

India, Japan will continue to be force for peace, stability in Asia and world: PM

Tokyo/ New Delhi, Aug 29 (UNI) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that India and Japan will continue to be a force for peace, progress, and stability in Asia and the world while providing support for Global South.

In his interview with The Yomiuri Shimbun, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "India and Japan will continue to be a force for peace, progress, and stability in Asia and the world." He underlined stronger cooperation in defence, semiconductors, space, and economic ties, alongside people-to-people linkages and support for the Global South.

Prime Ministers Modi and Shigeru Ishiba attended the India-Japan Economic Forum, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Keidanren (Japan Business Federation) in Tokyo today. Leading industry figures from India and Japan, including CEOs of the India-Japan Business Leaders' Forum, participated in the meeting. In his address, Prime Minister Modi highlighted the success of the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership, particularly the bilateral collaboration in the fields of investment, manufacturing, and technology. Inviting Japanese companies to enhance their footprint in

India, he noted that the Indian growth story presents exciting opportunities for them.

He stated that deepening of economic partnership between trusted friends was particularly relevant in the context of the current turbulent global economic scenario. Prime Minister Modi emphasized that political stability, policy predictability, commitment to reforms, and efforts to ease the business environment have given new confidence to investors in the Indian market.

This confidence is reflected in India's recent credit rating upgrade by global agencies. Underlining the significant potential for collaboration in cutting-edge technologies, manufacturing, investments, and human resource exchanges between India and Japan, Prime Minister Modi stated, "India is contributing around 18 per cent to global growth and is on course to become the third-largest economy in the world in a few years." Given the complementarities of the two economies, he highlighted five key areas for greater business collaboration between Japan and India towards Make in India and other initiatives. These areas are: manufacturing (batteries, robotics, semiconductors, shipbuilding, and nuclear energy).

CM will emerge as global hub for food processing

(Standard Post Bureau)
Visakhapatnam, Aug 29 (UNI) :Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has stated that India is fast emerging as a global food processing hub and Andhra Pradesh contributes 9 percent of food processing output in the country which stands at 49 billion US Dollars.

Participating as chief guest of India Food Manufacturing Summit organised by Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) here on Friday, the Chief Minister highlighted that by contributing 15.6 per cent of total fruit production AP has emerged as Fruit capital of India.

"In addition, AP contributes around 32 percent of marine sea food exports and covers 2.26 lakh acres under Aquaculture. AP ranks first in registered food industries with 6000 functional units," the Chief Minister mentioned.

"AP sets a target to attract Rs 30,000 crore of investments and create 3 lakh jobs in next five years. Last year AP attracted



investments to a tune of Rs 9000 crore in agro food processing sector alone," he acknowledged.

Noting that with increasing demand for quality food the demand for food processing units is increasing, the Chief Minister observed that the world class food processing eco system was present in AP with 9 integrated food parks equipped with plug and play facilities, cold storage and warehousing facilities. "AP is going to

AP to be single-use plastic-free state by next WE Day: Chief Secretary

Vijayawada, Aug 29 (UNI) : With the aim of making Andhra Pradesh a single-use plastic-free state by next year's World Environment Day on June 5, the government has completely banned the use of single-use plastic in the Secretariat, the administrative headquarters of the Andhra Pradesh state, from the 15th of this month.

As part of this process, the RO plant set up to provide safe drinking water in stainless steel and glass bottles instead of plastic drinking water bottles was inaugurated by Chief Secretary K Vijayanand in the 3rd building on Friday. As part of the ban on single-use plastic, everyone working in the State Secretariat was asked to drink water in steel or glass bottles, and free stainless steel drinking water bottles were distributed to all employees.

Visitors from outside also Steps are being taken to

Amit Shah terms Rahul Gandhi's 'Bihar Yatra' as 'Ghuspethia Bachao Yatra'

Guwahati, Aug 29 (UNI) : Terming Rahul Gandhi's 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Bihar as a 'Ghuspethia Bachao Yatra' (rally to protect the infiltrators), union Home Minister Amit Shah today said that the more the Congress will abuse Prime Minister Narendra Modi, brighter the Lotus will bloom in the country.

"At a time when 27 countries of the world have honoured Prime Minister Narendra Modi with their highest honours, the Congress and the Gandhi family had always been trying to abuse the Prime Minister," Shah said while addressing a gathering on the occasion of inauguration of the new Raj Bhavan in Guwahati.

Condemning Congress for abusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mother in a rally in Bihar, Shah said that under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi the Congress

had achieved a new low.

"The rally he started in Bihar is nothing but a Ghuspethia Bachao Yatra. The Yatra is to protect the infiltrators, and to protect the infiltrators. How can a nation be secure when infiltrators make it to the voters list?" he asked. Saying that the Congress rally in Bihar has broken all limits of shamelessness, Shah also urged the Congress leader to tender an unconditional apology. The Home Minister termed the 11 years of Narendra Modi's government as the golden period of Assam's history.

"From the days of the Assam movement to becoming the Astalakshmi of the country, the road to development and prosperity in Assam is full of struggle, disturbances and violence," he said. Shah added, "It is the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa

prevent plastic water bottles and other plastic items from being brought into the Secretariat. To provide safe drinking water to everyone, 8 RO (Reverse Osmosis) plants and 32 water dispensing units have been set up in the State Secretariat, Chief Secretary Vijayanand said on this occasion.

He said that single-use plastic has been completely banned in the AP Secretariat, the administrative center of the state, from the 15th of this month and this will be implemented in a phased manner across the state.

He reiterated that steps are being taken with the aim of making the state a single-use plastic-free state by World Environment Day on June 5 next year. Chief Secretary Vijayanand said that steps are being taken to create complete awareness among all the people across the state on this.

Sarma who have been implementing the dreams of the six year long Assam Movement in Assam."

The union Home Minister who had arrived in Guwahati last evening, also virtually inaugurated several other projects including the National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (NCFL) located at the Lachit Borhukan Police Academy at Dergaon in Assam, a residential campus for the SSB jawans and residential complex for the ITBP jawans etc. Hailing the effort of Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma in establishing the country's second National Cyber Forensic Laboratory at the Lachit Borphukan Police Academy in Dergaon, the Home Minister said that cyber security has become a priority as the country's digital economy is growing.

"The NCFL will have police officials from all the

northeastern states who will put in the best efforts to secure the hard earned money of the citizens in this part of the country from the cyber criminals," he added.

Shah arrived at the Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi International airport near Guwahati around 7.30 pm yesterday.

He was received at the airport by Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, State BJP President Dilip Saikia, other BJP leaders and the leaders of NDA alliance partners including AGP president Atul Borah. From the airport, Shah headed straight to the BJP headquarters and chaired the BJP core committee meeting. Sources in the party said that Shah reviewed the party's preparation for the forthcoming election to the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) and the next year's assembly elections in Assam.

APCC VP Shivaji condemns attack on Congress office in Bihar

Vijayawada, Aug 29 (UNI) :Congress Committee (APCC) Vice-president Kolanukonda Shivaji condemned the attack on the Congress office in Patna by the BJP activists on Friday.

In a statement here on Friday, Kolanukonda Shivaji expressed shock over the BJP leaders' attack on the Congress party office and Congress activists. As the Rahul Gandhi's Voter Adhikar Yatra is receiving overwhelming support from the people, the BJP leaders feared at Rahul's image and wanted to scare the Congress activists, he lashed out. BJP leaders including a Cabinet Minister incited and provoked the BJP activists to attack the Congress office and the activists in Patna, Shivaji flayed.

"The BJP leaders can not prevent Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi exposing the irregularities committed in the name of SIR in the voters list. The BJP leaders realized the anger of people of Bihar and tried to obstruct Rahul Gandhi's Voter Adhikar Yatra in the state," he slammed.



Uddhav Thackeray claims "miracle" in upcoming

Shiv Sena (Thackeray faction) chief Uddhav Thackeray has claimed that a "miracle" is bound to happen in the upcoming Vice-Presidential election, as the opposition alliance, INDIA, unites for a strong electoral challenge. Thackeray emphasized the importance of having a non-partisan Vice-President to safeguard India's democracy, a role he believes should be insulated from political influences. Thackeray said the INDIA alliance parties are firmly united in their decision to contest the election and are confident in their victory.

(See on page 3)

Eurasian Heads, UN, ASEAN, CSTO, CIS invited to SCO



The SCO leadership expects the participation of the heads of state of Eurasia, as well as representatives of international organizations, at the summit in China's Tianjin, SCO Secretary General Nurlan Yermekbayev."

(See on page 5)

Sindhu bows out in quarter-finals of BWF World Championships



Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu put up a valiant fight but crashed out of the quarterfinals of the BWF World Championships 2025 here today, losing to Indonesia's Putri Kusuma Wardani in a hard-fought three-game battle.

(See on page 7)

'Better to rename IRC as Bharatiya Sadak Sangh'



Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad today suggested changing the name of Indian Road Congress (IRC) as the name sounds a bit awkward, therefore it would be better if it is renamed as Bharatiya Sadak Sangh.

(See on page 8)

Farewell to Retired Employees by Bhiwandi Municipal Corporation



(Standard Post Bureau)

Bhiwandi , Mumbai 29 : As 08 employees retired from the Municipal Corporation service as per the prescribed age limit and voluntarily retired, as per the instructions given by the Administrator and Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation,Mr Anmol Sagar (B.P.Sec.),the retired employees were bid farewell through a program.

On this occasion, Assistant Commissioner (Health) Mr Shailesh Donde felicitated the retired employees by giving them shawls and bouquets and he also wished them well for their future lives. The farewell ceremony held at the Hon. Commissioner's Hall on the third floor of the new administrative building of the Municipal Corporation

was attended by Shri. Balaram Jadhav, 6th. Commissioner and Ward Officer Ward Committee No. 5, Retired, Mr Mahendra Sukir Gaikwad, Clerk, Retired, Mr Sohail A. Mohd. Yusuf Momin (Electrician), Retired, Mrs. Radhika Krishna Shelar (Watchman), Retired, Mr Sidhu Laxman Chavan, Sweeper, Retired, Mr Sanjay Laxman Waghchaur, Sweeper,

Retired, Mr Baban Shankar Wani, Sweeper, Retired, Mrs. Shobha Dashrath Jadhav, Sweeper, etc. 08 retired Municipal employees were bid farewell today on behalf of the Municipal Corporation. On this occasion, Municipal Officers and Employees, Representatives of all Employee Unions, Family Members of Retired Employees etc. were present.

An artificial lake and immersion system constructed for Lord Ganesh immersion Radhabinod A. Sharma inspected

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mira Bhayander, Aug 29 : Mira Bhayander Municipal Corporation Commissioner and Administrator Radhabinod A. Sharma (B.P.S.) in the city on the background of one and a half days of Lord Ganesh immersion. A detailed review of the preparations was carried out after direct inspection of the artificial lakes. Mandli Lake, Subhashchandra at this time, Artificial ponds constructed at Bose Maidan, Murdha Gaon, Rai Gaon, Shivar Garden and Jessal Park, Inspection was



department head and officers, citizens Necessary precautions were ordered to avoid any inconvenience during the immersion. In particular Maintaining cleanliness in the artificial lake area, strict waste management planning, security guards and police personnel He also ordered to provide separate facilities for women and senior citizens. Citizens are encouraged by the Municipal Corporation to immerse Ganesh idols in an environment-friendly manner is For this, artificial lakes have been

Commissioner Dr. Sambhaji Panpatte, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Sachin Bangar, Assistant Commissioner, Sanitary Inspector as well Municipal employees were present. Shri Ganesh immersion due to this planned activity of the Municipal Corporation, it is hoped that the process will be carried out in a safe, orderly and clean manner. A Murti Swikriti Kendra has been established along with 35 artificial ponds. Also Shree Ganesh under 6 feet, It is mandatory to immerse the idol in an artificial lake. By depositing the puja materials separately without putting them in water, to cooperate with the Municipal Corporation. Plastic should not be thrown into seas, bays and lakes. Also administration at discharge Discipline should be followed by following the guidance of the police and Shree Ganeshotsav of social unity and environmental friendliness, It is a message giving festival. Therefore, citizens prioritize cleanliness, safety and environmental protection in this festival, An appeal is being made on behalf of the administration of Mira Bhayander Municipal Corporation that it should be celebrated in an environment-friendly manner.



done. By physically inspecting the constructed artificial ponds, size of the ponds, water storage capacity, arrangement of security barricades, lighting, street lights, availability of toilets, of

drinking water, A detailed review of facilities, transport planning and emergency healthcare preparedness was taken. Environmentally friendly Various on behalf of Mira Bhayander Municipal

Corporation Administration to celebrate Shri Ganesh Visarjan ceremony 35 artificial lakes have been constructed at the place. During the inspection . Commissioner giving clear instructions to concerned

constructed in various parts of the city. Plaster of Paris Commissioner said that this is an important step to prevent water pollution due to idol immersion. At this time, Additional

Commissioner Dr. Sambhaji Panpatte, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Sachin Bangar, Assistant Commissioner, Sanitary Inspector as well Municipal employees were present. Shri Ganesh immersion due to this planned activity of the Municipal Corporation, it is hoped that the process will be carried out in a safe, orderly and clean manner. A Murti Swikriti Kendra has been established along with 35 artificial ponds. Also Shree Ganesh under 6 feet, It is mandatory to immerse the idol in an artificial lake. By depositing the puja materials separately without putting them in water, to cooperate with the Municipal Corporation. Plastic should not be thrown into seas, bays and lakes. Also administration at discharge Discipline should be followed by following the guidance of the police and Shree Ganeshotsav of social unity and environmental friendliness, It is a message giving festival. Therefore, citizens prioritize cleanliness, safety and environmental protection in this festival, An appeal is being made on behalf of the administration of Mira Bhayander Municipal Corporation that it should be celebrated in an environment-friendly manner.

Amit Shah slams Congress over abusive remarks against PM

Guwahati, Aug 29 (UNI) union Home Minister Amit Shah today strongly condemned the alleged abusive remarks made against Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Voter Adhikar Yatra of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in Bihar's Darbhanga, demanding an apology from the Congress leadership.

Addressing the NDA Panchayat Pratinidhi Sammelan in Guwahati, Shah alleged that the Congress was spreading a "culture of hatred" in Indian politics. "Congress leaders have committed the most condemnable act by using derogatory words against PM Modi's mother during their so-called Ghushpaithiya Bachao Yatra. I condemn it. I urge Rahul Gandhi that if he has even a little bit of shame left, he must apologise to Modi ji, to his late mother, and to the people of this country," Shah said.

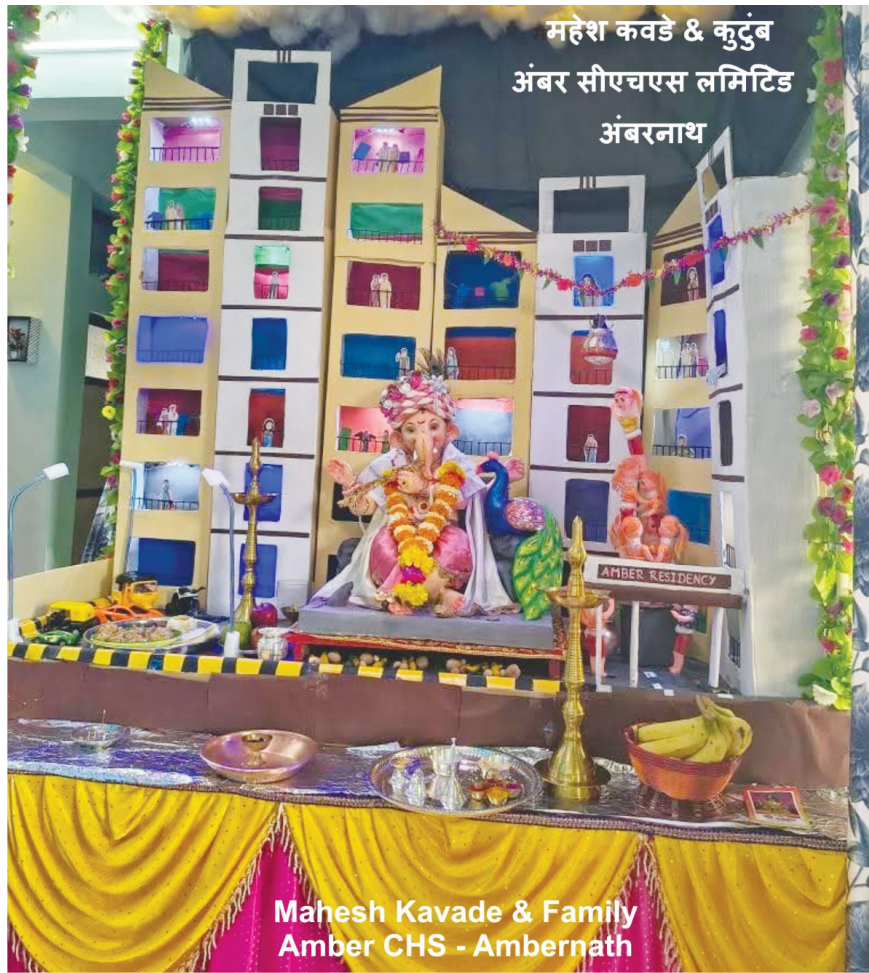
Ganesh Festival celebrations



Tarun Ads Ganesh Puja in Kolkata.



Ganpati Festival Celebration at Varun Malviya's Residence Mumbai



Mahesh Kavade & Family Amber CHS - Ambernath

Tradition meets modernity - Sawant Patel family's family Ganeshotsav

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Aug 29 : The unique fountain of love, affection and unity maintained by the family together has flowed through the years. Bottom of Fondaghat Patelwadi, More than 35 birhas of Sawant Patel family of Awat have been celebrating Ganeshotsav with enthusiasm and devotion in traditional manner for years. The special feature of this family Ganeshotsav is that Chakarmani and Maherwashini who have gone to Mumbai and other places for work, return to their hometown and participate in this celebration. Along with the unity of the society, laudatory activities are carried out during the festival. The new generation is inspired by social awareness, cultural programs, as well as by felicitating various meritorious persons in the family. The Sawant Patel Samaj not only brings the family together through this tradition but also sets the ideal of unity and cultural preservation before the entire society.



Andhra Pradesh working on 10-year roadmap for sports development: Minister, Nara Lokesh

Visakhapatnam, Aug 29 (IANS) : The government is working on a 10-year roadmap for sports development in the state, announced Human Resources Development Minister Nara Lokesh on Friday.

Speaking at the “Breaking Boundaries with Nara Lokesh” interactive session held with the Indian Women’s Cricket Team, he said that the government has increased sports quota to three per cent. This will significantly enhance education and employment opportunities for athletes, he said. The Minister revealed that the government introduced scholarships, annual coaching camps, hostel facilities, travel allowances, and competitions at district and state levels to encourage budding sportspersons, including para-athletes.

Recalling that under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu’s leadership, united Andhra Pradesh successfully hosted the Afro-Asian Games and established an international-standard Sports Village in Hyderabad, he said the current government will work on a planned roadmap for sports development in the next decade. He also



highlighted the success of the recently organised “Yoga Andhra” program inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s call and added that special efforts would be taken to encourage sports at the grassroots level. Minister Lokesh stressed that parents’ mindset needs to change in order to support girls pursuing sports.

The minister lauded the achievements of women cricketers, noting the struggles they faced over the years. “For a long time, women’s cricket was seen

as secondary to men’s cricket. Despite lack of media coverage, facilities, and support, you persevered and transformed the perception of Indian cricket with your remarkable performances,” he said. Praising their achievements, Lokesh mentioned the Asian Games Gold Medal (2022), ICC U-19 Women’s T20 World Cup (2025), and seven Asia Cup victories. “These are not just victories but a testament to the extraordinary strength and talent within you,” he

said. Minister Lokesh appreciated the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for ensuring gender parity in payments.

“The initiative to provide equal match fees and pay parity for women cricketers is truly commendable.

This is a key step towards removing gender disparities in sports. But this is just the beginning, grassroots facilities and wider encouragement are essential to fulfill the sporting dreams of young girls,” he remarked. Women

cricketers also shared their suggestions during the interaction.

They called for the design of flexible academic curricula for student-athletes, creation of a strong ecosystem for sports from inter-school to national levels, provision of scholarships and sports kits for underprivileged players, and organisation of special sports camps in rural areas to identify talent.

They also suggested that sports be included as a dedicated subject in the education system.

SC seeks Centre’s clarification on presumption of Bengali language speakers as foreigners

New Delhi, Aug 29 (UNI) : The Supreme Court today, sought clarification from the union Government on whether the use of a particular language could be treated as a presumption for being a foreigner, while hearing a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) alleging illegal detention of Bengali Muslims on the ground of being foreigners.

A Bench comprising Justice Surya Kant, Justice Joymalya Bagchi, and Justice Vipul M. Pancholi posed the query during submissions by Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for the petitioner West Bengal Migrant Workers Welfare Board.

Bhushan informed the Court that a pregnant woman was allegedly expelled from India merely because she spoke Bengali.

“Bengali language is also spoken in Bangladesh. Therefore, people who are speaking Bengali must be Bangladeshi that is the reasoning being applied,” he argued, questioning how authorities could deport a person without first determining whether they were a foreign national.

Bhushan further submitted that deportation could not be carried out without an agreement with Bangladesh, pointing out that “no Indian authority can forcibly push out anybody from the country without satisfying the conditions of determination and acceptance by the other State.”

The Bench observed that many factual issues were involved and suggested that the matter may be dealt with by the

concerned High Court.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, opposing the PIL, contended that it was not filed by an aggrieved individual but by an organisation. “India is not the capital for the world’s illegal immigration. There is a system in place,” he said. The Bench, however, pressed the union to clarify if linguistic identity was being used as a presumption by authorities in identifying foreigners.

Justice Surya Kant noted that the threshold question is whether the person in question is an Indian citizen, while Justice Bagchi highlighted the sensitivity of the issue in light of national security, integrity, and conservation of resources. “We inherit a common culture and heritage.

Spiders use fireflies’ glow to catch more prey, scientists discover

New Delhi, Aug 29 (UNI) : Imagine a spider using the light of its trapped prey to catch even more food — sounds like a nature mystery! A team of ecologists in Taiwan have found that a special kind of spider called Psechrus clavus uses the glowing light of fireflies stuck in its web to attract other insects. Fireflies are known for their beautiful lights (bioluminescent beacons), which they use to find mates. But these spiders have found a clever way to turn that light to their advantage.

When a firefly gets caught in the spider’s web, it keeps glowing for up to an hour. This glowing acts like a signal, attracting other fireflies and insects towards the web, where the spider can catch them easily.

To experiment this behaviour, researchers from Tunghai University put tiny LED lights that look like fireflies in some spider webs and left other webs without lights. They found that the webs with lights caught three times more prey than the ones without. When looking specifically at fireflies, those webs caught ten times more!

Dr. I-Min Tso, who led the study, reached to the conclusion that the spiders use the fireflies’ own light signals to lure more prey. “This is a new kind of behaviour we didn’t know about before.”

The scientists also noticed that the spiders eat moths right away but keep the fireflies alive and glowing in their webs. They think the spiders do this to keep the light on and attract more prey. This selective handling hints at an ability to discern prey species through their light signals.

Settled core, spirited squad, and strategic acquisitions set UP Yoddhas up for their PKL 12 curtain-raiser against Telugu Titans

Vizag, Aug 29 (UNI) : UP Yoddhas are gearing up for their curtain raiser of the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) 2025 season against the Telugu Titans at the Rajiv Gandhi Indoor Stadium in Vizag on August 30. With six qualifications in their last seven seasons, the Yoddhas are poised to lay the foundation for what promises to be another remarkable season ahead. Coached by Jasveer Singh, and led by defender Sumit Sangwan, the team has a tremendous leadership group comprising promising stars such as Ashu Singh, Guman Singh, Surender Gill, amongst many others.

The Yoddhas are stepping into the

forthcoming campaign with a breath of fresh air brimming through their roster. Going into the auction, they had already retained most of their squad, and instead focused on making strategic acquisitions that truly augmented the squad to newer levels.

“We have confidence in our players, both the retained ones and new additions. The group has undergone a very positive pre-season and we are already to mount a serious title challenge this year. There is optimism brimming through the ranks and we want to bring in nothing but absolute joy to our beloved fans back home,” UP Yoddhas captain Sumit

Sangwan said. For starters, the Yoddhas brought back Mahender Singh and M o h a m m a d r e z a Kaboudrahangi to fortify their defence, whilst onboarding star raider Guman Singh for Rs 1.073 crore to add further dynamism upfront. However, the likes of Bhavani Rajput, Gagan Raju Gowda, Surender Gill, Keshav Kumar, Shivam Chaudhary, right corner Hitesh, left corner Sumit Sangwan, right cover Ashu Singh, and right corner Sahul Kumar will be extremely essential to their prospects, having powered them to impeccable playoffs run last time around.

The Titans, on the other hand, had a middling

season last time around. They played 22 games, having accumulated 66 points, on the back of 12 victories and 10 defeats. However, three defeats in their last five games resulted in them missing out on a spot in the top-six by a mere four points to the Jaipur Pink Panthers, finishing seventh in the standings eventually.

Playing at their home turf, the Titans would want to begin the campaign on a formidable note. However, they are about to face a fierce battle in the form of the Yoddhas, who have embodied consistency in their PKL campaign so far.

Complete Squads
UP Yoddhas: Guman

Singh, Dong Geon Lee, Pranay Rane, Bhavani Rajput, Surender Gill, Gagan Gowda, Shivam Choudhary, Keshav Kumar, Jatinder Singh, M o h a m m a d r e z a Kaboudrahangi, Mahender Singh, Ronak Nain, Sumit Sangwan (c), Ashu Singh (vc), Sahul Kumar, Hitesh Kadiyan, Jayesh Mahajan, Gangaram, Sachin Manijal.

Telugu Titans: Vijay Malik (c), Ajit Pawar, Ashish Narwal, Sagar, Manjeet, Shankar Gadai, Chetan Sahu, Nitin, Rohit Singh, Praful Zaware, Jai Bhagwan, Bharat, Shubham Shinde, Aman, Amir Ejlaali, Ankith, Avi Duhani, Bantu Malik, Rahul Dagar, Ganesh Parki.

Passenger amenities, introduction of new trains emphasized at ECoR’ ZRUCC meeting

(Standard Post Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Aug 29 : The inaugural meeting of the 11th Zonal Railway Users’ Consultative Committee (ZRUCC) of East Coast Railway that convened today here emphasized on passenger amenities and services, the introduction of new trains (special and regular), increasing train frequency, responding to public demands, and other developmental initiatives.

The meeting was chaired by Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager, with the Principal Heads of various ECoR departments in attendance. Besides, twenty-three ZRUCC members including Members of Parliament Aparajita Sarangi (Bhubaneswar), Sujeet Kumar (Odisha), Mahesh Kashyap (Bastar), Appalanaidu Kaliseti (Vizianagaram), and Bonela Vijaya Chandra, MLA (Parvatipuram) participated in the meeting. The session also included representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, trade and industry associations, Consumer Protection Organizations, differently-abled associations, recognized passenger associations, special interest groups, nominees of union Ministers, and other stakeholders. Members actively provided valuable opinions and suggestions.

The General Manager Funkwal pledged to give maximum priority to the suggestions received and to take appropriate action within available provisions to resolve highlighted issues.

Train services disrupted as Goods Train derailed at Vizianagaram station: ECoR

(Standard Post Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Aug 29 : Train services under the jurisdiction of the East Coast Railway (ECoR) were affected today after a goods train derailed at the Vizianagaram railway station yard under Waltair Division. According to ECoR sources, several trains were controlled at different stations en route due to the disruption. These include: - 20841 Bhubaneswar–Visakhapatnam Vande Bharat Express - 12863 Howrah–SMVT Bengaluru Express - 18463 Bhubaneswar–KSR Bengaluru Prashanti Express - 18047 Shalimar–Vasco-da-Gama Express - 18117 Rourkela–Gunupur Rajyarani Express - 22644 Patna–Ernakulam Express - 12839 Howrah–Chennai Mail Express - 22819 Bhubaneswar New–Visakhapatnam Intercity Express - 17015 Bhubaneswar New–Sec’bad Visakhapatnam Express Restoration work is in progress, and efforts are being made to normalize train movement in the section at the earliest, ECoR officials said.

CM succeeds in taking Krishna water to his constituency Kuppam

(Standard Post Bureau) Vijayawada, Aug 29 : Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu ultimately succeeded in taking the Krishna river water to his constituency Kuppam and the Chief Minister will perform Jala Harati to the Krishna water on August 30. The Krishna river water reaches Kuppam constituency after flowing 738 kilometers, touching 19 Assembly constituencies and filling 10 reservoirs on the way. Telugu Desam party founder and former Chief Minister NT Rama Rao had launched several irrigation projects during his tenure to Make the drought-hit Rayalaseema region as fertile land.

However, now Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has fulfilled the dream of NT Rama Rao of providing Krishna river water to the Rayalaseema region by completing the works of canal and other projects. As part of providing Krishna water to the Rayalaseema region, Chandrababu Naidu as a Chief Minister laid the foundation stone on July 9, 1999 for the construction of ‘Handri Neeva Sujala Sravanthi’ project in the combined AP state. As most all the works of the project have been completed and the Krishna water is reaching even the tail end fields in Chittoor district now, Irrigation officials said.

After Chandrababu Naidu was elected Chief Minister to the residual state of AP in 2014, he expedited the Handri Neeva project works by allocating Rs 4,183 crore till 2019. However, the then Jagan Mohan Reddy headed government had neglected the Handri Neeva project works resulting in the works having come to a halt. After coming to power in 2024 elections,

EAST COAST RAILWAY	
(1) Notice No. eT-West-WAT-31-2025 Dt. 25.08.2025	
NAME OF THE WORK : P-WAY ZONAL CONTRACT WORKS BETWEEN MALIGURA (Ex) TO AMBAGAON (In) UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER (P-WAY)/JEYPORE FOR PERIOD ENDING 30.09.2026 UNDER ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER / JAGDALPUR SUB DIVISION OF EAST COAST RAILWAY / WALTAIR DIVISION.	
Advised Value : ₹ 1,44,46,741.98, EMD : ₹ 2,22,200.00	
(2) Notice No. eT-West-WAT-32-2025 Dt. 25.08.2025	
NAME OF THE WORK : P-WAY ZONAL CONTRACT WORKS BETWEEN AMBAGAON (Ex) TO SILAKHORI (Ex) UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER (P-WAY)/JAGDALPUR FOR PERIOD ENDING 30.09.2026 UNDER ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER / JAGDALPUR SUB DIVISION OF EAST COAST RAILWAY / WALTAIR DIVISION.	
Advised Value : ₹ 1,44,46,741.98, EMD : ₹ 2,22,200.00	
(3) Notice No. eT-West-WAT-33-2025 Dt. 25.08.2025	
NAME OF THE WORK : P-WAY ZONAL CONTRACT WORKS BETWEEN SILAKHORI (In) TO DANTEWARA (In) UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER (P-WAY)/BACHELI FOR PERIOD ENDING 30.09.2026 UNDER ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER / KIRANDUL SUB DIVISION OF EAST COAST RAILWAY / WALTAIR DIVISION.	
Advised Value : ₹ 1,44,46,741.98, EMD : ₹ 2,22,200.00	
(4) Notice No. eT-West-WAT-34-2025 Dt. 25.08.2025	
NAME OF THE WORK : P-WAY ZONAL CONTRACT WORKS BETWEEN DANTEWARA (Ex) TO DANTEWARA (In) UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER (P-WAY)/BACHELI FOR PERIOD ENDING 30.09.2026 UNDER ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER / KIRANDUL SUB DIVISION OF EAST COAST RAILWAY / WALTAIR DIVISION.	
Advised Value : ₹ 1,44,46,741.98, EMD : ₹ 2,22,200.00	
Completion Period of the Work : For the period upto 30.09.2026 (for all SI. Nos.).	
Tender Closing Date and Time: At 1500 Hrs. of 16.09.2025 (for all Tenders).	
No manual offers sent by Post / Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.	
Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-Tender is available in website : www.irops.gov.in	
Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 10 (Ten) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes / Corrigendum issued for this tender.	
Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), Waltair	
PR-534/Q/25-26	

Chandrababu Naidu vowed to provide Krishna water to Rayalaseema districts and his Kuppam constituency and expedited the works.

Official sources said that during 100 days, the main canal expansion works and lining works were completed increasing the capacity of the canal to 3,850 cusecs. Since, the Chief Minister is keen on completing the Handri Neeva project, the officials have taken special care speeded up the works. Officials said that irrigation water will be provided to over six lakh acres and drinking water to over 33 lakh people through the Handri Neeva project.

The Handri Neeva project canal flows touching 19 constituency and filling 10 reservoirs including the Krishnagiri and Pratikonda in Kurnool district, the Jeedipalli, Penna Ahoibilam balancing reservoir in Anantapur district, the Marala, Gollapalli, Cherlopalli in SSS district and the Srinivasapuram and the Adavi Palli reservoirs in Annamayya district.

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY Follow us on What'sApp Telegram Facebook Twitter Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in	
Tender No. GTL-EM-31-2025-26 Date: 28.08.2025	
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/Maintenance/Guntakal acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works.	
1. Tender No : GTL-EM-31-2025-26 Name of the Work : Guntakal Division-Kadiri: Proposed Upgradation of station with (1)provision of Entrance arch, (2)improvements to Circulating Area and (3)provision of Toilets on Platform etc. - Electrical Arrangements Approximate Value (₹) 1,11,16,422.65/-	
Closing date and time: 17-09-2025 at 15.00hrs	
For Bidding the tender and other details login to http://www.irops.gov.in . Corrigendum of tender, if any will be issued online only. Tender Document may be downloaded from to http://www.irops.gov.in by the tenderers free of cost.	
Note: To participate/Bid in this e-Tender, tenderer should have valid DSC (Digital Signature Certificate). Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Maintenance, Guntakal.	
Open e-Tender Notice No. B/E/EGS/10/2025-26 Dt. 28.08.2025	
For and on behalf of the President of India, the undersigned invites e-Tender for the following works up to 15-00 hours on the date mentioned below:	
1. Tender No : B/E/29/1/EGS/16/25-26 Dt.26.08.2025 Name of work : 1) BZA Division: Provision for additional Trip inspection facilities for electric locomotives at PTS/BZA; 2) BZA Division: RYP:- Creation/Augmentation of intermediate overhauling/periodic overhauling facilities for track machines to store sheds and offices & provision of Surface traversers and supply of synchronised jacks of 35 Ton capacity at CPOH/RYP; 3) BZA:- CDO:- Development of maintenance facilities works of New IOH shed at Coaching depot/BZA - Electrical arrangements. Period of completion: 12 months Tender value : (₹) 1,24,93,213.60/- E.M.D./Bid Security : (₹) 2.12,500/- Cost of Tender document : Nil Date of closing: 17.09.2025	
2. Tender No : B/E/29/1/EGS/17/25-26 Dt.26.08.2025 Name of work : BZA Division: Repair/replacement of defective equipment/items at CAMTECH Booster pump House of coach watering arrangement at Vijayawada station. Period of completion: 6 months Tender value : (₹) 82,50,866/- E.M.D./Bid Security : (₹) 1,65,000/- Cost of Tender document : Nil Date of closing: 17.09.2025	
1) Tender conditions/other particulars such as the details of Name of work in full, the similar nature of the above works, eligibility criteria etc., are available in the Tender documents published in website at " www.irops.gov.in ".	
2) The prospective tenderers are advised to visit website " www.irops.gov.in " before the date of tender closing to note any changes/corrigenda for any tender.	
3) The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason there to.	
Divisional Railway Manager, (Electrical), Vijayawada A1293	
For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at http://www.irops.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in	

STANDARD POST

While Rahul protests, Priyanka engages - a strategy for Congress revival?

Amid the bitter tussle between the ruling NDA and the Congress-led Opposition in Parliament, a picture recently presented a much-needed pleasant scene between the politicians of the two fronts.

It was a rare display of bonhomie -- a completely unexpected moment that hinted at the possibility of normalcy, if only leaders were willing.

The photograph was of Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare and BJP President J.P. Nadda with Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. The image has created a stir in political circles, showing the two leaders smiling, laughing, and talking.

The meeting took place in the Minister's office, where Priyanka Gandhi was accompanied by three representatives from her Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency. The agenda focused on improving healthcare facilities and renewing the request for an AIIMS in Kerala. After the August 21 meeting, Priyanka Gandhi even posted on X, which carried no bitterness, no political jibes -- only a patient request and genuine praise.

She wrote that she met J.P. Nadda "to request him to expedite some health projects in Wayanad and to apprise him of the severe difficulties being faced by the local population in the absence of the Medical College in Mananthavadi, which is yet far from functional."

She and her team also discussed the need for better healthcare for Wayanad's tribal population, their specific health challenges, pending NHM funds, and the requirement for a specialised trauma centre to deal with frequent animal attack cases in the area. They also reiterated the long-standing request for an AIIMS in Kerala.

Priyanka concluded her post with a warm note of appreciation for the Minister, saying, "He was kind enough to hear out all our demands and hold a frank discussion with us. I sincerely hope that these pressing issues will be given due consideration."

The image was a refreshing sight in today's political climate, where sharp attacks have replaced civil exchanges. The recently concluded Monsoon Session of Parliament saw one of the worst performances in recent years, especially from the Congress-led Opposition, which did not let either House function smoothly.

The session, which began on July 21 and adjourned sine die on August 21, witnessed disruptions almost every day, except for the discussion on Operation Sindoor. Out of 21 sittings over 32 days, Lok Sabha's productivity stood at just 31 per cent, while Rajya Sabha recorded 39 per cent. The presiding officers of both Houses expressed deep disappointment over the continuous and deliberate disruptions, leading to a complete washout of legislative business.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, too, voiced dissatisfaction with the session's conduct, remarking that bright and young Congress MPs were being denied the opportunity to speak due to the "insecurity" of the party's leadership. Sources said the PM made these comments during the customary informal meeting in the Lok Sabha Speaker's office after adjournment -- a meeting that Rahul Gandhi-led Opposition leaders chose not to attend.

In such an atmosphere -- where even long-standing parliamentary courtesies are ignored for political signalling and scoring points -- the image of a warm, respectful exchange between two ideological opponents, one from the Nehru-Gandhi family, has naturally drawn attention.

Within the corridors of Parliament, Priyanka Gandhi is increasingly seen as a leader who engages warmly with everyone, including BJP leaders -- a sharp contrast to her brother, Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, who is often described as "arrogant". The siblings' contrasting body language speaks volumes.

Back in August 2022, veteran Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad criticised Rahul Gandhi for his "immature" decision-making and even called him "childish". Many believe that these traits are still reflected in his behaviour, costing the Congress both politically and in public perception.

This raises an old but relevant question: Is it time for the Gandhi family, led by Sonia Gandhi, to consider giving Priyanka Gandhi Vadra a more central role in the party? The idea has surfaced multiple times over the years, but has always been dismissed.

But now isn't it the time to rethink, recalibrate, and try the other Nehru-Gandhi to save the dynasty and the party from its current decline before it is too late? Mother Sonia Gandhi needs to note the difference and nudge her daughter ahead. The question, however, is difficult, and Bihar may prove to be the key answer.

India, Japan strongly condemn Pahalgam terror attack, express concern over situation in East and South China Seas

(By United News of India)

India and Japan today strongly condemned the Pahalgam terrorist attack and called for its perpetrators to be brought to justice without delay. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japanese PM Shigeru Ishiba also expressed serious concern over the situation in the East and South China Seas.

The joint statement, titled 'Partnership for Security and Prosperity of our Next Generation', issued after the 15th India-Japan Annual Summit held between the two sides today, also reiterated their commitment to advancing cooperation among like-minded countries through multilateral frameworks such as the Quad.

The para on terrorism said: "The two Prime Ministers unequivocally and strongly condemned terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations, including cross-border terrorism. They condemned in the strongest terms the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir on 22 April 2025, and took note of the United Nations Security Council Monitoring Team Report of 29 July mentioning The Resistance Front (TRF).

"Prime Minister Modi further explained that the TRF had claimed responsibility for the attack. Prime Minister Ishiba noted this with concern. They called for the perpetrators, organizers, and financiers of this reprehensible act to be brought to justice without any delay.

"They also called for concerted actions against

all UN-listed terrorist groups and entities including Al Qaeda, ISIS/ Daesh, Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and their proxies, and to take resolute actions to root out terrorists' safe havens, eliminate terrorist financing channels and its nexus with transnational crime, and halt cross-border movement of terrorists."

The two PMs also expressed serious concern over the situation in the East China Sea and the South China Sea "and reiterated their strong opposition to any unilateral actions that endanger the safety as well as freedom of navigation and overflight, and attempt to change the status quo by force or coercion.

"They shared their serious concern over the militarization of disputed features. They reaffirmed that maritime disputes must be resolved peacefully and in accordance with international law, in particular the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)."

The above para comes amid increasing friction between China and Japan over Beijing's hegemonistic actions in the East and South China Seas and their ongoing dispute over the Senkaku islands.

The two Prime Ministers expressed support for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine in accordance with international law and welcomed the ongoing diplomatic efforts by various countries to achieve a just and lasting peace.

They reiterated their

commitment to peace and stability in the Middle East, calling on all parties concerned to show restraint, protect civilians, and expressed grave concern over the humanitarian situation in Gaza, and welcomed efforts to bring peace to the region.

The two Prime Ministers resolved to continue to work closely together for an urgent reform of the UN Security Council (UNSC) including through the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent categories to better reflect the current geopolitical realities. They expressed their mutual support for each other's candidature for a permanent seat in a reformed UNSC.

The two Prime Ministers noted that the two nations are advancing together towards the 75th anniversary of India-Japan diplomatic relationship in 2027 which would be celebrated in a befitting manner.

They also reiterated their commitment to advancing cooperation among like-minded countries through multilateral frameworks such as Quad between Australia, India, Japan and the United States, to promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the region. In this regard, they welcomed the evolution of the Quad into a vital and enduring regional grouping, and looked forward to the next Quad Leaders' Summit hosted by India later this year.

Earlier, the joint statement noted, that the partnership has significantly expanded over

the past decade into wide-ranging areas such as security, defense, trade, investment, commerce, science and technology, skills and mobility, and cultural and people-to-people links. The two PMs appreciated that India and Japan have more than seventy dialogue mechanisms and working groups across sectors.

In order to further advance the Special Strategic and Global Partnership, the two PMs made a series of announcements focusing on three priority areas: bolstering our defense and security cooperation, reinforcing our economic partnership and deepening our people-to-people exchanges.

(i) a Joint Vision for the Next Decade, which lays out whole-of-nation lines of efforts to steer the partnership in eight pillars such as economy, economic security, mobility, environment, technology and innovation, health, people-to-people ties and state-to-state engagement;

(ii) a Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation, which elevates our defense and security ties to the next level, taking into account the contemporary geopolitical realities and security configurations in the region; and

(iii) an Action Plan for India-Japan Human Resource Exchange and Cooperation, which lays out a roadmap for talent mobility and deepening people-to-people ties through exchanges of more than 500,000 personnel in five years, including 50,000

skilled personnel and potential talents from India to Japan.

The two Prime Ministers also announced the India-Japan Economic Security Initiative to provide momentum for bilateral cooperation in the field of economic security including securing and strengthening supply chains in critical goods and sectors and accelerating cooperation in critical and emerging technologies, with priority on telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, critical minerals, semiconductors and clean energy.

The two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction at the progress made under the India-Japan Digital Partnership, which promotes joint collaboration in emerging technologies through digital talent exchange, research and development, startups, and corporate partnerships.

The two Prime Ministers announced the launch of a Japan-India AI Cooperation Initiative, which is aimed at deepening bilateral and multilateral cooperation on artificial intelligence including Large Language Models (LLMs).

The two Prime Ministers expressed deep satisfaction that defense and maritime security cooperation between India and Japan is on an upward trajectory. They welcomed the holding of the third 2+2 meeting of their Foreign and Defence Ministers in August 2024 in New Delhi and instructed their Ministers to hold the fourth round in Tokyo at an early date. Two Prime Ministers

welcomed the progress made towards the target of 5 trillion Yen in public and private investment and financing in five years from Japan to India since 2022. The two Prime Ministers set a new target of 10 trillion Yen in private investment in India from Japan. The two Prime Ministers recognised the need to enhance and diversify bilateral trade including by accelerating further review of the implementation of Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) to make it more forward-looking.

They reaffirmed their continued commitment to the development of India's North Eastern Region, which has led and will lead to economic prosperity of the region at large.

The Prime Ministers noted the importance of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail as a flagship project between India and Japan. They concurred to work towards the commencement of operations at the earliest and cooperate on the introduction of the latest Japanese Shinkansen technology in India.

They welcomed the opening of the Indian Consulate in Fukuoka that will deepen the links between the Kyushu region of Japan with India.

The two Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress made in the Lunar Polar Exploration (LUPEX) Mission between the Indian Space Research Organization and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency.

Poco M7 Plus 5G Debuts in India Featuring 6.9-Inch Display, 7,000mAh Battery

(Standard Post Bureau)

POCO, one of India's leading consumer technology brands, announced the launch of its latest innovation in the affordable smartphone segment the POCO M7 Plus 5G. Designed for non-stop entertainment and long-lasting performance, the M7 Plus 5G leads the segment with a massive 7000mAh silicon carbon battery and a 6.9-inch FHD+ display supported by a 144Hz refresh rate making it the ultimate all-day entertainment companion at just ₹12,999.

The POCO M7 Plus 5G delivers binge-worthy performance with Snapdragon® 6s Gen 3 for

seamless multitasking, paired with up to 16GB Turbo RAM. The 144Hz adaptive refresh rate ensures buttery-smooth scrolling, immersive gaming, and uninterrupted social media browsing.

Its 7000mAh silicon carbon battery, the largest in the segment, is engineered for 1600 charge cycles, retaining up to 80% capacity even after four years of use. Combined with 18W reverse charging, the M7 Plus 5G doubles as a power bank, keeping not just your phone, but your other devices powered throughout the day.

Speaking on the launch, Sandeep Singh Arora, Chief

Business Officer, POCO and Xiaomi, India said, "With the POCO M7 Plus 5G, we wanted to create a device that's truly built for the new-age entertainment lifestyle, a phone that can keep up with your busiest days, longest binge sessions and most demanding apps.

By packing the largest battery, largest display, and highest refresh rate in its segment, along with long-term durability, the M7 Plus 5G truly Brings More Power to You.

It's a perfect blend of endurance, performance and entertainment that redefines what users can expect in the sub Rs 15K category."

Sai emerges second among top performing CMs with 41.9 pc approval

Raipur, Aug 29(UNI) : Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has emerged as one of the country's top-performing leaders, securing 41.9 pc approval in his home state in the latest C Voter survey on governance. The figure reflects a 2.9 percentage point rise since February 2025, placing him second among chief ministers of large states and underlining the growing confidence in his leadership and governance style.

The surge in approval is closely linked to Sai's hands-on governance approach and the recently concluded Sushasan Tihar (Good Governance Festival). During the initiative, he travelled across the state,

directly addressed grievances through special camps, and ensured speedy implementation of schemes. The outreach not only accelerated delivery at the grassroots but also exposed administrative shortcomings, which were promptly addressed.

Administrative reforms, including e-Office adoption for faster clearances, anti-corruption measures, and stricter monitoring of district collectors, have strengthened public trust. The rollout of major welfare programmes such as Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Mahatari Vandan, and Krishak Unnati Yojana has provided tangible benefits to poor families, women, and farmers.



(By Rajesh undi)

The wait is finally over! Music sensation Yo Yo Honey Singh is back with another masterstroke – his power-packed new single, "Mashooqa", releasing under the prestigious Saregama Music label. This high-energy track promises to be the anthem of the season, blending Honey Singh's signature beats with a refreshing new vibe.

The song introduces Charmee Zaveri, a dazzling new face set to take the music video world by storm. Lending additional soul and flair to the track is the stunning female vocal performance by Pho, adding depth and allure to the composition. "Mashooqa" is not just a song—it's an experience. The music video, directed by the talented Mihir Gulati, brings a compelling visual narrative that perfectly complements Honey Singh's electrifying sound. With a story and screenplay penned by Yo Yo Honey Singh himself, the track carries his unmistakable stamp of creativity and vision.

Behind the scenes, the project is backed by powerhouse producers Shirin Morani and Hitendra Kapopara, with Piyush Jain stepping in as co-producer to ensure the single gets the grand stage it



Russia open to new Projects with China for joint car production

Beijing, Aug 29 (UNI) : Russia is open to new projects with China for joint production of cars, Russian Ambassador to China Igor Morgulov said in an interview with Sputnik.

According to the ambassador, industrial cooperation between Russia and China in the field of automobile manufacturing is actively developing today, the Great Wall automobile plant in the Tula Region, which ranks second in Russia in terms of automobile output volumes, second only to AvtoVAZ, being a good example.

"We are open to new projects in this area, for the support of which the necessary regulatory instruments are being created in our country," Morgulov said.

US journalist Seymour Hersh added to Ukraine's myrotvorets blacklist

Moscow, Aug 29 (UNI) : US journalist and Pulitzer Prize winner Seymour Hersh has been included in Ukraine's Myrotvorets (Peacemaker) database of "enemies of Ukraine," data from the Myrotvorets' website showed on Friday.

Hersh was added to the database under the pretext of allegedly "participating in acts of humanitarian aggression against Ukraine," among other reasons.

In 2023, Hersh published an investigation stating that explosive devices were placed under Russian gas pipelines in June 2022 during the Baltops exercises by US Navy divers with support from Norwegian specialists. The decision for the operation was made by then-US President Joe Biden, Hersh said, citing a source. The Pentagon later told RIA Novosti that the US was not involved in the sabotage of the pipelines.

In July 2025, Hersh said, citing sources, that the former commander-in-chief of the Ukrainian armed forces and current Ukrainian ambassador to London, Valerii Zaluzhnyi, could potentially replace President Volodymyr Zelenskyy within a few months.

The Myrotvorets website publishes the personal data of soldiers from the Donetsk People's Republic and Lugansk (Luhansk) People's Republic, as well as journalists and other civilians deemed "enemies of Ukraine." Those listed in the database are known to have received threats after their contact details were published on the website.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova has condemned the website owner's actions as "a direct call for the reprisal of journalists." A number of Russian cultural figures and foreign citizens have also been listed on the website.

3 killed, 2 injured in boat capsizes in N. Afghanistan

Kabul, Aug 29 (UNI) : At least three people were killed and two others sustained injuries after a boat capsized in a river in northern Afghanistan's Badakhshan province, a local official announced late on Thursday.The accident occurred when the boat sank during a river crossing on the outskirts of the province's Yaftal district, said Ehsanullah Kamgar, provincial police spokesman.

One body has been recovered, while security personnel and local residents continue their search for the two missing bodies, Kamgar added.According to the official, the cause of the capsising remains under investigation, with authorities working to determine the circumstances that led to the disaster.Badakhshan, a remote and mountainous province in northern Afghanistan, is known for its rugged terrain and reliance on rivers for transportation in areas with limited infrastructure.

Sri Lanka launches survey to identify state lands for investment

Colombo, Aug. 29 (UNI) : The Sri Lankan government has launched a survey to identify state-owned lands that can be allocated for investment, a senior official said Friday.

Commissioner General of Lands Chandana Ranaweera Arachchi said the survey is being carried out at the divisional secretariat level, the local administrative unit in Sri Lanka responsible for delivering a broad range of government services.

He said 5,300 hectares of land have already been identified, and the government's goal is to make investing in Sri Lanka easier.Sri Lanka is targeting 1.8 billion U.S. dollars in foreign direct investment in 2025.

Heidi Gardner bids farewell to SNL after 8 formative seasons

New York, Aug 29 (UNI) : The ongoing cast shakeup at Saturday Night Live has escalated into an earthquake with Heidi Gardner, after eight seasons, becoming the latest performer to depart.

Gardner is the fourth SNL cast member to leave the show in the past three days, following Devon Walker, Emil Wakim and Michael Longfellow. She had been the longest-tenured female member of the show's current cast, reports The Hollywood Reporter.

Gardner, who entered SNL in 2017 as a featured player before being elevated to repertory status two years later, became known for her dual mastery of restraint and absurdity.Across eight seasons, she carved out a distinctive niche through a spectrum of performances, from her astute impersonation of First Lady Jill Biden to her offbeat Weekend update creations such as Bailey Gismert, the overzealous teen film critic and Angel, the archetypal "boxer's girlfriend" rendered with affectionate patody.She also starred in the fan-favourite 2024 sketch, "Beavis and Butt-head," in which she, alongside host Ryan Gosling, memorably could not stop breaking.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his Japanese counterpart Shigeru Ishiba during the India-Japan Economic Forum, in Tokyo, Japan on Friday.

Russia registers first imported Chikungunya case : Consumer Watchdog

Moscow, Aug 29 (UNI) : The first case of imported chikungunya virus has been detected in Russia, and the patient, who came to Moscow from Sri Lanka, has been hospitalized, Russian health and consumer rights watchdog Rospotrebnadzor said Friday.

"The first imported case of chikungunya fever has been detected in Russia this year ... The patient is

currently hospitalized in a moderate condition," the watchdog's press service told reporters.

Rospotrebnadzor had previously warned about the risk of importing the virus from other countries and was prepared for this situation, the press service said."The infected man flew to Moscow from Sri Lanka, where he had been on vacation for 10 days. The day after his arrival, he

sought medical help and was hospitalized to the infectious diseases department with suspected dengue fever. However, test results from the Central Research Institute of Epidemiology of Rospotrebnadzor showed a positive result for the chikungunya virus. The sample has also been sent to the Vector State Research Center of Rospotrebnadzor for

confirmation of the diagnosis," the agency said.Chikungunya is a disease transmitted to humans by infected mosquitoes, with large outbreaks reported mostly in Asia and Africa. Although the virus causes fevers and severe joint pain,it is rarely deadly, with fatal cases usually occurring in young babies or elderly people with existing health problems.

Kiev loses up to 2,735 soldiers in battles with Russia's Central Forces

Moscow, Aug 29 (UNI) : Russia's Tsent (Center) group of forces has eliminated up to 2,735 Ukrainian soldiers over the past week, the Russian Defense Ministry said on Friday.

"The losses of the Ukrainian armed forces amounted to up to 2,735 servicepeople, a German-made Leopard tank, 34 armored fighting vehicles, including 11 NATO-made armored vehicles, 59 vehicles and 13 field artillery guns," the ministry said in a statement.

Russia's Zapad (West) group has eliminated more than 1,580 Ukrainian military personnel, while the Yug (South) group has eliminated over 1,345

Ukrainian soldiers, the ministry said. Russia's Vostok (East) group of forces eliminated over 1,570 Ukrainian soldiers in the past week.

Kiev has also lost over 1,190 soldiers in battles with the Sever (North) group of forces, the ministry said, adding that Russia carried out seven mass strikes on Ukrainian military infrastructure and airbases in the past week.

Russia's Dnepr group of forces eliminated over 430 Ukrainian troops, three foreign-made armored vehicles, 75 vehicles, 10 field artillery guns, 42 electronic warfare stations and 23 ammunition, fuel and material depots over the past week, the ministry

added.In addition, Russian air defense systems shot down 1,377 Ukrainian drones, a Su-27 fighter jet, 18 guided aerial bombs, nine US-made HIMARS multiple launch rockets, and a Neptune long-range guided missile over the past week, the Defense Ministry said.Since the start of Russia's special military operation, Ukraine has lost a total of 666 aircraft, 283 helicopters, 80,367 unmanned aerial vehicles, 625 anti-aircraft missile systems, 24,856 tanks and other armored fighting vehicles, 1,588 MLRS combat vehicles, 29,041 field artillery guns and mortars, and 40,622 units of support military vehicles, the ministry added.

Ukraine blows up 2 key Russian bridges using Moscow’s own mines & USD 600 drones

Kyiv, Aug 29 (UNI) : Ukraine has said it destroyed two bridges inside Russia by using a couple of cheap drones to hit stashes of mines and ammunition hidden there by Russian forces.

The Ukrainian military said the two bridges near the border with Ukraine's Kharkiv region were being used by the Russian military to resupply their troops. Because of their strategic importance, the bridges were mined – so that the Russian military had the option of blowing them up in case of a sudden Ukrainian advance, reports CNN.

It is not unusual for an army under attack to destroy bridges, roads and other key infrastructure on its own territory to prevent the enemy from advancing. Ukraine did this in the early days of the full-scale

invasion in February 2022, destroying bridges on roads leading towards Kyiv. The move delayed the Russian advance and protected the Ukrainian capital.In the case of the two bridges in Russia, the Ukrainian military found out about the stashes of mines and used it to its own advantage.

Ukraine's 58th Separate Motorized Infantry Brigade, which conducted the operation, told CNN that they decided have a closer look at the bridge after noticing unusual activity around it.

"It became clear that something was going on there. We couldn't fly a regular reconnaissance drone under the bridge because the signal would simply disappear, so we flew in with a first-person-view drone equipped with fiber optics," a

representative of the brigade told CNN.

A video filmed by the drone shows it approaching the bridge and discovering a large pile of anti-tank mines and other ammunition. A piece of fabric that appears to have been covering the stash is seen lying to the side.

"We saw the mines, and we struck," they added.

The video ends abruptly when the drone hits the stash. Footage filmed by a second camera from some distance shows a large explosion. CNN has geolocated the bridge seen in the video to the Belgorod region in southern Russia, near the border with Ukraine."After that, we decided to check the other bridge. We found it was also mined and we struck," the brigade representative said, adding: "(We) saw an opportunity and took it."

Australia's first Moon rover to be launched on NASA mission

Canberra, Aug 29 (UNI) : Australia's first Moon rover will be launched around the end of the decade through NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) initiative, the Australian Space Agency (ASA) said on Friday.

The ASA announced that the rover, named Roo-ver, will be carried to the lunar surface on NASA's CT-4 mission around the end of the 2020s.

The space agency said that the rover has been entrusted with "key research objectives" by NASA, including collecting new data about the lunar surface to support international space science and exploration goals.

"In time, Roo-ver's explorations will help global efforts to establish a possible sustainable human presence in space," the ASA said in a media release.The federal government in December

2024 announced that Australian-led consortium ELO2 had been chosen to design, build and operate the rover, which will weigh about 20 kilograms.

Tim Ayres, the Minister for Industry and Innovation and Minister for Science, said on Friday that the development and launch of the rover will inspire the STEM workforce needed for Australia's future.

"This is one of the most specialized robotics and advanced manufacturing projects in the country. It's accelerating the development of Australia's advanced technical capabilities and deepening local manufacturing expertise," he said.

The government has committed 42 million Australian dollars (27.4 million U.S. dollars) in funding for the development, design, build, and operation of the semi-autonomous rover.

Eurasian Heads, UN, ASEAN, CSTO, CIS invited to SCO Summit in Tianjin

Beijing, Aug 29 (UNI)- The SCO leadership expects the participation of the heads of state of Eurasia, as well as representatives of international organizations, at the summit in China's Tianjin, SCO Secretary General Nurlan Yermekbayev."We expect the participation of the heads of a number of Eurasian countries, as well as the heads of the United Nations, ASEAN, CSTO, CIS and other multilateral organizations," Yermekbayev said.

Invitations have also been sent to observer countries, dialogue partners, as well as a number of other states and organizations, the official added.The SCO Summit will be held in Tianjin on August 31-September 1.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is a ten-member multilateral organization, established on 15 June 2001 by the leaders of Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. These countries, except Uzbekistan, had been members of the Shanghai-5 group formed in April 1996.In 2001, Uzbekistan was admitted as a member (thus transforming it into the Shanghai-6). At the July 2005 Astana Summit, India, Iran and Pakistan were granted Observer status.

In July 2015 in Ufa, Russia, the SCO decided to admit India (and Pakistan) as full Member. In June 2017, at the Summit in Astana, India (and Pakistan) officially joined SCO as full-member. Iran was granted the status of a Member State at the SCO Summit hosted virtually by India on 4 July 2023. Belarus was admitted as a new member at the SCO Summit in Astana on 4 July 2024.Apart from the 10 Members, the SCO has 2 Observers (Afghanistan and Mongolia) and 14 Dialogue Partners (Azerbaijan, Armenia, Cambodia, Nepal, Turkey, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Maldives, Bahrain, Myanmar, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Qatar). As per the SCO Charter, Russian and Chinese are the only two official languages of the SCO.

Laos issues alert as tropical depression brings continuous rainfall

Vientiane, Aug 29 (UNI) : A tropical depression is moving northwest at a speed of 20 km per hour and is expected to cross Vietnam and enter Laos, bringing heavy rainfall to the central and southern parts of Laos from Friday to Sunday.

The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology under the Lao Ministry of Agriculture and Environment on Friday issued a warning, advising the public to remain vigilant due to continuous rainfall and to be cautious of potential flooding and landslides.The storm is

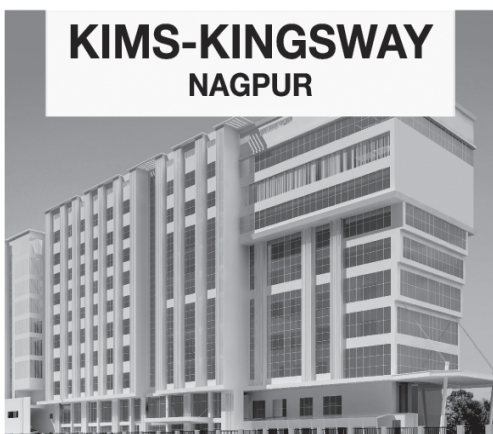
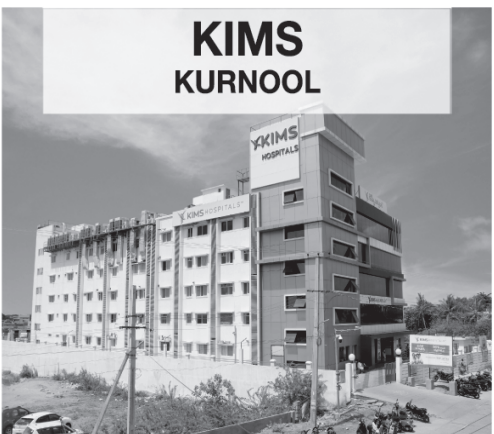
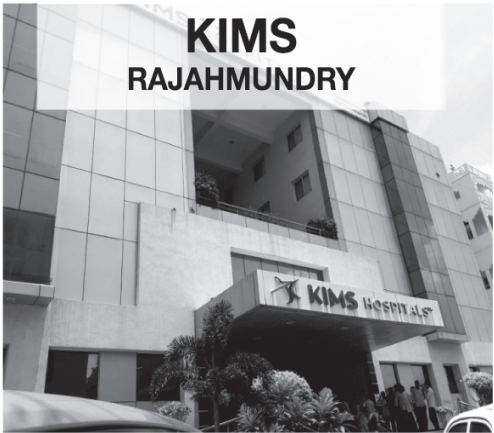
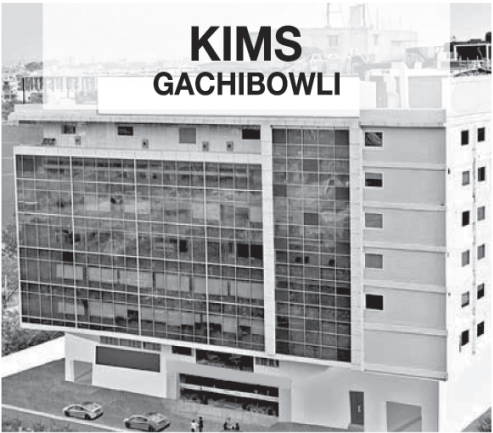
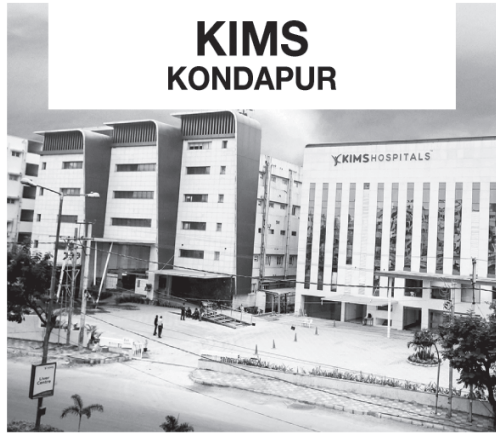
expected to significantly affect the Lao capital Vientiane and several provinces, including Xayaboury, Xaysomboun, Vientiane, Bolikhamxay, Khammuan, Savannakhet, Champasak, Salavan, Sekong, and Attapeu.

The Lao weather bureau has urged the public to remain cautious and take necessary precautions against potential flooding. Residents living near rivers, streams, and low-lying areas are advised to stay alert and take appropriate measures to protect their safety and property.

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Baijalpur gets world class Hockey Ground

Chandigarh, Aug 29 (UNI) : A new AstroTurf hockey ground has come up in Baijalpur, Haryana, under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL). The ground, built by Gallant Sports is developed at a cost of ₹7.50 crore. It was inaugurated today by Member of Rajya Sabha, Dr. Subhash Barala. The facility brings much-needed sports infrastructure to a region with deep roots in hockey but limited access to modern training grounds.

The Baijalpur hockey ground will provide aspiring players in the area with a professional-quality facility for regular training, local competitions, and grassroots development. It is expected to encourage greater participation in the sport and strengthen the local hockey ecosystem.

Speaking on the project, Nasir Ali, Founder & CEO, Gallant Sports & Infra., said “Gallant Sports has always worked with the vision of taking quality sports infrastructure to every corner of India. This new hockey ground in Baijalpur is another step in that journey. We hope it will inspire young players to take up the sport with determination and help nurture the next generation of talent from rural India.”

With over 700 projects completed across the country, Gallant Sports has built a reputation for delivering world-class facilities for schools, universities, corporates, and government bodies. The company has also successfully developed several FIH-certified hockey fields, FIFA-certified football fields in India, along with infrastructure for athletics, and multi-sport arenas.

Alcaraz powers past Darderi into 4 round

New York, Aug 29 (UNI) : World No. 2 Carlos Alcaraz brushed aside Italian 32nd seed Luciano Darderi 6-2, 6-4, 6-0 in a third-round encounter at the US Open here today, sealing his place in the last 16 with another commanding display at Flushing Meadows.

The 22-year-old Spaniard, champion here in 2022, produced a near-flawless performance on Arthur Ashe Stadium, winning in just under two hours while conceding a mere six games. His victory means he is yet to drop a set in the tournament, underlining his title credentials.

Alcaraz started brightly, breaking early in the first set with his trademark aggressive returns and quick footwork. The Italian attempted to counter with big hitting but struggled to match the Spaniard’s consistency and court coverage. Alcaraz raced away with the opener 6-2.

There was a brief moment of concern for the Spanish star in the second set when he called the trainer for treatment on his right knee. However, after a massage, Alcaraz returned with full intensity. Darderi briefly rallied, breaking Alcaraz for the first time in the tournament and drawing level at 4-4, to the delight of the spectators. But the reprieve was short-lived as a double fault handed Alcaraz the set 6-4. From then on, the contest became one-sided. Alcaraz elevated his game, unleashing forehand winners and exquisite drop shots that left Darderi scrambling. The Spaniard stormed through the final set 6-0, sealing victory on his fourth match point when Darderi sent a forehand long. The Arthur Ashe fans, treated to flashes of brilliance from both players, responded with a standing ovation as Alcaraz’s relentless shot-making turned the closing stages into an exhibition. Darderi, who had earlier wowed spectators with his athletic shot-making in patches, eventually ran out of answers against the two-time Grand Slam finalist of 2025. Reflecting on his form, Alcaraz admitted the knee scare did not affect his focus. “I felt some discomfort, but nothing serious. I stayed aggressive and kept my rhythm. I’m really happy with my performance today,” he said after the match.

The Spaniard, now eyeing a sixth Grand Slam title, will face the winner of the all-French clash between Benjamin Bonzi and Arthur Rinderknech in the fourth round. Bonzi earlier stunned Daniil Medvedev in the opening round, while Rinderknech has been in solid form.



South Korea’s Rim Jinkang (8) celebrates with teammates after scoring a goal during the Men’s Hockey Asia Cup 2025 match between South Korea and Chinese Taipei, in Rajgir, Bihar.

India edge China 4-3 in thrilling opener

Rajgir, Aug 29 (UNI) : The Indian Men’s Hockey Team began their campaign at the Hero Men’s Asia Cup Rajgir Bihar 2025 with a hard-fought 4-3 win over China at the Rajgir Hockey Stadium here today.

Skipper Harmanpreet Singh produced a captain’s performance, scoring a superb hat-trick (20’, 33’,

47’) while Jugraj Singh (18’) chipped in with a goal. China fought back strongly through Shihao Du (12’), Benhai Chen (35’) and Jiesheng Gao (41’), but the hosts held their nerve in front of an enthusiastic home crowd. China struck first, converting a penalty corner through Du in the 12th minute. India responded in the

second quarter, with Jugraj equalising before Harmanpreet gave the hosts the lead. At half-time, India were 2-1 ahead.

Harmanpreet extended the lead soon after the restart, but Chen quickly pulled one back for China, before Gao levelled the score at 3-3 in the 41st minute, setting up a tense

final quarter. The decisive moment came in the 47th minute when Harmanpreet converted his third penalty corner to complete his hat-trick and restore India’s advantage. The home side then defended stoutly to close out the win. India will next face Japan on Sunday, August 31 at 1500 hrs in their second Pool match.

2nd edition CRPF Football Cup 2025 kicks off with enthusiasm and sporting spirit

Srinagar, Aug 29 (UNI) : The 2nd edition of the CRPF Football Cup 2025 Srinagar Sector Championship was inaugurated today at the Synthetic Turf TRC Ground in Srinagar marking the start of the football event amid an enthusiastic turnout of players and dignitaries.

The tournament was inaugurated by Inspector General CRPF Srinagar Sector Pawan Kumar Sharma. Addressing the gathering, Sharma

highlighted that Football Cup is being organised on National Sports Day which marks the birth anniversary of the legendary Major Dhyani Chand, widely regarded as the greatest field hockey player of all time.

He said that in the 2nd Edition CRPF Football Cup 2025, an opportunity has been provided to U-23 players to showcase their talent.

A CRPF spokesman said eight teams from Srinagar, four teams each

from Budgam and Ganderbal will compete in knockout format over next one week culminating in the finals on September 4.

He said international standard synthetic football turf is the highlight of the tournament.

“The prize money has been doubled as compared to the 1st edition as our endeavour is to ensure players benefit maximum from the tournament,” he said. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Nuzhat Gul, Secretary JK

Sports Council and senior officer of CRPF of Srinagar Sector. The event marked a significant step in fostering a strong bond between CRPF and the youth of Kashmir through the medium of football.

The CRPF spokesman said the objective of the tournament was to provide a platform for young talents to showcase their skills, excel in their careers, and potentially contribute to state and national-level teams, thereby bringing laurels to the country.

Sri Lanka pip Zimbabwe by 7 runs in ODI thriller

Harare, Aug 29 (UNI) : Sri Lanka held their nerve in the final overs to script a narrow seven-run victory over Zimbabwe in the first ODI of the three-match series at the Harare Sports Club here today.

Electing to bowl first after winning the toss, Zimbabwe managed to restrict Sri Lanka to 298 for 6 in 50 overs.

Opener Pathum Nissanka (76 off 92 balls) provided a solid start, while Janith Liyanage (70 not out off 47 balls) powered the innings in the middle and

death overs. Kamindu Mendis chipped in with a brisk 57 off 36 deliveries to help the visitors post a competitive total.

For Zimbabwe, Blessing Muzarabani (1/65), Richard Ngarava (2/34), Sean Williams (1/26) and Sikandar Raza (1/48) picked up wickets, but failed to stop the late assault by the Lankan middle-order.

In reply, Zimbabwe staged a spirited chase, led by skipper Sean Williams (57 off 54) and Raza (92 off 87), who kept the hosts in the hunt with a 121-run

American Flag Football National Championship 2025 to be held in Hyd from Aug 30 to 31

Hyderabad, Aug 29 (UNI) : The two day American Flag Football National Championship 2025 to be held at Gymkhana grounds tomorrow.

Organised by the Telangana American Football Association under the guidance of the American Football Federation of India (AFFI), the championship will bring together top senior men’s and women’s flag football teams from across the country.

Teams representing Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and host state Telangana will battle for national supremacy in this dynamic and fast-paced format of American football.

Flag football, a non-contact version of the sport that highlights speed, strategy and skill, has been steadily gaining popularity in India, especially among youth and women.

The AFFI championship aims to provide a national platform for emerging talent and to strengthen India’s presence in the international flag football arena. Commenting on the importance of this championship, Mr. Praveen Reddy, Head Coach of the Indian National team said, “This national championship is not just a competition, but a celebration of teamwork, discipline, and the growing passion for American football in India. We are proud to see representation from across the states and look forward to a thrilling weekend of action”.

Sindhu bows out in quarter-finals of BWF World Championships

Paris, Aug 29 (UNI) : Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu put up a valiant fight but crashed out of the quarterfinals of the BWF World Championships 2025 here today, losing to Indonesia’s Putri Kusuma Wardani in a hard-fought three-game battle.

Sindhu, ranked 15th in the women’s singles, went down 21-14, 13-21, 21-16 to world No. 9 Wardani in an hour and four minutes at the Adidas Arena.

The Indian shuttler was slow off the blocks, trailing 11-7 at the interval before conceding the first game. She stormed back in the second, using her reach to control rallies while her Indonesian opponent faltered with unforced errors, forcing a decider.

The final game remained neck-and-neck until 17-16, but Sindhu conceded four consecutive points at the crunch stage, allowing Wardani to seal

the contest. The defeat marked Sindhu’s third loss in five encounters against Wardani.

A win would have made five-time medallist Sindhu the outright record-holder for most women’s singles medals at the World Championships, ahead of China’s Zhang Ning.

India’s campaign also suffered another setback in mixed doubles, where Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto bowed out in the last eight. The Indian pair, after taking an early 8-3 lead, fell 21-15, 21-13 to Malaysia’s fourth-seeded duo Chen Tang Jie and Toh Ee Wei in just 37 minutes.

India’s hopes now rest on men’s doubles stars Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, seeded ninth, who will take on Malaysia’s second seeds and two-time Olympic bronze medallists Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik later in the day.

Kshitij Naveed Kaul snatches victory with late flourish at Kolar Open 2025

Kolar, Karnataka, Aug 29 (UNI) : Delhi’s Kshitij Naveed Kaul snatched victory with an incredible late flourish at the Rs 1 crore Kolar Open played at the ZION Hills Golf County today.

Kaul (74-69-71-65), who was overnight fifth and six shots off the lead, staged an unbelievable comeback on day four with a tournament low of seven-under 65 highlighted by three birdies and an eagle on the last four holes that took his total to nine-under 279 and gave him a two-shot victory on the most windy day of the week when the wind speed crossed 30 km per hour.

It was 24-year-old Kaul’s fifth professional win. Kshitij’s winning cheque of Rs 15 lakh pushed him up five spots to eighth position on the PGTI Order of Merit with his season’s earnings moving to Rs 48,00,847.

Shaurya Bhattacharya (70-72-66-73), another Delhi-based professional and the overnight leader by three shots, posted a final round of 73 to finish runner-up at seven-under 281. Shaurya thus climbed four spots to sixth position in the PGTI Order of Merit.

Gurugram’s Dhruv Sheoran (67) signed off in third place at four-under 284.

Pune’s Udayan Mane, who set the course record of 67 in round two, carded a 74 in the fourth round to close the week in tied fourth at three-under 285. Honey Baisoya (72) of the DLF Golf & Country Club, Gurugram, also took a share of fourth place.

Nepal’s Subash Tamang, who was playing at his home course this week, finished sixth at two-under 286.

Kshitij Naveed Kaul announced himself as a contender early in the day when he produced some fabulous drives and wedge-play to pick up four birdies on the first six holes. Kaul then endured a tough stretch dropping three straight bogeys from seven to the ninth as a result of finding the water hazard once and missing a couple of short putts. However, he did recover well after finding the water on the seventh to make an 18-footer for bogey.

After draining a birdie on the 10th, Kshitij, who won his last title in November last year, came up with a dream finish when he sank a couple of long birdie putts on the 15th and 16th and followed that up with a chip-in for birdie on the 17th and a mammoth 30-foot eagle conversion on the 18th. Kshitij, armed with a hot putter, thus turned the tables on Shaurya Bhattacharya, the leader for most part of the day, right at the end. With the rule of preferred lie in application in round four, Kaul’s 65 did not count as a course record.

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Cell : 9849881368 Email : standardpostguntur@gmail.com

Railway Minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw directed officials to complete the holding area being built at New Delhi Railway Station

These holding areas are being built for better crowd management during festivals

(Standard Post Bureau)
Hubballi, Aug 29 : Railway Minister Mr Ashwini Vaishnaw reached New Delhi station, today, to attend a program. During this, he took stock of the holding area being built in the station premises and directed the officers present there to complete the work of the holding area at the earliest.
A permanent holding area is being built towards Ajmeri Gate of New Delhi Railway Station premises to ensure smooth



management of passengers during festivals, when the crowd of passengers increases. The holding area shall be divided into three functional zones, Pre Ticketing Area: 1950 Sqm- This space can accommodate approx. 2700 passengers during rush hours.
Ticketing Area: 2288

Sqm: It can accommodate 3100 passengers for smooth passenger movement.
Post Ticketing Area: 1570 Sqm: It can accommodate around 1350 passengers providing sufficient space for queuing, security checks, luggage scanning.
The following facilities shall be available to

passengers in this dedicated holding area: 22 ticket counters 22 toilet blocks Public address system Electronic display board for information AI based surveillance camera Luggage scanner Signage for passengers guidance Integrated with Metro

connectivity
Currently, the work of this holding area is in progress. While constructing this holding area, many challenging tasks like shifting of ATM counters, shifting of two electric high masts, removal of two mobile towers, shifting of prepaid taxi stand, shifting of Delhi Police cabin are being done.

Few WR trains affected due to block at Gorakhpur - Gonda section and Gorakhpur - Anand Nagar section in NER

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Aug 29 : In view of the ongoing work for commissioning of 3rd line between Gorakhpur – Domingarh stations in Gorakhpur – Gonda section, as well as doubling work between Gorakhpur– Nakaha Jungle stations in Gorakhpur – Anand Nagar section over North Eastern Railway, a block is being undertaken from 22nd September to 26th September, 2025. Consequently, a few Western Railway trains will be affected.
According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the details of the trains which will be affected due to the block are as under:-
Cancellation of Trains:
1. Train No.15068 Bandra Terminus – Gorakhpur Express Journey commencing on 26th September, 2025 will remain cancelled
2. Train No.15067 Gorakhpur – Bandra Terminus Express Journey

commencing on 24th September, 2025 will remain cancelled
3. Train No.15046 Okha – Gorakhpur Express Journey commencing on 28th September, 2025 will remain cancelled
4. Train No.15045 Gorakhpur – Okha Express Journey commencing on 25th September, 2025 will remain cancelled
Short Termination / Origination/ Partial Cancellation of Trains
1. Train No. 19489 Ahmedabad – Gorakhpur Express Journey commencing on 23rd to 26th September, 2025 will short terminate at Varanasi. Hence, this train will be partially cancelled between Varanasi & Gorakhpur stations.
2. Train No. 19490 Gorakhpur – Ahmedabad Express Journey commencing on 24rd to 27th September, 2025 will short originate from Varanasi. Hence, this train will be partially cancelled between Gorakhpur & Varanasi stations.
3 Train No. 19091 Bandra Terminus –

Gorakhpur Humsafar Express Journey commencing on 22nd September, 2025 will short terminate at Varanasi. Hence, this train will be partially cancelled between Varanasi & Gorakhpur stations.
4. Train No. 19092 Gorakhpur – Bandra Terminus Humsafar Express Journey commencing on 23rd September, 2025 will short originate from Varanasi. Hence, this train will be partially cancelled between Gorakhpur & Varanasi stations.
5. Train No. 19409 Sabarmati – Thawe Express Journey commencing on 25th September, 2025 will short terminate at Basti. Hence, this train will be partially cancelled between Basti & Thawe stations.
6. Train No. 19410 Thawe – Sabarmati Express Journey commencing on 27th September, 2025 will short originate from Basti. Hence, this train will be partially cancelled between Thawe & Basti stations.
7. Train No.15046 Okha – Gorakhpur Express

Journey commencing on 21st September, 2025 will short terminate at Khalilabad. Hence, this train will be partially cancelled between Khalilabad & Gorakhpur stations.
Diversion of Trains:
1. Train No. 19037 Bandra Terminus – Barauni Express Journey commencing on 21st to 25th September, 2025 will be diverted via Manak Nagar- Lucknow jn – Sultanpur – Varanasi – Aunrihar - Chhapra stations.
2. Train No. 19038 Barauni – Bandra Terminus Express Journey commencing on 23rd to 26th September, 2025 will be diverted via Chhapra – Aunrihar – Varanasi – Sultanpur – Lucknow jn - Manak Nagar stations.
3. Train No. 19269 Porbandar – Muzzaffarpur Mail Express Journey commencing on 25th September, 2025 will be diverted via Lucknow jn – Sultanpur – Varanasi – Aunrihar – Chhapra - Muzaffarpur stations.

‘Better to rename IRC as Bharatiya Sadak Sangh’

Lucknow, Aug 29 (UNI) : Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad today suggested changing the name of Indian Road Congress (IRC) as the name sounds a bit awkward, therefore it would be better if it is renamed as Bharatiya Sadak Sangh.Addressing the 'Full Depth Reclamation and Green Technology Seminar' organised by the IRC and UP Rural Road Development Agency at Indira Gandhi Pratishthan, the Deputy CM said that upgradation of rural roads is the foundation stone of nation building. "UP has played a leading role in PMGSY. FDR technology is proving to be a boon in the

construction of rural roads. Uttar Pradesh is the leading state to adopt FDR technology in PMGSY roads," he said. He said that the biggest need to achieve the goal of developed India is road connectivity. FDR technology is proving to be a highway for the villagers. "Road connectivity is the supreme need for overall development. PMGSY roads have had a huge impact on the development of villages. High quality and more durable roads are being built at low cost in FDR technology. Farmers have benefited a lot due to the increase in road network work in villages, rural enterprises have also increased," he said.

WR extends trips of 4 pairs of special trains

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Aug 29 : For the convenience of passengers and with a view to meet the travel demand especially during the Festive season, Western Railway has extended the trips of 04 pairs of Special trains on Special Fare.
According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, details of the trains are as under:
1. Train No. 09189/ 09190 Mumbai Central – Katihar (Weekly) Special Train No. 09189 Mumbai Central – Katihar Special has been extended up to 27th December, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09190 Katihar– Mumbai Central Special has been extended up to 30th December, 2025
2. Train No. 09049/ 09050 Dadar - Bhusaval (Weekly) Special Train No. 09049 Dadar – Bhusaval Special has been extended up to 26th December, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09050 Bhusaval – Dadar Special has been extended up to 26th December, 2025.
3. Train No. 09051/ 09052 Dadar - Bhusaval (Tri - Weekly) Special Train No. 09051 Dadar – Bhusaval Special has been extended up to 31st December, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09052 Bhusaval – Dadar Special has been extended up to 31st December, 2025
4. Train No. 09057/ 09058 Udhna – Mangaluru (Bi - Weekly) Special Train No. 09057 Udhna – Mangaluru Special has been extended up to 31st December, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09058 Mangaluru – Udhna Special has been extended up to

1st January, 2026.
The booking for extended trips of Train Nos. 09189, 09049, 09051 & 09057 will open from 1st September, 2025 at PRS counters and IRCTC website. For detailed information regarding timings of halts and composition, passengers may please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

Admissions date extended for PDF

Electronics & IT
(Standard Post Bureau)
Hyderabad, Aug 29 : Maulana Azad National Urdu University has extended the last date of admission in the Post Doctoral Fellowship for Electronics and IT programme under Visvesvaraya Ph.D. Scheme.
The programme is being offered under the School of Technology. According to Prof. Abdul Wahid, Dean, SoT, the last date for submission of online application forms is September 20, 2025 and certificate verification will be done on September 23. The online interview will be held on September 25 and the selected candidates list will be displayed on September 26.

For more details and online application, visit www.manuu.edu.in. For any queries write to email vphd@manuu.edu.in.

Central Railway Mega Block on Sunday

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Aug 29 : Central Railway, Mumbai Division will operate Mega Block on its suburban sections carrying out various engineering and maintenance works on 31.08.2025 as under:
UP & DOWN slow lines between CSMT Mumbai and Vidyavihar from 10.55 hrs to 15.55 hrs
DOWN slow services departing CSMT Mumbai from 10.48 hrs to 15.45 hrs will be diverted on DOWN fast line between CSMT Mumbai and Vidyavihar stations and will halt at Byculla, Parel, Dadar, Matunga, Sion and Kurla

stations and further re-diverted on DOWN slow line at Vidyavihar station.
UP slow services departing Ghatkopar from 10.19 hrs to 15.52 hrs will be diverted on UP fast line between Vidyavihar and CSMT Mumbai stations and will halt at Kurla, Sion, Matunga, Dadar, Parel and Byculla stations.
UP and DOWN Harbour Lines between Kurla and Vashi stations from 11.10 hrs to 16.10 hrs
DOWN Harbour line services to Vashi/Belapur/ Panvel leaving CSMT Mumbai from 10.34 hrs to 15.36 hrs and UP HARBOUR line services

towards CSMT Mumbai leaving Panvel/Belapur/ Vashi from 10.17 hrs to 15.47 hrs will remain cancelled.Special suburban trains will run on CSMT Mumbai – Kurla – CSMT Mumbai & Panvel – Vashi - Panvel sections during the block period.“Harbour line passengers are permitted to travel between Thane- Vashi/Nerul stations from 10.00 hrs to 18.00 hrs during the block period.
These maintenance mega blocks are essential for infrastructure upkeep and safety. Passengers are requested to bear with the Railway Administration for the inconvenience caused.

Mahavitaran's electrical safety campaign receives global recognition

Honored with England's 'World Record of Excellence' award



Record-breaking public participation in the electricity safety campaign of Mahavitaran has been recorded at the international level. Chairman and Managing Director of Mahavitaran Mr. Lokesh Chandra, Director Mr. Rajendra Pawar, Executive Director Mr. Paresh Bhagwat, Chief General Manager Mr. Bhushan Kulkarni, Special Duty Officer Mr. Mangesh Kohat with the ‘World Record of Excellence’ certificate and memento presented on the occasion.

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Aug 29 : Mahavitaran was honored with the 'World Record of Excellence' award in England, recording the record public participation in the Zero Electrical Accident Awareness Campaign at the global level. The guide of this campaign and Chairman and Managing Director of Mahavitaran, Mr. Lokesh Chandra, as well as Director (Human Resources) Mr. Rajendra Pawar, were also honored with an international certificate for the effective implementation of the campaign.
At a program organized in Mumbai, the international certificate and memento of the 'World Record of Excellence' were accepted by Director (Human Resources) Mr. Rajendra Pawar and Special Duty Officer Mr. Mangesh Kohat on behalf of Mahavitaran. Renowned psychologist Dr. Diwakar Sukul (London), renowned scientist Dr. Madhu Krishnan (USA), senior editor and former minister Mr. Rajendra Darda were present on this occasion. The selection committee of the award appreciated the people-oriented campaign

of electricity safety of Mahavitaran. This includes the Chairman of World Record of Excellence Mr. Henry R (Europe), Chief Mr. Pablo (England), Vice-Chairman Mr. Sanjay Panjwani, and the judge Chandrashekhar Shinde.
Chairman and Managing Director Mr. Lokesh Chandra praised all the officers and employees in a small meeting for the record-breaking public participation in the electricity safety campaign of Mahavitaran being recognized at the global level. The goal of zero electrical accidents is a daily part of the work of Mahavitaran. He directed that information about electricity safety should be provided by continuously interacting with the public through various activities and programs. Director (Human Resources) Mr. Rajendra Pawar, Executive Director Mr. Paresh Bhagwat, Chief General Manager Mr. Bhushan Kulkarni, Special Operations Officer Mr. Mangesh Kohat were present on this occasion.“
‘World Record of Excellence’ is a globally recognized organization in England. This organization announced that the public

participation in the electricity safety campaign of Mahavitaran is an international record and presented the award at a program organized in Mumbai. On this occasion, dignitaries from various fields of the United Kingdom, United States of America, Nepal and India were present.
On the occasion of its 20th anniversary this year, Mahavitaran organized various activities across the state from June 1 to 6 to create public awareness about electricity safety. In this, as many as 2 lakh 11 thousand citizens, school students, engineers, officers and employees participated directly. Along with this, the message of electricity safety was given to 1 crore 92 lakh 79 thousand customers through ‘SMS’ on registered mobile phones and to 35 lakh 73 thousand customers through registered emails. Mahavitaran has recently been honored by the Asia Book of Records and India Book of Records for five records of public participation in this campaign. Now, the international record has been confirmed for the public participation in this campaign.

India will not bow down to US tariffs: Singh Baghel

Firozabad (UP), Aug 29 (UNI) : Union Minister SP Singh Baghel today said that India is not going to bow down to the tariffs of America and the country will move forward by becoming self-reliant with the use of startups, Make in India and indigenous goods.The union Minister, who came to express condolences to the victim's family in the case of murder of a teenager in Rajawali area, directed the officials to work out the murder and arrest the accused soon. It may be noted that the body of a 10 year old girl, who had gone to graze goats in the field in Gadi Pandey

village of Rajawali area on Wednesday morning, was found in a millet field.
On this occasion, while talking to journalists, on the report on Sambhal violence, he said that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is completely the protector of Sanatan and Sanatan will be protected. Old temples are also being renovated.
Reacting to the tariff imposed by America, Baghelsaid, "This is Modi's India, it will not bow down in any way. We will keep moving forward by becoming self-reliant with the use of startups, Make in India and indigenous goods."