

IN BRIEF

Ex-serviceman arrested for cheating job seekers of Rs 34.6 lakh in Nagpur

Nagpur, Oct 13 (UNI) Nagpur Police (rural) have arrested a former Army personnel for allegedly defrauding several job aspirants of around Rs 34.6 lakh on the pretext of providing them government employment.

The accused has been identified as Purushottam Gyandev Bilewar (42), a resident of Kuhi in Nagpur district.

According to officials, Bilewar used his YouTube channel to attract unemployed youths and collected money from them, promising jobs in the Army, Railways and other government departments.

Police said he took varying amounts from 11 job aspirants, assuring them of quick appointments. However, after continuous delays and false assurances, the victims realised they had been deceived and filed complaints at Kuhi Police Station.

Police subsequently arrested Bilewar and seized several documents related to the fraud. The total amount he collected is estimated to be Rs 34.60 lakh.

“A case has been registered under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) for cheating and criminal breach of trust,” police said, adding that efforts are on to trace more victims involved in the case.

Farmers block Jalgaon-Aurangabad highway Jalgaon

Jalgaon, Oct 13 (UNI) Hundreds of farmers in this North Western Maharashtra town today blocked the Jalgaon-Aurangabad highway leading to the proposed site of the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) complex to protest the acquisition of 268 hectares of agricultural land.

They raised slogans like “Our agriculture is our life, how can we live without land” The farmers surrounded the revenue and MIDC officials who came to measure the land. This led to the stoppage of the work.

As the situation became tense, the police rushed to the spot and pacified the farmers. After this, the farmers withdrew the protest.

Minister Samant questions MNS-Shiv Sena alliance

Mumbai, Oct 13 (UNI) Minister Uday Samant today advised Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray to reconsider his decision before forming an alliance with the Shiv Sena (Uddhav Thackeray faction).

Samant said, “The Congress party has become so self-righteous that it does not respect freedom fighter Veer Savarkar. Not only that, the Congress government in Karnataka also refuses to honor Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. How can a leader like Raj Thackeray, who follows Hindutva ideology, accept this?.”

It is almost certain that the MNS and Shiv Sena (Thackeray faction) will form an alliance. Though the state leadership of the Congress opposes including the MNS in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), the Thackeray faction is reportedly trying to convince the party’s central leadership.

Against this backdrop, Minister Samant issued his statement. Samant further alleged that the Congress and its top leadership have consistently insulted Veer Savarkar, and the Karnataka Congress government has shown disrespect toward Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj while continuing to oppress Marathi-speaking people in the border areas. He urged Raj Thackeray to carefully consider these issues before joining hands with parties like the Congress.

Charges framed against Lalu Prasad Yadav, family in IRCTC Scam; trial set to begin



New Delhi, Oct 13 (UNI) In a major political and legal development, a special CBI court today framed charges against RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav, his wife Rabri Devi, son Tejashwi Yadav, and 11 others in the IRCTC

scam, paving the way for the start of the trial.

The case pertains to allegations of corruption in the awarding of railway tenders during Lalu Prasad Yadav’s tenure as the Railway Minister. The CBI

alleges that Lalu Prasad Yadav entered into a criminal conspiracy with the owners of Sujata Hotels, Vijay and Vinay Kochhar, to grant them favourable contracts for two IRCTC hotels in Ranchi and Puri. In return, a

prime piece of land in Patna was sold by the Kochhar brothers to a company managed by a close aide of Lalu Prasad Yadav, Rajya Sabha MP Prem Chand Gupta. This company and the valuable land were later acquired at a significantly low price by Lalu Prasad Yadav’s family members through a firm called Delight Marketing Company Private Limited.

While the accused, including Lalu Prasad Yadav and his family, have previously argued that the CBI lacks evidence, the agency has maintained it has a strong case.

The court has now scheduled the case for the recording of prosecution evidence, which will be conducted on a day-to-day basis.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader slams govt over discontinued Shinde schemes

Mumbai, Oct 13 (UNI) Ambadas Danve, a leader of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena, today accused the Devendra Fadnavis government of discontinuing welfare schemes which were started by Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. Tweeting from his X account, Danve alleged: “By closing down schemes that were expected to bring a modicum of benefit to the common man, the Devendra Fadnavis government has flouted the decisions of its own cabinet colleagues.”

Danve listed the schemes allegedly shut down, including the ‘Anandacha Shidha Yojana’ (Ration of Happiness), ‘Majhi Sundar Shala Yojana’ (My Beautiful School), ‘One Rupee Crop Insurance Yojana’, and others. He vowed: “We will definitely expose this to the public before the local body elections.”

Danve highlighted the ‘Anandacha Shidha’ ration scheme, launched three years ago, for the poor to celebrate festivals. He alleged that due to the state’s current financial crisis, the scheme is “now only on paper.” Despite hopes of receiving benefits ahead of Diwali, no action has been taken at the government level due to a lack of funds, he

claimed. Danve also pointed to the financial strain caused by the ‘Laadki Bahin Scheme’, recalling that Minister of Social Justice Sanjay Shirsat had previously stated that funds from many departments were diverted to the Ministry of Women and Child Development to implement the vote-catcher scheme. Danve’s accusation follows an earlier admission by Shirsat, a leader of the Shinde faction, on May 5. Shirsat had told the media that due to the prevailing fund crunch, it would not be possible to increase the monthly cash payment under the ‘Laadki Bahin Yojana’ from Rs 1,500 to Rs 2,100, as promised in the Mahayuti alliance’s election manifesto. Later today, Maharashtra Deputy CM Ajit Pawar, who also serves as the state’s finance minister, reacted to Danve’s charges.

Pawar defended the government, stating: “Some schemes are ongoing, but not all of them run forever.”

He explained that changes are made “keeping in mind the situation of that time.” Pawar added that if the objectives behind some schemes are not achieved, the government makes modifications or discontinues them, noting that this has been the practice since Independence.

Tiger killed in train accident in Chandrapur

Chandrapur, Oct 13 (UNI) A tiger, identified as T-40, died after being struck by a train while crossing railway tracks in Maharashtra’s Chandrapur district, forest officials confirmed today. The accident occurred late last night near the Sindewahi-Alewahi railway

crossing when the Gondia-Ballarshah passenger train was passing through the area. Preliminary reports indicate that the train hit T-40, popularly known as “Bittu,” who was around 14 years old, in the Sindewahi forest region, roughly two kilometres from the railway station. Bittu was

the son of Jai, the legendary tiger of Umred Karandla Wildlife Sanctuary and was widely known for his large size and distinctive markings. Experts highlighted his key role in sustaining biodiversity in the region. The accident occurred on the Ballarshah–

Gondia railway line, a stretch infamous for tiger deaths, with at least 18 tigers having lost their lives there so far. Environmentalists have long urged railway authorities to introduce safety measures, including speed limits and wildlife corridors, but no action has been taken so far.

restricting RSS activities in educational institutions. Pawar maintained that “politics and education should remain separate domains” and stated that government schools must serve as neutral spaces for learning rather than ideological promotion.

Fadnavis, responding to media questions, said the Congress leadership should introspect instead of making statements that revive outdated debates. He reiterated that the RSS has a long history of contributing to social and national causes and described Kharge’s demand as politically motivated and irrelevant in the current context.

Tej Pratap Yadav to contest from Mahua on Jan Shakti Janata Dal ticket

Patna, Oct. 13 (UNI) In a significant political development ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections, Tej Pratap Yadav, elder son of Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) chief Lalu Prasad Yadav, today announced to contest from the Mahua Assembly constituency in Vaishali district on the ticket of his newly floated party, Jan Shakti Janata Dal (JSJD).

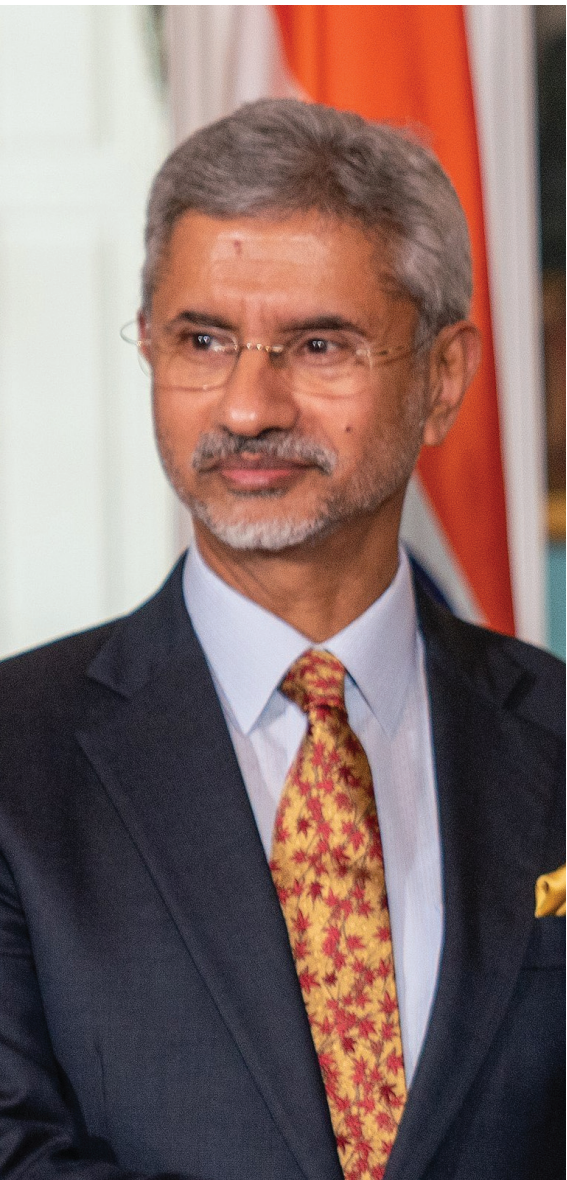
Tej Pratap, who was expelled earlier this year from both his family and the RJD following a controversy, has now formally stepped into the electoral arena under his new banner.

The Jan Shakti Janata Dal released its a list of 22 candidates during the day for the upcoming Bihar polls, naming Tej Pratap Yadav as its candidate from Mahua. The list was released in Patna by the party’s state president, Madan Yadav.

The expulsion of Tej Pratap from the RJD and his family took place on May 25, this year after a photo and video of him with a woman went viral on social media.

Following the incident, Tej Pratap distanced himself from the RJD and launched his own party, aiming to create what he called a “new political alternative” in Bihar.

Tej Pratap Yadav first entered the political spotlight in 2015, when he won the Mahua Assembly seat as an RJD candidate, marking the beginning of his legislative career. In the 2020 Assembly elections, he shifted to Hasanpur and won. He had served as Bihar’s Health Minister and later as Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change in the Nitish Kumar government.



India-Canada ties progressing steadily: Jaishankar

Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand met with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in New Delhi on Monday, as both sides reaffirmed their intent to rebuild trust and strengthen bilateral relations across multiple sectors. Speaking during the meeting, EAM Jaishankar said that India’s approach is to move forward with a “positive mindset, and that bilateral relations between India and Canada have been steadily progressing over the last two months”.

(See on page 8)

Jan Suraj to contest based on capability, not just caste ...



Suraj founder Prashant Kishor today reiterated the party’s promise of proportional representation for all social groups based on their population share, stating that candidates were being selected not merely on caste lines, but by identifying capable people from every community.

(See on page 2)

Uddhav Sena in talks with Congress to include Raj ...



Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP and chief party spokesperson Sanjay Raut said today that his party is in talks with top leaders of the Congress, exploring the possibility of including Raj Thackeray and his Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) in the Congress-led opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA)

(See on page 3)

Watkins withdraws from England squad



England striker Ollie Watkins has been ruled out of Tuesday’s World Cup qualifier against Latvia due to injury. The 29-year-old was substituted at half-time during England’s 3-0 victory over Wales at Wembley, having earlier scored his team’s second goal.

(See on page 7)



Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Congress MPs Sonia Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and other leaders during the statue unveiling ceremony of former state CM Virbhadr Singh, in Shimla on Monday.

Jan Suraj to contest based on capability, not just caste, says Prashant Kishor

Patna, Oct 13 (UNI) : Jan Suraj founder Prashant Kishor today reiterated the party’s promise of proportional representation for all social groups based on their population share, stating that candidates were being selected not merely on caste lines, but by identifying capable people from every community.

Speaking to news persons here on the occasion of the release of its second list of 65 candidates for the upcoming Assembly elections, Kishor said that Jan Suraj has so far announced 116 candidates. This includes 25 from reserved constituencies and 91 from general seats. Among those nominated

are 31 from the Extremely Backward Classes (EBC), 21 from the Other Backward Classes (OBC), and 21 Muslims, he informed.

Kishor emphasised that no other political party has given such significant representation to the EBC community, adding that social justice has often been reduced to slogans by other parties. “While others have played caste politics, Jan Suraj has ensured that more than one-third of our candidates come from the most backward sections,” he said.

Meanwhile, veteran Bhagalpur-based lawyer Abhay Kant Jha (74) has joined Prashant Kishor’s Jan Suraj movement ahead of the elections.

Kishor lauded the

courageous stand of Jha during the 1989 Bhagalpur riots, describing it as one of Bihar’s darkest chapters.

Speaking at the event, Kishor said that Jha had selflessly defended hundreds of victims from the Muslim community at a time when few dared to stand with them. “He fought the cases of almost all riot victims without charging any fee. Over the last three decades, he helped rehabilitate around 850 Muslim families, secured government compensation for them, and arranged for the return of those who had fled to places like Meerut,” Kishor claimed.

Kishor recalled that during those turbulent times, leaders of the Vishwa

Hindu Parishad questioned Jha for defending Muslims despite being a Brahmin. “But he never wavered from his principles. He stood firm on his belief in justice and humanity,” Kishor remarked, comparing Jha’s commitment to that of Bhishma Pitamah in the Mahabharata.

Welcoming Jha into Jan Suraj, Kishor said, “He has kept himself away from active politics for 75 years, but now joined the movement for transformation. His decision strengthens the mission of creating a just and inclusive Bihar.”

Kishor also welcomed Ramchandra Sahni, an EBC leader from Sugouli, East Champaran, who recently joined Jan Suraj.

AAP alleges police brutality against farmers in Gujarat

New Delhi Oct 13 (UNI) : The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in Gujarat of unleashing "unprecedented brutality" on farmers, announcing that its national convenor, Arvind Kejriwal, will hold a farmers' Mahapanchayat in the state on October 31 coinciding with Sardar Patel Jayanti.

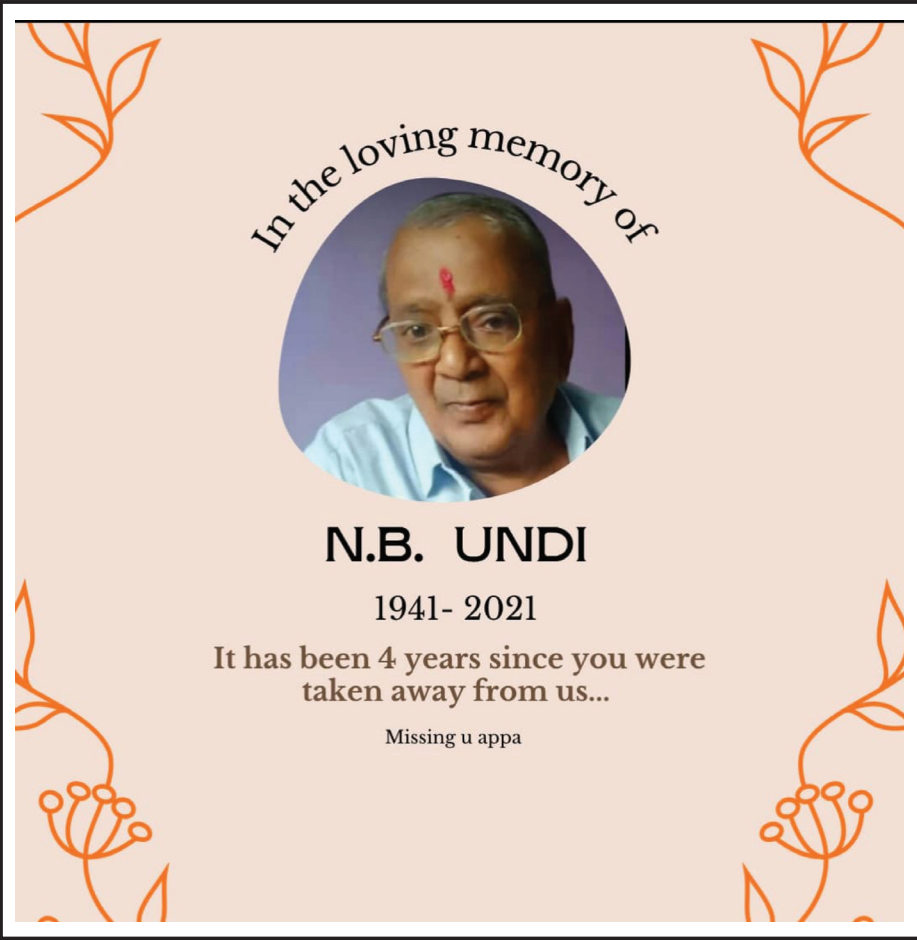
The announcement was made by AAP leader Gopal Rai during a press conference on Monday, following a series of incidents in the Botad area of Gujarat over the weekend.

According to the AAP's account, the conflict began when farmers gathered at the Botad marketing yard to protest against an alleged exploitative system called 'Karda Pratha', which they claim forces them to sell a portion of their crop at a lower price. The police reportedly denied them

permission to hold their panchayat at the market. The farmers then moved their gathering to Hadad village. AAP claims that police surrounded the village and brutally lathi-charged the assembly, used tear gas, and made mass arrests. Gopal Rai alleged that over 250 people were detained, with police forcibly entering homes and misbehaving with women.

In protest, the AAP and farmer groups observed a 'Black Day' across Gujarat today.

The party also claimed that the BJP government had pre-emptively arrested several AAP leaders, including its Gujarat president Isudan Gadhvi and farmer leader Rajubhai Karpada, in an attempt to "crush the farmers' voice." Gopal Rai warned that if the state government fails to address the farmers' demands for dignity, justice, and fair crop prices, the AAP will launch a statewide movement.



Police step up vigil in markets ahead of Diwali, appeal to people to remain alert

New Delhi, Oct 13 (UNI)

In a bid to ensure a safe and secure festive season for citizens, Special Commissioner of Delhi Police (Law and Order Zone- II) Madhup Kumar Tewari, and Joint CP New Delhi Range, Deepak Purohit, today visited the Sarojini Nagar Market to review the security preparedness in the south-west district. Delhi Police have stepped up vigil amid the festive season and senior officers are overseeing the deployment of staff, foot patrolling and anti-sabotage measures to ensure that the festivities go on in a smooth manner.

The focus of the police force remains on maintaining high visibility, public confidence and robust policing in all major markets, malls, religious places and crowded areas with an aim to prevent any untoward incident. The South-West District police has intensified checking, patrolling, picket deployment and surveillance at all sensitive locations, adopting measures to ensure smooth festive celebrations.

The police have urged citizens to stay alert and report any suspicious person, object, or activity, at 112, or contact the nearest police station.

Stronger ties between India & Nepali

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Oct 13 : Indo-nepal cultural Fest was organised in Bangalore, Dr. Ambedkar Stadium.... It was an exchange of culture and Stronger ties between India & Nepali....

Nepali Actor Paul Shah, Singer Ram Chandra Kafle & Mrs. Kafle, From Assam came Binita Chatre super Dancer, Siver from Darjeeling came Surekha From Bollywood, Kannada & Nepali Films

KAMAL GHIMIRAY was invited as Guest of Honor

It was jam packed with 6000 people who came to see the Stars.



Defence Ministry utilised over 50 pc of capital outlay by September in FY 2025-26

New Delhi, Oct 13 (UNI) The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has recorded a significant pace in capital spending for the current financial year 2025–26, having utilised more than half of its allocated capital outlay by the end of September 2025.

In absolute terms, the capital expenditure stands at Rs 92,211.44 crore (51.23 per cent) out of the total allocation of Rs 1,80,000 crore. The MoD had utilised 100 per cent of capital expenditure amounting to Rs 1,59,768.40 crore in the last financial year, a Defence Ministry statement said.

The utilisation of over 50 per cent of capital outlay will result in ensuring the timely delivery of vital platforms such as aircraft, ships, submarines, weapon systems, etc, required for the modernisation of the Armed Forces in the coming year. Majority of the expenditure has been on aircraft and aero engines, followed by land systems, electronic warfare equipment, armaments, and projectiles.

Capital expenditure is crucial for the defence sector as it funds the acquisition of new assets, research and development, and infrastructural development in the border areas, which are all

essential for the country's national security. Moreover, capital expenditure has a multiplier effect on economic growth and employment generation.

WESTERN RAILWAY
SIGNALLING WORK
Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer (South), 2nd Floor, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400 008, invites
E-Tender No: W_931_2024_466_2025_SG_WA Dated: 08/10/2025. **Name of Work:-** Signalling Work in connection with (i) Churchgate-Virar-TTR (FS + TWS + WCMSC) - 80 sets, TTR (CMSC)-71 sets, TTR (CS)-49 sets & SEJs-62 Nos. (ii) Churchgate-Virar TRR(P) 16.501 Tkm & TSR (P) 24.645 Tkm Mumbai Division Western Railway. **Approx. Cost of Work:** ₹ 58,34,203.30. **EMD:** ₹ 1,16,700/-. **Time & Date for Closure for Submission of E-Tender Documents:** T i l l 30.10.2025, 15:00 hrs. **Time & Date for Opening of E-Tender:** at 15:30 hrs. on 30.10.2025. The tender can be viewed at web site www.ireps.gov.in 0696
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 महाराष्ट्र शासन पुणे महानगरपालिका पुणे महानगरपालिका पुणे महानगरपालिका पुणे महानगरपालिका पुणे महानगरपालिका वसई-विरार शहर महानगरपालिका प्रभाग समिती डी आचोळे, नालासोपारा (पु) दुरध्वनी क्रं. ७२१९३७०००६/७२१९३७०००९					
जावक क्रं. वविशम/कवि/३०४४/२०२५-२०२६ दिनांक : १३/१०/२०२५					
जाहिर नोटीस					
महाराष्ट्र मुंबई प्रांतिक महानगरपालिका अधिनियम १९४९ चे कलम ४६९ अन्वये जाहिर नोटीस खालील मालमत्तेच्या हस्तांतरण संबंधाने वसई-विरार शहर महानगरपालिका प्रभाग समिती डी कार्यालय आचोळे नालासोपारा येथे प्राप्त झालेल्या मालमत्ता धारकांच्या प्रकरणपरत्वे नोटीसीनुसार सदर हस्तांतरण संदर्भाने कोणत्याही हितसंबंधाने हरकत अगर आक्षेप असल्यास ही नोटीस प्रसिद्ध झाल्यापासून ७ दिवसांच्या आत हितसंबंधाच्या व हरकतीच्या लेखी पुराव्यासह वसई-विरार शहर महानगरपालिका प्रभाग समिती डी कार्यालय आचोळे नालासोपारा येथे लेखी स्वरूपात हरकत नोंदवावी अन्यथा करवसुलीच्या सोयीसाठी सदर हस्तांतरण करून महानगरपालिका दफ्तरी याबाबतची नोंद घेतली जाईल.					
अ. क्र.	विभाग	मालमत्ता क्रमांक	रिसीट नं.	ज्याचे नावे मालमत्ता आहे त्याचे म्हणजे मालमत्ता विकणाऱ्या किंवा करदात्याचे नाव	खरीददाराचे किंवा अभिहस्तांकन करदात्याचे नाव
१.	आचोळे-०५	१४१/३१	१३२६०	अनंत पांडुरंग मोरे	गणेश शंकर माटल
२.	आचोळे-१०	३४१/१५७	१३२२०	रविंद्र सुम्रा	अभय वसंत जडये
३.	आचोळे-१०	३३३/५३	१३२२१	वी. मिश्रा	अरविंद सरजूप्रसाद गुप्ता
४.	आचोळे-१०	४७५/७	१३२२४	आर्चिंड कंस्ट्रक्शन	अपर्णा इंद्रा सिंह/अभिषेक रामप्रकाश सिंह /अभिषेक रामप्रकाश सिंह
५.	आचोळे-१०	३४५/३०	१३२२५	जोहान ब्रिट्ट	अमेय दिलीप जगताप
६.	आचोळे-१०	४४१/१६०	१३२६९	ज्युली सेबेस्टीयन पोलाकल	गणेश गंगाराम जाधव
७.	आचोळे-१०	४२०/१२१	१३२०९	विजय कुमार व सुनील कुमार	मन्सूर अली मुबारक वनू / आसिया मन्सूर अली वनू
८.	आचोळे-१०	४२०/१२६	१३२०७	धर्मेन्द्र जितेंद्र सिंह	सेल्विन लिटो संधमनी नाथन
९.	आचोळे-१०	३६१/११	१३२०५	लल्लन सरजू पाल व सुशीला लल्लन पाल	साहिल सुधीर तांबे
१०.	आचोळे-०८	१९/४२	१३२६६	एस. के. कंचूकर	गजानन नारायण नकाशे व कविता गजानन नकाशे
११.	आचोळे-०८	६४/७	१३२३५	वसंत रामचंद्र विचारे व वनिता वसंत विचारे	राजेश वसंत विचारे
१२.	आचोळे-०८	१३४/३१	१३२२७	आशिष डी पांचाल	विशाल बबन कडेकोट व स्वाती विशाल कडेकोट
१३.	आचोळे-०८	६४/४८	१३२२६	सुहासीनी प्रकाश मयेकर	ज्योती रत्नदिप पडवळ
१४.	आचोळे-०८	६३/३	१३२५९	मिनाक्षी दिनेश नाईक	विरेंद्र प्रवेश राय व पंकज प्रवेश राय
१५.	आचोळे-०८	२०७/१९	१३२२८	जयप्रकाश गजराज यादव	भोलानाथ हरिनाथ यादव
१६.	आचोळे-०८	६/५	१३२१२	लालजी हरी सोलंकी	अतुल एम. वाला
१७.	आचोळे-०६	२३९/८४	१३२५२	विक्की गणेश सोलंकी	सुनिता सुकुंद कुराडे
१८.	आचोळे-९/१	६२७/११	१३८५६	मॅलिंसा मरिया	घनश्याम सुरेंद्रनाथ मिश्रा व निशा घनश्याम मिश्रा
१९.	आचोळे-९/१	५५२/१५	१३८६३	असलम जाकिर अंसारी व नाजिया अंसारी	भंवरी दीपराम चौधरी
२०.	आचोळे-९/२	७५८/२५	१३८६४	महेंद्र सिंह व मंजुबाई राजपुत	रुक्मिणी रामा राय
सही /- सहा. आयुक्त प्रभाग समिती “डी”, आचोळे वसई-विरार शहर महानगरपालिका					



Firefighters at the site after a fire broke out in several automobile spare parts and scrap material shops in Mumbai's Kurla area.

Major fire in Mumbai's business park

Mumbai, Oct 13 (UNI) A major fire broke out today at a nine-storey commercial building, Golden Crush Business Park, located on LBS Marg near Ghatkopar, in Mumbai's eastern suburbs.No injuries or

casualties have been reported. The incident occurred in afternoon at around 2:35 pm, and authorities declared it a Level II fire. According to the BMC Disaster Management Cell,

the blaze originated on the ground floor of the building situated near Shreyas Cinema on the busy LBS Road. A total of 10 fire engines, seven water tankers, and other firefighting

equipment were deployed to bring the fire under control, which was achieved by 6 pm. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained, and an investigation is underway, officials said.

Uddhav Sena in talks with Congress to include Raj Thackeray's MNS in MVA: Raut

Mumbai, Oct 13 (UNI) : Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP and chief party spokesperson Sanjay Raut said today that his party is in talks with top leaders of the Congress, exploring the possibility of including Raj Thackeray and his Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) in the Congress-led opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) to fight the forthcoming local civic body elections in Maharashtra.

Replying to a question about whether Raj Thackeray and his MNS would be part of the MVA to fight the forthcoming local civic body elections in Maharashtra, Sanjay Raut told newspersons, "Raj Thackeray desires that the Congress, which is a constituent of the MVA, should be taken along. This is his stand. But this does not mean any decision has been taken about this."

Raut told media persons that he has spoken to All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary K C Venugopal about "certain

issues" and will also talk to Lok Sabha opposition leader Rahul Gandhi Sabha. Raut also said that Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray will also talk to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge.

"Everyone has a place in Maharashtra state politics. (Uddhav Thackeray-led) Shiv Sena has its place, MNS also has a place, and so does Sharad Pawar-led NCP as well as the Left parties. For instance, our stand is that Congress should be part of the all-party delegation. Even Raj Thackeray is of the same opinion," Sanjay Raut said.

However, later on Monday, MNS leaders expressed their displeasure to media persons about Sanjay Raut speaking on behalf of Raj Thackeray. "We will present our party's stand. We have not made any proposal to Congress about any alliance so far," MNS leaders said.

Shortly after MNS leaders expressed their displeasure about Sanjay

Raut's statement to media persons about Raj Thackeray's views, Sanjay Raut issued a clarification to Raj Thackeray through a personal message that "I did not say anything like that".

Meanwhile, Ramesh Chennithala, the Maharashtra in-charge of the Congress held a meeting of Congress leaders working in Maharashtra on Monday, to review preparations for the local civic and municipal body elections to be held in Maharashtra.

At the meeting, several Congress leaders from Maharashtra expressed the view that the Congress must fight the local civic body elections alone and many of them were not positive about an alliance with Raj Thackeray's MNS.

Earlier, on October 7, Maharashtra Congress state president Harshwardhan Sapkal had expressed his reservations about including Raj Thackeray's MNS in the Congress-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) opposition

alliance.Speaking to media persons here, Sapkal said, "Our negotiations will be held at the local level. Therefore, our local leadership at the district, block and municipal levels will take decisions. We have left all these matters to their decision. Therefore, Congress and Maha Vikas Aghadi do not need another new constituent".

After Maharashtra Congress state president Harshwardhan Sapkal expressed his reservations about including Raj Thackeray's Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) into the Congress-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) opposition alliance, MNS leader Avinash Abhyankar has reacted by saying, "Who went to the Congress party to seek permission to include MNS in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA)? Nobody from the MNS went to them, I do not know what exactly Harshvardhan Sapkal has spoken about, but as far as the MNS is concerned, Raj Thackeray alone will take the final decision".

Minister stresses public awareness on Food Safety Act

Nashik, Oct 13 (UNI) Maharashtra Minister for Food and Drug Administration Narhari Zirwal today asserted that public awareness and citizen participation are essential for the effective implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act (FSSA), which regulates the quality, production, and sale of food.

The Minister was speaking at the inauguration of the 'San Maharashtratracha, Sankalp Anna Surakshatecha' public awareness workshop, organised jointly by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Maharashtra and the Nashik Industries and Manufacturers Association (NIMA) at the NIMA House.

Prominent attendees included NIMA Chairman Ashish Nahar, FDA Joint Commissioner Dinesh Tamboli, Assistant Commissioner Manish Sanap, Vinod Dhavad, Dr. Aparna Farande of Ashwamedh Laboratory, Food Safety Officer Ashwini Patil, and several NIMA office-bearers and local entrepreneurs.Zirwal highlighted that a special campaign is being implemented during the festive season, with samples of sweets and adulterated dairy products prepared from suspicious mawa being tested. He emphasised the importance of citizens being vigilant when purchasing food and noted that most adulteration tests can be performed at the home level.He said that effective public awareness is necessary in urban and rural areas regarding identifying food adulteration and the importance of the FSSA.

INDIA alliance protests Wangchuk's arrest, demands release

Kolhapur, Oct 13 (UNI) The activists of constituents of INDIA alliance today staged a march in this town of Maharashtra demanding release of Ladakh statehood activist Sonam Wangchuk from jail.

Activists of the INDIA bloc, including Congress, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), Shivaji Sena-UBT, CPI and CPI-M, gathered at the historic Dasara Chowk and marched to the district collector's office amidst sloganeering against the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Central government

Wangchuk was arrested on September 26 under the National Security Act (NSA).Addressing the protesters, Vijay Devne (Shivaji Sena-UBT) criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. He said that social workers fighting for justice are being arrested under the NSA.

Later, a delegation met district collector Amol Yedge and handed over a memorandum of their demands including release of Wangchuk.

Opp leaders to meet Chief Electoral Officer over civic polls

Mumbai, Oct 13 (UNI) Ahead of the upcoming civic body elections in Maharashtra, a delegation of state opposition leaders, including NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar, Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray, state Congress chief Harshwardhan Sapkal and MNS chief Raj Thackeray, will meet State Chief Electoral Officer S. Chockalingam tomorrow to discuss measures for ensuring transparency in the polls, including those to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut, who announced the meeting, said the objective was to ensure "transparency and trust" in the upcoming civic elections.He also hinted that the Raj Thackeray-led party could align with the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA).

ST staff to receive Rs 6,000 Diwali gift from govt

Mumbai, Oct 13 (UNI) In a major pre-Diwali relief measure, the Maharashtra government has announced a special financial package for around 85,000 employees and officers of the State Transport (ST) Corporation.

The package includes a Rs 6,000 Diwali gift, a monthly payment of salary increment arrears, and a Rs 12,500 Diwali advance for eligible staff. Additionally, the government has sanctioned a monthly grant of Rs 65 crore to the Corporation to facilitate payment of salary increment differences.

The decisions were finalised during a high-level meeting held at Sahyadri Guest House, chaired by Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, and attended by representatives from all ST

employee organisations and action committees.

Among those present were Transport Minister and ST Corporation Chairman Pratap Sarnaik, Deputy Chief Minister's Principal Secretary Naveen Sona, Finance Department Additional Chief Secretary Om Prakash Gupta, Transport Department Additional Chief Secretary Sanjay Sethi, ST Corporation Managing Director Dr Madhav Kosekar, Joint Secretary Rajendra Holkar, and several employee representatives.

Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde stated that despite widespread difficulties caused by recent heavy rains affecting farmers and economically weaker sections, the government wished to ensure that ST employees enjoy a happy and

prosperous Diwali this year.

He added that efforts were underway to strengthen the financial stability of the ST Corporation through public-private partnership (PPP) development of its properties and depots to generate additional revenue.During the meeting, it was decided that the government would provide an immediate grant of around Rs 10 crore, while an additional Rs 51 crore proposal remains under consideration. The Rs 65 crore monthly allocation will cover arrears of salary increments for the 2020-24 period. Furthermore, the ST Corporation has requested an additional Rs 54 crore from the state government to facilitate the Rs 12,500 festival advance for employees, Transport Minister Pratap Sarnaik informed.

Mumbai Police clarify viral video not in their jurisdiction

Mumbai, Oct 13 (UNI) After a video showing a Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) worker allegedly slapping a non-Marathi woman has gone viral that sparked widespread outrage and debate on social media, the Mumbai Police clarified that the incident did not occur within their jurisdiction, stating that it took place in Thane's Kalwa area, which comes under the Thane Police Commissionerate.

Responding to numerous online complaints, Mumbai Police said the relevant local unit had been notified to take necessary action. However, Thane Police have not yet released any official statement on the matter. The altercation reportedly occurred yesterday following an argument between the woman and the husband of the MNS worker, identified as Arjun Kate, at Kalwa railway station. In the video, which has since been widely

circulated, the woman is seen offering an apology to Swara Kate, her husband, and other MNS members present at the spot.Speaking before the camera, she says, "Something happened to me today at Kalwa station. I hurt someone, a Maharashtrian man. I abused him, even raised my hand on him, for which I apologise to all of Maharashtra and the Maharashtrian people. Thank you."Despite the woman's public apology, Swara Kate suddenly slaps her and warns in Marathi, "Never say such things again to the people of Maharashtra. Do you understand?" The shocking video concludes with the woman standing silent as several individuals look on.

Another MNS worker, Vinayak Bitla, later posted the video on his Facebook page, providing his version of events. According to Bitla, the confrontation began when Arjun accidentally brushed past the woman,

prompting her to allegedly use abusive language against Marathi people and physically struck him. Swara Kate defended her action by arguing that the woman had been "hitting and abusing" her husband for nearly half an hour before she intervened. She stated that she considered filing a police complaint but refrained after seeing the woman's daughter and family members.Bitla further issued a warning to non-Marathi residents through his social media post, writing, "I am giving understanding to all non-Marathi people that if you live in Maharashtra, stay with love. Don't mess with Marathi people. Jai Maharashtra."

Police sources confirmed that no formal First Information Report has yet been filed, but a preliminary inquiry has been initiated to verify the incident's timeline and determine whether legal action is warranted under sections pertaining to assault and provocation.

भिवंडी निजामपुर शहर महानगरपालिका, भिवंडी बांधकाम विभाग			
			
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BRIHANMUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION	
Tender Notice	
Tender Document No.	2025_MCGM_1228308_1
Subject	Hiring the services of road washer (water tanker vehicle with jetting machine arrangement) for washing of roads and footpaths in R Cenral ward.
Tender Fee	Rs 1,452/- + 18% GST
Bid Security Deposit / EMD	Rs. 10,000/-
Date of Issue and sale of tender	11-10-2025 from 12.00 Hrs
Last date & time for Sale of tender & Receipt of Bid Security Deposit	16-10-2025 upto 12.00 Hrs.
Submission of Packet A, B & Packet C (Online)	16-10-2025 upto 12.00 Hrs.
Prebid Meeting	NA
Opening of Packet A, B & C	17-10-20255 after 09.00 Hrs.
Address for communication	Asst. Engineer, R/Centralward, Ground Floor, FP No.44, TPS 1, Chandavarkar Road, Borivali (W), Mumbai - 400092.
Venue for opening of bid	Online in Asst. Eng. (SWM) R/Central's office.
This tender document is not transferable.	
BMC reserves the right to accept any or all the application received for above subject without assigning any reason thereof.	
PRO/1888/ADV/2025-26	
Keep the terraces clean, remove odd articles/junk/scrap.	Sd/- Asst. Eng. (SWM) R/Central

Shaadi ke side effects

For most women, not getting their husbands' time is a major issue. Men need their space, and they love it too. Here are tips that might help make things better

Despite the picture-perfect impressions we get from upbeat Facebook posts or boastful holiday letters, even the healthiest marriages aren't 100 percent free of conflict. At some point, virtually everyone feels wronged by a romantic partner. Bob Navarra, PsD, a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), says that those feelings aren't what throw a marriage off course - it's how couples handle them.

"While it may be frustrating that the toothpaste cap was left off, happy couples talk about these small things," he says. But when those emotions are swept under the rug, a more toxic variety of negativity begins to fester: resentment. Here, marriage experts share some of the most common reasons husbands resent their wives and how to protect your relationship.

Not fighting fair

Happy couples don't necessarily fight less, Dr Navarra says; they just fight better, by "describing their own feelings and needs rather than labeling their partner as faulty." And the ball is probably in your court for that. Research shows that wives are more likely to bring up problems for discussion, while husbands are more likely to withdraw at the first sign of an argument. When this keeps happening, women tend to start conversations on a negative note, which only makes things worse. Instead of resorting to personal attacks - "you're such a slob!" "We're going to be late because of you!" - Which lead to defensiveness, Dr Navarra recommends sticking to "I-statements," such as "When (this happens), I feel (frustrated, angry). What I needed was..."

Treating him like a child

"A big issue I see in couples is a man resenting his partner because he feels she talks down to him," says Mary Kelleher, LMFT. This can leave him feeling "less-than," and nothing triggers resentment faster than inadequacy. So avoid threatening his independence - the way pressuring him to go for a promotion so he'll bring home more money may be perceived - suggests couples therapist Vagdevi Meunier, PsyD. "No one wants to feel 'managed' by a spouse," Dr Meunier says.

Involving other people in your marriage

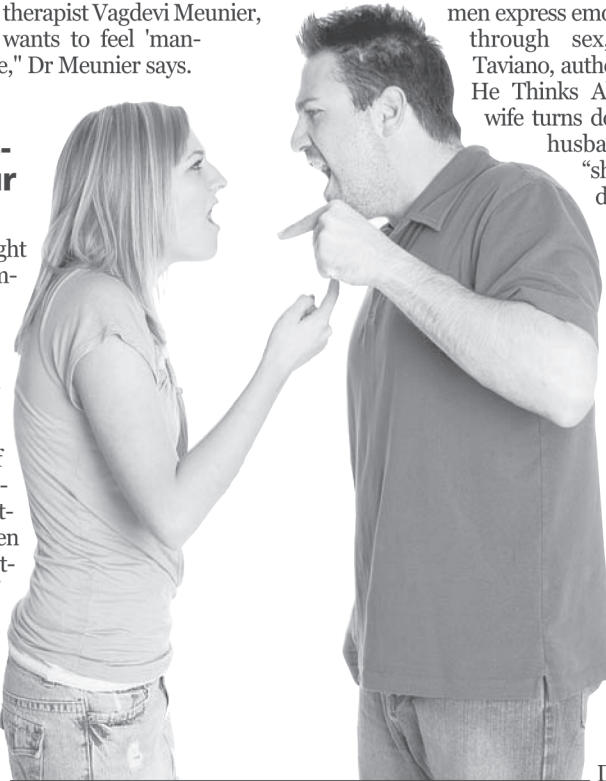
What you might think of as harmless complaining to friends and family can actually break your husband's trust. It threatens the safety of the "couple bubble" you've created together. "Men find this humiliating and hurtful," says Norene Gonsiewski, Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), a couples' therapist



at the Portland Relationship Center in Oregon. If you really need to vent, consider talking to a doctor or therapist to keep things confidential.

Withholding sex as punishment

While woman generally need emotional intimacy to make love, men express emotional intimacy through sex, says Marla Taviano, author of Is That All He Thinks About? When a wife turns down sex, in her husband's mind, "she's turning him down as a person," explains Taviano. Using sex as a bargaining chip to get your needs met isn't negotiating - it's emotional blackmail, which can alienate him. "Withholding sex may make your partner feel less love from you and give you less love in return," says Dr Haltzman.



The science of stress

Job strain linked to mental health and sick leave

High job demands combined with low levels of social support at work put employees, especially women, at increased risk of sick leave due to mental disorders, new research has found.

"Interventions to reduce sick leave due to mental disorders that focus on improving the psychosocial work environment, especially reducing high psychosocial job demands, may prove effective," said one of the researchers Lisa Mater from the Karolinska Institutet in Sweden. The researchers used data from a Swedish national study to examine how rates of sick leave for mental health reasons are affected by psychosocial factors at work.

After a five-year follow-up of nearly 12,000 work-

ers, the rate of sick leave due to mental disorders was about eight percent.

Three-fourths of workers with mental health sick leave were women, showed the findings published in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

Workers with multiple unhealthy behaviour also had higher rates of mental health sick leave. While smoking was a significant risk factor, high physical activity level was a protective factor, the researchers found.

However, the researchers pointed out that efforts aimed at improving health behaviour only -- without also addressing the work environment -- may be less likely to reduce mental health sick leave.



Cleaning up

Here are a few smart ways to stretch your cleaning products. Because you deserve to save your cash for something more fun than laundry

Don't automatically fill both dispensers in your dishwasher.

The detergent box recommends it, but it's better to adjust the amount of detergent to the soil level of the load and the hardness of your water. Start by filling each cup halfway, adding a bit more for extra dirty dishes and hard water. Plus, using too much detergent can leave a filmy residue on your glasses and flatware.

Always measure laundry detergent

I know the numbered lines inside detergent caps are impossible to see, but with today's 2x and 3x concentrated detergents, a full cap is too large a dose for most loads. Adding more detergent won't get clothes any cleaner; instead, laundry can still be soapy at the end of the cycle and front-loading washers that are sensitive to excess suds may shut down.

Spray the cloth, not the surface

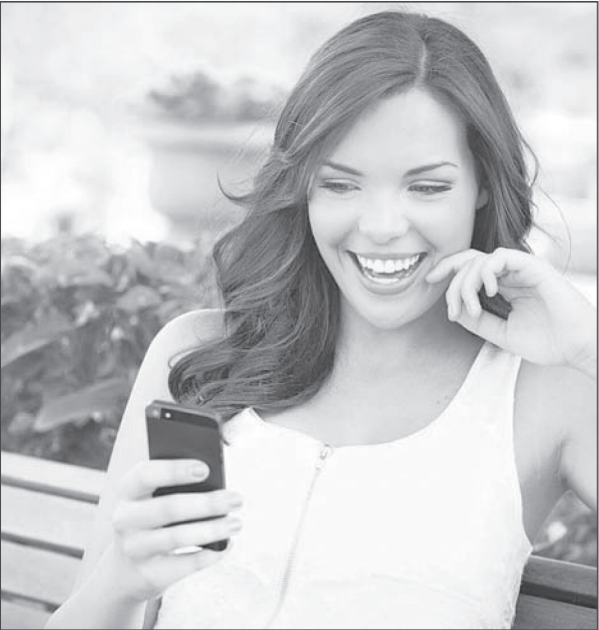
When cleaning mirrors, polishing furniture, and shining stainless steel appliances, spray the cleaner directly on the rag. Spritzing the surface often wastes product and leaves behind excess cleaner that requires more wiping and extra buffing to remove - who needs that?

Choose a foaming bathroom tub and tile cleaner

These cling to vertical surfaces better than thin sprays do, so you'll get more muscle from less product. After spraying a small section of tile, use your sponge or cloth to spread it around. Wait a few minutes for the formula to penetrate the soil, then wipe or rinse the surface clean.

Use multitasking products

Products like Good Housekeeping Seal-holder Simple Green All-Purpose Cleaner and OxiClean Versatile Stain Remover can be used for around-the-house cleaning jobs and for laundry stains. You'll not only save money with these workhorse products, but storage space, too.



REKINDLE OLD FLAMES

In your 50s and miss your old flame? You could probably try your luck on Facebook as a survey suggests

Many senior British people are already searching for girlfriends of their younger days on the social networking site.

The survey from the Britain-based Silversurfers.com, the website for the over 50s, found that one in six Britons over the age of 50 are logged on to Facebook to find old flames and upload selfies to show how well they have aged, the Daily Mail reported.

Nearly half of the people over 50 on Facebook think they will use the site more and more as this will help them stay in touch with their girlfriends.

"Over 3,000 people completed our survey and the message is clear: Facebook is king of social media for the over-50s," Martin Lock, CEO of

Silversurfers.com, was quoted as saying.

"Our research also revealed that the over-50s use Facebook to check out old flames and show off," he added.

The survey also revealed that the most popular type of Facebook posts for people over the age of 50 are nostalgia, human interest photos and handy tips. Nearly 81 percent said that they check Facebook more than once a day while 37 percent stated that they often check what friends are up to on Facebook.

Being comfortable using Facebook will help older people stay connected to their families and friends and may help alleviate loneliness in later years, the findings showed.

Facebook is by far the most popular social networking site - among others such as Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram and Google+ - for people over the age of 50, it said.

Life and migraine

Some headache treatments are available in your own home. Learn more about home remedies to ease your migraine pain, from lavender oil to flaxseed

If you suffer from migraines, you know how debilitating they are. Some people get between 6-10 migraines a year, each time lasting anything from 1-3 days, and they make us physically sick. Generally the solution is to take best rest for at least a day but at other times, depending on the severity. Here are some of the natural ways to ease migraines, with varying degrees of success.

LAVENDER OIL

Lavender smells great. Lavender soothes your nerves. And, lavender eases headaches, including migraines. You can apply this medicinal oil topically or inhale it for pain relief. Simply boil a couple of cups of water and add four drops of lavender oil to it. Take slow, deep breaths to inhale lavender oil vapors that will help ease your migraine.

PEPPERMINT OIL

This essential oil serves as one of the best home remedies for migraine because it has a soothing effect on your nerves. Thanks to its vasodilating and vaso-constricting properties, it works amazingly well to improve blood flow in your body. Poor blood flow may well be the reason behind your headache, so fresh-smelling peppermint oil will work wonders to improve your condition. Inhaling peppermint oil will also open up your sinuses and improve your oxygen intake, which will again make you feel relaxed.

FEVERFEW

Yes, you're right - feverfew is a remedy for fever, but it's in this list for a reason. It works like your OTC pain relievers. Several studies have found it an effective herbal headache treatment as well. It proves even beneficial when used in combination with white

willow, which has properties similar to aspirin.

BASIL OIL

Basil is an essential ingredient in pastas and pizzas, but its oil is exactly what doctor ordered for someone having a hard time dealing with migraine. It serves as a muscle relaxant and is therefore a great remedy for headaches caused by tight muscles and tension.

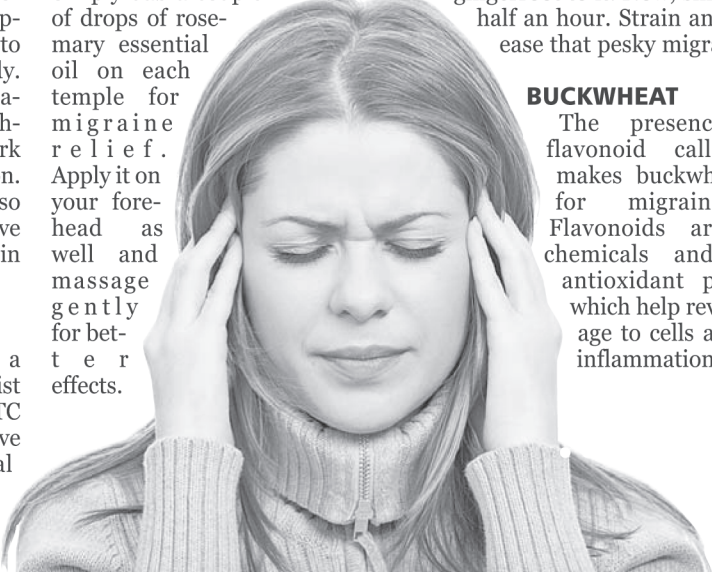
FLAXSEED

Inflammation is sometimes the underlying cause of your headache, and the best solution is to increase your intake of omega-3 fatty acids. Flaxseed can help in this regard since it's a rich source of omega-3s. You can take it in the form of oil or as whole seeds.

ROSEMARY OIL

Rosemary oil contains a substance called carvacrol that works as a COX-II inhibitor and creates an effect similar to non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

Simply dab a couple of drops of rosemary essential oil on each temple for migraine relief. Apply it on your forehead as well and massage gently for better effects.



DIET FIXES

Making careful changes to your diet will also help reduce headaches and migraine. You need to avoid certain foods that trigger migraine - the list includes dairy; certain fruits, like bananas, avocado, and citrus; meats with nitrates, such as hot dogs and bacon; onions; fermented foods; and foods that contain monosodium glutamate (MSG). Some experts believe that low levels of magnesium in your brain may cause headaches, so you may consider adding foods like mackerel, pumpkin seeds, dark chocolate, and dried figs to your diet to reduce migraine attacks.

GINGER TEA

One of many effective home remedies for migraine is to steep fresh ginger root to make a tea. Ginger proves effective against migraines because it inhibits prostaglandin synthesis. It also works amazingly well to quell the nausea that usually accompanies migraines. Take 2 cups of water and add three quarter-sized slices of gingerroot to it. Now, simmer it for half an hour. Strain and drink to ease that pesky migraine.

BUCKWHEAT

The presence of a flavonoid called rutin makes buckwheat effect for migraine pain. Flavonoids are phytochemicals and contain antioxidant properties, which help reverse damage to cells and reduce inflammation as well.

GATHER THOSE
EVERGREEN MOMENTS.

Take in the green, serene vistas of God's Own Country.
Reconnect with absolute joy and peace. And rediscover
that magical sense of togetherness.



Come
Together
in Kerala



WhatsApp 'Maya'
and explore Kerala

Travel

10 enchanting beaches in Odisha

With a coastline of 485 km along the Bay of Bengal, Odisha is home to some of the best beaches in India. From Balasore to Ganjam, these pristine and beautiful beaches have everything to offer to a visitor from a clean sea bed to turquoise blue waters to golden sparkling sand. Travellers can lie back and witness sea waves crashing melodiously on the shore or engage in fun-filled activities, including fishing with the local fishermen, besides uninterrupted sunbathing. Many of the beaches are surrounded by casuarina vegetation and palm trees, which add to the beauty. Almost all the unspoilt beaches are perfect destinations for travellers looking for tranquillity as well as adventure. Here's a look at the most scenic beaches of Odisha.

Paradip Beach

Paradip Beach in Jagatsinghpur district offers a gorgeous view of the Bay of Bengal. In fact, the beach is located on the confluence of the Mahanadi River and the Bay of Bengal. It has clear blue water, large stones on the shore and a good marine drive road. The place is ideal for a family trip, where one can go swimming or enjoy a stroll by the shimmering water. It is 94 km from Cuttack and 125 km from Bhubaneswar and connected by good roads. Although beautiful, the beach is rough many a times, particularly the two km stretch from Hanuman Temple to Sandakhuda in Paradip and the one km shoreline at Siali. These beach stretches have been identified as Scritically-vulnerable zones and are very risky for sea bathing. There is a lighthouse near the beach, which is armed with the latest differential global positioning system. There are several other attractions nearby. Visitors can relax at the sylvan gardens of Smurti Udyan, a place dedicated to the people who lost their lives in the 1999 Super Cyclone. The musical fountain inside the park is worth a watch. Odisha's biggest aquarium, the Paradip Marine Aquarium, is also located in the Paradip city. It has 28 tanks with different species of fish. Paradip is also famous for its port, one of the oldest in the world. It stands testimony to the rich maritime heritage of the region.

Gopalpur Beach

Situated 16 km away from Berhampur, Gopalpur-on-Sea is a splendid retreat for avid beach lovers. From golden sands to clear blue waters, the beach has everything that can entice visitors. Besides a sun-kissed beach, Gopalpur-on-Sea offers glimpses of its past glory as a commercial port. The crumbling walls and pillars of an ancient jetty can still be found on the beach. In fact, Gopalpur was once a bustling maritime zone in Odisha and a sea port through which early settlers of Southeast Asia sailed off. Established during the British rule, the port stopped functioning in 1942 during the Second World War. There are ruins of several bungalows and mansions belonging to the European merchants, which give it a colonial look. A red-and-white striped lighthouse also stands on the popular beach. Commissioned in 1871, it is one of the oldest lighthouses in the state. Every year during Kartika Purnima, people sail tiny boats made of banana stems and paper, with lamps, betel leaves, crackers, fruits and coins in them, to mark the rich maritime history of Gopalpur-on-Sea. The beach is well connected by an excellent all-weather road which branches off from NH-5 on the outskirts of Berhampur. Regular bus services, taxis and auto rickshaws are also available.

Astaranga Beach

Astaranga Beach is another popular beach resort near Puri. The beach offers an enchanting view of the horizon which becomes uncommonly colourful during sunset. In fact, the name Astaranga is a combination of two Odia words—asta (sunset) and ranga (colourful)—and this is why it's also called a photographer's delight. The beach is also a popular fishing destination for Puri district.

Puri Beach

This destination certainly needs no introduction. This beach in the pilgrim city of Puri is the most popular beach in Odisha and the largest in the country. The splendid beach stretches up to seven km and is a round-the-year destination for both domestic and international travellers. Visitors can enjoy both the sunrise and the sunset, sunbathe, sit back on the beach and watch local fishermen pulling their catch or mending their nets play with the waves, along with listening to the melodious rendition of the striking waves. Compared to other beaches in the country, the Puri Beach is

13th-century Sun Temple at Konark, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. According to historians, the ships took the Sun Temple as a reference point in the sea during the maritime trade between Odisha (Kalinga), Bali, Java and Sumatra. Later, a lighthouse was constructed on Marine Road in 1967 to guide the ships. As there are several mythological tales associated with the beach, a week-long Chandrabhaga Mela is organised here every year to honour the Sun god. Every year during December and January, the Tourism Department of the Government of Odisha hosts an annual International Sand Art Festival on the sidelines of the popular Konark Dance Festival at the World Heritage Site. The Chandrabhaga Beach can be visited anytime during the year and there are a lot of luxury and budget accommodations near the beach and the Sun Temple. There are also many restaurants and refreshment stalls near the beach. Visitors can purchase beautiful seashell handicrafts from stalls on the beach at affordable prices. People can hire taxis from Bhubaneswar or Puri to reach the destination.

Baliharchandi Beach

Swaying casuarina trees, an unending stretch of golden sand and the turbulent sea form the picturesque landscape of Baliharachandi Beach. Located 27 km away from Puri, the beach is a popular round-the-year picnic spot. A swim in the tumultuous sea is a delight for those seeking adventure. Besides the clean blue sea, the beach is famous for the temple of goddess Harachandi close by. The temple's sanctum sanctorum houses an asta bhuja (eight-armed) Mahisamardini Durga, who is worshipped as goddess Harachandi. She is regarded as the goddess of water and navigation who protects fishermen. All tourists coming to the beach make it a point to pay obeisance to the deity. A small river flows into the sea just 200 m away from the temple, and can be crossed in a boat for just Rs 5. On the other side of the river, there is a massive sandy dune with casuarina trees that makes for an ideal picnic spot for travellers. While the summer in Baliharchandi is extremely humid and hot, the beach experiences a tropical monsoon climate. The best time to plan a visit to Baliharachandi Beach is between the months of October and March. The beach is accessible with good roads, with the nearest railway station at Puri.

Balighai Beach

Situated eight km on the north-eastern side of Puri, Balighai is a pristine beach that remains relatively undiscovered. It is situated at the mouth of the Nuanai River, off the Konark-Puri Marine Drive road. The beach is also a nesting site for the endangered Olive Ridley sea turtles who visit the beach every year from December to January for mass nesting. Migratory birds can be seen here during the winter months. In the evening, one can also

enjoy deep fried seafood at shacks on the beach. Other attractions near the beach are the Balihirana Deer Sanctuary, where visitors can spot the endangered Balihirana antelope and Indian blackbucks; the Sea Turtle Research Centre, and small temples like Barahi, Lakshminarayan and the Amareshra. In fact, the temple of goddess Barahi dates back to the 9th century and is related to early forms of tantric worship. There are very few accommodations in the area, except for some luxury resorts in the Konark-Puri Marine Drive road. Visitors can stay in Puri and hire a taxi to reach the beach. The best time to visit the beach is between October and March.

Aryapalli Beach

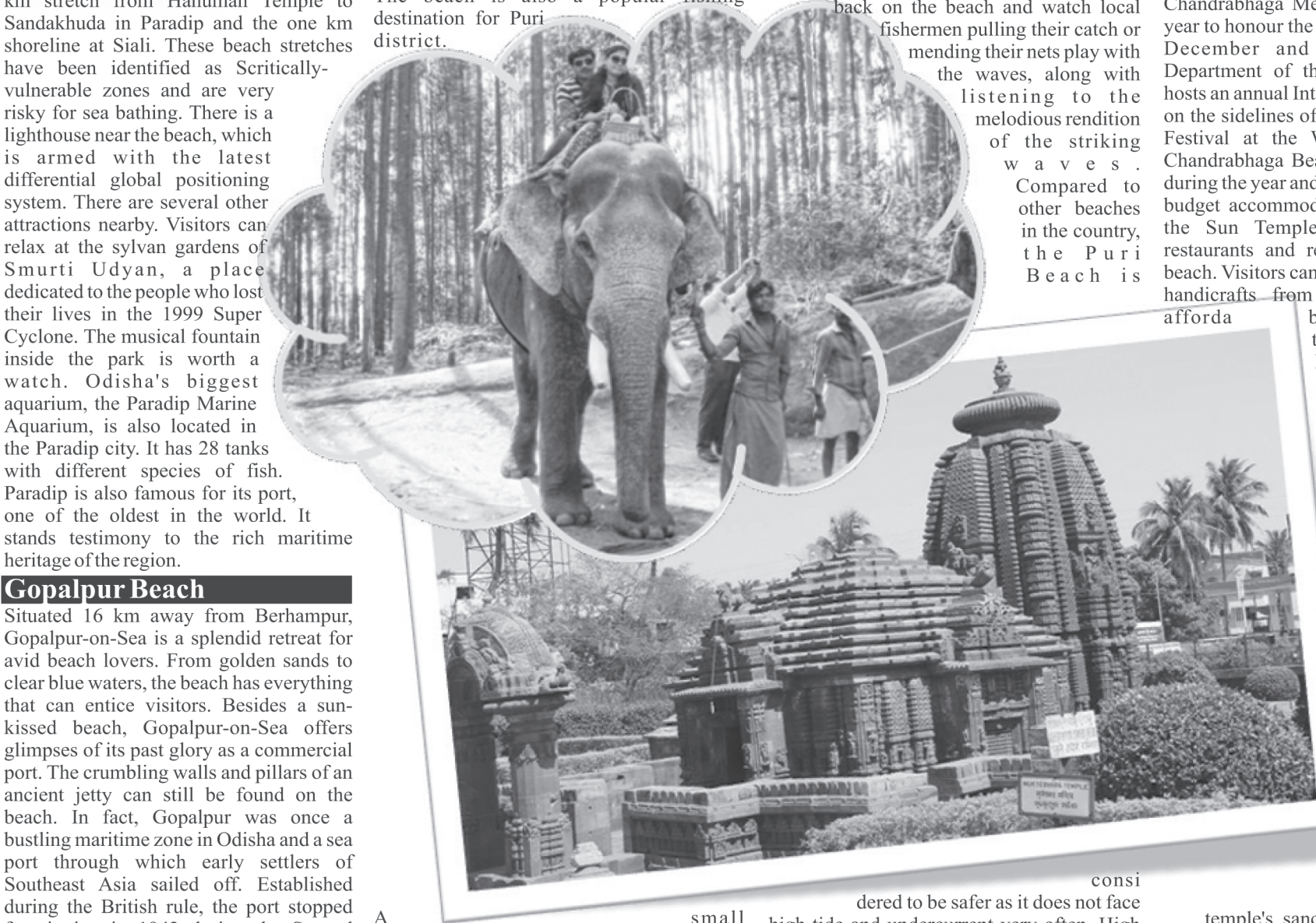
Far from the hustle and bustle of city life, the silvery, quiet beach of Aryapalli is ideal for unwinding. At a distance of 30 km from Berhampur, the golden beach is surrounded by casuarina plantations and crystal-clear blue waters. While the weather is a little humid in the noon, it is pleasant towards early morning and evening. During the sunrise and the sunset, the azure sky offers an amazing colour play. Unlike other beaches, Aryapalli does not have many vendors on the shore to hound visitors. After sunbathing at the beach, visitors can go round the hamlets nearby, inhabited by Telugu-speaking fishermen, and know the socio-cultural aspects of their lives. The Sand Mineral Project lies in the vicinity, and is another attraction that cannot be missed. The area near the beach has a number of resorts and sea-facing hotels that are equipped with all amenities. The ideal time to visit Aryapalli is between the months of October and June, when the weather is at its best. Travellers can reach Aryapalli beach through a taxi or an auto-rickshaw after getting down at the Chatrapur railway station in Ganjam district. The beach is just eight km from the railway station. One can also hire a taxi from Berhampur city as the National Highway passing through the beach is also well-maintained.

Chandipur Beach

Chandipur beach in Balasore district is the only beach in the eastern India where the sea recedes up to five km daily at low tide and returns during high tide, offering a truly unique sight. Adding to the beauty are the casuarina trees dotting the area. When the tide returns, fishermen rush to collect the small fishes that the waves leave behind at the shore. The beach is replete with small red crabs that emerge from tiny holes on the sea bed and rush towards the vanishing water during low tide. It is equally captivating to watch the sunrise and sunset at the beach. Touted as one of the finest beaches of Odisha, Chandipur is just 16 km east of Balasore and easily accessible by road. A visit to the beach is not complete without a stroll on the dry sea bed with a packet of jhalmuri and coconut water in hand. After reaching Balasore, visitors cab hire an auto-rickshaw or taxi to reach Chandipur. There are plenty of accommodations near the beach. The Tourism Department of Odisha has a Pantha Nivas. Other places of interest like Remuna, Panchalingeswar, Aradi and Chandaneswar also lie close by.

Balaramgadi Beach

Soak up the sun at the wonderful beach of Balaramgadi, which lies at the convergence of the Budhabalanga River with the Bay of Bengal in Balasore district. Calm and clean, the beach is just two km away from Chandipur Beach. Here, a tourist can enjoy the sun, surf and the sand amidst casuarina plantations. While a walk on the beach in the evening is rejuvenating at any time of the day, the sunrise and sunset cast an especially magical spell. Besides swimming in the turbulent yet clean waters, one can take part in adventure sports, fishing and boat rides. Visitors wishing to fish in the sea can seek the help of local fishermen who will readily volunteer to take their boat for a small price. Smaller in comparison to Chandipur, Balaramgadi Beach is for those who want to unwind away from the cacophony. Visitors can hire an auto-rickshaw from Chandipur Beach to Balaramgadi, which is roughly an hour away. There are limited accommodations here and visitors have to stay near Chandipur Beach. The drive from Chandipur to Balaramgadi is a beautiful one, with green casuarina trees on both the sides.

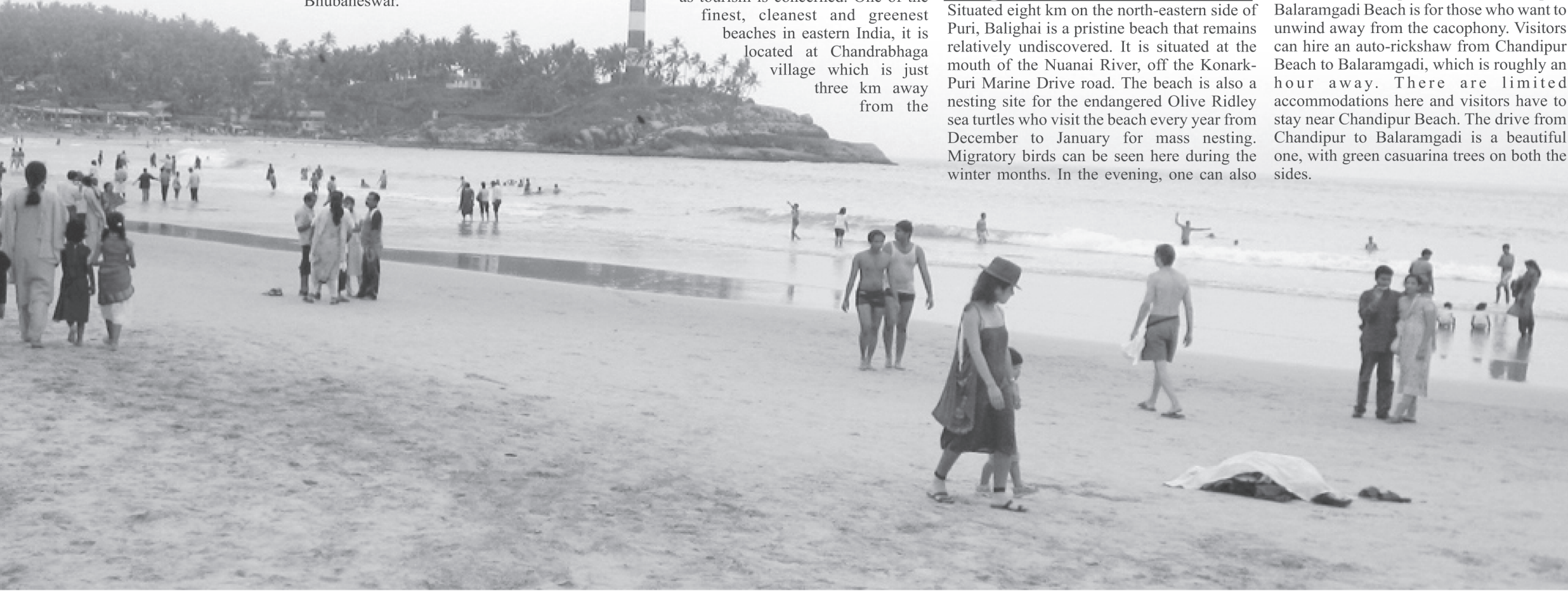


A small fishing market operates on the beach every morning, where fishermen immediately sell their catch to vendors. There is a shrine of Pir Jahania near the long, sandy beach, which is frequented by both Hindus and Muslims. They come to take the blessings of Pir Jahania and offer a chadar. Apart from the magnificent sea view, visitors can watch the nesting of Olive Ridley turtles during winter. There's also a mangrove path near the mouth of the Devi River. Although a beautiful beach, many areas are muddy or have quicksand and visitors need to take guides when venturing into unexplored areas on the beach. There are no accommodation options near the beach and the travellers need to put up at Puri, Konark or Bhubaneswar. By road, the Astaranga Beach is 90 km from Puri and 19 km from Konark. It is also well-connected to Bhubaneswar.

considered to be safer as it does not face high tide and undercurrent very often. High tides occur only during full moon, so taking a bath in the sea is an enjoyable experience. The area near the beach is dotted with hotels and lodgings for travellers of all categories. For food lovers, there are several shacks along the beach selling fried and grilled seafood like prawns, crabs and pomfrets, freshly caught from the sea, along with vegetable pakodas. There are also many shops selling Odisha handlooms and seashell handicrafts. Like Chandrabhaga, Puri also has a lighthouse which remains open from 4 pm to 6 pm. One can get a spectacular view of the sea and the beach from the top of the lighthouse.

Chandrabhaga Beach

Known for its mesmerising sunset, the Chandrabhaga Beach is considered to be one of the biggest assets of the state as far as tourism is concerned. One of the finest, cleanest and greenest beaches in eastern India, it is located at Chandrabhaga village which is just three km away from the



To celebrate 100 years in a sport is great achievement, says Ashok Kumar, World Cup winner in 1975



New Delhi, Oct 13 (IANS) : For many decades, early in the last century, Indian hockey was considered to be the gold standard. With a tally of eight gold medals, six of them in a row, one silver, and four bronze, totalling 13 medals at the Olympic Games, India has well and truly set the standards. And someone who watched it from very close quarters for a long time is Ashok Kumar, an Olympic medallist in 1972 in Munich and a World Cup winner in 1975, and also the son of the legendary Dhyan Chand.In 1928, the Indian men's hockey team won its

Watkins withdraws from England squad

London, Oct 13 (UNI) England striker Ollie Watkins has been ruled out of Tuesday's World Cup qualifier against Latvia due to injury. The 29-year-old was substituted at half-time during England's 3-0 victory over Wales at Wembley, having earlier scored his team's second goal. Watkins collided with the post late in the first half after missing a chance and did not return for the second period.Although manager Thomas Tuchel initially said the Aston Villa forward was "OK," Watkins has since returned to his club and will miss the trip to Riga.A win against Latvia would see the Three Lions secure qualification for next summer's World Cup with two games to spare.Captain Harry Kane, who missed the Wales match, is expected to return. The Bayern Munich striker trained with the squad at Tottenham's training ground on Monday, and Tuchel said he was "convinced" Kane would be available. With Watkins sidelined, Anthony Gordon could once again move into a central role after impressing there in the second half against Wales. Marcus Rashford, currently on loan at Barcelona, is another option. The Manchester United owned player prefers to play from the left but has experience leading the line and has 18 goals for England, second only to Kane in the current squad.

first Olympic gold medal, and until 1960, the Indian Men's Hockey Team remained unbeaten at the Olympics, winning six gold medals on the bounce. Looking back, Ashok Kumar said, "Even before the 1928 Olympics, the Indian men's hockey team was playing good hockey, and the very first time that we played the Olympics, Dhyan Chand was a part of the team. From there, the glorious journey of hockey in India began as we showed the world, with our skill and flair. And to be at a point where we are celebrating 100 years in the sport, it is a great

India hold Indonesia to 1-1 draw

Jakarta, Oct 13 (UNI) : The India U23 men's football team were held to a 1-1 draw by Indonesia in their second friendly at the Gelora Bung Karno Madya Stadium here today. After a goalless first half, Korou Singh Thingujam (47') put the Blue Colts in the lead, but Dony Tri Pamungkas (71') equalised for the hosts. India had defeated Indonesia 2-1 in their first friendly, after which head coach Naushad Moosa made six changes to the starting lineup. Indonesia pressed aggressively from the start, seeking revenge for their earlier defeat, but India's defence held firm throughout the first half. In the 10th minute,

Channelise the pain from last match to attain peak performance: coach to his players

Madgaon, Oct 13 (UNI) Singapore head coach Gavin Lee today admitted that his players were distraught after the last India versus Singapore AFC Asian Cup 2027 qualifier match and said that he advised his players to channel that regret towards a strong performance against India tomorrow. "Don't waste that pain, remember it, don't lose it, use it as a fuel for the next match," Lee told his charges. Lee was speaking about Singapore's home match against India on October 9 where they were leading until India capitalised on a defensive error to equalise in the 90th minute of the game. India and Singapore are set to clash in the second leg of that AFC Asian Cup qualifier 2027 here on Tuesday. The Singapore coach, while addressing the pre-match press conference today at the

achievement for Indian hockey.Ashok Kumar was part of the Indian team that won their last World Cup title in 1975 in Kuala Lumpur, where he scored the winning goal against Pakistan in the Final. He also has a bronze from the 1971 World Cup in Barcelona and a silver from the 1973 edition in Amsterdam. While the 1975 title is India's only World Cup title, Ashok Kumar is one of the few players to have all three World Cup medals. Taking a walk down memory lane, Ashok Kumar, who was known for his exceptional ball control and

Muhammad Rayhan Hannan's shot was comfortably saved by India goalkeeper Dipesh Chauhan. Later, Kakang Rudianto's header from a set-piece was tipped over the bar by Chauhan, keeping the match scoreless.India looked for counter-attacking opportunities, with Ricky Meetei's long-range shot narrowly missing the target, and Vibin Mohanan's effort from the edge of the box being saved just before half-time. The Blue Colts started the second half brightly and took the lead within two minutes. Harsh Palande's low cross from the left found Korou unmarked in the box, and he tapped in to score. Minutes later,

Jawaharlal Nehru stadium, appeared very satisfied about his team's defensive formation"Last game was a testament to our back line, the way we managed football, we conceded very few set pieces, which is the key threat from India, we will try to do the same here tomorrow" He did not think that he erred tactically during the last match, as Singapore was unable to defeat a 10-man India. "Tactics is something that is defined across the 90 minutes and we created several chances, we could have killed the game much earlier, that one single error at the end does not define our entire performance," he said. He noted that India showed spirit during the last game, playing with 10 men."What we saw on the pitch was the never-stop-fighting approach. I think that is a testament to their culture and something that every coach would be very proud of," he said.

skills, said, "There was a time when the interest in hockey was the way it is in cricket now. India has had some incredible players who have left a strong legacy. The likes of Dhyan Chand, KD Singh 'Babu', Balbir Singh Sr, and many more players. The whole country would follow Indian hockey very closely, and in that era, everyone played hockey." He further added, "The records that India has in hockey, the double hat-trick of medals, and the craze that was seen for the Indian hockey team were incredible. Doing so well at the Olympics, which is the pinnacle of sports, tells a story."

After the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow, India had to wait another four decades before a medal came by, in the form of a bronze at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. And four years later, there was another bronze, at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Ashok Kumar believes that the current Indian team definitely has what is needed to succeed at the highest level, and he said, "Our present team, they are playing with a lot of confidence, and they are not lacking in anything. Whether it be the preparation or the execution, it is a very strong team. The Indian Men's and Women's Hockey Teams are both doing well, and it is their time to perform and shine at the highest level."

IOA felicitates India's Paris 2024 Olympic medallists

New Delhi, Oct 13 (UNI) : The Indian Olympic Association (IOA), on Monday, held a special felicitation ceremony at the Taj Man Singh Hotel in New Delhi to honour India's medallists from the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

The event was graced by Dr P.T. Usha, President of the IOA, the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, senior government officials, sponsors, and members of the sporting fraternity. The ceremony celebrated India's athletes

who brought pride and inspiration to the nation through their remarkable performances at the Games.

India finished its Paris 2024 campaign with six medals — one silver and five bronze. Neeraj Chopra added to his Tokyo glory with a silver in men's javelin throw, reaffirming his dominance on the world stage. Shooter Manu Bhaker claimed two bronze medals — one in the women's 10 m air pistol event and another in the mixed team category with Sarabjot Singh.

Swapnil Kusale made history with a bronze in the men's 50 m rifle 3 positions event, while young wrestler Aman Sehrawat secured bronze in men's freestyle 57 kg, becoming one of India's youngest Olympic medallists. The Indian men's hockey team also returned to the podium, winning bronze after a strong campaign that ended with a 2-1 victory over Spain in the third-place match.

At the ceremony, the IOA presented cash awards to all medallists and their coaches in recognition of their contribution to India's success. Neeraj Chopra received ₹75 lakh, Manu Bhaker ₹75 lakh and ₹37.5 lakh, Sarabjot Singh ₹37.5 lakh, Swapnil Kusale ₹50 lakh, Aman Sehrawat ₹50 lakh, and the Indian men's hockey team ₹10 lakh (main squad) and ₹5 lakh (reserve players).

Their coaches — including Dr Klaus Erich Bartoneitz, Jaspal Rana, Abhishek Rana, Deepali Deshpande, Ali Shabanov, and Craig Fulton — were also felicitated for their pivotal roles in preparing India's champions.

India in must win situation against Singapore

Madgaon, Oct 13 (UNI) : India will have their task cut out when they face Singapore on Tuesday at Jawaharlal Nehru stadium here in the AFC Asian Cup 2027 qualifiers.India would consider themselves to be extremely lucky as they escaped with a draw in their away match against Singapore played on October 9 at the Singapore National Stadium, Kallang. Besides leading one-nil throughout the match, Singapore totally dominated against a 10-man India as defender Sandesh Jhingan was given his marching orders at the 47th minute when he collected his second yellow card.

Even prior to Jhingan's sent off, Singapore dominated possession and created more chances. It was substitute Rahim

Tryon's blitz powers SA Women to nail-biting win

Visakhapatnam, Oct 13 (UNI) : Chloe Tryon's blazing 62 powered South Africa Women to a thrilling 3-wicket victory over Bangladesh Women in the 14th match of the ICC Women's World Cup 2025 at the ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium here today.

Batting first, Bangladesh posted a competitive 232 for 6 in their 50 overs. Sharmin Akhter (50) and Shorna Akter (51 not out) provided solid middle-order contributions, while captain Nigar Sultana added 32.Fargana Hoque scored 30, but wickets at regular intervals restricted Bangladesh from accelerating in the final overs. Nonkululeko Mlaba was the pick of the South African bowlers, taking two wickets.Chasing 233, South Africa produced a remarkable counter-attack under pressure. Anneke Bosch (28) and Marizanne Kapp (56) laid the foundation before Tryon's sensational innings, supported by Nadine de Klerk (37 not out), turned the match in South Africa's favour. The final overs were electrifying.

In the 49th over, de Klerk smashed a decisive six off Nahida Akter, lifting South

Africa to the brink of victory.She had earlier scored a boundary in the same over, demonstrating exceptional timing and composure under pressure. Tryon's 62 featured a crucial six and several well-placed fours, shifting momentum after a tense phase where Bangladesh seemed in control.Key moments included Marizanne Kapp being dismissed by Nahida Akter at a critical stage, and run-outs of Laura Wolvaardt and Tryon that briefly brought Bangladesh back into contention.The match showcased a rollercoaster of emotions, with Bangladesh celebrating key breakthroughs and South Africa responding with fearless batting in the final overs.De Klerk's match-winning six epitomised the triumph: "Superwoman!" — as she cleared the fence under pressure, sending South Africa fans into celebrations while leaving the Bangladesh camp heartbroken.

This victory underscores South Africa Women's depth and composure in crunch moments, keeping them in strong contention in the ICC Women's World Cup 2025.

Mark Williams crowns at 2025 World Snooker Xi'an Grand Prix

Xi'an, Oct 13 (UNI) Mark Williams saw off Shaun Murphy 10-3 in a best-of-19 game here today, winning the Xi'an Grand Prix and moving himself above Ronnie O'Sullivan into the fourth spot on the world rankings.

Williams, who was one step away from becoming the oldest ranking event winner in snooker history ahead of the final, taking a 4-0 lead before the first intermission.

Murphy pulled one back in the fifth frame after a break of 69, while Williams took all four rest three frames scheduled on afternoon session, extending his lead to six frames before the final session. Williams kept moving in the ninth frame before Murphy won two in a row and made it 8-3.However, Murphy had a frame-winning opportunity but couldn't convert it in the 12th, seeing his rival take a runaway 9-3 lead before another intermission.

Then Murphy could have kept his hope of turning the game around in the 13th frame, but he made a howler, handing the chance to Williams to conclude the final.

"I thought he (Williams) was very tough today and he was very good. He was the better man on the day. I missed a few shots. You always miss a few shots, but Mark punished me severely," said Murphy.

"Maybe I should start patting myself on the back a little bit more because what I am doing now," Williams told Xinhua."At 50 years of age, it is incredible really to just be competing with these top boys and to get a torment under my belt. It is unbelievable," he added.

Gauff beats Pegula to claim Wuhan Open title without dropping a set

Wuhan, Oct 13 (UNI) : Third seed Coco Gauff captured her first Wuhan Open title, defeating fellow American Jessica Pegula 6-4, 7-5 in the final to claim her third WTA 1000 crown.

Gauff made a fast start, winning the first three games of the match. Pegula, seeded sixth, held serve in the fourth game, but Gauff extended her advantage to 4-1. Pegula then found her rhythm, winning three straight games to level at 4-4.

The 21-year-old Gauff held serve in a tense ninth game before breaking Pegula in the next to seal the opening set 6-4.

Pegula opened the second set strongly, racing to a 3-0 lead. Gauff responded with a flurry of aggressive returns and sharp net play, winning three games in succession to draw level. The pair exchanged breaks over the next four games to reach 5-5, before Gauff broke once more to close out the match 7-5.

At the award ceremony, Gauff paid tribute to Pegula, who had battled through four three-set matches to reach the final. The 21-year-old joked that the outcome might have been different if the match had gone the distance. "It's great to finally play in the final against you, and I hope for many more," Gauff noted.

Gauff also thanked her Chinese supporters. "I want to give a huge, huge, huge thank you to all my Chinese fans and everyone supporting me here and also in Beijing. You've gone beyond my expectations. I literally had to bring an extra suitcase home because of all the gifts I received. Why

I have good results here? Because of the good energy."

Gauff did not drop a set throughout the tournament, winning all five matches in straight sets. The Wuhan victory marked her third WTA 1000 title, following triumphs at the 2023 Cincinnati Open and the 2024 China Open in Beijing.

In the women's doubles final, Storm Hunter and Katerina Siniakova lifted the title with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Anna Danilina and Aleksandra Krunic.

India in must win situation against Singapore

points table and are in a must win situation.As India are currently third on the points table in Group C, they need to win all their remaining matches and depend on results of other countries as well. India's best chance of qualifying is apart from willing all their matches if Hong Kong loses to Singapore at home next month.

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Ashwini Vaishnaw grace the RPF raising day Parade at Valsad and felicitates award winning RPF personnel for exemplary services



(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 13 : Mr Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & Information Technology, graced the Raising Day Parade of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) as the Chief Guest at the RPF Zonal Training Centre, Valsad, on 13th October, 2025. During the event, the Union Minister felicitated 41 RPF personnel who were awarded the prestigious Presidents Medals for Meritorious Service, Jeevan Raksha Medals etc, for their courageous efforts in saving passengers' lives. These awards reflect the exemplary service of the RPF in safeguarding the nation's railway network and are set to inspire other members of the force to continue their dedicated efforts with renewed

vigour. The Union Minister also took the ceremonial salute during the RPF parade, marking a significant display of discipline and commitment. The Minister appreciated the high standard of discipline, precision, and dedication displayed by the personnel during the parade. In his address, Shri Vaishnaw extended warm greetings to the RPF personnel on their Foundation Day and commended their unwavering dedication and commitment in ensuring the safety and security of passengers and railway property. The Minister appreciated the RPF's remarkable service during the recent Mahakumbh, ensuring the security and safe & smooth travel of millions of devotees. The Union Minister highlighted

that Indian Railways is undergoing a historic transformation under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. In the past 11 years, nearly 35,000 km of new railway tracks have been laid, and 99% of the railway network (around 60,000 km) has been electrified. At present, almost 150 Vande Bharat and 30 Amrit Bharat Express trains are operational, offering world-class travel experiences to passengers. 1300 stations have been taken for redevelopment under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, with 110 stations already inaugurated and work on the remaining is being done at a fast pace. He further stated that to cater to the festive season demand, a record number of over 12,000 special trains are being operated for Diwali and Chhath,



ensuring convenient travel for all passengers. Mr Vaishnaw emphasized that the KAVACH system is being rapidly deployed on major routes such as Delhi-Howrah and Delhi-Mumbai and is at an advanced stage. KAVACH has been installed on 1200 locomotives. He also stated that about 7000 coaches are being manufactured every year, while 3500 general coaches have been added for the convenience of people. He further said that Modern Technology is being used at a massive scale in the Railway Protection Force and necessary training is also being imparted in this direction. Mr Dhaval Patel, Member of Parliament, Valsad; Shri Bharatbhai Patel, MLA, Valsad; Shri Jitubhai Chaudhari, MLA,

Kaprada; Shri Ramanlal Patkar, MLA, Umargam; Smt Sonali Mishra, Director General RPF; Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta, General Manager, Western Railway; Shri Ajoy Sadany, IG Cum Principal Chief Security Commissioner, Western Railway; Shri Pankaj Singh, Divisional Railway Manager, Mumbai Central Division and other Senior Officers from Headquarters and Division of Western Railway were present at the event. The RPF Raising Day Parade is celebrated by the RPF members and their families. It is a day to reaffirm their commitment to the public. The RPF has emerged as a force with compassion as it has been helping women, children, sick, elderly, differently abled and others in need of care and protection coming in contact with railways. The

force has been working round the clock for providing safe, secure and comfortable travel experience to Railway passengers. It has become a crucial stakeholder in the national security grid by playing an important role in transport security, taking preventive action against acts of terror, fighting crime including Human Trafficking and smuggling, helping police and other Law Enforcement Agencies in detection of crime, aiding in maintenance of law & order. The Railway Protection Force has dedicated itself to the service of the nation and its citizens with utmost dedication, sincerity and hard work to realise the objective of "Sewa Hi Sankalp" leaving no stone unturned in working towards their motto- "Yasho Labhaswa" or "Attain Glory"

Central Railway Commissions Modern Route Relay Interlocking with completion of Yard Remodelling Work

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 13 : Central Railway has successfully commissioned the long-awaited Karjat Yard Remodelling and New Route Relay Interlocking (RRI) system at Karjat Central Cabin on 12th October 2025 at 18:30 hrs, marking a major milestone in its ongoing efforts to modernize and enhance operational efficiency.

The ₹ 74.53 crore project, replaces one of the oldest operational RRI system on Central Railway with a new make RRI, bringing safer, faster, and more reliable train operations. Key Benefits and Improvements New Fourth Line Between Karjat-Palasdari: The new line separates Khopoli branch movements from the main ghat section, improving throughput, punctuality, and safety by eliminating conflicting movements. This improves the suburban movement. Enhanced Train Handling: Up and Down reception lines have been extended and standardized, allowing full-length goods trains to be received and dispatched on proper signals. This ensures safer, smoother train operations and saves up to 10 minutes per train.

Increased Capacity: By remodelling and extending multiple lines and adding a new bi-directional line, the yard can now handle 25% more train movements, including direct reception of freight trains from Panvel without crossing main lines. Signalling & Telecommunication System: The new RRI features: 487 routes, 46 main signals, 39 shunt signals Dual detection system (MSDAC + AFTC) for added safety Automatic Block Signalling between Karjat-Bhivpuri Efftronics Data logger for real-time monitoring Fire alarm, fuse alarm, and advanced safety systems for reliability This upgrade enhances signalling precision, minimizes human intervention, and ensures faster train operations. Engineering & Electrical Works

Alongside signalling modernization, massive civil and electrical works were executed, including: 8 bridge extensions, 2 FOB extensions, and 4.9 km of new track linking 9 TKM of new OHE wiring, 350 masts erected, and complete yard electrification A total of 20 new turnouts were inserted and 8 old turnouts dismantled, along with extensive D-switch replacements, earthwork, ballasting, and foundation strengthening. Major Works Executed utilising the shadow of Karjat Block on 12th October 2025 While the Karjat interlocking work was underway, Central Railway effectively utilized the shadow block period for several key infrastructure upgrades across the Karjat-Lonavala ghat section: Key works included launching of new Foot Over Bridge (FOB) girders at Khandala, replacement of old steel bridges with new PSC slab bridges near Tunnel No. 51, track welding and tamping over 3.5 km, and rehabilitation of major tunnels with steel arch ribs and shotcreting, including the landmark double-track portal construction of Tunnel No. 48. Extensive OHE maintenance and upgrades were also carried out, including replacement of insulators, X-feeder adjustments, and span realignment for new bridges and FOBs. These extensive works have improved track strength, safety, and train handling capacity, better punctuality, and enhanced reliability for both suburban commuters and long-distance passengers, especially through the challenging ghat section. A Step Toward Safer and Smarter Operations The commissioning of the new RRI at Karjat marks a significant leap in railway modernization, improving operational efficiency, train punctuality, and passenger safety. The coordinated efforts of Engineering, S&T, and Electrical departments ensured seamless completion of this complex project within the scheduled block.

Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, GM, SCR holds Safety Review Meeting

(Standard Post Bureau)
Hyderabad, Oct 13 : Mr Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, General Manager, South Central Railway held a detailed review meeting on Safety of train operations across the Zone today i.e., 13th October, 2025 at Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad along with Shri Satya Prakash, Additional General Manager, SCR and Principal Heads of Departments. Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs) of all the six divisions viz., Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Guntur, Guntakal and Nanded Divisions participated through video conference. Mr Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, General Manager led a focused safety review meeting



emphasizing the importance of clearing release materials from tracks to ensure passenger and train safety. He reviewed the trial implementation of Hinged Scotch blocks at stations and stressed strict adherence to safety

protocols by Traction Distribution (TRD) staff to prevent electrocution incidents. The General Manager also highlighted the need for vigilant monitoring of open road traffic at level crossing gates and called for optimal

deployment and utilization of gatemen and manpower. Mr Srivastava appreciated the swift response of officials in addressing signal cable cuts caused by miscreants and urged expedited handling of cattle run-over

cases. He directed the installation of CCTV cameras at goods sheds and private sidings to enhance surveillance and emphasized the operational readiness of Fog Safe Devices and GPS trackers, ensuring their functionality

to support seamless train operations. Additionally, he stressed the importance of maintaining accurate data on locomotives, rolling stock, power systems, etc., to elevate safety standards. Concluding the meeting, the General Manager called for intensified field-level supervision and timely resolution of safety-related issues and accident enquiries. He advocated for regular training and sensitization of safety category staff through refresher courses. Shri Srivastava reiterated that safety is a continuous responsibility and must be embedded in daily operations across the zone, fostering a proactive and accountable safety culture.

Temporary restriction on sale of platform tickets at major station of WR's Mumbai Central Division

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 13 : In view of the anticipated heavy passenger rush during the forthcoming festive season, Western Railway has decided to impose temporary restrictions on the sale of Platform Tickets at select major stations under Mumbai Central Division, with the objective of regulating crowding on platforms and ensuring smooth passenger movement within station premises. According to a press release issued by Shri

Vineet Abhishek, Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, the restriction on the sale of Platform Tickets will remain in force from 15th October 2025 to 31st October 2025 at the following stations: Bandra Terminus Vapi Udhna Surat Mr Vineet further informed that necessary exemptions will be permitted in genuine cases such as for individuals

assisting senior citizens, women passengers, illiterate, Divyangjan or passengers requiring special care, so as to ensure ease of travel and avoid inconvenience. Western Railway appeals to passengers to plan their travel accordingly and to kindly cooperate with the railway staff by adhering to the temporary restriction in the larger interest of safety and orderly crowd management during the festive period.

India-Canada ties progressing steadily: Jaishankar

New Delhi, Oct 13 (UNI) : Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand met with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in New Delhi on Monday, as both sides reaffirmed their intent to rebuild trust and strengthen bilateral relations across multiple sectors. Speaking during the meeting, EAM Jaishankar said that India's approach is to move forward with a "positive mindset, and that bilateral relations between India and Canada have been steadily progressing over the last two months". He highlighted that recent interactions between the National Security Advisors of both countries

marked "an important step in addressing our security concerns." "When we look at Canada, we see a complementary economy, an open society, and a shared commitment to diversity and pluralism—all of which form the basis for close cooperation," he said. "Both sides have outlined an ambitious roadmap for cooperation in various domains, including trade, investment, civil nuclear collaboration, artificial intelligence, and energy," Jaishankar added. Emphasizing shared global objectives, he noted, "India and Canada have a long tradition of active engagement in world

affairs. We are members of the G20 and the Commonwealth. Our convergence in the Indo-Pacific is notable. We are strong proponents of effective multilateralism, climate action, and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals agenda." "We seek to de-risk the international economy by forging strong partnerships of growing range and depth," he said. "Our responsibility as Foreign Ministers is to shepherd the process of rebuilding our cooperation and to ensure that it delivers on the expectations of our Prime Ministers and serves the interests of our people."

Women stage protest in Jharkhand

Bokaro, Oct 13 (UNI) Hundreds of women in Bokaro district took out a protest march demanding a complete ban on liquor in the region. According to police, the protest was triggered by the rampant illegal production and sale of liquor in the locality. The women alleged that several mini-factories were operating in Chandankiyari, producing illicit liquor that was being sold in almost every neighbourhood. Despite repeated complaints, they claimed, no concrete action had been taken by the excise department or the police. The protesters said that the illegal liquor trade had led to serious social problems and public nuisance, affecting families and youth. Women from adjoining areas also joined the march. During the protest, several women raided illegal liquor outlets, destroyed liquor stock and dismantled brewing setups and equipment.