

## "Ready to face bullets, won't step back" Manoj Jarange Patil warns govt

Mumbai, Aug 29 (UNI) : Maratha reservation activist Manoj Jarange Patil today issued a stern warning to the state government, declaring he would not retreat from his ongoing agitation even if bullets were fired at him.

Speaking to reporters at the protest venue, Jarange Patil said he had taken to the battlefield to secure a better future for Maratha youth. He demanded that the government grant Kunbi caste certificates to Marathas, extend Other Backward Class (OBC) reservation benefits, implement the 'sage-soyare' ordinance, withdraw cases filed against protesters, and provide financial aid to families of deceased agitators.

Meanwhile, Mumbai Police granted Jarange Patil permission to continue his protest at Azad Maidan for one more day.

"If the government accepts our demand and grants OBC reservation to Marathas, we will celebrate with colours at the Chief Minister's residence.

But if not, we will not leave Mumbai. Put us in jail or fire bullets at us, we are ready. We will not surrender," Jarange Patil emphasised.

He accused the government of attempting to suppress the movement by shutting down toilets and food stalls at the protest site. "If the government continues with its rigid



Activist Manoj Jarange Patil during his indefinite hunger strike demanding Maratha reservation, at Azad Maidan, in Mumbai on Friday.



Supporters of activist Manoj Jarange Patil gather for a protest rally demanding Maratha reservation, at Azad Maidan, in Mumbai on Friday.

stance, the Maratha community too will adopt a tough stand," he warned.

Jarange Patil clarified

that the movement was not against the OBC community. "We are not demanding that OBCs lose their quota. We

only want a sustainable reservation for Marathas. Until we get it, we will not move from here," he said firmly.

**CM Fadnavis flags off extended Vande Bharat service from CST to Nandeed**

(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, Aug 29 : Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis today virtually flagged off the extended Hazur Sahib Nanded-Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) Vande Bharat Express.

The virtual flag-off ceremony took place at Mantralaya, the government's administrative headquarters in Mumbai.

Speaking on the occasion, Fadnavis said, "To accelerate Marathwada's growth, we are focusing on dynamic transport solutions. Today, the Vande Bharat Express has brought Nanded closer to Mumbai, opening new doors of opportunity and prosperity for the region."

With this, the 610-km journey from the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) in Mumbai to Nanded, an important Sikh pilgrimage centre, can be completed in just a little over nine hours, and the capacity of the passengers has been increased from the earlier 500 to 1,400.

## Govt sets panel to meet Jarange-Patil as protest continues

Mumbai, Aug 29 (UNI) : An official Maharashtra state delegation which may include cabinet ministers of the ruling BJP-led Mahayuti alliance is likely to reach Azad Maidan and hold discussions with Maratha quota agitation leader Manoj Jarange-Patil, whose supporters painted Mumbai city saffron, as he began his indefinite protest fast today morning.

Braving the rain, thousands of Maratha protesters wearing saffron caps and shawls reached Azad Maidan and as their numbers swelled, spilled over to the adjoining streets and even occupied the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus railway station as well as the Churchgate railway station. Some Maratha protesters even managed to enter inside the Maharashtra state secretariat administrative building premises called Mantralaya and raised slogans demanding reservation for Marathas.

A protester even poured diesel over himself in an attempt to commit suicide outside Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, but he was stopped in time by other Maratha protesters, after which the police took him away.

Significantly, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said that "Maratha protest coordinators have given a letter of permission to Azad Maidan police asking for permission to protest tomorrow. They have stated that their agitation will continue at Azad Maidan until their demands are fulfilled. They will take permission to protest from the Azad Maidan police station everyday."

Earlier, the Marathas were permitted to protest till 6 pm on Friday, but the Mumbai Police has now extended the deadline by one more day, due to which the protest will

continue on Saturday (August 30) as well. The extension has been given subject to certain conditions, it is learnt.

Meanwhile, sources said that union Home Minister Amit Shah will reach Mumbai on Friday night and visit Lalbaugcha Raja Ganesh pandal on Saturday afternoon, and it is unlikely that Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis will take any decision about Jarange-Patil's demands, without discussing all issues with Shah. Amit Shah, who was born in Mumbai, is scheduled to visit Lalbaugcha Raja, which is one of the most famous Ganesh pandals in Mumbai, on Saturday, which he is known to do every year, along with his family. Sources said that Fadnavis will brief Shah about the political situation and the ongoing Maratha protests as well as the BJP's preparations for the local civic bodies elections to be held in Maharashtra.

Shah is expected to meet Deputy Chief Ministers Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar, though these meetings are not confirmed. He is also expected to visit the residence of state Cultural Affairs Minister Ashish Shelar. As things stand, it is clear that no immediate decision or breakthrough can be expected and Jarange-Patil's fast demanding reservations for Marathas will continue indefinitely. Earlier on Friday, Water Resources Minister and Maratha reservation sub-committee chairperson Radhakrishna Vikhe-Patil of the BJP and Revenue Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule of the BJP said that the Maharashtra government is ready to talk with Maratha reservation quota agitation leader Manoj Jarange-Patil, adding that his demands are being considered "sympathetically".

## One killed as wall collapses in Mumbai

Mumbai, Aug 29 (UNI) : A 45 year-old woman was killed after a part of retaining wall of a ground-plus-one-storey structure of A1 Gulab-baba Society, located at Parera wadi, Saki Naka, area of Mumbai suburb collapsed today.

According to Fire Brigade sources, the incident occurred at 2.30 pm in afternoon. The woman, identified as Mangala Gaonkar, was declared dead before admission in a private hospital by locals.

The wall collapsed as heavy rains battered the city throughout Friday, with data showing that the heaviest showers were recorded in the western suburbs which received an average of 61.47 mm rain, followed by an average of 48 mm rain in the eastern suburbs



## 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.

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## INDIA bloc VP nominee Justice Reddy meets Thackeray, Pawar, MVA leaders

Mumbai, Aug 29 (UNI) : INDIA bloc's Vice Presidential candidate Justice (retired) B. Sudershan Reddy today met Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray and NCP (SP) supremo Sharad Pawar during a visit to the western metropolis as part of his campaign. The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) alliance extended a warm welcome to Justice (retired) Reddy during his visit to Matoshree, the residence of Thackeray.

The former Supreme Court judge was received by Thackeray, his son and MLA Aaditya Thackeray, party MPs Sanjay Raut and Anil Desai, along with Mumbai Congress president Harshvardhan Sakpal, Congress MP Varsha Gaikwad and NCP (Sharad Pawar faction) legislator Jitendra Awhad. Following the meeting, the leaders addressed a joint press conference where

Justice Reddy emphasised the opposition unity in fielding him as their nominee.

Justice Reddy stated that he filed the nomination for Vice President on behalf of all opposition parties and specifically acknowledged Uddhav Thackeray's support in this process. Reddy mentioned that Raut had accompanied him to the Central Hall of Parliament in New Delhi and assisted in the nomination submission process.

After his interaction at Matoshree, Justice Reddy visited Pawar at the latter's Mumbai residence. He was received by senior party leader Jitendar Awhad, MLA.

Pawar revealed that Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis had contacted him, seeking support for the NDA's Vice Presidential post nominee Maharashtra Governor CP Radhakrishnan.



# 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.

## 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.

# 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.



Ganpati Festival Celebration at Varun Malviya's Residence Mumbai

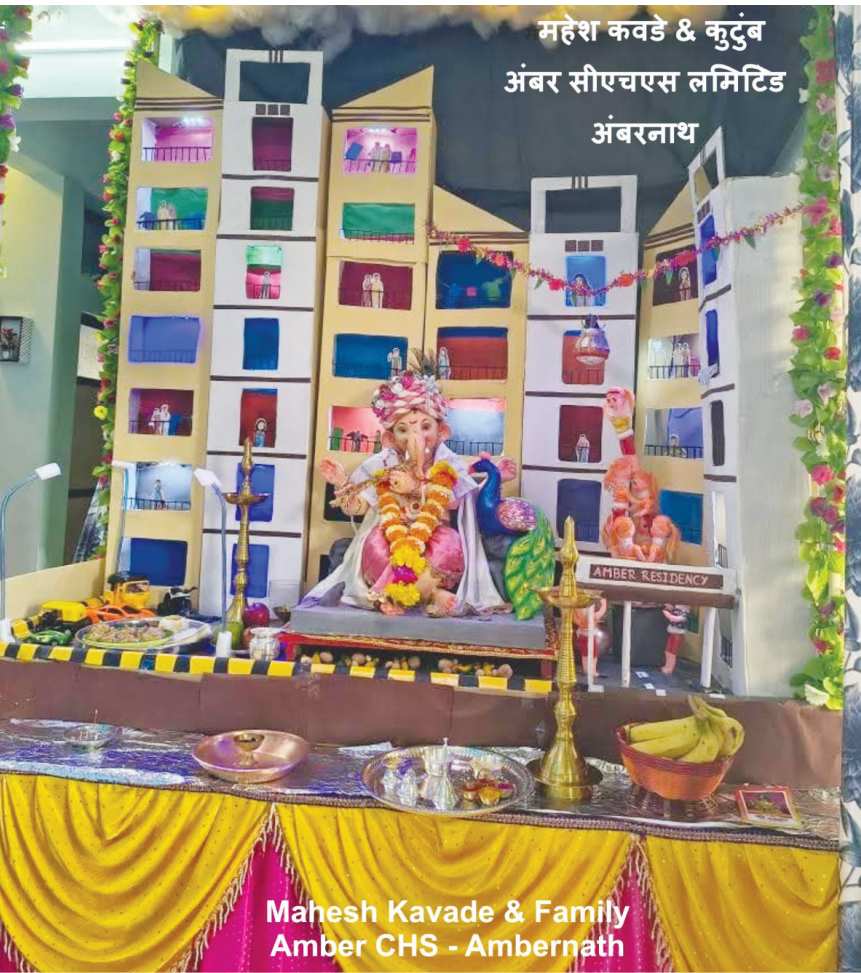


done. By physically inspecting the constructed artificial ponds, size of the ponds, water storage capacity, arrangement of security barricades, lighting, street lights, availability of toilets, of

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



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.



# Ten people rescued from floodwaters

Latur, Aug 29 (UNI) : Ten people have been successfully rescued from flood situations in the Shirur Anantpal and Ahmedpur talukas of Latur district through the combined efforts of the disaster management team and local citizens. The rescue operations were conducted under the immediate guidance and supervision of District Collector Varsha Thakur Ghuge, with all teams working efficiently to complete the missions successfully. Among those rescued were five people who had become trapped in a shed located on the riverbank in the Shirur Anantpal area, all of whom were brought to safety by the local rescue team.

In a separate incident at Mouje Kalegaon in Ahmedpur taluka, one person who was trapped in the tailings of a storage tank was immediately rescued by the responding team. Additionally, three labourers who were working on the construction of a bridge over the Gharani river in Shirur Anantpal found themselves trapped by rising water levels and were safely extracted with the assistance of the local rescue team. In another successful rescue operation at Mauje Makani village, local villagers rescued Daulat Gopal Dongargave, who had been swept away by water currents while attempting to cross a bridge near the village. The rescued individual, Daulat Gopal Dongargave, is currently receiving medical treatment at Sai Krupa Hospital in Shirur Tajband for minor injuries sustained during the incident, according to information provided by the District Disaster Management Cell.

# Joint procession of 11 Ganesh mandals with the slogan 'M for Marathi in Pune'

Pune Aug 29 (UNI) : Months after the union government accorded classical language status to Marathi language, the joint procession of 11 Ganesh Mandals from Dhankawadi Pune has chosen the slogan 'M for Marathi', attracting thousands of Ganesh devotees. After offering books as Naivedya (devotional offering) to the Lord of wisdom, the Ganesh idols of all 11 mandals were seated on the language glory chariot. The procession began from Gulabnagar, Dhankawadi, and passed through Dhankawadi village, Keshav Complex,

Vidyanagari Shivshankar Chowk, up to Mohannagar. The dhol pathak (traditional drum troupe) of Jnana Prabodhini, playing in unison with one rhythm and one beat, captivated the devotees.

During the procession, 500 Marathi language teachers were honoured. In addition, 10,000 Marathi books were distributed along the procession route.

MLA Bhimrao Tapkir, Varsha Tapkir, former corporator Vishal Tambe, Mohini Devkar, Assistant Commissioner of Dhankawadi Surekha Bange, and Madam Ann from Italy were present as special guests.

# One killed in lightning strike in Jalgaon

Jalgaon, Aug 29 (UNI) : A 20-year-old shepherd died and two others were injured in a lightning strike during heavy rainfall here in Maharashtra. The incident occurred last night in Munjalwadi Shivara village in Raver taluka.

The deceased has been identified as Dada Kolpe, 20, a resident of Lalmati Padya. According to reports, heavy rains accompanied by thunder and lightning began around 8 pm in Raver taluka. Kolpe was staying at a pada (temporary shelter) with his family when lightning struck, causing him to collapse instantly.

Family members immediately rushed him to Raver Rural Hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead. Two other persons who sustained injuries in the lightning strike have been admitted to the hospital for treatment.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform in public at large that my client Mr. Rakesh Shivaji More and Mrs. Samiksha R. More, residing at Flat No. 1102, Eleventh Floor, C Wing, Building No. G-3, Gaurav Woods Phase .II, Mira Road (East), Dist.- Thane had purchased said flat from M/s. K.R.P. Infrastructure & Builders Pvt. Ltd., through its Prop. Mr. Rahul Pathak, but link Agreement for Sale dated 22nd April' 2022 executed between M/s. Ravi Developments and M/s. K.R.P. Infrastructure & Builders Pvt. Ltd., duly registered before sub-registrar of Assurance, Thane 12, vide document No. TNN12-5115/22 was lost on 21st July' 2025 at 11.30 a.m. while travelling from Kanakiya Road to Beverly Park.

That, my client lost above said original agreement, if any third person/s, bank/financial institution having right, interest and title over the said flat and loss of above said agreements found to any one in that case inform at below mention address within 15 days after publication of this notice and if not receive any reply in that case it is declare that no person/s, Bank/ Financial Institution not found above said Original Agreement and declare as missing Original Agreement.

**MR. RIZWAN M. QURESHI,**  
**Advocate High Court,**  
**Shop No.3, Rythem Tower, Back Road, Mira Road (East), Dist. Thane 401 107.**  
**Mobile : 98208 48895**  
**Date: 29/08/2025**

# Mumbai to see moderate rains IMD

Mumbai, Aug 29 (UNI) : The India Meteorological Department (IMD) today indicates that Mumbai is expected to witness spells of heavy rain through the day, with temperatures hovering between 26 and 30 degrees Celsius.

While the forecast for Mumbai suggests moderate rainfall, the broader Konkan region is on higher alert, with varying intensities of showers expected across multiple districts.

The IMD issued a yellow alert for all Konkan districts, excluding Mumbai, indicating the likelihood of heavy showers at isolated places. Within the Mumbai metropolitan area, moderate rainfall has been recorded since Thursday morning, ranging between 20 to 40 mm across different localities. Officials have clarified that while rains will continue intermittently in the city until Monday, they are unlikely to intensify to severe levels.

However, nearby districts such as Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg may experience heavier spells in the coming days.

# 75-yr-old man dies, son injured in Nashik bus mishap

Nashik, Aug 29 (UNI) : A 75-year-old man was killed on the spot, and his son was seriously injured when their two-wheeler was hit by a bus near Raje Sambhaji Stadium in CIDCO, Nashik, yesterday evening.

According to police, the deceased was identified as Suresh Dhondiba Anpat (75), a resident of CIDCO. He was riding the two-wheeler when it was struck by a school bus whose brakes had failed. His son, Umesh Anpat (46), who was riding pillion, sustained serious injuries.

Police said the bus, belonging to an engineering college, was carrying students from Pathardi Phata to Raje Sambhaji Stadium when the accident occurred. The driver, Dilip Gangadhar Gangurde (48), of Jail Road, reportedly lost control after the brakes failed. The bus rammed into the two-wheeler, which in turn crashed into an Eicher truck ahead.

Suresh Anpat suffered serious injuries to his head and face and died on the spot due to excessive bleeding. His son Umesh sustained a fractured leg and was taken to a private hospital. The bus driver and five to six students inside the bus escaped unhurt. The motorcycle was badly damaged, while the bus and the truck sustained minor damage.

Eyewitnesses rushed to arrange an ambulance. However, it could not arrive on time, which angered the locals. The police team, which reached the spot promptly, shifted the injured in a police vehicle with the help of citizens. A panchnama was carried out, and the mishap also led to a traffic jam in the area.

Police registered a case against the bus driver at Ambad police station.



Police personnel try to BJP supporters protesting over the objectionable comments made against Prime Minister Narendra Modi by a man during a rally under 'Vote Adhikar Yatra', outside Bihar Pradesh Congress Committee office, in Patna on Friday.

# Uddhav Thackeray claims “miracle” in upcoming vice-presidential election, asserts INDIA Bloc's unity

Mumbai, Aug 29 (UNI) : 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. “The opposition is determined to win and ensure that the country’s democracy is protected,” he asserted.

The political drama surrounding the Vice-Presidential election gained momentum following the sudden resignation of former Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar. Dhankhar stepped down citing health reasons, but speculation quickly swirled about possible

external pressures, with allegations suggesting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah might have forced his resignation. Some counterclaims, however, pointed to Dhankhar’s alleged siding with the opposition through internal machinations.

Amidst this, the INDIA alliance has fielded former Justice B. Sudarshan Reddy as its candidate for the Vice-Presidential race. Thackeray, reaffirming the opposition's resolve, stated that all opposition

leaders are focused on ensuring Reddy's victory. “The opposition is fully prepared to contest and win this election,” Thackeray added.

Meanwhile, the ruling BJP has reportedly made attempts to avoid a contested election by reaching out to leaders like Thackeray and NCP (Sharad Pawar faction) chief Sharad Pawar. However, despite these overtures, the opposition has decided to go ahead with its candidate under the banner of the INDIA alliance.

# Identities of all four eliminated Naxalites confirmed: SP Nilotpal

Gadchiroli, Aug 29 (UNI) : The identities of four Naxalites, who were eliminated in an encounter on August 27 in the Koparshi forest near the Gadchiroli–Chhattisgarh border, have been confirmed. The deceased include two members of Company 10, as well as cadres from the Gatta and Aheri groups, Superintendent of Police Nilotpal stated. Speaking to UNI today SP Nilotpal said, “An encounter that took place on August 27 in the dense Koparshi forest near the Gadchiroli–Chhattisgarh border, the Gadchiroli police successfully killed four hardened Naxalites, one male and three females.” The identities of the four deceased have

been established: two were members of Company 10, one belonged to the Gatta group and one was from the Aheri group. Their names are Malu Pada (41), a resident of Burgi, Chhattisgarh. Kranti alias Jamuna Rainu (32), from Bodhin-tola, Jyoti Kunjam (27), from the Bastar area and Mangi Madkam (22), also from the Bastar area.

Notably, Jyoti Kunjam was the last member of the Aheri group, and all four Naxalites had bounties of Rs 14 lakh on their heads.

Following the encounter, the Superintendent of Police (SP) stated that only 25 active armed Naxalites remain in Gadchiroli district.

On August 25, police received confidential

intelligence that many Naxalites had assembled in the thick forest near the Chhattisgarh border in the Bhamragad taluka region.

Under the leadership of Deputy Superintendent of Police Abhiyan M. Ramesh, two teams from C-60, along with two columns of the CRPF, undertook a two-day, 30 km-foot march, crossing ten hills, to reach the Naxal encampment. The fierce encounter lasted eight hours in heavy rain. Taking advantage of the dense forest, the Naxalites fled, but police found four bodies, weapons, and Naxal paraphernalia at the site. “Their identities were confirmed at police headquarters yesterday”, the officials said. This was the first time the police

successfully eliminated two members of Company 10 in a single operation. Now, only the Gatta group and Company 10 remain active. Last member of the Aheri Dalm killed in Koparshi encounter. Over the last five years, anti-Naxal operations in Gadchiroli have intensified. Between 2021 and 2025, the police have neutralized 91 Naxalites, arrested 128, and welcomed 75 surrenders, including some key leaders such as Giridhar and Tarakka. As a result, North Gadchiroli is completely Naxal-free, while South Gadchiroli has only a handful of Naxalites remaining. The police expressed confidence that the entire Gadchiroli district would soon be free of Naxal influence.

# Nanded schools shut for second day as heavy rains trigger flooding

Nanded, Aug 29 (UNI) : Heavy rains continued to lash Nanded city and various parts of Nanded district for the second consecutive day, severely disrupting normal life across the region. District Collector Rahul Kardile declared a holiday for all schools in the region today in view of the heavy rainfall and flood situation throughout the area.

The persistent downpour has caused multiple rivers to overflow their banks, creating dangerous flood situation across the district. Degloor and Naigaon talukas have

been among the worst affected areas, with authorities evacuating over 2,300 people from different parts of the district to safer locations. District Collector Kardile confirmed that he has been in constant contact with army officers regarding the worsening situation, with a 15-member army team already deployed in the Mukhed area to assist with ongoing rescue operations.

The State Disaster Response Force and disaster management teams have been actively involved in evacuating affected residents from

flood-hit villages. Several key routes including Nanded-Hyderabad, Deglur-Udgir, and Narsi-Biloli have been closed due to inundation, while railway services have also been affected with 19 trains cancelled in the Nanded and Hyderabad divisions of the South Central Railway.

Water discharge from dams is currently underway, and coordination with the irrigation department of neighbouring Telangana state regarding water discharge from Pochampad Dam may be required if the situation deteriorates

further. The India Meteorological Department has issued alerts for continued heavy rainfall in the coming days. More than 3,000 citizens from Deglur, Naigaon, and Mukhed talukas have been moved to safer places as flood waters entered numerous houses across these areas, with villages along the Godavari basin placed on high alert due to rising water levels.

The continuous rainfall has resulted in significant disruption to daily life, with normal activities coming to a standstill in many parts of the district.

# Governor offers prayers at Siddhivinayak Mandir

Mumbai, Aug 29 (UNI) : Governor CP Radhakrishnan today visited the iconic Siddhivinayak temple in Mumbai, where he performed puja and aarti.

During his visit, the temple trustees felicitated the Governor, marking the occasion with a traditional welcome. The Siddhivinayak Mandir, dedicated to Lord Ganesha, is one of Mumbai’s most revered shrines, drawing devotees from across the country, especially during the festive season.

Located in Prabhadevi, the temple is considered one of the most visited places of worship in the city, attracting lakhs of devotees every year, especially during the 10-day Ganesh Chaturthi festival.

The visit comes during the festivities of Ganesh Chaturthi, when the Siddhivinayak Mandir sees a massive influx of devotees from across India.

# MLAs, MPs from Shiv Sena (UBT) join Jarange Patil's protest

Mumbai, Aug 29 (UNI) Several MLAs and MPs from Shiv Sena (UBT) joined Jarange Patil's protest here on Friday.

Congress leader Balasaheb Thorat has also expressed his support for the agitation. Sharadchandra Pawar, leader of the Nationalist Congress Party, has not yet given any reaction on the issue. Maharashtra Revenue Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule questioned why Sharad Pawar, who speaks on every other subject, has remained silent on Jarange Patil's agitation. "Should reservation for the Maratha community be given from the OBC quota? Pawar should clarify his stand on this matter," he said.

# OBC groups threaten hunger strike against Maratha quota demand

Nagpur, Aug 29 (UNI) ; Several organisations representing the Other Backward Classes (OBC) have announced a chain hunger strike from tomorrow at Constitution Square in Nagpur to oppose the demand for Maratha reservation under the OBC quota.

The organisations, under the banner 'Save Reservation', warned that if the state government succumbed to pressure to alter the existing OBC quota framework, a massive agitation would be launched in Mumbai. Addressing a meeting of OBC organisations yesterday, Dr Babanrao Taywade, national president of the OBC Federation, accused Maratha leader Manoj Ganesh Patil of attempting to pressure the government through his fast at Mumbai’s Azad Maidan from today. “Marathas should be given a separate quota. They cannot be adjusted within the OBC reservation,” Taywade said, reiterating the Federation’s stand.



## 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."

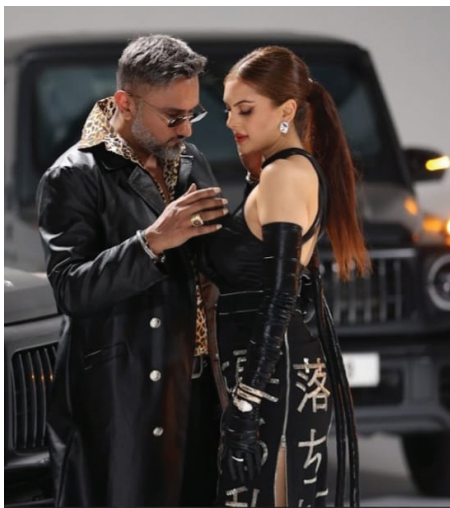
## Sai emerges second among top performing CMs with 41.9 pc approval

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

deserves. Speaking about the launch, Yo Yo Honey Singh said:

"Mashooqa" is very close to my heart. It's a track that pushes boundaries—both musically and visually. With Charmee Zaveri making her debut and Pho's vocals taking the song to the next level, I'm excited to share this with my fans across the world."

With its addictive hook, stylish visuals, and star-studded creative team, "Mashooqa" is set to dominate charts, playlists, and dance floors everywhere. "Mashooqa" is now streaming on all major music platforms, with the official video available on Saregama's YouTube channel.





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.

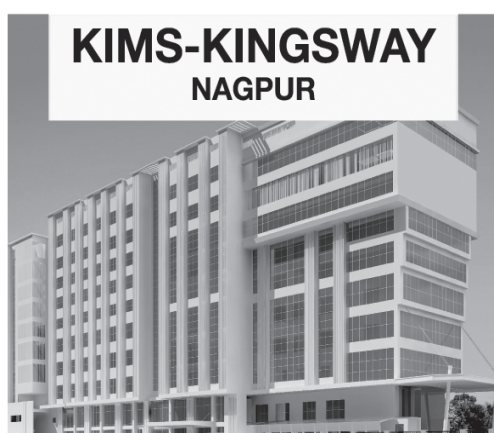
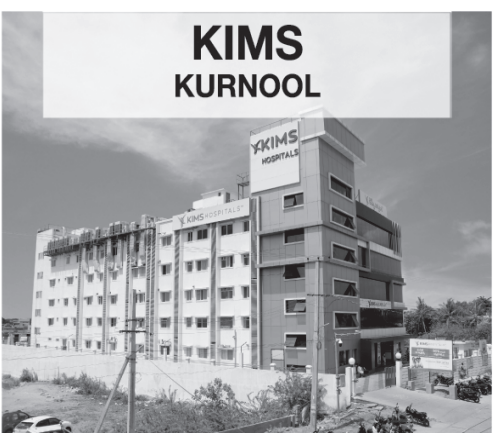
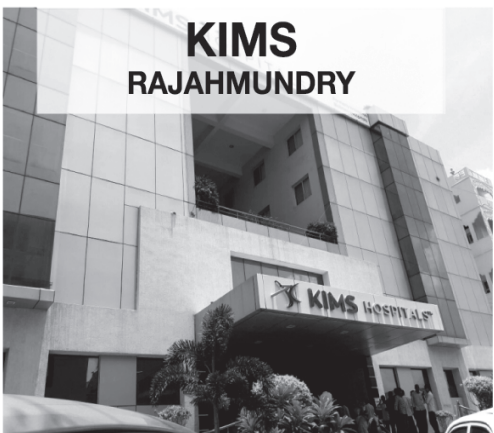
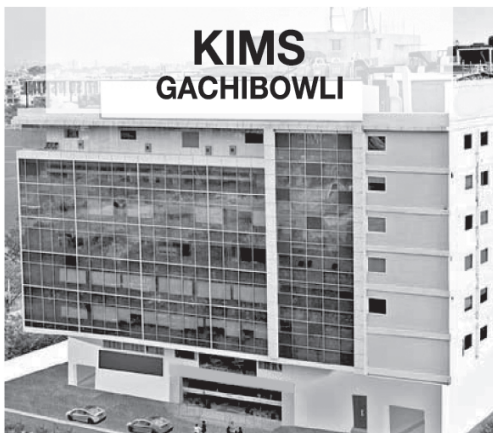
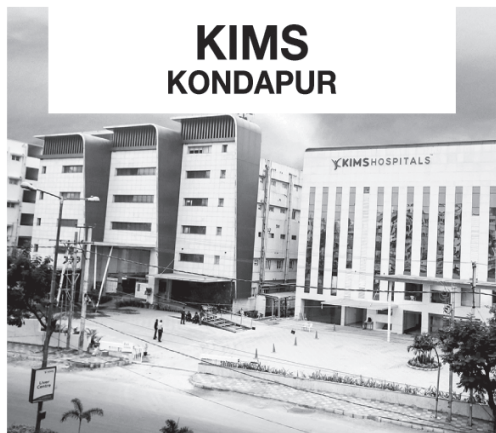
The Lao weather bureau has urged the public to remain cautious and take necessary precautions against potential flooding. Residents living near rivers, streams, and low-lying areas are advised to stay alert and take appropriate measures to protect their safety and property.



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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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# 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](http://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](http://www.manuu.edu.in). For any queries write to email [vphd@manuu.edu.in](mailto: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."