

IN BRIEF

Tushar Bhartiya rejoins BJP; suspension revoked

Mumbai, Sept 30 (UNI) : Tushar Bhartiya, a suspended BJP leader from Amravati in Maharashtra, today rejoined the BJP in the presence of party leaders. Bhartiya's suspension has been revoked.

State BJP chief Ravindra Chavan welcomed him back into the party fold. State general secretary MLC Sanjay Kenekar, BJP Maharashtra's chief spokesperson Keshav Upadhye, Media Department head Navnath Ban and others were present on the occasion.

Bhartiya has also served as the chairman of the standing committee of Amravati Municipal Corporation and as the leader of the House in the municipal corporation.

Power restored after 10 days, 102 patients treated by medical team

Nanded, Sept 30 (UNI) : Power supply and medical facilities were restored in Rahegaon village in Nanded taluka after 10 days following heavy rains in the region, officials said today, adding that a State Disaster Response Force team had to wade through flood water to access the village and help the marooned villagers.

The lone bridge connecting Rahegaon was flooded, cutting off the village completely, said local MLA Anand Rao Bondharkar. He said sub-divisional officer Dr Sachin Khalilal and revenue officer Sanjay Virkad joined hands to arrange help for the villagers.

"The Tehsildar contacted District Collector Rahul Kardele, SDO Dr Khalilal, SDRF Inspector Prashant Rathod and Taluka Health Officer Dr Praveen Munde. They took the action forward," said Bondharkar.

The medical team reached the village and treated 102 patients.

The medical facilities were provided by Dr Vivek Padmane and Dr Shaikh Hassan. Shaikh Mumtaz, Shailesh Waghmare and Balu Ghodjekar were among those who successfully brought a semblance of normalcy in the village.

Villagers expressed satisfaction over the restoration of electricity and the provision of medical treatment.

Govt. to roll out flood relief policy for farmers within a week: CM, Fadnavis

Mumbai, Sept 30 (UNI) : Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced today that the state government is preparing a comprehensive policy to support those affected by recent heavy rains and floods. He said a detailed

survey of the losses is currently underway, and an important decision will be announced within a week.

Fadnavis assured that compensation payments will be directly deposited into the bank accounts of affected citizens before

Diwali.

Addressing demands for the declaration of a "wet drought," he clarified that no such provision exists in government records.

However, he emphasized that all

benefits and relief measures typically extended during drought situations are already being implemented.

The Chief Minister also revealed that the cabinet has approved a new "cancer care policy"

designed to improve treatment accessibility.

While cancer centres are already operational in several parts of the state, the new policy will ensure that advanced treatment facilities are established in every district.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi pays his last respects to late veteran BJP leader Vijay Kumar Malhotra, at his residence, in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Uddhav Thackeray camp should hold Dussehra rally in Sonia Gandhi's courtyard: Shinde faction

Mumbai, Sept 30 (UNI) : Shiv Sena (Shinde faction) spokesperson Jyoti Waghmare today took pot shots at the Uddhav Thackeray camp, saying that though many may inherit Balasaheb Thackeray's property, it is only Eknath Shinde who has inherited his ideology. Criticizing Uddhav's rallies, she said that in the past, Dussehra gatherings discussed ideology, whereas now they only showcase theatrics. Raising questions over UBT spokesperson Sanjay Raut's silence, Waghmare asked why the

Thackeray group did not object when MNS leaders claimed that Mumbai's next mayor would be from their party. "If two brothers are reuniting, that's good, but Raut should also explain why Uddhav and Raj parted ways in the first place," she said. Mocking the rival camp, she added, "Their high command sits in Delhi, and they hardly have enough supporters to fill a plane," in a reference to the Congress high command.

"They should hold their rally in Sonia's courtyard. Tomorrow, they might even invite Dawood Ibrahim."

The Dussehra rally is as sacred to Shiv Sainiks as the Pandharpur pilgrimage, Waghmare said, asserting that the Sena led by Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde is the "real Shiv Sena." "Our Dussehra rally belongs to Shivaji's warriors, while Uddhav Thackeray's rally belongs to Congress's crows. If they wish, they can celebrate in Sonia Gandhi's courtyard in Delhi.

Waghmare also spoke about her visit to flood-affected areas, describing the dire situation. "Women literally broke down crying in my arms," she said.

Collectors get nod for immediate flood relief

Mumbai, Sept 30 (UNI) : In a major relief measure, the government has authorized district collectors to provide assistance to farmers affected by excessive rainfall and floods directly from the annual plan funds. Until now, collectors had to wait for orders from Mumbai, but this decision enables them to act swiftly in disaster-hit areas.

Previously, these funds could only be used during drought or scarcity situations. With the revised guidelines, up to five percent of the annual plan allocation can now be utilized to support farmers impacted by natural calamities such as floods and heavy rains. District collectors in Parbhani, Amravati, Akola, Dhareashiv, Solapur, and

across Marathwada will now be able to extend immediate help.

Health Minister Prakash Abitkar informed that the health department is taking precautionary measures to prevent the spread of diseases in flood-hit areas. Supplies such as bleaching powder and other sanitation materials are being provided as required. The Health ministry is maintaining direct communication with gram panchayats to ensure effective response. The Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister have instructed guardian ministers and administrative officials to conduct frequent on-ground reviews of the situation to ensure timely relief.

Dussehra Rally feud erupts as Sanjay Raut, BJP trade charges, accusations

Mumbai, Sept 30 (UNI) : A volley of accusations was exchanged today between the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena and the BJP over how the upcoming Dussehra (Vijayadashami) rallies on October two should be conducted.

Addressing the media, Shiv Sena (UBT) MP and chief spokesperson Sanjay Raut said, "Eknath Shinde should hold his Dussehra gathering in Vadodara, Surat, or Ahmedabad in Gujarat. He should invite (Union Home Minister Amit Shah's son) Jay Shah."

In response, BJP spokesperson Navnath Ban hit back, stating, "Sanjay Raut must stop dragging Jay Shah's name into everything. Uddhav Thackeray should instead invite All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief Asaduddin Owaisi and All India Muslim

Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) spokesperson Sajjad Nomani to his rally."

Ban further alleged, "During Uddhav Thackeray's tenure, when he abandoned the Hindutva principles of the venerable Balasaheb Thackeray and allied with the Congress, Hindus were being attacked, riots broke out, and Hindu homes were burned."

"Under the BJP-led Mahayuti government, priority is being given to maintaining law and order. Why should Sanjay Raut be so angry about the police taking action against rioters in Ahilyanagar? Uddhav Thackeray's party has become a dependent of the Congress and his party has become merely a subsidiary of Rahul Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi," BJP spokesperson Ban said today at a press conference at the BJP Maharashtra state unit

office here. Meanwhile, Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena has announced that it will go ahead with its traditional annual Dussehra rally at Shivaji Park in Dadar West, regardless of the rain forecast for October two.

Initially, the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena also insisted on holding its Dussehra rally at Shivaji Park but later shifted its venue to Azad Maidan in a move seen as conciliatory.

Despite meteorological predictions of a week-long rainfall, the Uddhav faction is proceeding with preparations at Shivaji Park, including the construction of a grand stage, VIP seating, and arrangements for thousands of Shiv Sainiks. Party office bearers have reportedly been instructed that the rally must go on—rain or shine. Reacting to this development, BJP

(Contd on page 3)



PM visits Shiv Mandir Durga Puja pandal in Chittaranjan Park

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi this evening visited the Shiv Mandir complex in Chittaranjan Park and participated in the Durga Puja celebrations. The Prime Minister joined in the Sandhya Arati of Goddess Durga and also prayed at the Kali Mandir in the temple complex.

In a post on X, the PM said: "Today, on the auspicious day of Maha Ashtami, I went to participate in the Durga Puja at Chittaranjan Park in Delhi. (See on page 2)

Marriage, childbirth no ground to quash POCSO FIR, Bombay



The Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court has ruled that an FIR registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act cannot be quashed merely because the minor survivor later married the accused and gave birth to his child.

(See on page 3)

Trump to give 'three or four days' to Hamas to agree to his Gaza ...



US President Donald Trump has said that he will give Hamas a time period of "three or four days" to agree to his 20-point Gaza peace plan. Speaking to reporters, he said that the White House was now "just waiting for Hamas," as the plan has been hailed by Israel, Europe, and the Muslim-Arab world as a feasible path to peace, reports The Guardian. (See on page 5)

Deepthi joins elite club with allround masterclass



Deepthi Sharma joined an elite group of Indian women cricketers as she produced a sensational allround performance to guide India Women to a 59-run victory over Sri Lanka Women in their ICC Women's World Cup 2025 opener at Barsapara Cricket Stadium. (See on page 7)

Farewell to Retired Employees by Bhiwandi Municipal Corporation



(Standard Post Bureau)

Bhiwandi, Sept 30 : As 04 employees retired from the Municipal Corporation service as per the prescribed age limit, as per the instructions given by the Administrator and Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation, Shri. Anmol Sagar (B.P.S.), the retired employees were bid farewell by the Municipal Corporation

through a program. On this occasion, Assistant Commissioner (Health) Shri. Shailesh Donde felicitated them by giving them shawls and bouquets and he also wished the retired employees for their future lives.

The farewell ceremony held on the third floor of the new administrative building of the Municipal Corporation was held in the

hall of the Hon'ble Commissioner.) Ashwini Anil Pandav (Clerk, Telephone Operator) Telephone Department, Retired. 2) Santosh Krishna Bhoir (Clerk) P.S. No. 1, Retired. 3) Vijay Pudanlik Pawar (Electric Helper) Electricity Department, Retired. 4) Pralhad Sitaram Bhagat (S.C. Worker) Ward Committee No. 1 Retired. 04 such retired Municipal

Corporation employees were bid farewell today on behalf of the Municipal Corporation.

On this occasion, Additional City Engineer Sachin Naik and Municipal Officers pro dept head srikant pardesi were present Employees, Representatives of all Employee Unions, Family Members of the Retired Employees etc. were present.

1 BGP Dispensary and 19 Urban Health Centers are functioning under Bhiwandi Municipal Corporation

(Standard Post Bureau)

Bhiwandi, Sept 30 : Currently, 01 BGP Dispensary and 19 Urban Health Centers are functioning under the Medical Health Department of the Municipal Corporation from 09.00 AM to 05.00 PM (excluding weekly/public holidays). BGP Dispensary, Bazar, Mandai, Bhiwandi. are functioning here and outpatient examination and treatment is being done at these places and the Urban Health Centers of the Municipal Corporation are 1) Examination of pregnant mothers 2) Regular vaccination of pregnant mothers and young children 3) Daily OPD 4) Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Surakshith Matritva Yojana 5) Implementation of Janani Suraksha Yojana 6) Implementation of Family Planning Scheme 7) Surveillance and treatment of patients with infectious diseases 8) Malaria survey and preventive measures as well as medication 9) First aid for infectious and non-communicable diseases 10) Implementation of Pulse Polio Scheme and other national programs etc. The works are being done at the Urban Health Centers of the Municipal Corporation. Also, out of the 39 UHCs approved by the government under the National Urban Health Mission, 19 centers are functioning in various parts of the Municipal Corporation and outpatient examination and treatment are being provided at these places. Similarly, under the 15th Finance Commission, 10 Hindu Hriday Samrat Balasaheb Thackeray dispensaries are functioning in various parts of the Municipal Corporation under the jurisdiction of Bhiwandi Nizampur City Municipal Corporation under the government level and outpatient examination and treatment are being provided at these places.

Similarly, under the Bombay Nursing Home

Registration Act 1949, private hospitals/maternity homes within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Corporation are being registered at the Municipal level under the Maharashtra Nursing Home Registration (Amended) Rules-2021. In July, 2025, punitive action has been taken against 04 people under the said Act as they were found to be illegally delivering babies without registering with the Municipal Corporation. Also, a review committee has been formed at the municipal level as per the government directives to take action against bogus doctors practicing medicine illegally, and the Municipal Commissioner, Chairman and Municipal Medical Health Officer are working as members in this committee. Under the control of this review committee, the medical officers of 1 to 19 urban health centers are searching for bogus doctors practicing medicine illegally within the municipal jurisdiction or as per the complaints received, and a case is being registered against them as bogus doctors at the relevant police station under Sections 33, 36 of the Maharashtra Medical Practitioners Act 1961 and Section 318 (4) of the Indian Penal Code. A total of 74 bogus doctors, including 01 in July 2025 and 03 in September 2025, have been registered with the help of the police. However, it is a challenge to the citizens that as many citizens as possible should take advantage of the health services of the Municipal Corporation and should pass this message on to other citizens/friends/relatives. Also, citizens should not take any kind of medicine from people who are doing medical business illegally and if it is found that they are doing medical business illegally and running a hospital without registering with the Municipal Corporation, they should file a complaint with the Municipal Corporation.

Bihar to Receive the Gift of 3 New Amrit Bharat Trains and 4 Passenger Trains

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Sept 30 : Bihar is set to receive another major boost in the field of modern rail connectivity. Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw and Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary will dedicate seven trains to the state from Patna Junction, which include three Amrit Bharat Express trains. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw will join the program via video conferencing.

The Amrit Bharat Express, which has gained a distinct identity as a popular train among the middle class and common people, currently operates 12 services across the country, of which 10 run from Bihar. With the launch of three more Amrit Bharat Express trains, the total will

rise to 15, out of which 13 will operate from Bihar. This is a major gift from the Centre to the people of Bihar. The Railway Minister and Deputy CM will inaugurate three Amrit Bharat Express trains – from Muzaffarpur to Charlapalli (near Hyderabad), from Darbhanga to Madar Junction (near Ajmer), and from Chhapra to Anand Vihar Terminal (Delhi).

The Muzaffarpur–Charlapalli Amrit Bharat Express will be the first Amrit Bharat train from Muzaffarpur to South India, while the Chhapra–Anand Vihar Amrit Bharat Express will become the sixth Amrit Bharat train from Bihar to Delhi.

This state-of-the-art indigenous train will provide passengers with a fast, safe, and comfortable travel experience. These trains will strengthen

Bihar's connectivity with different parts of the country, particularly North and South India. Their operations will boost economic activities in the state and create new opportunities in tourism, trade, and employment.

Developed by Indian Railways, the Amrit Bharat Express has become a symbol of modernization in the country's railway system. The train is not just a fast and affordable travel option, but it also comes equipped with advanced features such as semi-automatic couplers, fire detection systems, sealed gangways, and talk-back units. For the first time, advanced technology has been introduced in non-AC coaches as well for passenger safety.

Previously, Bihar had 10 Amrit Bharat trains operational. With the launch of these three new

trains, the state's connectivity will further improve. This marks an important step towards realizing the vision of "Viksit Bihar Se Viksit Bharat" (Developed India through a Developed Bihar).

Brief Details of Amrit Bharat Express Trains:

1. Train No. 15293/15294 Muzaffarpur–Charlapalli–Muzaffarpur Amrit Bharat Express (Weekly):

This express will run via Hajipur, Patliputra, Ara, Buxar, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction, Prayagraj Chheoki, Jabalpur, Itarsi, Nagpur, and Kazipet.

2. Train No. 19623/19624 Madar–Darbhanga–Madar Amrit Bharat Express (Weekly):

This express will run via Kamtaul, Sitamarhi, Raxaul, Narkatiaganj, Gorakhpur, Gomti Nagar, Kanpur, Tundla, and Jaipur.

3. Train No. 15133/15134 Chhapra–Anand Vihar–

Urvashi Rautela joins ED's probe in Bet app case

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Actress Urvashi Rautela today joined the investigation in a money laundering case linked to the illegal banned betting app '1XBet'.

Earlier, Bollywood actor Sonu Sood, former Indian Cricketer Yuvraj Singh and web series 'Gandi Baat' actress Anveshi Jain recorded their statements.

According to ED sources, these celebrities were utilized in promotional campaigns for 1xBet, which significantly helped the illegal platform build a substantial user base in India despite its prohibition.

The agency also issued a statement expressing concern about a new threat emerging from the recent ban on regulated money gaming apps. It warned of a potential rise in illegal betting platforms targeting users in India and emphasized the need for focused strategies to counter this challenge.

Officials provided staggering figures to illustrate the scale of the problem, noting that in the first quarter of this year alone, illegal betting websites received more than one billion hits. The total value of unregulated gambling activity is estimated to be approximately USD 100 billion.

This recent action is part of a wider crackdown, with the ED having already recorded statements from several other personalities. Bengali actor Ankush Hazra was questioned recently, while actress Urvashi Rautela has not yet complied with the probe.

Since June, the investigation has also involved former cricketers Suresh Raina and Shikhar Dhawan, as well as numerous actors from the Tollywood film industry, concerning their alleged endorsements of illegal gaming apps. Investigators highlighted that a common tactic used by these platforms is to disguise gambling activities as "skill-based games" to evade legal restrictions. They clarified that the outcomes are predominantly based on chance rather than actual skill, and that fantasy games involving monetary stakes operate with rigged algorithms.

Chhapra Amrit Bharat Express (Twice Weekly):

This express will run via Siwan, Thawe, Kaptanganj, Gorakhpur, Basti, Gonda, Aishbagh (Lucknow), and Kanpur.

Keeping in mind the needs of the common public in rail services, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Deputy CM Samrat Choudhary will also flag off four passenger trains. The trains will run on the following routes:

Patna–Buxar, Jhajha–Danapur, Patna–Islampur, and Nawada–Patna via Sheikhpura–Barbigha. The commencement of passenger train services on the Sheikhpura–Barbigha–Bihar Sharif route from Nawada to Patna will fulfill the long-pending dream of people in the Barbigha–Asthawan–Bihar Sharif region, especially after the successful CRS inspection of this section. The Patna–

UP Govt is merely conducting aerial surveys and making superficial appearances: Akhilesh

Lucknow, Sept 30 (UNI) : Samajwadi Party National President Akhilesh Yadav has leveled serious allegations against the Yogi Adityanath government regarding the increasing attacks by wild animals and wolves in Uttar Pradesh.

He said that the government is merely conducting aerial surveys and making superficial appearances, while no concrete steps have been taken on the ground to prevent the continuous deaths of farmers and villagers.

Referring to the death of a farmer couple in Bahraich on Monday due

to a wolf attack, Akhilesh Yadav said that villagers of the state are living in an atmosphere of fear and terror. He said, "If the government had spent so much money on wolf tourism on the ground, the wolves would have been caught and lives would have been saved."

The SP president alleged that people across the state are suffering from wild animals, from wolves, leopards, pythons, and stray bulls. Farmers are afraid to go to their fields, and farming is being ruined. He said the BJP government is shrugging off the problem and often

claims, "No animal footprints were found."

Akhilesh Yadav blamed illegal felling of trees and destruction of forest areas for human-wildlife conflict. He said that when animals face a food and shelter crisis, they will enter human settlements, leading to conflicts that often prove fatal. He demanded assistance for the families of the deceased and concrete steps to protect villagers from wild animals. He also claimed that "the BJP government is in its final stages, and after 2027, the public will automatically be free from these problems."

Punjab CM meets Home Minister, seeks funds for flood relief efforts

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann today met Home Minister Amit Shah and apprised him of the extent of damage in the State caused by floods during the Monsoon season. He also demanded additional funds for the state for disaster relief and restoration, a Home Ministry statement said.

During the meeting the Chief Minister was apprised that in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), Punjab has sufficient funds to the tune of Rs 12,589.59 crore, which can be utilised for the relief and immediate restoration to the affected people as per Government of India norms.

The Home Minister said the Central Government has provided all possible

assistance from central agencies to the state administration, in search, rescue and immediate restoration during the recent floods in the State.

Shah said Modi government is standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the people of Punjab and is committed to providing all possible help to flood affected people of the state.

On September 9, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had visited Punjab and reviewed the flood situation and damages caused in state. Out of the financial assistance of Rs 1,600 crore announced by the Prime Minister, Rs 805 crore (including Rs 170 crore under sanction by NHAI) has already been released to the State Government and intended beneficiaries under various

schemes. The rest will be released on receipt of relevant information from the State.

An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) was constituted on September one without waiting for the receipt of memorandum from the State of Punjab. The team visited the affected areas for an on-the-spot assessment of damages in the State from September 3-6. However, the State Government is yet to submit a detailed memorandum. After receipt of the memorandum, the same will be considered by the Central Government as per the Government of India approved norms.

Besides this, the state can prepare a recovery and reconstruction plan for restoration of livelihood and damaged infrastructure.

Delhi BJP leaders mourn Prof Vijay Malhotra

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Delhi BJP leaders have expressed deep sorrow over the demise of veteran party leader Professor Vijay Kumar Malhotra, while state unit chief Virendra Sachdeva has said that Malhotra was not only the founding president of party's Delhi unit, but also a mentor to

party workers since the days of Jan Sangh.

Sachdeva said as a public representative, Malhotra dedicated a significant part of his life to the development of the national capital, and made an invaluable contribution to the growth of sports in the country.

The Delhi BJP chief said initiatives such as launching a shelter scheme for slum dwellers and the urban poor, or building Delhi's first flyover, are the testimony to his legacy as a true architect of development.

Delhi BJP general secretary (organization) Pawan Rana said Malhotra's life was one of struggle, service, and dedication.

His influence extended beyond Delhi, and the BJP workers from across the country, including from Himachal Pradesh, continue to draw inspiration from Malhotra's disciplined life.

Union Minister of State Harsh Malhotra stated that Malhotra was one of the most senior leaders in Indian politics, a founding member of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, and the first president of Delhi BJP, and he lived his life fully committed to the principle of "Nation First."

He played a significant role in strengthening India's parliamentary democracy,

and his entire life was dedicated to the nation and society, the union minister added.

BJP national spokesperson Sardar RP Singh urged Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta to name the first flyover in Delhi constructed under Malhotra's leadership and connecting Patel Nagar to Moti Nagar as "Vijay Setu." MP Praveen Khandelwal has stated that the demise of BJP's senior leader and Delhi's first true "Vikas Purush," Malhotra, is not only an irreparable loss for BJP, but for all of Delhi.

Khandelwal said Malhotra laid a strong foundation of modern development in Delhi, worked diligently to resolve traders' issues, supported religious outreach, and made extraordinary contributions to the expansion of sports, both in the national Capital, and across India.

Delhi BJP media head Praveen Shankar Kapoor has said that Malhotra symbolized integrity in Delhi's politics.

Kapoor said that whether during the Jan Sangh era, the founding phase of BJP, or in his role with the Parliamentary Party, Malhotra consistently advanced the party's political discourse as its spokesperson.

BJP files complain against Congress X post

Mumbai, Sept 30 (UNI) The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has lodged a police complaint against the Maharashtra Congress over a series of controversial and allegedly misleading posts shared from its official handle on X (formerly Twitter), accusing the party of attempting to mislead the public and incite unrest.

Based on a written complaint submitted by BJP Social Media Cell Coordinator Prakash Gade, the Marine Drive police station has registered an FIR under Sections 192, 353(1), and 353(2) (provocation to cause riot and public mischief) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

The post in question depicted a BJP office on fire amid the Ladakh statehood protests, the Uttarakhand paper leak protests, and the Congress's Voter Adhikar Yatra in Bihar.

While referring to the recent protests in Leh, Ladakh, where demonstrators allegedly set a BJP office on fire, the Maharashtra Congress stated in its post, "The BJP should not underestimate the people. Otherwise, just

as Gen Z in Leh set the BJP office on fire, a similar situation will arise across the entire country."

This remark came after the September 24 protests in Leh, which escalated into clashes with police as demonstrators demanded statehood for Ladakh and inclusion under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

Maharashtra BJP spokesperson Advocate Aniket Nikam, speaking to the media, said, "This post by the Maharashtra Congress is a serious threat to public order and social harmony. In the riots that took place in Leh on September 24, a BJP office was burned and four people were killed."

"Referring to this incident, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and the Maharashtra Congress are encouraging violence across the country, which is highly condemnable. The Maharashtra government, led by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, is resolute and will not tolerate any attempt to disturb peace in the state. The people of Maharashtra are with the BJP and will thwart any such efforts," he said.

Golden Evening marks Childhood Cancer Awareness month in Pune

Pune, Sept 30 (UNI) : September is observed globally as International Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and to mark the occasion, the Access Life Assistance Foundation hosted its third consecutive 'Golden Evening' celebration in Pune. The historic Aga Khan Palace was bathed in golden lights, symbolizing hope, courage, and strength for young cancer fighters. The event was attended by Arjuna awardee Captain Gopal Devang and boxing champion Prakash Kakade, who inspired the children with the powerful message, "Dishoom to Cancer."

Cultural performances enlivened the evening, including a captivating dance by Kalyani Salelkar and her troupe, while students from Bishops School actively participated to support the cause. Interactions with the young warriors and their families were filled with laughter, resilience, and courage, leaving a lasting impression on all attendees.

The event was attended by Access Life founders Girish Nair and Ankit Dave, along with Dr. Chandan Dharmaraj, manager of the Pune center. With growing support from volunteers and well-wishers, the Pune centre continues to expand, making a significant impact in the lives of children undergoing cancer treatment.

Dussehra Rally feud erupts as Sanjay

(Contd from page 1) spokesperson Keshav Upadhye said, "Uddhav Thackeray must cancel his Dussehra rally of the Shiv Sena and give away the cash to flood victims. Uddhav Thackeray spent a three-hour tour of five districts and expressed his sorrow, pain, and anguish. He sat at home without taking any action when he was the Chief Minister, and now it is time for him to atone for his inaction."

Upadhye also criticised the content of Uddhav Thackeray's annual rally, saying that in the past, under Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray, the event was known for its ideological direction.

"But now, it has been reduced to repeating the same script of calling others traitors. Why should ordinary people be burdened with lakhs of

rupees for such theatrics, when the same lament continues daily in the Sena mouthpiece 'Saamana'," Upadhye said. However, Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena spokesperson Harshal Pradhan responded to BJP spokesperson Keshav Upadhyay's s and said, "Keshav Upadhyay who advised Uddhav Thackeray to give away cash to flood victims, did not give the same advice to RSS Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat.

So, he should give the same advice to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief before advising Uddhav Thackeray. Why did Upadhyay not give the same advice to Bhagwat? If the rally has to be cancelled, then the RSS should cancel it and give the lakhs of rupees spent to organise it, to flood victims instead."

Latur MLA inspects rain-affected areas

Latur, Sept 30 (UNI) : Congress MLA Amit Deshmukh today reviewed the situation in rain-affected areas and directed government officials to immediately stop water from overflowing on to the road near Koha lake.

He told engineers on duty to regulate the flow of water and take measures to avoid inconvenience to villagers. Besides Koha village, the MLA visited Chandeshwar, where extensive damage to property has occurred due to rains.

He inspected damaged roads and other places and directed officers to take necessary steps.

He also spoke to villagers and assured them that the government would make every effort to resolve their problems. Deshmukh said public convenience and safety would be given top priority so that daily life is not affected by rain.

Pune-Mumbai bus service resumes from Latur

Latur, Sept 30 (UNI) : Bus service connecting Pune and Mumbai has officially resumed from the Latur Central Bus Station, providing long-awaited convenience for passengers, students, and women.

The decision allows all buses to run as usual from the Latur Central Bus Station, benefiting people in Murud and nearby areas. During the inauguration, Latur MP Dr. Shivaji Rao Kalge honoured the drivers and conductors of the Udgir-Pune bus at Murud Bus Station.

The event saw the presence of Murud Bus Station Controller B.H. Deokar, alongside political leaders including NCP (Sharad Chandra Pawar Group) District President Sanjay Shete, Shiv Sena (Ubatha) District Vice President BN Dongre, and National Congress Provincial Secretary Dinesh Nogere. All attendees expressed satisfaction with the launch of the facility.

MLA Chavan stresses balanced diet

Ch. Sambhajinagar, Sept 30 (UNI) : BJP MLA Anuradha Chavan from the Phalumbri assembly constituency today stressed the urgent need for public health awareness and consuming a balanced diet.

Chavan made the remarks while inaugurating the "Swast Nari, Sushakt Parivar Abhiyan" and "Nam Netra Sanjeevani" programmes at the Aadat Bazar Primary Health Center. The initiatives are part of the BJP's fortnight-long programme to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday.

She stated the initiative aims to promote health c o n s c i o u s n e s s , cleanliness, and the spirit of social service among citizens.

The event saw the participation of Jitendra Jaiswal, Sindhu Anna Jadhav, Sadar Gopal Wagh, Raju Tope, Krishna Sutam, and numerous villagers.



Monks offer prayers during the 'Kumari Puja' as part of Durga Puja celebrations at Belur Math in Howrah district, West Bengal.

ED raids Reliance infra in Rs 17,000 cr probe

Mumbai, Sept 30 (UNI) : The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted raids today at six premises of the Anil Ambani-linked Reliance Infrastructure (RInfra) in Indore and Mumbai, as part of its probe into alleged illegal remittances abroad, violating the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) and a loan diversion amounting to over Rs 17,000 crore, according to an official statement.

However, it is not known if any seizures have been made so far during the raids.

The latest raid came after the ED pointed to the findings of a recent SEBI

report and alleged that RInfra funneled funds to other Reliance Group entities under the pretext of inter-corporate deposits (ICDs).

Allegedly, these transactions were routed through a company named CLE, which according to the ED's allegation, was not disclosed as a "related party" by RInfra.

According to the ED, this was allegedly a move intended to circumvent mandatory shareholder and audit committee approvals.

Back in August, Anil Ambani appeared before the ED in connection with a money laundering investigation linked to multiple fraud cases

involving several group companies. He was summoned to the ED headquarters in New Delhi, where his statement was recorded under provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The ED had also approached 39 banks, seeking clarification on potential lapses in due diligence, as part of its broader probe into the alleged loan fraud.

The ED raised questions about why lenders and banks failed to flag these loans as 'suspicious' or report them to regulators after the borrowing entities began defaulting on repayments. Earlier, on September 11,

the Central Bank Of India had issued a show-cause notice to Anil Ambani-linked Reliance Communications (RCom) asking the company to present reasons why its account must not be treated as "fraud".

According to the Central Bank of India notice, the outstanding amounts comprise a Rs 280 crore term loan availed by RCom, Rs 20 crore term-loan facility provided to Reliance Telecom (RTL), and a Rs 100-crore performance bank guarantee furnished to RTL. The ED had registered a case against RCom for an alleged Rs 2,929 crore loan fraud with the State Bank of India (SBI).

Marriage, childbirth no ground to quash POCSO FIR, Bombay High Court

Nagpur, Sept 30 (UNI) : The Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court has ruled that an FIR registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act cannot be quashed merely because the minor survivor later married the accused and gave birth to his child.

A division bench comprising Justices Urmila Joshi-Phalke and Nandesh Deshpande on September 27 rejected a criminal application filed by M. A. Beigh and two family members seeking to quash the POCSO and Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita cases registered against them.

The facts, as presented before the court, indicate that Beigh married the girl on June 2, 2024, when she was 17, and the girl later gave birth to a baby boy in May 2025.

The FIR was lodged after the police, upon learning of the child's birth and the girl's minor status, registered a complaint.

In defense, the survivor, who is now an adult, had supported the accused in court, maintaining that the relationship was consensual and that the marriage had been conducted with the approval of both families. Her

counsel argued the case was an "exceptional case" of adolescent love and that prosecution would harm both mother and child.

However, the High Court held that the consent of a minor is legally irrelevant under the POCSO Act, and that knowledge of the minor's age by the accused transforms the act into an offence from the moment the minor is removed from her lawful custody, regardless of subsequent events such as marriage or childbirth.

The bench underlined that "justice has to be done according to law," stressing that the Act's primary aim is to protect minors from sexual exploitation and that its protection is "gender-neutral."

While the judges acknowledged that the Supreme Court is presently examining whether consensual adolescent relationships ought to be treated differently under POCSO, they stated that until the law is amended, they were bound by the statute. Accordingly, the FIR, which also names two of Beigh's family members, will proceed to trial under the relevant child-protection laws.

NIA seeks impounding of passports of accused in Elgar Parishad case

Mumbai, Sept 30 (UNI) : A special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court directed five accused in the Elgar Parishad case to file their replies to an application moved by the central agency seeking directions to impound their passports under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Special Public Prosecutor Prakash Shetty, while moving the plea, cited provisions of the UAPA and argued that the court has powers to impound passports of accused persons on bail as there is an apprehension they may misuse the document to leave the country.

The plea pertains to accused Rona Wilson, Mahesh Raut, Anand Teltumbde, Gautam Navlakha and Hany Babu. The case relates to

alleged inflammatory speeches delivered at the Elgar Parishad conclave in Pune on December 31, 2017, which the police claim triggered violence the following day near the Koregaon-Bhima war memorial on the outskirts of the city.

Prominent activists including Varavara Rao, Sudha Bhardwaj, Gautam Navlakha, Anand Teltumbde, Stan Swamy, Vernon Gonsalves and Arun Ferreira are among the accused facing charges, most of whom remain in jail.

Among those granted bail was Gautam Navlakha, who was released on the Supreme Court's order after spending over four years in prison without charges being framed.

Last year, he was shifted to house arrest in

Navi Mumbai.

Arrested in August 2018, Navlakha is among 16 activists detained for their alleged involvement in the 2017 conclave. The NIA took over the probe

from Pune police in January 2020. Earlier, Maharashtra police had conducted raids in Pune, Delhi and other cities, claiming the conclave was funded by Maoist groups.

Dr Ketan Deshpande completes PhD on CSR-based Skilling Initiatives in Maharashtra

Pune, Sept 30 (UNI) : Friends union for Energising Lives (FUEL) proudly announced that its founder & chairman, Dr Ketan Deshpande, has successfully defended his thesis and been awarded the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) from Symbiosis International University (SCMHRD).

His doctoral research, titled Evaluating the Efficacy of CSR-Based Skilling Initiatives of Banks in Maharashtra with a Social Return on Investment Model, provides strong academic evidence of how CSR-based programmes by banks are enabling large-scale skill development for underserved youth while delivering measurable social returns on investment (SROI).

The thesis was supervised by Dr. Pratima Sheorey (Supervisor) and Dr. Gauri Joshi (Co-Supervisor) at SCMHRD.

Dr. Deshpande, who has dedicated nearly two decades to education and CSR, leads FUEL in empowering first-generation learners across India. He has also been recognised globally as a Visiting Fellow at Judge Business School, University of Cambridge, for his research on CSR and education. His work has been appreciated by the Prime Minister of India, while Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and union Minister Nitin Gadkari have also praised the FUEL CSR model as a scalable initiative for India's youth, said release today. Dr. Deshpande said, "Successfully defending this PhD thesis is both an academic recognition and a validation of our mission—that CSR-based initiatives of banks can transform the skilling landscape. We will now take this research into practice by building CSR programmes that uplift downtrodden sections of society..."

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STANDARD POST

Yunus-led govt in Bangladesh shows no progress, thousands flee abroad

Although more than a year has passed since Bangladesh's Muhammad Yunus-led interim government presented itself as a progressive alternative, promising reforms, dignity, and international recognition, there has been no progress on the ground, a report cited. It added that neither have reforms been implemented, nor has the law and order situation improved; rather, a silent national crisis has emerged, driving thousands to leave the country.

"From India to Indonesia, Vietnam to Thailand — even Tajikistan, which once offered e-visas within one hour — governments are now making it difficult for Bangladeshis to enter foreign countries. Visa denials, delays, and bans have become the norm. The government blames human trafficking and the failures of the previous government. However, diplomats argue that the real reasons are diplomatic inaction, political instability, and the government's lack of legitimacy," a report in 'The Diplomat' detailed.

"In this conflict, Bangladeshi passports have fallen into a terrible crisis, causing suffering to millions of people. The Bangladeshi passport is no longer one that symbolises opportunity but has now become a reminder of crushed aspirations," it added.

According to the report, the first major failure of the Yunus-led interim government came in diplomacy.

Following the political change in August 2024, India stopped issuing tourist visas to Bangladeshis, and the ban remains in place a year later. Among nearly 10 million foreign tourists who visited India from April 2023 to March 2024, it said, over 2.1 million were Bangladeshis. "Indonesia has also stopped on-arrival visas for Bangladeshis on the pretext of human trafficking. The visit of Indonesia's deputy foreign minister to Dhaka in June made no progress on the issue. Thailand, which previously issued e-visas to Bangladeshis within a week, is now taking 40-50 days to process visas for Bangladeshi nationals," The Diplomat report stressed. "The UAE has reduced the number of visas it issues to Bangladeshis; on average, only 30 to 50 Bangladeshis are getting UAE visas per day. Vietnam has stopped issuing tourist visas to Bangladeshis. Italy has more than 60,000 Bangladeshi visa applications pending," it added. The report stressed that such instances underscored the declining global respect for the Bangladeshi passport. In 2025, it said, Yunus is leading a nation whose international dignity diminishes with every rejected visa.

"As the head of state, it is his duty to restore democratic practices and establish political stability, so that Bangladesh can move forward with its head held high, so that its citizens do not face humiliation at foreign immigration checkpoints, and the credibility of the passport does not continue to decline," the report noted.

Art Meets Divinity: Three-Day National Art Camp Held at Vrindavan Shrikrishna Janmashtami Ashram



(By Staff Reporter)
Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh – A powerful blend of myth, creativity and spiritual inquiry marked the recently concluded three-day national art camp at the sacred premises of Shrikrishna Janmashtami Ashram. With the theme of expressing mythological characters and narratives through painting, the event witnessed a remarkable confluence of 55 artists from 15 different states, along with intense discussions on the philosophy of painting among Indian youth. The camp was recently concluded and received an overwhelmingly positive response from both the participating artists and the audience.

Curated by renowned Jaipur-based artist Pawan Kumar Tak and managed by Vivek Sharma, Special Secretary of the Ramayan Research Council, the camp transformed the ashram into a vibrant arena of thought and expression.

While many participating artists remained rooted in calendar-style depictions—a familiar format in traditional Indian religious art—others broke from convention. A few younger artists ventured into innovative territory, blending mythological themes with contemporary aesthetics and abstract interpretations. Senior artists, on the other hand, showcased deeply rooted



tribal and folk styles, preserving the authenticity of ancient Indian artistic traditions.

The event wasn't just visual—it was philosophical. In a thought-provoking session, senior artist, writer, and journalist Prabuddha Ghosh (Pune, Maharashtra) emphasized

the need for originality in artistic creation, advocating for a new spirit in art camps free from imitation. "Art must be born from one's inner consciousness—not copied, but created," said Ghosh. He introduced ideas of neo-contemporary art, drawn from his international exposure, urging artists to align their work with both personal insight and societal context.

Padmashree Krishna Kanhai, a master of devotional painting, reinforced the spiritual core of the practice, stating, "Art is not just expression—it is a spirit. It holds the power of creation within itself." Echoing this sentiment,

in art—only the feeling of whether a creation is complete or not."

Among the attendees, retired IAS officer and Ramayan Research Council trustee Devdutt Sharma expressed immense satisfaction at the body of work presented. A dedicated patron of the camp, Sharma shared his aspiration: "Next year, I wish to see 108 paintings—a symbolic and spiritual number—displayed at this camp."

Interestingly, during discussions with several visitors and local artists at the camp, some strong and divergent opinions emerged. They did not hesitate to point out that the increasing reliance on



Another audience member sharply highlighted the disconnect between surface-level creativity and the deeper expectations of today's curators — emphasizing that a genuine understanding of art's essence is what truly matters.

Curator Pawan Kumar Tak emphasized the importance of keeping the spirit of innovation alive, stating that modern art must resonate with current events and societal undercurrents. His views received strong backing from Prabuddha Ghosh, who made a compelling call for art that is both introspective and fearless. Ghosh urged all artists to engage in this pursuit not just with their intellect, but with their hearts fully invested as well.

Artists such as Shubha Vidya (Indore, MP), Ranvir Singh Thakur (Delhi), Rajiv Semwal (Faridabad, Haryana), Dr. Mallikarjun (Karnataka), Rakesh Jer (Madhya Pradesh), Surendra Grover (Delhi), Rajpal Kalia (Panipat, Haryana) and Hariom Singh (Mathura, UP) left a strong impression with their distinctive and emotionally charged creative works.

Over the course of the camp, numerous visitors, pilgrims, and art lovers experienced the unfolding of divine expression on canvas, turning the ashram into a sanctum of color, creativity, and consciousness.

Nutrition Key to Rourkela's Heart Health

(Standard Post Bureau)

As World Heart Day approaches, doctors in Rourkela are turning the spotlight on one of the most powerful yet often neglected tools for a healthy heart — nutrition. With cardiovascular diseases emerging as a leading cause of mortality in India, lifestyle modifications, especially diet, are being recognised as the most effective means of prevention.

In Rourkela, a city known for its industrial pace and demanding work culture, health concerns linked to hypertension, obesity, and diabetes are rising. Doctors say that food habits play a direct role in this trend. Fast food outlets, processed snacks, and high-salt diets have become increasingly common. These eating patterns, when combined with a sedentary lifestyle and rising stress levels, are

putting enormous strain on the city's heart health.

Experts stress that prevention is not complicated — it begins with what goes on the plate. A diet rich in whole grains, seasonal fruits, vegetables, pulses, nuts, and seeds is proven to reduce cholesterol levels and improve circulation. Locally available options such as green leafy vegetables, millets, and lentils can easily be integrated into daily meals. At the same time, limiting deep-fried food, red meat, sugar-laden beverages, and excess salt is critical to preventing long-term damage to the arteries.

Dr. Millan Satapathy, Senior Interventional Cardiologist, Apollo Hospital Rourkela, explained:

"Nutrition is the first medicine for the heart. Every extra spoon of salt, every fried snack, every

sugary drink adds pressure on the arteries. People in Rourkela often lead stressful, busy lives, and food becomes a quick fix. But it is these shortcuts that silently damage the heart. By adopting simple practices — eating home-cooked meals, including green leafy vegetables, millets, and fruits in the daily diet, and avoiding excess salt and oil — we can prevent nearly half of heart-related illnesses.

A healthy plate today means a stronger heart tomorrow."

He further added that nutrition is not just about avoiding harmful foods but about embracing healthier traditions.

"Our grandparents relied on seasonal produce, home-cooked meals, and balanced diets. That wisdom is still relevant today. The problem is not a lack of awareness, but the inability to stay consistent. If every

mobile phones and digital imagery as reference material is, in many cases, stifling the artist's thought process.

According to them, this dependence is choking creativity and reducing art to a mechanical reproduction of overused visual clichés.

One observer went so far as to say that devotion, while admirable, can also blind and paralyze the devotee.

They stressed that while devotion has its place, it must be matched with clear intent and determination to create something meaningful.

PM visits Shiv Mandir Durga Puja pandal in Chittaranjan Park

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi this evening visited the Shiv Mandir complex in Chittaranjan Park and participated in the Durga Puja celebrations. The Prime Minister joined in the Sandhya Arati of Goddess Durga and also prayed at the Kali Mandir in the temple complex.

In a post on X, the PM said: "Today, on the auspicious day of Maha Ashtami, I went to participate in the Durga Puja at Chittaranjan Park in Delhi.

"Chittaranjan Park is deeply intertwined with Bengali culture. The true essence of our society's unity and cultural vibrancy comes alive in these celebrations.

"I prayed for the happiness and well-being of all." As the Prime Minister's cavalcade passed through Chittaranjan Park, the residents who were standing behind the barricades were seen waving their hands and shouting "Modi, Modi".

The Prime Minister performed arati at the Kali temple, with the priest chanting mantras.

Later, at the Durga Puja pandal, the PM was seen praying before the Mother Goddess. Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta accompanied the PM.

The PM also performed arati before the Durga idol, with the lighted lamp. He waved to the select crowds who had been allowed inside the pandal.

Trump to give 'three or four days' to Hamas to agree to his Gaza peace plan

Washington, Sept 30 (UNI) : US President Donald Trump has said that he will give Hamas a time period of "three or four days" to agree to his 20-point Gaza peace plan.Speaking to reporters, he said that the White House was now "just waiting for Hamas," as the plan has been hailed by Israel, Europe, and the Muslim-Arab world as a feasible path to peace, reports The Guardian.

The war's end, however, is heavily dependant on the terror group's answer, which is yet to give a response."Hamas is either going to be doing it or not, and if it's not, it's going to be a very sad end," he remarked. Asked if there is room for negotiations on the peace plan, Trump simply stated "Not much."

The terror outfit had said that it would review the outline of the Gaza peace plan following internal consultations with fellow officials.

The plan, unveiled yesterday, would see all the hostages released within 72 hours, the demilitarisation of the Strip, total surrender and disarming of all Hamas operatives, and its handover to a transitional, "technocratic" government with an international force taking charge of security in midst of a gradual-phased-out IDF retreat from the enclave.

DR Congo's ex-president Kabila sentenced to death in absentia

Kinshasa, Sept 30 (UNI) : Joseph Kabila, former president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), was sentenced to death in absentia by the country's High Military Court on Tuesday, on charges including treason and crimes against humanity.

According to the verdict, Kabila was found guilty of multiple offenses, such as participation in an insurrectional movement, intentional homicide, torture, rape, and forced occupation of the city of Goma, provincial capital of North Kivu, now controlled by the March 23 Movement (M23) rebels.

Kabila also received a 15-year prison term for conspiracy, while the court pronounced the death penalty for the other charges.

The trial, which opened in July following the lifting of Kabila's parliamentary immunity by the Senate in May, was conducted without the presence of the accused.

The prosecution accused the former head of state of being implicated in atrocities committed in the eastern provinces by the M23. Evidence presented included witness testimonies, video footage, and media interviews.

Since January, the security situation in the eastern DRC has sharply deteriorated, with renewed fighting involving the M23, which has seized control of several strategic areas, including Goma and Bukavu.

Kabila, who ruled the country from 2001 to 2019, has been residing primarily in South Africa since 2023.

Since May, he has made public appearances in the DRC's eastern province of North Kivu. He also expressed his desire to return home to "contribute to finding a solution" to the ongoing crisis.

8 dead in informal gold mine collapse in Malawi

Lilongwe, Sept 30 (UNI) : At least eight people were killed and five others injured when an informal gold mine collapsed Tuesday in Kasungu, about 150 km north of Malawi's capital, Lilongwe, authorities said.

The collapse occurred on the outskirts of the Kasungu District after one of the miners used a drilling machine to dig for gold, triggering heavy vibrations, local residents told the media.

"Following the vibration, the walls of one of the trenches fell from a height of about 15 feet, burying people who were down there," a village headman said, adding that 13 miners had been trapped, but the rescue was swift as they were in the same location.

Police in Kasungu reported that the victims included men, women, and teenagers aged 15 to 19. Officials from both the police and the district council described the accident as the worst mining disaster the district has ever witnessed. The Department of Disaster Management Affairs said it received the report and "treated it with urgency." Despite government restrictions, informal gold mining continues in parts of Malawi, often without proper safety measures.

Starmer outlines immigration, education, reform UK policies

London, Sept 30 (UNI) :British Prime Minister Keir Starmer delivered a keynote speech Tuesday at the Labour Party's annual conference in Liverpool, setting out the party's policies on illegal immigration, education, healthcare, and its stance against Reform UK.

Starmer, who also serves as Labour Party leader, said the country's asylum system "cannot be ignored," pledging to strengthen border security by stopping small boat crossings in the English Channel, cracking down on illegal working, and removing "people with no right to be here."

On education, he announced the government would scrap the target of sending 50 percent of young people in England to university, replacing it with a goal of directing two-thirds into either universities or "gold standard apprenticeships." He pledged investment in new technical excellence colleges and expanded skills training.

The prime minister also introduced a new digital healthcare service, "NHS Online," which will be available in England by 2027 and is expected to help cut patient waiting lists.

Turning to politics, Starmer identified Nigel Farage's Reform UK as Labour's chief opponent, questioning the party's patriotism and urging Labour members to "come together to fight Reform."

‘Tibetan activists face threats from China for protesting environmental destruction’



Beijing, Sep 30 (IANS) : As China continues to ramp up its claim over Tibetan resources, the environmental activists in the region face persistent threats from the Chinese authorities, a report said on Tuesday.

It added that between 2010 and 2019, many activists were detained and sentenced to years in prison in China for peacefully protesting against illegal mining activities, the hunting of endangered species, and environmental damage across Tibet.

According to a report in the 'Greek City Times', the imprisoned environmental human rights defenders include Anya Sengdra, Dorjee Daktal, Kelsang Choklang, Dhongye, Rinchen Namdol, Tsultrim Gonpo, Jangchup Ngodup, Sogru Abhu, and Namesy.

The environmentalists, it said, committed to protecting the environment and addressing ecological challenges, continue to face harassment, humiliation, and death threats from China.

T i b e t a n environmentalist A-Nya Sengdra, who has spent seven years in jail, was recently denied release. Hence, he will stay in jail until February 2026. Ironically, no explanation was given for the extension of his jail term, which is reminiscent of China's practice of acting without providing any satisfactory reason," the report detailed.

It stressed that this is not an isolated incident but part of a pattern showing how China has been harassing, torturing, and jailing Tibetan activists for raising their voice against the environmental exploitation in the region.

Another environmental activist, Tsongon Tsering, the report said, was arrested in October 2024 after exposing illegal sand mining in Ngawa Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in southwest China's Sichuan Province through a video.

"He accused Anhui Xianhe Construction Engineering Company of engaging in unauthorised mining under the guise of road construction. The video highlighted severe environmental damage caused by the company's operations. Instead of taking action against the company, Chinese authorities picked up Tsering along with members of his family," the report stressed.

It further stated that the two cases highlight the risks faced by Tibetan environmental defenders from rigid Chinese authorities that suppress their right to speak out against harmful state and corporate practices.

"The Dalai Lama has raised concerns about Tibet's ecological issues as a global problem. The revered Tibetan leader has highlighted climate change, particularly the effects of ecological degradation due to wanton human activities," the report noted.

"Studies show that the Tibetan Plateau is warming three times faster than other parts of the world, leading to the retreat of glaciers. Thus, the international community needs to act quickly, not just to counter China's policies, but also to protect the climate," it added.

Israel accuses flotilla mission sailing to Gaza of Hamas ties

Jerusalem, Sept 30 (UNI) : Israel has called the flotilla currently sailing to the war-torn Gaza Strip in defiance of Jerusalem's blockade, proxies of Hamas. The claim was made after the IDF recently unearthed some of the terrorist organisation's documents in the Strip.

The documents according to the Israeli Foreign Ministry showcase the terror group's "direct involvement" in the fleet of activists currently sailing dozens of boats in 'solidarity with Gazans', reports Times of Israel.

According to the Jerusalem, the files tie flotilla organisers to the Palestinian Conference for Palestinians (PCPA), a Hamas-linked body established in 2018 that Israel designated a terrorist organisation three years later.

Officials described the PCPA as Hamas's "embassy network" abroad, charged with organising marches, demonstrations, and flotilla campaigns against Israel.

One recovered document cited by the ministry was allegedly a letter from 2021 written to the organisation by the group's former political chief Ismail Haniyeh, where he was explicitly backing the PCPA.

Another, found in a Hamas outpost, listed senior PCPA figures, including Zaher Birawi, head of the group's UK branch. Birawi has been a central figure in pro-Gaza flotillas for over a decade, including the 2010 Mavi Marmara mission in which 10 activists were killed in clashes with Israeli commandos.Also named

Hamas, Qatar, Turkey discussing Trump's plan to end war in Gaza, says Qatar's Foreign Ministry

Doha, Sept 30 (UNI/SPUTNIK) : Palestinian movement Hamas, along with representatives of Qatar and Turkey, are discussing U.S. President Donald Trump's plan to end the ongoing war in the Gaza Strip, Qatari Foreign Ministry spokesman Majed Al-Ansari said today.

Yesterday, Trump unveiled a 20-point plan to resolve the Gaza conflict.

The proposal calls, among other things, for an immediate ceasefire and the release of hostages within 72 hours.The plan also stipulates that Hamas and "other groups" must renounce their involvement in governing Gaza, both directly and indirectly.

The enclave would instead be governed by a "technocratic, apolitical Palestinian committee" overseen by an international body headed by Trump."Discussions on Trump's ceasefire proposal with the Hamas delegation are still ongoing. They continued until late yesterday evening and will continue today. The Turkish delegation has joined the negotiations," Al-Ansari told reporters.

Doha highly appreciates the U.S.'s commitment to ending the war in the Gaza Strip, the spokesman said, adding that Trump's plan presents a comprehensive vision to immediately stop military actions.Commenting on Israel's promise not to violate Qatar's sovereignty again, the spokesman noted that Doha is satisfied with the pledge, which came with an apology.

was Saif Abu Kashk, a PCPA member in Spain and CEO of Cyber Neptune, which Israel alleges secretly owns many of the 47 boats currently heading toward Gaza.

Officials said this shows the convoy is "funded and controlled" by Hamas despite its civilian façade.The 'Sumud' flotilla, organisers say, is carrying dozens of activists, including Swedish campaigner Greta Thunberg, and is expected to reach Gaza's waters later this week.The Israeli Navy

Iran downplays EU sanctions impact on economy

Tehran, Sept 30 (UNI) : Heavily downplaying the EU sanctions, Iran's Deputy Economy Minister Hamid Ghanbari has called them largely symbolic, insisting that they have little actual effect on Tehran's finances, more so than ever now as no Iranian banks held any foreign funds, due to anticipation of their assets being frozen by the West.

Ghanbari said Monday that Tehran had long anticipated such measures and acted accordingly. "Iranian banks deliberately avoided leaving deposits in foreign accounts, knowing they would be vulnerable to freezing," he told state media, reports Iran International.

"What has now been listed were already inactive accounts. There are no major assets abroad to be seized."

The EU announced the partial reinstatement of sanctions earlier in the day, citing Iran's breaches of the 2015 nuclear deal. The measures restore restrictions on banking, trade, transport, and individuals, in line with the broader UNSC resolution, reimposing all international sanctions pre-2015 deal.

Ghanbari noted that the EU had never fully lifted all restrictions, pointing to separate sanctions linked to human rights and military issues.

"What is being reimposed now are essentially the nuclear-related sanctions of the past, sometimes broader in scope, but not unfamiliar to us," he said.

Regarding the aviation sector - another long-standing target of Western measures - he said Tehran had already taken steps to cushion the blow having long anticipated it."Over the years, we have consistently prepared for disruptions in key sectors. These sanctions change little in practice," Ghanbari added.

He also left open the possibility of legal challenges, recalling that some EU sanctions were previously overturned in European courts. "Whether to pursue such avenues depends on political circumstances and potential benefit," he said.

The sanctions came following the triggering of the snapback mechanism of the Iranian nuclear deal by France, Britain, and Germany, who accused Tehran of non-compliance with the deal's terms, due to its repeated violations of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).The restored restrictions ban transfers of nuclear and missile technologies, prohibit sales of heavy weaponry, and call for the freezing of Iranian assets abroad.

Iran, backed by Russia, has rejected the legitimacy of the move, arguing that Europe has repeatedly failed to uphold its commitments under the JCPOA and citing the US withdrawal from the accord in 2018.

Despite the renewed measures, Ghanbari insisted the economic fallout would be minimal.

"For years, European companies have aligned themselves with U.S. sanctions. Since Washington's exit from the JCPOA, Europe's trade with Iran has collapsed to historic lows. These new listings will not significantly change the picture.""Sanctions matter, but their impact must be seen realistically. Iran has already adapted, and the public deserves transparency about the true scale of these measures," he concluded.

refugee crisis – particularly since the start of the war in 2023 - and prevent any Hamas activities on its soil.

Jerusalem has likewise justified the move as essential to its security, to prevent weapons and drugs smuggling operations by the terror group, as well as cut off its funding. Activists argue the flotillas draw attention to what they call the humanitarian cost of the 17-year closure, though Israel has slammed the whole flotilla mission as a useless 'publicity stunt.'

SK to launch Nuri space rocket for 4th time

Seoul, Sept 30 (UNI/SPUTNIK) : South Korea will launch its homegrown Nuri space rocket for the fourth time on November 27, the Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA) said today."On September 26, the Korea AeroSpace Administration established a committee for the fourth launch of the Nuri rocket and is currently preparing for the blastoff, which is scheduled to take place on November 27 between 00:54 and 01:14. The exact time will be confirmed the day before the launch," KASA said in a statement.The committee will deal with the final assembly of the rocket, control of conditions and preparation of the launch site at the Naro spaceport. A new date may be set around November 28 and December 4 in the event of adverse weather conditions or launch problems, KASA said.KASA is planning to load into the rocket the South Korean satellite CAS500-1, which will monitor the aurora borealis, the glow of the atmosphere and the magnetic field as well as measure the Earth's plasmosphere - an area of near-Earth space filled with cold plasma.KASA chief Yoon Young-bin said that this would be the first Nuri rocket launch since the establishment of South Korea's space agency in May 2024.

Career

Top 10 fundamentals for first-time Job seekers

Some of the most successful people started off peeling stacks (and stacks) of potatoes, skinning chickens, washing dishes and clearing tables. They didn't get disheartened by the work required, as they knew that it was just a stepping-stone onto bigger and better things. As a start, here are the top ten fundamentals that all recruiters want fresh grads to know:

- It's never too early to start researching the company companies you want to work with and for the position you want. Do your background research regarding the company and the requirements for the position you want when you graduate (size, global presence, \$ value, any recent news, follow them on social media, etc.). If possible, try and talk to someone who already works there; they will be able to give you a much more accurate picture on the company's culture, work environment, etc. so that you have all the information required to make an informed decision.
- Have a professional resume and cover letter. Just ensure that both your resume and cover letter portray an accurate image of you and tell the story that you want them to tell (in the best possible way). Ensure the resume is crisp and highlights the points you want the recruiter to notice. Get second opinions when possible.
- Manage your social media effectively. Think of yourself as a brand and all your social media as advertising your "personal brand". Just as you are going to be researching the companies/employees where you are applying, they will be doing the same to you. Ensure there isn't anything online that you aren't comfortable sharing with a room full of strangers (aka employers). Where possible have restricted profile access or screen the information you share online. Ensure you have a LinkedIn profile. Even if you don't have any prior work experience, try and highlight internships, leadership positions, how you ranked in your school and your technical skills.
- When you do manage to get an interview with the company/companies that you want, apart from ensuring that your background research on the company itself is updated and accurate, try and gather as much information about the recruiters and the selection criteria process as possible. This will be invaluable in ensuring that you appear well informed and are adequately prepared at the time of the interview.
- Practice, practice, practice. Practice mock interviews with a friend/mentor where they ask you potential interview questions, ranging from predictable ones like, "Tell us about yourself" or "Why do you think you are the right person for this job" to slightly unique ones like "What classes were your favorite



Graduating from a professional college can be an exciting yet daunting experience. You've been inside a protected environment the past few years and are ready to forge out to change the world. Just a gentle reminder though, that the best in the business didn't start at the top and unfortunately neither will you.

and why" or "What's your favorite website" or "Who's your real life hero?" Try and make these mock interview sessions as realistic as possible with quiet locations, appropriate attire and timing the entire process.

- Prior to the interview day, get enough rest (it's not time to celebrate yet). Ensure that you are relaxed and plan to get to the venue a minimum of 30-45 minutes prior to the scheduled time (always allowing for last minute emergencies). Lay out your attire and check that you have all required paperwork, directions to the location and extra copies of your resume handy.
- First impressions matter. When introducing yourself ensure you have the right attitude, smile and a firm handshake. Expect to be evaluated (on body language, grooming, confidence and effective communication skills). Don't hand out your resume or give out all the personal details (place of birth, family background, etc., unless specifically asked).
- During the interview, be prepared with a few relevant questions when given the opportunity to ask them. Expect most interviews to last between 30 to 45 minutes and when possible try and touch upon your internship project or the various organizations that you might have worked for. Also, add the responsibilities you handled and some achievements you had over those roles. Remember to keep the answers brief, to the point and avoid winding answers. Be prepared for them to ask you to stay back longer to meet others in the company.
- Maintain eye contact always (depending upon the number of people in the panels). Prior to leaving, thank them for their time; ask them for their business card as well as the next steps in the interview process. Ensure that you are prompt and respectful in your follow up.
- As a summary, while the hiring criteria may vary depending on company, industry, etc., recruiters are typically looking for graduates who exhibit confidence (not over confidence). They are looking for consistency in your "personal brand". Do your communication skills, overall appearance, attitude and personality match your resume? They're also asking themselves if you really want to work in their company or is it just one of the many open positions that you are applying for? Does your intellect and previous success record match what they envision for this role?

Dos and don'ts for your Job application

HR professionals point out common mistakes made by those applying for their job, providing a list of dos and don'ts.



Many argue that academics fails to prepare fresh graduates in communication etiquette, necessary in the corporate world. It is thus a task for some of them to even get employed as job interviews require one to present his or her skills, while conducting oneself in a certain manner. To address these concerns, we list mistakes made my first-time job aspirants and how they can be corrected.

-Email etiquette
So, you've heard about a suitable job, managed to procure the employer's email id and decided to shoot off your resume for consideration. But when you're a fresher, your resume may not be your biggest strength. So what do you do?
"A mistake freshers make in their resume is, since there's little to speak of in terms of

professional achievement, they litter it with details about their family and their hobbies,"says Srinivas Rao Katkoor, Director Human Resources - South Asia, SAS Institute (India) Pvt Ltd. Rao adds that freshers need to highlight their educational qualifications, technical skills and their college projects in their resume. "If you've done an internship, you need to mention your exact role and learning from it in your resume," adds Rao, who feels that grammar and punctuation cannot be compromised in one's CV. "A cover letter is also a must and it should briefly summarize the candidate's skills and the kind of role they're looking for, along with a reason for applying for the role and choice of company," says Rao. How one addresses the person receiving the resume is vital too. A "Hi" followed by the

person's name is seen in poor light. "It would be advisable that the candidate figures out who he is applying to and address the mail to the concerned person, making the application personalized. And one should never make the mistake of applying to multiple companies by adding several email ids in the BCC as it's seen as unprofessional," says Rao. A suitable salutation in such emails could be 'Dear Sir', 'Dear HR Manager' or 'Dear Hiring Manager'.
On a different note, the email id created to send your resume could also affect your chances of getting short-listed. "If an employer receives a resume from an id like serialkisser01@gmail.com, the reaction it would receive is obvious," laughs Ashish Arora, Managing Director, HR Anexi Pvt Ltd, who recommends short and straightforward email ids with a subject line clearly drawing attention to the role being applied for.

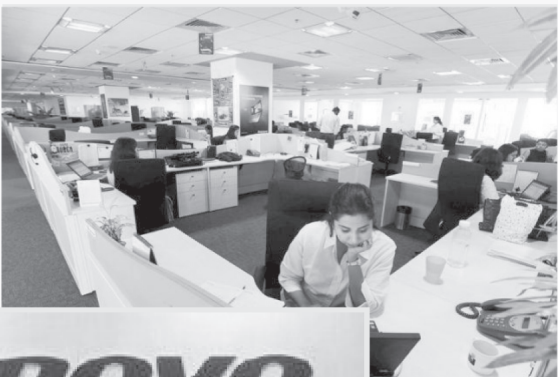
-Telephonic skills
You may have been talking on the phone for decades, but that doesn't necessarily mean that you're prepared for a telephonic interview. Usually the first filter in most interviews, this is the stage when employers connect employees to validate the claims made on their resume. "First-time job applicants aren't aware of etiquette to be followed in telephonic interviews. You rarely come across candidates who begin a call with a greeting like 'good morning' or 'good afternoon' based on the time of the day," says Rao, who feels that one should be frank, using this as a chance to talk about specialized skills. Doubts about the exact role can be clarified along the way.

-Face to face interview
The way to approach the final interview where one meets one's prospective employer to pitch one's skills has been much debated. What to wear, how to conduct oneself or even what to prepare for, are all grey for most freshers who make the common mistake of going ill-prepared and end up being rejected. A firm shake hand and constant eye contact during the interview are known to convey confidence and honesty but there's plenty else to learn.
"Shabby attire, reaching late for an inter view, laid-back posture communicate that the candidate is unenthusiastic," says Arora. He advises that candidates speak slowly and clearly, responding to questions honestly, after having heard the entire question. "Another common mistake is asking how much one will be finally paid, early on in the interview. This is a stage when the candidate's employment has not been confirmed and it is looked at in poor taste," adds Arora.

Lenovo India relaxes dress code for employees

Following in the footsteps of Infosys and Hindustan Unilever, Lenovo India is the latest to relax its employee dress code. Business attire favoured at the firm so far will give way to a more casual style of dressing. Lenovo will announce the change in a mail to be sent to all employees on Friday, titled, 'Now everyday is Friday.' Employees at Lenovo offices across the country will now be allowed to wear business casuals including but not limited to shirts, T-shirts with collars, jeans for men and dresses, skirts and casual trousers for women. The mail defines business casuals as "a midpoint between the informality of casual wear and the strictness of formal business attire". Employees will be expected to use their discretion to dress professionally. Apparel with rips or tears, workout attire and clothing with graphics are to be avoided. Those in frontline roles will be expected to wear formals for meetings with clients and business partners. "We've been thinking of instituting a change in our dress code for some time now," said Rohit Sandal, director HR at Lenovo India. "Employees need to feel comfortable in what they're wearing, in order to be at their most productive. This change is part of our recent brand transformation 'Never Stand Still' to deepen our engagement with millennials in India," he added. The company, he said, trusts its employees to be appropriately attired within the parameters of business casuals. "No longer will ties and formal suits be

advocated, but we won't encourage shorts and flip-flops either." The updated clothing policy is one of the many changes that Sandal who joined the firm in April hopes to bring into effect. The new dress code will be applicable for



a l l 6 3 5 employees of Lenovo India, and comes into effect today. Incidentally, L e n o v o employees interviewing prospective job applicants will also be allowed to wear business casuals, thereby promoting it as a perk of working with the firm. Corporate image and luxury brand consultant Manjusha Maheshwari advocates formal dressing at the workplace, but admits that things are changing to address the needs of millennial workers. "It's a good idea to put employees through group sessions before instituting such changes, to help them understand the nuances of business casuals and to help define what works and what doesn't. Sloppiness in attire, if allowed to creep in, can affect the mood at the workplace."

Flick gives Lamine homework ahead of PSG clash

Madrid, Sept 30 (UNI) : FC Barcelona coach Hansi Flick gave a message to Lamine Yamal that he needs more than just talent to be considered one of the all-time greats of the game.

Speaking ahead of his side's Champions League tie at home to Paris Saint-Germain on Wednesday night, Flick was asked about the 18-year-old, who will return to the side after struggling with a groin injury in recent weeks.

During that time, Yamal finished second behind PSG's former Barcelona forward Ousmane Dembele in the Ballon d'Or awards, while his private life has become more prominent in the non-sporting press.

Flick admitted Yamal is an "exceptional" talent, but insisted "I don't like this whole 'super, super' thing."

"He's exceptional, but there are other exceptional players on the team," said the Barca coach.

"He's 18 years old, and he also has to focus on making the effort. To get to the next level, one or two steps higher, you have to make the effort; talent alone isn't enough," he advised, giving the youngster something to work on.It's not just about playing with the ball, you also have to defend. That is something that every player needs to do - not just him.""He is a great player with the ball and that is what makes a different," commented Flick.



India's Keerthika Jayachandran competes in Women's Shot Put F54 during the World Para Athletics Championships 2025, at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, in New Delhi.

IIT Madras to co-host 58th Inter-IIT Sports meet this year

Chennai, Sept 30 (UNI) : The Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-Madras) will be co-hosting the 58th Inter-IIT Sports Meet this year, the oldest and largest student sporting event among centrally funded technical institutes in India, along with IIT-Hyderabad and IIT-Tirupati.

As a part of the Sports Meet, a weeklong Inter-IIT Aquatics Meet 2025 was inaugurated here today at the campus.

The event will continue till September 5.

The Aquatics Meet was inaugurated by Olympic swimmer and Arjuna awardee Sebastian Xavier in the presence of Prof. V. Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras.

The Inter-IIT Sports Meet traces its roots back to 1961, when five IITs—Bombay, Madras, Kharagpur, Kanpur, and Delhi—came together to

promote sports and camaraderie. Over the decades, it has grown into a pan-Indian mega event that embodies competition, teamwork, and institute pride.Lauding the participants from all IITs for their hard work and preparation, Prof. Kamakoti said, “We are very happy to host the Inter-IIT Aquatics Meet at IIT Madras campus. The Inter-IIT Sports Meet is a very important annual event and this time, Three IITs - IIT Madras, IIT Hyderabad and IIT Tirupati - have joined together to organize the event. For the first time, a First Generation, a Second Generation and a Third Generation IIT have come together to organize this event. We wish all participants and sportspersons all the very best.”IIT Madras holds a distinguished place in the history of the Inter-IIT Sports Meet, having won

the General Championship 24 out of 57 times, a record unmatched by any other IIT. The institute's most recent victory came in 2023 at IIT Bombay and IIT Gandhinagar.

Sebastian Xavier said, “Today, India has greatly improved in the field of Swimming. I used to practice in the IIT Madras Swimming Pool in the 1980s. In my village, we had no swimming pools and I started swimming in the river. From that river, I reached the level of Olympics. I wish you all the best.”

A total of 17 IITs are participating in the Aquatics Meet --IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Varanasi, IIT Bhubneswar, IIT Dhanbad, IIT Gandhinagar, IIT Guwahati, IIT Indore, IIT Hyderabad, IIT Jodhpur, IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Mandi, IIT Palakkad, IIT Patna, IIT Roorkee and IIT Madras.

Super 10s from Aditya Shinde, Pankaj Mohite help Puneri Paltan complete the double over Bengal Warriorz

Chennai, Sept 30 (UNI) : Puneri Paltan completed the double over the Bengal Warriorz, registering a 49-44 win in a high-scoring encounter at the SDAT Multi Purpose Indoor Stadium in Chennai on Tuesday. Aditya Shinde (18 points) and Pankaj Mohite (10 points) registered Super 10s to lead their side to victory, while Devank Dalal amassed 25 points on the night, also becoming the first to cross 150 raid points in PKL 12.

It was a quick start to the game as Aslam Inamdar didn’t waste any time to get the first points on the board for Puneri Paltan with his first raid. Vishal Bhardwaj followed that up with a tackle on Devank Dalal, setting the tone for the Season 10 champions in the opening exchanges. Bengal Warriorz quickly found their stride with Ashish Malik opening the scoring for them with a tackle on Aditya Shinde.

Himanshu Narwal added to that tally with a two-point raid, but Pankaj Mohite responded instantly with a two-point raid of his own. Just when it seemed like the Paltan would impose themselves on the game, Himanshu and Ashish Malik ensured that their side stay in the game despite a two-point deficit with the score at 9-7 after the first ten minutes.

Puneri Paltan really began to find their stride soon after, and it didn’t take them too long to register the first ALL OUT of the game courtesy Abinesh Nadarajan’s tackle on Devank, opening up a five-point gap as a result. Aditya Shinde and Pankaj Mohite registered multi-point raids to keep Puneri Paltan in their driver’s seat, but the Warriorz continued to respond with their captain leading the way alongside Himanshu

Narwal to conclude an enthralling first half that ended 21-18 in favour of the Ajay Thakur-led side.

The second half began in absolute high-octane fashion as Puneri Paltan registered a Super Tackle on Devank. Manprit chipped in for the Warriorz with a two-point raid, while Devank found some momentum too. There was a battle within the war as Aslam Inamdar brought Devank down with a Super Tacke, but the Bengal Warriorz captain got his revenge, inflicting an ALL OUT to get his side back in the game with the score 30-27.

A Super Raid from Pankaj Mohite helped Puneri Paltan quickly regain their six point raid, but the Warriroz weren’t throwing in the towel yet. Devank Dalal completed his Super 10, cutting the deficit down to four points heading into the final quarter. With the game heading down to the wire, Aditya Shinde stood tall for Puneri Paltan. He recorded a crucial Super Raid that helped him complete his Super 10, and put his side in pole position as they registered their second ALL OUT courtesy Abinesh Nadarajan, to take the lead at 46-35 with under five minutes to go.

Pankaj Mohite also completed his Super 10 to put the finishing touches on the game. With a two-point raid, Devank continued to fight as he completed the 20-point mark for the third time this season. Despite his best efforts, the Bengal Warriorz fell short in a high-scoring thriller as Puneri Paltan secured a 49-44 victory.

Please find below the schedule for the PKL Season 12 matches on Wednesday, October 1:

Match 1: Haryana Steelers vs Jaipur Pink Panthers

Match 2: U Mumba vs Tamil Thalaivas

Srihari, Benedicton win medals at Asian Aquatics

Ahmedabad, Sept 30 (UNI) : India continued its impressive run on day three of the 11th Asian Aquatics Championships at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex, with Srihari Nataraj clinching bronze in the Men's 100m Freestyle and Rohit B Benedicton securing silver in the Men's 50m Butterfly.

The medals took India's overall tally to nine, including three individual and two relay podium finishes for Srihari.

In the Men's 100m Freestyle, Srihari, drawn in lane five, turned third at the 50m mark behind China's Haoyu Wang (49.19) and Qatar's Ali Tamer Hassan (49.46), with fellow Indian Akash Mani close in fourth (50.45). Maintaining a strong rhythm in the second half, Srihari held off the challengers to touch the wall in 49.96 seconds, earning bronze.

"I have had a good season this year and training has gone really well. I was fast in the heats and thought I could be faster here. These guys swam brilliantly, and I'm just glad to be on the podium," Srihari said. He added, "The atmosphere has been amazing with our big team, coaches, parents, and the fans cheering. It's an incredible feeling, especially in the relay yesterday when the cheers carried over even while racing."

In the Men's 50m Butterfly, Benedicton put in a strong performance to finish second in 23.89 seconds, narrowly missing gold to Kazakhstan's Adilbek Mussin (23.74).

On the women's front, Dhinidhi Desinghu and Shashidhara Rujula reached the final of the 100m Freestyle but finished sixth and eighth respectively, missing out on a podium finish.India now eyes further medals as the championships progress.

India Women set competitive target for Sri Lanka in ICC WWC opener

Guwahati, Sept 30 (UNI) : India Women put up a commanding total of 269 for 8 in 47 overs against Sri Lanka Women in the first match of the ICC Women's World Cup 2025 at Barsapara Cricket Stadium, keeping their tournament ambitions on track.

However, the target has been revised to 271 as DLS method

After Sri Lanka won the toss and chose to bowl, India's batswomen came under early pressure in rain-hit encounter. Smriti Mandhana fell cheaply for 8, trapped by Udeshika Prabodhani, but Pratika Rawal steadied the innings with a well-crafted 37, while Harleen Deol added a brisk 48 to keep the scoreboard ticking. Captain

Harmanpreet Kaur contributed 21 before Inoka Ranaweera struck again, but Deepti Sharma (53) and Amanjot Kaur (57) kept India on course, ensuring momentum was maintained. Sneh Rana remained unbeaten on 28, helping India post a competitive total.

Wickets came at regular intervals, but India's lineup refused to collapse. Ranaweera emerged as the main threat, claiming four wickets, while Prabodhani chipped in with two. Chamari Athapaththu and Achini Kulasuriya struck once each, keeping the run rate in check. India also benefited from 15 extras, including nine wides and a no-ball. The innings saw the following key moments:

India lost Mandhana early at 14, Rawal at 81, Harleen at 120, and Harmanpreet at 121. Deepti Sharma's dismissal at 269 marked the end of India's innings.

The bowlers' figures reflected Sri Lanka's fightback: Inoka Ranaweera 9-0-46-4, Udeshika Prabodhani 10-1-52-2, Achini Kulasuriya 8-0-42-1, Chamari Athapaththu 3-0-24-1, Sugandika Kumari 9-0-46-0, Kavisha Dilhari 8-0-51-0.India's total gives Sri Lanka Women a challenging target as they begin their chase after the innings break. With contributions from top and middle-order batswomen, India has sent a clear signal -- they are ready to contest every wicket, every run, and every over in this World Cup.

Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) Tour arrives in Pune amidst fanfare

Pune, Sept 30 (UNI) : The Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) Tour has reached the iconic Poona Golf Club with the much-awaited IGPL Pune Invitational 2025 is scheduled from October 1-3. This is the third IGPL Invitational event after Chandigarh and Greater Noida. Both were won by Gaganjeet Bhullar, who is now playing in the International Series. Yet he sent his best wishes to the players in Pune this week.

Ahead of the event, Uttam Singh Mundy and Poona Golf Club dignitaries, as also some of the golfers interacted with the media at the Poona Golf Club, which was made tournament ready despite heavy rains recently. Mundy accompanied by Gaurav Gadhoke, President of Poona Club, Ikram Khan, Advisor to GSC, Uttam Singh Mundy, CEO of IGPL and top golfers, Pukhraj Singh Gills, Aman Raj and Ridhima Dilawari,.They also unveiled the Trophy that will be presented to the winner alongside the cheque of Rs. 22.50 lakhs.

Pukhraj and Aman Raj have had a fine starts in the IGPL with Top-10 finishes in both Chandigarh and Greater Noida. Also present was top woman star, Ridhima Dilawari, who missed the first two events as she was playing on the

Ladies European Tour. She will be teeing up at the IGPL Tour for the first time and was quite excited about it.

Speaking on the occasion, Gadhoke said, “It is a proud moment for us at Poona Club to host the IGPL Pune Invitational. Our club has a rich golfing heritage, and events like these not only celebrate the sport but also inspire the next generation of golfers in Pune and beyond. We welcome IGPL to come here each year.”Sharing insights on the IGPL’s journey, Uttam Singh Mundy, CEO of IGPL, and a former pro, who has played at the Poona Golf Club several times in his competitive days, thanked the Poona Golf Club for hosting them this week.

Mundy said, “With the IGPL we are making the sport more inclusive and fan-friendly. Our vision is to build IGPL into a platform that develops talent, attracts global attention, and positions India as a hub for professional golf in the years to come. Pune is our stepping stone on that journey, and we are excited to showcase what the future of Indian golf looks like.”He added, “We will also be having our own academies, driving ranges and also golf courses, so that the sport is made more accessible.”He elaborated, “We need to make golf fun

and we have fans zone and areas for chipping, putting etc for fans to get a taste of golf. We want more families and youngsters out here, that’s how golf culture will grow in India and we will produce champions.”

He also pointed out to new professionals like Kartik Singh and Veer Ganapathy, as the ones to have made an early mark in the first two events. “It is only a matter of time before they get a win,” added Mundy.Pukhraj, who has played on Asian Tour, said, “As a professional, it is always exciting to be part of a tournament like the IGPL. The competitive format really pushes us to bring our best game and with a no cut format, it is great for us to focus on our game and play without pressure.”Fellow Indian pro Aman Raj shared his excitement about competing in Pune, adding, “I am really looking forward to the IGPL Pune Invitational. Pune has a vibrant golfing culture, and I am confident that the fans will enjoy the action and support us throughout the tournament.”Highlighting the importance of inclusive opportunities for women in golf, Ridhima Dilawari commented, “There is so much to learn and it is great fun playing with the boys. I missed the first two events as I was playing on LET. I

am looking forward to this week.”One of the big incentives for the women is that they will get a big event ahead of the Hero Women’s Indian Open next week in Gurugram.

With Women’s Golf Associattion of India, a partner with the IGPL, as many as ten of the 11 pros teeing up this week will get a great opportunity to get a final check on their game ahead of like Ridhima, Hitaashee Bakshi, Seher Atwal, Jasmine Shekar, Sneha Singh, Neha Tripathi, Vidhatri Urs, Khushi Khanijau, Durga Nittur and Ananya Garg will be playing at the PGC this week.The tour features a no-cut, three-day stroke play format, where all players compete across 54 holes with every stroke counting toward their total score ensuring three days of non-stop golfing action. Both male and female professionals will compete in the same field, reflecting IGPL’s commitment to inclusivity and equal opportunity. The event will also feature talented amateur golfers adding a unique opportunity for them to test their skills against seasoned professionals.The IGPL tour features a no-cut, three-day stroke play format, where all players compete across 54 holes of non-stop golfing action.

Deepti joins elite club with allround masterclass

Guwahati, Sept 30 (UNI) : Deepti Sharma joined an elite group of Indian women cricketers as she produced a sensational allround performance to guide India Women to a 59-run victory over Sri Lanka Women in their ICC Women’s World Cup 2025 opener at Barsapara Cricket Stadium.

With the game delicately poised after early wickets, Deepti showcased her class, scoring a fluent 53 runs that steadied the innings and laid a solid platform for the middle order. She then turned her attention to the ball, claiming three crucial wickets for 54 runs, breaking partnerships and putting Sri Lanka on the back foot.

In doing so, Deepti emulated some of the finest allround displays in India women’s ODI history, joining Jemimah Rodrigues, who scored 86 runs and took 4 wickets for just 3 runs against Bangladesh at Mirpur in 2023, Shikha Pandey’s 59 runs and 3/19 against South Africa in Bengaluru in 2014, and her own memorable 51* with 3/

20 against Ireland in Potchefstroom in 2017.

Deepti’s seamless combination of batting composure and bowling precision highlighted not only her personal brilliance but also her ability to deliver in high-pressure situations, setting the tone for India’s World Cup campaign.

Deepti, named Player of the Match, reflected on her performance: “The partnership with Amanjot Kaur was a turning point. We had lost back-to-back wickets, so we spoke about taking the game deep until the 46–47th over.”

"There was no pressure, I am used to such situations and playing such knocks. The partnership was important with Amanjot. I enjoy my batting. When the wicket is like this, I focus on my stock ball and try to hit the stumps. First match sets the tone, and we have a lot of positives. We want to play like this and keep winning."Deepti's innings and bowling display underscored India's dominance and provided a perfect start to their World Cup campaign, while her calmness under pressure offered a blueprint for the team moving forward.

India captain Harmanpreet Kaur praised her team’s collective effort: “It wasn’t an easy game.

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

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Central Railway to extend periodicity of Special trains

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Sept 30 : Central Railway will extend the run of special trains to clear the extra rush of the passengers as per details given below:

1). Train no 01436 Lokmanya Tilak Terminus - Solapur Weekly Special, earlier notified to run upto 01.10.2025 has now been extended from 08.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (13 Trips)

Train No. 01435 Solapur - Lokmanya Tilak Terminus Weekly Special, earlier notified to run up to 30.09.2025, has now been extended from 07.10.2025 to 30.12.2025. (13 Trips)

2). Train no 01461 Solapur - Daund Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to

31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01462 Daund - Solapur Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

3). Train no 01465 Solapur - Kalaburagi Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01466 Kalaburagi - Solapur Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

4). Train no 01023 Pune - Shri Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus (Kolhapur), Daily special earlier notified to run upto

30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01024 Shri Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus (Kolhapur) - Pune, Daily special earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

5). Train no 01211 Badnera - Nashik Road Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01212 Nashik Road - Badnera Jn Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips).

6). Train no 01487 Pune

- Harangul, Daily special earlier notified to run 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01488 Harangul - Pune, Daily special earlier notified to run 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips).

NOTE-1

Train no 01437 Solapur-Dharmavaram Special notified to run upto 02.10.2025 has now been extended to run upto Anakapalle Ex Solapur from 09.10.2025 to 27.11.2025

Train no 01438 Dharmavaram-Solapur Special notified to run upto 03.10.2025 has now been extended to run from Anakapalle from 11.10.2025 to 29.11.2025.

NOTE-2

Following trains have been provided halt at Murud station with immediate effect.

Train no 01436 LTT-Solapur express at 22.04 hrs

Train no 01435 Solapur-LTT express at 18.00 hrs

Train no 01487 Pune-Harangul express at 11.25 hrs

Train no 01488 Harangul-Pune express at 15.19 hrs

Reservation: Bookings for extended trips of Special Trains no 01435, 01436, 01437, 01024, 01487 and 01488 open at all computerised reservation centres and on website www.irctc.co.in

For detailed timings at halts of this special train please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or download NTES App.

Mahatransco presented with Power Transmission Award in New Delhi

Chairman and MD Dr. Sanjeev Kumar congratulated



(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Sept 30 Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Company (Mahapareshan) has received this year's Power Transmission (State PSU) Award presented by Dun & Bradstreet, New Delhi. Mahatransco Chief Engineer Kishor Garud and Public Relations Officer Dr. Milind Awatade received the award from Naveen Agarwal, Joint Secretary, Union Finance Department. Mahatransco Chairman and Managing Director Dr. Sanjeev Kumar (IAS)

congratulated the officers and employees for the award.

The award was presented at the 17th PSU and Governance Council held at Hotel Taj Mansingh in New Delhi. Kunal Satyarthi, Joint Secretary, Union Rural Development Department, was present on the occasion.

Mahatransco is the largest transmission company in the country. Its network of ultra-high voltage channels spans the entire length and breadth of the country. Mahatransco has successfully met the

power demand of over 30,000 MW in the state of Maharashtra.

Mahatransco has achieved new heights in the power sector by adopting new technologies. Drone-assisted work is being carried out, especially in remote hilly areas. High-performance conductors have also been installed. STATCOM projects are proposed in Dhule and Lonikand (Pune) to maintain grid stability. Mahatransco maintained open participation in projects through TBCB. “

Special Traffic and Power Day Blocks from for carrying out Pre Non-Interlocking works at Karjat station : CR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Sept 30 : Central Railway will operate Special Traffic and Power Day blocks for carrying out Pre Non-Interlocking works at Karjat station in connection with Karjat yard remodelling work.

Details of Block and repercussions on running of trains on 03.10.2025 (Friday), 04.10.2025 (Saturday) & 10.10.2025 (Friday) is as follows:

Date and Duration of block:

03.10.2025 (Friday) from 11.20 hrs to 18.00 hrs

04.10.2025 (Saturday) from 11.20 hrs to 16.45 hrs

10.10.2025 (Friday) from 11.20 hrs to 16.20 hrs

Traffic Block Section: Between Bhiyपुरi-station-Jambrung Cabin-Thakurvadi-Nagnath Cabin and Karjat

Working of suburban trains during the block period

Up and Down suburban services between Neral & Karjat will not be available on 03.10.2025 (Friday) and

Up and Down suburban services between Karjat & Khopoli will not be available on 04.10.2025 (Saturday) & 10.10.2025 (Friday) during the block period.

03.10.2025 (Friday)

Repercussions on Train running

Cancellation of Up Suburban trains

- Khopoli-Karjat local departing Khopoli at 14.55 hrs will be cancelled
- Short Termination of Suburban trains
- CSMT-Karjat locals departing CSMT at 9.01 hrs, 9.30 hrs, 9.57 hrs & 11.14 hrs will be short

terminated at Neral station.

- Thane-Karjat local departing Thane at 12.05 hrs will be short terminated at Neral station.
- CSMT-Khopoli local departing CSMT at 12.20 hrs will be short terminated at Neral station.
- CSMT-Karjat local departing CSMT at 10.36 hrs will be short terminated at Ambarnath station

Short Origination of Suburban trains

- Karjat-CSMT locals scheduled to depart Karjat at 10.43 hrs, 11.19 hrs, 12.00 hrs, 13.00 hrs & 13.55 hrs will short originate from Neral station.

- Karjat-Thane local scheduled to depart Karjat at 13.27 hrs, will short originate from Neral station.
- Karjat-CSMT

local scheduled to depart Karjat at 12.23 hrs will short originate from Ambarnath station.

No Cancellation of Down Suburban trains and No Repercussions on Mail & Express Trains on 03.10.2025

04.10.2025 (Saturday) & 10.10.2025 (Friday)

Repercussions on Train running

Cancellation of Down Suburban trains

- Karjat-Khopoli local departing Karjat at 12.00 hrs, 13.15 hrs & 15.39 hrs will be cancelled.

Cancellation of Up Suburban trains

- Khopoli-Karjat local departing Khopoli at 11.20 hrs, 12.40 hrs & 14.55 hrs will be cancelled

Short Termination of Suburban trains

- CSMT-Khopoli

Reorganization of customer service offices in Mahavitaran starts on a pilot basis from today

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Sept 30 : Sub-divisions and branch offices providing direct customer service under Mahavitaran have been restructured. This restructuring is starting on a pilot basis from Wednesday (1st). The draft of the restructuring will be finalized after reviewing the work within the next month and this restructuring will be implemented from 1st November. Meanwhile, the Chief Engineers of the circles have been given full authority to take necessary measures to ensure that there is no inconvenience to the electricity consumers during the implementation period of this restructuring.

Under Mahavitaran, there are 147 departments, 652 sub-departments and 3274 branch offices in 16 circles and about 44 thousand engineers and technical staff working in 4,188 sub-centres. In this, mainly new electricity connections, monthly electricity bills, regular maintenance of the electricity system for smooth power supply, repair of technical faults, recovery of electricity bill arrears, reduction of electricity losses, etc. are done through sub-departments and branch offices. Therefore, engineers and technical staff have to do 10 to 12 types of work at the same

time. This structure is about 25 years old and was made according to the number of customers at that time. “

The previous structure has also had an impact on the efficiency of employees and customer service in the last few years. Therefore, the demand for reducing the burden of general work and giving responsibility for selected works was being made by the engineers and employees' organizations for the last 10 years. The management has formed a special committee for this purpose and has discussed the employee organizations from time to time and prepared a restructuring draft.

The main emphasis has been on the restructuring of the sub-divisions and branch offices that provide direct customer service. In particular, the relevant sub-divisions and branch offices have been restructured according to the number of customers. Due to this, 2 more divisional offices, 37 sub-divisions and 30 branch offices have been newly created in the state. Due to these offices, the number of posts of 876 engineers and technical staff has also

increased. There will be no reduction in the number of posts currently in existence. Mahavitaran has clarified that care has been taken to ensure that there is no impact on the structure and reservation of employees. Also, no other departments attached to the circle, divisional offices have been included in this restructuring. “

This is the restructuring – Without making any changes in the divisional offices of Mahavitaran, a divisional maintenance and repair team has been created in it. This 10-member team will include an additional executive engineer, assistant engineer and technical staff. This team will be responsible for the maintenance and repair of all substations and 33 KV power lines in the division. Also, in each division, all the existing sub-divisions will be divided into revenue and payments and maintenance and repair. The engineers and technical staff of the maintenance and repair sub-division will do the maintenance and repair of power systems, construction of new power systems, redressal of power

supply complaints and maintenance of power supply. Whereas, the engineers and staff of the revenue and payments sub-division will do the work of new power connections, accurate billing, redressal of billing complaints, collection of arrears.

The division into maintenance and repairs and revenue and payments for customer service will further streamline the work of the employees. The work pressure on them will be reduced and customers will get the service of Mahavitaran more promptly. The restructuring of branch offices in urban areas has been changed. While the working methods of branch offices in rural areas have been partially changed.

Due to this restructuring, separate sub-division offices have been created for customer service of revenue and payments as well as for smooth power supply. Therefore, instead of doing all the work at once, engineers and technical staff will now be able to do selected work in a more focused manner. The hours of work will be fixed as per the rules and the work stress will also be reduced. The efficiency of the employees will increase. Alternatively, the customer service provided to electricity consumers will be of even better quality.



Female employees of Mahavitaran Bhandup Circle

Delhi's Tughalakabad to Kolkata's Shalimar, via Agra & Kanpur, offers assured 120hr transit time



(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Sept 30 : Indian Railways is launching the first assured transit time container train service on a pilot basis between Delhi and Kolkata. The first service will commence on 1st October 2025, operating from ICD Tughlakabad Terminal (TICD), Delhi to CTCs Kolkata via Agra and Kanpur terminals of Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR). This special service is designed to ensure a guaranteed transit time of 120 hours, marking a significant milestone in the logistics sector.

The dedicated train will follow the stream: TICD (Delhi) – ICDY (Agra) – ICDG (Kanpur) – CTKR/CTCS (Kolkata). It will operate on a bi-weekly schedule, departing every Wednesday and Saturday. A unique feature of this service is the hub-and-spoke cargo facility at Agra and Kanpur, enabling efficient cargo aggregation for a wider catchment area. Additionally, customers will benefit from the waiver of empty wagon

haulage charges from Tughlakabad to Kanpur, further enhancing cost efficiency.

This pilot project is expected to provide multiple advantages to customers, including door to door assured and reliable delivery for time-sensitive cargo, a competitive alternative to road transport, enhanced connectivity for northern hinterland cargo, and priority benefits for early adopters.

It also contributes to sustainability by promoting a modal shift from road to rail, reducing the carbon footprint, and supporting India's commitment to green logistics.

Through this initiative, Indian Railways and CONCOR reaffirm their focus on customer-centric, reliable, and sustainable logistics solutions.

The launch of this assured transit train service represents a transformative step towards a more efficient and environmentally responsible supply chain ecosystem.

Key Highlights
* 1st Assured Transit Time Train on the Delhi-Kolkata corridor.

Transit Time Commitment: 120 hours from Tughlakabad (Delhi) to Kolkata.

Route: Tughlakabad (TICD) Agra (ICDY) Kanpur (ICDG) Kolkata (CTKR/CTCS).

Frequency: Bi-weekly departures – Every Wednesday & Saturday.

Door to Door service by CONCOR with faster, reliable and sustainable service reliability