2023 season, guided KKR to a historic title win in the 2024 edition of the TATA Indian Premier League (IPL), their third championship and first in a decade.

"We are thankful for his invaluable contributions, including leading KKR to the TATA IPL Championship in 2024 and helping build a strong, resilient squad," the franchise said in a statement.

Sable undergoes successful knee surgery

Mumbai, July 29 (UNI) : Two-time Olympian and national record holder Avinash Sable has undergone successful surgery for an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) and meniscus injury in his right knee, the steeplechase ace confirmed today.

Sable suffered the injury during a fall in the Monaco Diamond League on July 11.

The incident occurred when he stumbled over the water jump after a competitor ahead of him lost balance, forcing the 30-year-old Indian to limp off the track in visible distress.

"It's a tough setback, but I'm determined to do the hard work and come back stronger," Sable posted on social media, alongside a photo from his hospital bed.

The surgical procedure was performed at Mumbai's Kokilaben Hospital under the supervision of noted sports injury specialist Dr. Dinshaw Pardiwala.

"I've completed my surgery under the expert care of Dr. Dinshaw Pardiwala and his team... I'll be back faster and stronger," he added in the statement.

The ACL and meniscus are critical to knee stability and mobility. Injuries of this nature typically require extended rehabilitation, often sidelining athletes for six months or longer.

The Monaco race was Sable's first competition since clinching the Asian 3000m steeplechase crown in May and his third Diamond League appearance of the 2025 season. He had earlier

finished 13th in Xiamen (8:22.59) and eighth in Shanghai (8:23.85), later disclosing that he had been carrying calf and hamstring niggles throughout the season.

Sable holds the Indian national record in the 3000m steeplechase at 8:09.91, clocked at the 2024 Paris Diamond League. He is also the reigning Asian Games

champion and Commonwealth Games silver medallist in the event. In addition, he owns the Indian half marathon record with a time of 1:00:30, set during the 2020 Delhi Half Marathon.

Sable's recovery will be closely monitored, with the hope of his return ahead of the 2026 athletics calendar.

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On the Rails to Safety: RPF’s Relentless Fight Against Human Trafficking

(Standard Post Bureau)

It was an ordinary afternoon at New Jalpaiguri Railway Station on July 21, 2025. The bustle of trains, announcements, and rushing passengers belied a dark undercurrent that too often hides in plain sight — human trafficking. Acting on a tip-off, Miss Sarika Kumari, Lady Sub Inspector of the Railway Protection Force (RPF), along with RPF and Government Railway Police (GRP) officials, swung into action. A quiet, coordinated search across several coaches of Train No. 13245 DN went underway and what they found was staggering.

Fifty-six young adult girls, confused and unsure of their journey’s purpose, were being transported by two individuals — Jitendra Kumar Paswan and Chandrima Kar — who claimed they were escorting the girls to work in motor parts and mobile phone companies in Bengaluru. To avoid detection, the girls had been spread across various coaches. Upon inquiry, the girls could not provide details about their travel or employment, and even their parents were unaware of the specifics. Their coach and berth numbers had been scrawled in ink on their hands — a chilling reminder of how systemized such crimes have become. The traffickers failed to produce any valid documentation or give credible explanations. Following due process, both accused were arrested under relevant provisions of law relating to trafficking of children, and the rescued girls were released after verification.

Behind this success was not just a team of officers, but a vigilant security ecosystem determined to ensure that the vast Indian Railway network — the lifeline of the country — is not allowed to become a conduit for human exploitation.

The RPF’s Expanding Role in Safeguarding Lives

For the RPF, this was just another day of silent, determined service. Among its many responsibilities — ensuring passenger safety, protecting railway property, and maintaining order — one role has gained increasing prominence over the last decade: preventing human trafficking.



Manoj Yadava IPS
Director General
Railway Protection Force

Indian Railways, with its 13,000 trains, 7,500 stations, and an estimated 23 million passengers daily, is an artery of movement that connects remote corners of India to urban hubs. But what makes it a boon for mobility also attracts malefactors — unscrupulous elements who exploit the affordability, reach, and anonymity of the railway system to smuggle their victims. Women and children, particularly from marginalized regions, are targeted with false promises of jobs, education, or marriage, and pushed into child labour, prostitution and begging.

The RPF has grown into a pivotal force in ensuring that traffickers do not misuse this public infrastructure. Through sustained intelligence-based operations and coordination with Civil Police, NGOs, and other agencies, RPF has positioned itself as a key stakeholder in the national fight against human trafficking.

From Policing to Protection: Building a Trafficking-Free Network

The RPF’s proactive role in combating trafficking did not emerge overnight. Its evolution has been strategic, structured, and committed.

This transformation began with **Operation Nanhe Farishtey**, launched in 2020, with a mission to rescue children who were lost, abandoned, runaway, or trapped in exploitative conditions. While initially focused on minors, the operation opened a window into the broader

machinery of trafficking — leading to a deeper institutional focus on dismantling networks that target not only children, but women and other vulnerable adults as well.

Nanhe Farishtey became a defining intervention, saving more than **64,000 children — 43,493 boys and 20411 girls** — many from the grips of child labour, organized begging rings, and forced servitude during last four and a half years. After rescue, the children are produced before **Child Welfare Committees (CWCs)** for reintegration or safe institutional care, with crucial support from **Child Help Desks (CHDs)** and **District Child Protection Units (DCPUs)**. These interventions have been operationalized at **135 major railway stations**, with plans to scale it up further.

Building on its success, the RPF formally launched **Operation AAHT (Action Against Human Trafficking)** in 2022, creating **750 Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs)** across the Indian Railways network.

These units conduct intelligence-based drives, surveillance operations, and coordinated rescues with NGOs and local police. Strategic **MoUs were signed with the National Commission for Women and Aarambh India** (an NGO), enabling capacity-building, real-time information exchange, and structured rehabilitation support.

Strategic Intelligence and Technological Edge: Detection Dynamics

The battle against trafficking is no longer just about vigilance; it is about precision, prediction, and integration. RPF’s **detection dynamics** now involve a multi-pronged, tech-enabled strategy that combines **human intelligence with digital surveillance**.

Frontline railway workers — ticket examiners, porters, onboard housekeeping staff — are sensitized and trained to spot red flags. Simultaneously, data analytics backed **CCTV surveillance** and **AI-powered facial recognition systems (FRS)** help identify traffickers and potential victims based on movement patterns and known databases. The use of **social and digital media platforms** has further added a modern edge to detection. Cases reported through platforms like Twitter, WhatsApp helplines, and even crowd-sourced alerts have led to rescues. This evolving surveillance ecosystem ensures that traffickers no longer operate with impunity, even in the busiest and most chaotic transit points.

Rescues, Arrests, and Reforms: Measurable Progress, Real Lives

In 54 months between 2021 and mid-2025, **2,912 human trafficking victims** were rescued by RPF, including over **2,600 minors** and **264 adults**. In this same period, **701 traffickers** were arrested. The force has also played a crucial role in identifying **illegal immigrants from Bangladesh and Myanmar**, many of whom were victims of trafficking rings that promised work or refuge. Over **580 such cases** were detected between 2022 and 2024. These numbers are not merely statistical milestones; they represent dismantled networks, broken chains of exploitation, and lives restored to safety.

But rescue is only part of the equation. RPF ensures that victims are **counselled, supported, and rehabilitated** through coordinated action with NGOs, CWCs, and shelter homes. From **Muzaffarpur to Secunderabad, Katihar to Ajmer**, known trafficking routes have been disrupted. Trains such as the **Gorakhpur-Secunderabad Express, Rajendranagar-Ajmer Express**, and **New**

Jalpaiguri-Amritsar Express have become focal points for surveillance.

Prevention as the First Line of Defence

While rescue and prosecution are vital, **prevention** remains the cornerstone of an effective anti-trafficking strategy. The RPF, in alignment with broader government initiatives, has deployed a **public outreach and awareness campaign** across the railway ecosystem.

From **short street plays at railway stations**, to **posters, banners, and standees**, to **broadcast messages via public address systems and rail display networks**, the aim is to make every passenger a stakeholder in vigilance. Slogans such as *“Stop Trafficking: Because Every Child Deserves to Be Free”* are more than words — they are part of a cultural shift to recognize and report exploitation.

Moreover, **community engagement** — through social media campaigns, school outreach, and partnerships with civil society — is being mainstreamed into the preventive framework. The integration of **helplines like 1098 and 112** ensures that reports can be swiftly acted upon.

Together, these efforts are reshaping stations into zones of safety — spaces where traffickers are no longer invisible, and victims are never alone.

Holding the Line, Together

On this *World Day Against Trafficking in Persons*, the story of the 56 girls rescued at New Jalpaiguri is not an exception — it is a reflection of a nationwide, relentless effort to combat one of humanity’s gravest crimes.

But trafficking is a dynamic threat. It adapts, migrates, and conceals itself in the very systems meant to enable progress. The challenge, therefore, is ongoing.

It requires constant vigilance, inter-agency synergy, policy innovation, and above all, a shared societal resolve.

Because stopping trafficking isn’t just the RPF’s duty — it’s a collective responsibility. And every time a train pulls into a station without a life being lost to exploitation, we move one step closer to a safer, freer India.

Eleven integrated aquaparks approved under PMMSY: Govt

New Delhi, July 29 (UNI) Aiming to bolster the aquaculture infrastructure in the country, the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has sanctioned the development of 11 Integrated aquaparks across 11 states, the Government informed Lok Sabha today.

The aquapark project has a total outlay of Rs 682.60 crore and comes under the central flagship Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), The aquaparks have been envisioned as holistic hubs that will provide end-to-end support across the aquaculture value chain, said Union Minister of State, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, George Kurian, in a written reply today.

According to official data, Andhra Pradesh will set up one aquapark at a cost of Rs 88.08 crore while Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland have received approvals for projects costing Rs 43.59 crore and Rs 42.35 crore respectively.

Other states that will host integrated aquaparks include Assam (Rs 32.97 crore), Chhattisgarh (Rs 37.11 crore), Haryana (Rs 98.90 crore), Madhya Pradesh (Rs 25.00 crore), Odisha (Rs 100.00 crore), Tamil Nadu (Rs 127.71 crore), Tripura (Rs 42.40 crore), and Uttarakhand (Rs 44.50 crore).

Railways to run Devlali-Danapur-Manmad Special train with revised train numbers : CR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 29 : Railways have decided to run the Devlali-Danapur-Manmad special trains with revised train numbers as per details below:

Special Train no 01153 Devlali-Danapur Express will now run as Special Train no 01053 Devlali-Danapur Express and Special Train no 01154 Danapur-Manmad Express will now run as Special Train no 01054 Danapur-Manmad Express.

The above trains will run with revised Train numbers with effect from 23.08.2025

For detailed halts and timings please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or download NTES App.

Railways to run the following trains with revised composition : CR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 29 : Railways will henceforth run the following trains with revised composition as per details below:

Train no 12701/12702 CSMT-Hyderabad-CSMT Hussain Sagar Express and “Train no 22732/22731 CSMT-Hyderabad-CSMT Express will run with revised composition as under:

Revised composition: One AC-2Tier, Five AC-3Tier, 4 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second Class, 1 Generator Car and 1 Second Seating & Luggage cum Guard’s brake van.

• Train no 12701 CSMT-Hyderabad Hussain Sagar Express will run with the revised composition ex

CSMT with effect from 24.09.2025

• Train no 12702 Hyderabad- CSMT Hussain Sagar Express will run with the revised composition ex Hyderabad with effect from 25.09.2025

• Train no 22732 CSMT-Hyderabad Express will run with the revised composition ex CSMT with effect from 26.09.2025

• Train no 22731 Hyderabad- CSMT Express will run with the revised composition ex Hyderabad with effect from 23.09.2025

For detailed timings and halts of these trains, please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or download NTES App. Passengers to please note the above changes

Survey Committee Visits Karjat ST Depot



(Standard Post Bureau)

Karjat, July 29 :Under the Hindu Hruday Samrat Balasaheb Thackeray Clean, Beautiful Bus Station Campaign, the Survey Committee visited Karjat ST Depot suddenly yesterday evening and inspected the entire premises and also inspected the office documents.

The Committee expressed satisfaction with the management of Karjat Depot and made important suggestions for making the depot better.

Around 3 pm, the Survey Committee headed by the Divisional Controller of Ratnagiri District Prajnesh Borse arrived at Karjat ST Depot.

The committee included Divisional Personnel Officer Rajeshwar Jadhav,

Journalist Vijay Mande, and Passenger Representative Vinod Chaudhary. Depot Manager Devanand More welcomed the attendees. Along with Transport Controller Deepak Deshmukh and Vilas Bagul, they inspected the entire depot premises

. On this occasion, they gave good feedback about the cleanliness of the toilet and also expressed satisfaction about the passenger shelter, CNG pump arrangement, and different type of arrangement in the office work. However, suggestions were given about cleanliness.“

Suggestions were made regarding the accommodation of the depot managers and the repair of the buildings. Despite the low manpower, the depot is

running well. The committee members praised this. Committee Chairman Prajnesh Borse made suggestions like, 'Efforts should be made to increase the number of passengers.

A park should be developed in the area. Health camps should be organized for passengers and employees.' More said, 'New ST trains have arrived for the depot. Therefore, efforts are being made to provide better facilities to the passengers.' Member Mande said, 'This depot was started in the 1980s. There is plenty of space for the depot. However, most of the buildings are in poor condition. MLA Mahendra Thorve will provide funds for renovation. Therefore, the appearance of the depot will be changed.'

Rahul Gandhi challenges PM Modi to clarify Trump's ceasefire claim in Op Sindoor

New Delhi, July 29 (UNI) : Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, today challenged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to address the House and clarify whether US President Donald Trump was lying about mediating a ceasefire between India and Pakistan durin Operation Sindoor.

Participating in a debate on Operation Sindoor in the Lok Sabha, Gandhi said, "If Narendra Modi even has 50 percent of the courage of Indira Gandhi, he should say that Trump is a liar and no

planes fell during Operation Sindoor.”

He said that Trump had claimed 29 times that he mediated the ceasefire and that Prime Minister Modi did not have the guts or courage to correct him and tell him he was lying.

Gandhi said the present government lacked the political will to fight the battle and surrendered immediately after starting the war. "If the country wants to defeat Pakistan once and for all, it must give operational freedom to our defence forces, which

they were not given during Operation Sindoor".

Referring to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh’s speech in Parliament yesterday, he said it only showed that the government lacked the political will.

Otherwise, he asked, why would the government of India tell the government of Pakistan within just half an hour of launching Operation Sindoor that it had not hit its military installations and did not want any escalation? This was like a meek surrender,

he said.

Accusing the government of India of tying the hands of the defence forces behind their backs, he asked why were the defence forces and the Indian Air Force asked not to attack Pakistan’s military infrastructure and air defense system?

He said, "Our defence forces were not given any operational freedom because the government lacked the political will".

The senior Congress leader claimed that despite the Pakistani state organising and