

IN BRIEF

Nagpur receives unseasonal rainfall

Nagpur, Oct 24 (UNI) : Residents of Nagpur experienced unseasonal rainfall today, which brought welcome relief from the persistent October heat.

The brief but steady showers cooled the city, providing a refreshing break from the soaring temperatures that have dominated the past few weeks. Local meteorologists noted that rainfall during this period is unusual, making the event a pleasant surprise for the city's inhabitants. The downpour also contributed to improved air quality. Weather experts emphasised that this event underscores the unpredictability of seasonal weather patterns in the region.

Mumbai AQI improves after overnight rainfall

Mumbai, Oct 24 (UNI) : Following a round of overnight rainfall, Mumbai today got temporary relief from the recent heat and pollution; it also dramatically improved its air quality.

Real-time data from AQI.in showed Mumbai's overall Air Quality Index (AQI) at just 47 this morning, placing it in the 'Good' category. This marks a significant recovery from the poor air quality levels witnessed earlier in the week, when post-Diwali pollution and stagnant winds had pushed the city's AQI into the unhealthy range.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicted that Mumbai and its suburbs are likely to experience partly cloudy skies with the possibility of moderate rain or thunderstorms through the day. The maximum temperature is expected to settle around 34°C, while the minimum will hover near 25°C, indicating warm yet comfortable conditions for residents. Yesterday's unseasonal rainfall, the second such spell after the official monsoon withdrawal, was accompanied by lightning and gusty winds. The IMD issued a nowcast warning that evening, predicting thunderstorms and light to moderate rain across Mumbai and adjoining regions. The weather department has also placed most of Maharashtra, except the Vidarbha region, under a yellow alert for rainfall with thunderstorms for the next few days.

CM Fadnavis orders suspension of police officer in Satara case

Satara Oct 24 (UNI) : The suicide case of a woman doctor at Phaltan Sub-District Hospital in Satara has taken a new turn. It has emerged that the doctor wrote the reason for her suicide on her own hand, alleging sexual assault and mental harassment by two individuals. The revelation has sent shockwaves across the district police force.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis inquired about the case from Satara District Superintendent of Police (SP) and immediately ordered the suspension of the police officer concerned, along with strict action against the

accused.

Following the CM's instructions, Police Sub-Inspector (PSI) Gopal Badne has been suspended. Satara SP Tushar Doshi said a case has been registered in the matter. PSI Gopal Badne, attached to Phaltan Rural Police Station, is one of the accused, while the second accused, Prashant Banker, is a civilian.

Police teams have been dispatched to arrest both accused. SP Doshi said, "Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has instructed strict action — the accused will be arrested immediately, and all necessary legal measures will be carried out. The investigation is underway."

Senior woman doctor commits suicide after allegedly being raped by police sub-inspector

Kolhapur/Satara, Oct 24 (UNI): In a shocking incident, a senior woman doctor working at Phaltan sub-district hospital of Satara district, committed suicide in a hotel after allegedly being raped four times by a Police sub-inspector, early this morning. The police, in their version, said the woman doctor was mentally tense following a feud between police and health department from last month and she had warned that she would commit suicide, and today she took the extreme step and ended her life.

But after investigation, the case took a new shocking turn when police found a note written by her on her hand as "the reason

for my death is PSI Gopal. He raped me four times and Prashant Bankar tortured me physically and mentally for four months".

Taking serious note, State Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis ordered an inquiry into the incident while Satara district guardian minister Shambhuraj Desai said that he is yet to know the official cause behind the suicide and he also spoke with the police superintendent.

"The incident is very sad; we will investigate in depth and collect all evidences to take stern action against those responsible for this suicide. We will also contact the doctor's relatives." Meanwhile, district

Superintendent of Police Tushar Joshi informed that a case has already been lodged and police investigating is on.

Separately, CM Fadnavis ordered the suspension of the police officer concerned, along with strict action against the accused. Following the CM's instructions, Police Sub-Inspector (PSI) Gopal Badne has been suspended. Satara SP Tushar Doshi said a case has been registered in the matter.

PSI Gopal Badne, attached to Phaltan Rural Police Station, is one of the accused, while the second accused, Prashant Banker, is a civilian. Police teams have been dispatched to arrest both accused. SP Doshi said.



Pak given adequate dose during Op Sindoor; Will think 100

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has said that Pakistan has been "given adequate dosage (response) by our soldiers during the Operation Sindoor and now the neighbouring country would think over 100 times before resorting to any misadventure (strike) against India". Speaking at the ceremonial "Bada Khana" with soldiers in Jaisalmer, Singh said: "Being the border area this station has special significance. Although the government during the recent years has undertaken several steps for development in the border areas this gradually has made easier things for you all."

(See on page 2)

Maduro boasts of 'thousands' of Russian anti-aircraft



Venezuela has 5,000 Russian-made anti-aircraft missiles in "key air defense positions," its President Nicolás Maduro claimed amid growing tension over the United States' military deployment in the Caribbean.

(See on page 5)

Narwal exudes confidence ahead of PKL playoffs



Dabang Delhi K.C. Head coach Joginder Narwal is confident that his team will excel in the PKL season 12 playoffs that will start here at the Thyagaraj Indoor Stadium on Saturday. In an exclusive interaction with UNI,

(See on page 7)

VP to represent India at Seychelles' President-elect's



Vice President CP Radhakrishnan will be visiting the Republic of Seychelles from October 26 to 27 to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Patrick Herminie, the newly elected President of Seychelles. This visit, extended at the invitation of the Seychelles government, will be undertaken on behalf of India,

(See on page 8)

PM raises issue of "jungle raj", Tejaswi targets NDA on rising unemployment

Patna, Oct 24 (UNI) : The Bihar electoral battle intensified today, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the NDA's campaign by raising the issue of "Jungle Raj", which, he alleged, had ravaged the state during RJD's long rule.

At the other end, the opposition Grand Alliance's CM face Tejashwi Prasad Yadav also hit the political turf, alleging that unemployment had increased alarmingly since NDA was voted to power in the state.

Addressing public meetings in Samastipur and Begusarai, Modi cautioned the people not to allow the return of the "dark phase" that had ravaged Bihar during RJD's 15-year rule since 1990.

Another senior BJP leader and union Home Minister Amit Shah said that



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Union Ministers Jitan Ram Manjhi and Chirag Paswan and others during a public meeting ahead of the state Assembly elections, in Samastipur district.

RJD had given a party ticket to Osama, son of don-tumed politician Mohammad Shahabuddin who had created terror during the "jungle raj" in Bihar. In the

NDA regime, no one with " jungle raj " mindset could harm both the city's development and the BJP's chances in the polls.

Reacting sharply, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut demanded Bawankule's arrest, alleging that his remarks revealed illegal phone tapping of Opposition leaders and party workers. "If phones are indeed under surveillance, it amounts to an anti-national act," Raut said.

Bawankule's comments have since ignited a heated political debate in Maharashtra, with the Opposition accusing the BJP of misusing power ahead of the elections.

" were making lofty promises to "fool" them. Those involved in the "land for job " scam could never provide jobs to the youths of Bihar, he added. "Several

Bawankule refutes Raut's phone tapping allegations; clarifies 'war room' purpose

Mumbai, Oct 24 (UNI) : Senior BJP Minister Chandrashekhkar Bawankule today strongly denied allegations made by Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut that the BJP was illegally tapping the phone calls of its workers and opponents. "We haven't tapped anyone's phone," Bawankule asserted.

The Minister clarified that the party has set up a "war room" ahead of the upcoming elections to monitor WhatsApp groups created at the booth level for better coordination among party workers.

Bawankule was recently accused of surveillance after he warned BJP workers at a meeting in Bhandara that any disloyalty would face consequences.

Clarifying his remarks, Bawankule explained that the booth-level WhatsApp groups are meant for coordination, addressing grievances, and gathering feedback. "Messages received on these groups are analysed so that we can resolve issues promptly," he said. He added that if any disgruntled worker posts negative messages damaging the party's image, the party takes note and acts accordingly. Bawankule concluded that the election is about the development of villages, and any worker indulging in anti-party activity "won't be welcomed back easily."

BJP leader warns workers their phones are being monitored; Sanjay Raut demands his arrest

Bhandara, Oct 24 (UNI): Revenue Minister and senior BJP leader Chandrashekhkar Bawankule sparked a political controversy on Thursday after telling party workers that their mobile phones and WhatsApp groups were under surveillance ahead of the upcoming local body elections.

Speaking at a Diwali gathering in Bhandara, Bawankule cautioned BJP members to stay disciplined and avoid statements or actions that could damage the party's image or electoral prospects.

"Everyone's mobile phones and WhatsApp groups are being watched. Each word you

say is being tracked. One wrong click can cost us the next five years," he warned.

The event was organised by the Bhandara district BJP unit and attended by several senior leaders, including Guardian Minister Pankaj Bhojar.

Bawankule also urged workers not to let dissatisfaction over ticket distribution lead to public dissent.

"Those who show anger or rebel because they didn't get a ticket will shut the doors of leadership on themselves," he said, calling for unity and discipline within the party ranks.

He further reminded

IRCTC West Zone, Mumbai Honours Employees of the Month for August and September 2025



(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 24 : The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC), a Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Railways, Government of India, continues its tradition of recognizing and

appreciating exceptional employee performance. As part of this initiative, the Employee of the Month awards for August and September 2025 were presented at the IRCTC West Zone Office, Mumbai. Shri Ashok Pandey,

Hospitality Monitor, Catering Regional Office, Ahmedabad, and Shri Vijay Gaikwad, Supporting Staff, Tourism Zonal Office, Mumbai, “were honoured for their outstanding contributions for the month of August 2025. Shri Ranvir

Chaudhary, Catering Supervisor (CS), Pune, and Smt. Lata Rane, Supporting Staff, Finance, Zonal Office, Mumbai, “were recognized for their exemplary performance for the month of September 2025. All awardees received a Merit Certificate and Cash Prize in appreciation of their dedicated service. The awards were conferred by Shri Gaurav Jha, Group General Manager, IRCTC West Zone, Mumbai, in the presence of senior officials including Shri Harshvardhan Singh Rawat, AGM (Tourism); Shri Vijay Kundle, DGM (Finance); and Shri Nagesh Chaudhary, Manager (HR), IRCTC West Zone, Mumbai. Dr. A.K. Singh, PRO, IRCTC West Zone, Mumbai, stated that this initiative was introduced by the Group General Manager, Shri Gaurav Jha, during the current financial year, and a total of six employees have been recognized so far under this initiative. IRCTC West Zone remains committed to fostering a culture of excellence, innovation, and customer-centric service by continuously encouraging and recognizing the contributions of its employees.

ECI issues directives to ensure voter-friendly polling stations ahead of Bihar Elections

New Delhi, Oct 24 (UNI) : The Election Commission of India today issued detailed instructions to Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) across all States and union Territories, mandating that every polling station be equipped with Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs) and comprehensive voter assistance on polling day. Key facilities under AMFs include access to drinking water, waiting shelters, toilets with water supply, adequate lighting, ramps with appropriate gradients for Persons with Disabilities (PwD), standardized voting compartments, and clear, visible signage to guide voters. To boost voter awareness, the Commission has directed the installation of four standardized Voter Facilitation Posters (VFP) at every polling station. These posters will provide essential information such as polling station details, candidate lists, voting guidelines, approved identity documents, and the voting procedure. In a bid to provide additional support, Voter Assistance Booths (VABs) manned by Booth Level Officers (BLOs) or other officials will be set up at all polling locations. These booths will help voters locate their polling booth number and their serial number on the electoral roll, with clear signage to ensure easy accessibility. As a new security measure, the ECI has introduced a mobile phone deposit system outside polling station entrances. Voters will be required to hand over their switched-off mobile phones to designated volunteers before entering and collect them after voting, to prevent unauthorized recording and preserve ballot secrecy.

Pak given adequate dose during Op Sindoor; Will think 100 times before resorting to any misadventure: Rajnath Singh

Jaipur, Oct 24 (UNI) : Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has said that Pakistan has been “given adequate dosage (response) by our soldiers during the Operation Sindoor and now the neighbouring country would think over 100 times before resorting to any misadventure (strike) against India”. Speaking at the ceremonial “Bada Khana” with soldiers in Jaisalmer, Singh said: “Being the border area this station has special significance. Although the government during the recent years has undertaken several steps for development in the border areas this gradually has made easier things for you all.” “However, the region being in the vicinity to Pakistan does not allow us to feel ourselves much in comfort zone; we need to maintain consistent extra alert. Although a few days back during Operation Sindoor Pakistan has been given adequate and very appropriately effective dosage by our brave pilots (Haalanki Abhi Kuch Din Pahle Hee Operation Sindoor Mein Pakistan Ko Theek Thak Dosage Dee Di Gayi Hei). Now, before resorting to any misadventure (Harkat) against India Pakistan would think a hundred times.” “Kyonki ab Pakistan Ko Pata Hei Ki Usne Dubara Harkat Ki Tau Parinaam Kya Hoga (Now Pakistan knows that if it again tries some misadventure the consequences will be terrible)”, the Defence Minister asserted, warning the neighbouring country of dire consequences in the event of any strike against India. “Operation Sindoor is not over, it is just deferred. In the operation

our brave pilots had gone therein on a limited task just to have feel of the situation there (Haal Chhaal Janabe Gate The). Their casual sortie into that country proved to be devastating to the neighbouring country; then, one can guess about the severity of a full blown mission,” Singh said. The Defence Minister reached Jaisalmer Thursday evening on a 3 day visit, went to the “Shaurya Van” and attended the Bada Khana event with all ranks of the army including soldiers. Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi and other dignitaries were present. On Friday morning he went to Tanot Border Post to pay obeisance at the Tanot Mata Shrine. Singh said “Feeling blessed after visiting Tanot Rai Mata Mandir ; The energy of this Temple is immense”. Later, he proceeded to Longewala Border Post to pay tributes to martyrs at the war memorial there. He also interacted with soldiers at Longewala post. Defence Minister Singh also inaugurated the ‘Shaurya van -Cacti-cum-Botanical Garden in Jaisalmer, in the presence of army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi. The Shaurya Van symbolises the testament to the Indian Army’s commitment to nation- building & environmental stewardship that has been “transforming the Thar Desert into a vibrant oasis”. Shauryavan embodies resilience, innovation and ecological sustainability”, a Ministry for Defence post on social media stated. Later, the Minister attended the Army Commanders’ Conference.

Vigilance Awareness Week Observed at MANUU

(Standard Post Bureau)
Hyderabad, Oct 24 : Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) observed Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 by organizing a special program on the theme “Vigilance: Our Shared Responsibility.” Prof. Syed Ainal Hasan, Vice Chancellor administered the Integrity Pledge to the university faculty, non-teaching staff, officers, students, and research scholars. While addressing the Vice Chancellor spoke about the importance of shared responsibility and its positive impact in daily life. He emphasized that vigilance and integrity are essential



not only in professional settings but also in personal conduct. Prof. Vanaja M, Chief Vigilance Officer, delivered an insightful address highlighting the importance and relevance of vigilance in everyday life. She explained how being

vigilant helps individuals live responsibly, ethically, and with integrity. At the beginning of the program, a one-minute silence was observed in memory of the wife of MANUU’s Second Vice Chancellor Prof. A. M. Pathan, who passed away

on October 23. The Vice Chancellor and all attendees paid heartfelt tribute to her. Mr. C Mutyala Rao delivered welcome address and Dr. Afroz Zaheer conducted the program whereas Mr. Habib Ahmad presented a vote of thanks.

Women Journalists Shine at Ningol Chakouba 2025 Celebration



Imphal, Oct 24 : The All Manipur Working Journalists’ Union (AMWJU) turned this year’s Ningol Chakouba into a vibrant celebration of sisterhood and solidarity, hosting a special programme for women journalists at the Manipur Press Club. Clad in traditional Manipuri attire, women journalists brought colour and grace to the festive gathering. The 2025 celebration introduced a fresh, prize-filled twist, featuring attractive gifts and live draws that delighted the participants. The first prize, a gold earring, was sponsored by Ima Panthoibi Jewellery, Wahengbam Leikai, while the second prize, a gold ring, was sponsored by Leiren Jewellers, Sega Road Thoudabhabok Leikai. The live lucky draw, accompanied by a performance from child artist Winne Thangjam, drew cheers from journalists and their families. Adding to the excitement, Mozo Hub, Keishampat Konjenhazari Leikai, gifted three rice cookers to lucky attendees, bringing a homely touch to the occasion. The Directorate of Handloom & Textiles, Government of

Manipur, along with sponsor Mr. Chagan Rathor, contributed an array of prizes that reflected Manipur’s rich handloom and handicraft heritage. The event was graced by Asem Bhakta Singh, President of AMWJU; Khogendra Khomdram, President of the Editors Guild Manipur (EGM); and Rupachandra Yumnam, Secretary General of EGM. R.K. Nimai, Advisor of AMWJU, also attended and lauded the initiative for honouring women journalists through a meaningful cultural celebration. Anchoring the event, Khwairakpam Naoba, General Secretary of AMWJU, highlighted how Ningol Chakouba reinforces familial bonds while recognizing the vital role of women journalists in Manipur’s media landscape. “We wanted the celebration to feel both festive and forward-looking — giving our sisters not just a feast but a chance to win something truly special,” said Khwairakpam Naoba. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks to sponsors and a feast of authentic Manipuri delicacies,

underscoring AMWJU’s continued commitment to community bonding and cultural celebration. This year’s celebration, blending tradition with a modern spirit of empowerment, reaffirmed why Ningol Chakouba remains one of the most cherished and unifying festivals for the journalistic fraternity in Manipur.

NC wins 3, BJP 1 in the first Rajya Sabha elections in JK post-Article 370 abrogation

Srinagar, Oct 24 (UNI) : Jammu and Kashmir’s ruling National Conference (NC) secured three seats, while the Bharatiya Janata Party bagged the remaining one in the first Rajya Sabha polls in J&K today since the abrogation of Article 370 and downgrading of the erstwhile state into a union Territory in 2019. The NC was in direct contest with the BJP and the People’s Conference - led by Sajad Lone - chose to abstain from voting. A total of 87 votes were polled in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly, which has a current strength of 88 members. Sajad Lone was the only member to abstain from voting. NC candidate on the first notification and former Minister Choudhary Mohammad Ramzan was elected by securing 58 votes against 28 of the BJP. Another NC candidate and former J&K Minister of State, Sajjad Kitchloo, was elected to the Upper House by obtaining 56 votes. NC treasurer Gurwinder Singh, also known as Shammi Oberoi, won the third Rajya Sabha seat. BJP J&K President Satpal Sharma won the fourth seat, securing 32 votes against NC’s Imran Nabi Dar, who bagged 22 votes. The 32 votes to the BJP J&K president hint that at least four members have cross-voted for the party, as it has only 28 members in the House. NC received a significant boost in the run-up to the polls as the Congress and the People’s Democratic Party (PDP) had agreed to support the party’s four candidates, despite lingering grievances over the NC’s recent political conduct. Jammu and Kashmir’s four Rajya Sabha seats had been vacant since February 2021, when the

terms of Ghulam Nabi Azad and Nazir Ahmad Laway ended on February 15, and those of Fayaz Ahmad Mir and Shamsheer Singh Manhas expired on February 10. Between 1952 and 2021, 37 individuals (all males) represented J & K in the Council of States. Over 70 per cent of these members were from the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference and the India National Congress. According to PRS Legislative Research, an independent think tank, most of these individuals served only one term in the Rajya Sabha. Azad has been the longest-serving member (five terms, 1996-2021) in the Rajya Sabha from Jammu and Kashmir. Tirath Ram Amla served four terms, followed by Saifu-d-Din Soz and Om Mehta, who completed three terms. No woman has ever been elected to Rajya Sabha from Jammu and Kashmir, PRS Legislative Research said.

CENTRAL RAILWAY PROVISION OF AIR CONDITIONING

For and on behalf of The President of India invites open E-tender through website www.ireps.gov.in from reputed contractors. **OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE No: 31/2025 (BB.L.G.W.CSMT.2025.09) OF 17.10.2025. Name of work:** Provision of Air conditioning at DRM office. **Approximate Cost of the Work:** Rs. 43,06,311/-. **Bid Security:** Rs. 86,100/-. **Validity:** 60 Days. **Completion Period:** 06 Months (C). **Instruction:** 1. Tender closing date & time of aforesaid tender: Upto 13.00 hours of 28.11.2025 and will be opened after 13.00 hrs. 2. The prospective tenderers are requested to visit the website www.ireps.gov.in for complete details of tenders & corrigendum, if any. 3. Tenderer may participate in above e-tender electronically through website www.ireps.gov.in only & submission of manual offers against e-tender are not allowed. Manually, if submitted shall neither be opened nor considered. 4. For further enquiry, may contact: Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (General Service), Annex Bldg., 1st floor, Central Railway, Mumbai CSMT. 5. This tender complies with Public Procurement Policy Order 2017 dated 15.06.2017. **DE-581**

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WESTERN RAILWAY

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Mumbai Central Division, Western Railway
Divisional Railway Manager, Commercial Department, NFR Section,
Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008.
Work - Display of Advertisement through various NFR media over Mumbai Division

Auction Catalogue No.	Auction Start (All Lots)
MMCT-ADVT-25-50	12-11-25 15:00:00

Sr. No.	Lot No.	Location / Area	Days	Close Date & Time of e-Auction
1	ADVT-BCT-NSP-OH-351-25-2 (Advertising-Out of Home)	Bulk advertising rights for display of advertisement by erection of new hoarding	2557	12-11-25 15:30:00
structures at Nallasopara (03 Hoardings of Size 20' X 10' at North East circulating area adjacent to queuing area of Booking office) of total area admeasuring 600 sq. ft for a period of 07 years.				
2	ADVT-BCT-NVS-OSN-444-25-1 (Advertising-On Station Premise (Non-Digital))	Bulk Advertising Rights at Navsari (NVS) Station for a period of 3 years.	1096	12-11-25 15:40:00

Contact Details: Landline No.: 02267644212, Email ID: acmadvtgbc@gmail.com
Note: Prospective bidders are requested to visit e-Auction leasing module on IREPS website (www.ireps.gov.in). The lot wise details are available there in under the mentioned catalogue. 0733

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Governor releases book on PM Modi's spiritual journey

Mumbai, Oct 24 (UNI) : 'Modi's Mission', a book written by former journalist and lawyer Berjis Minoo Desai, was released today by Maharashtra Governor Acharya Devvrat at Raj Bhavan, in the presence of several distinguished dignitaries.

Published by Rupa Publications, the 264-page book 'Modi's Mission' has detailed insights into the leadership and governance philosophy of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The book release event at the Raj Bhawan, which was graced by Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Deputy CM Eknath Shinde, featured an introduction to the book, reflections by its author Berjis Desai, as well as addresses by dignitaries, followed by keynote remarks by Maharashtra Governor Acharya

Devvrat.

"I could not read the entire book, but I did read some of the things in the book. In the history of every nation, a great leader is born to fulfill their historic mission of making the nation great. Bergis Desai has tried to include all aspects of Modi's personality in his book. Desai has also included in his book how Modi dealt with ideological issues, whether it was the Ram Temple or Article 370," Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said about the book.

"If we sit alone and reflect upon Modi's achievements and the background from which he comes, we cannot help but feel humbled. Modi not only has the strength to walk on the difficult path but also to make society walk on that path. The

decisions taken by Modi cannot be taken by an ordinary person. All of us know this very well," Maharashtra Governor Acharya Devvrat said after he released the book 'Modi's Mission', authored by Berjis Desai.

Talking about his book 'Modi's Mission', author Berjis Minoo Desai said, "This book is not another biography of Prime Minister Modi. It is not about his politics or election campaigns or any of his present-day political opponents. As a matter of fact, none of them are even mentioned in my book".

"I wrote the book for two reasons. Firstly, as we are in the midst of a lot of events happening in the midst of history, we are unable to fully appreciate the position Narendra Modi will ultimately hold in the history of modern India.

Secondly, we also underestimate the sheer enormity of the task he has done over 24 years of elective public office, which he has held," Berjis Desai said.

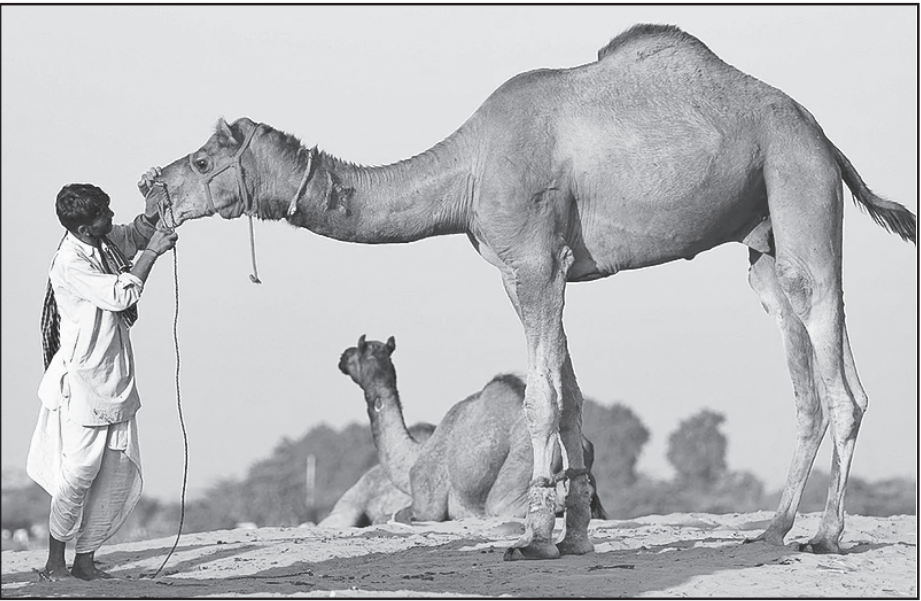
"The book is not about politics. Not even a single political opponent has been mentioned by name. The whole idea behind the book is to show his governance of what he has achieved in various aspects of life, which cuts across party lines. Here is an iconic leader who has done things for the country.

You may not agree with his entire philosophy or political philosophy or the manner in which his party thinks, but you cannot fail to appreciate what this person has done, if you are truly dispassionate," he said.

"He spent 13 years as Gujarat CM and 11 years as

PM, where he put in 16 hours a day and with hardly four and a half hours of sleep. So I took it upon myself to explain his personal spiritual journey, the mindset that evolved during extremely hard conditions during his childhood, which people still do not know. How he left home permanently at 17, how he spent two and a half years when he was in the Himalayas, and in the northern parts of the country. All the spiritual experiences he had as well as what motivates him have been mentioned in my book," the author said.

"Modi's life has been a continuous story of service and sacrifice for all these years because even before public office for 30 years, he was a pracharak of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and a BJP functionary.



A camel herder at the annual Pushkar Camel Fair 2025, in Pushkar, Rajasthan.

Sena (UBT), Congress allege major scams in Mahayuti govt

Mumbai, Oct 24 (UNI) : The Opposition, led by the Shiv Sena (UBT) and the Congress, has levelled serious allegations of financial misconduct and voter fraud against the Mahayuti government, claiming that Maharashtra is witnessing one of the largest series of scams in its history.

The accusations were published today in an editorial in the Shiv Sena (UBT) mouthpiece, Saamana, which sharply criticised the state administration for widespread irregularities and misuse of welfare funds.

The Saamana editorial specifically targeted the Chief Minister's flagship women's welfare initiative. It alleged that funds earmarked for women

beneficiaries were systematically misappropriated, citing that Rs 24.24 crore was illegally received by 12,431 male individuals under the scheme, while 77,980 ineligible women reportedly availed the Rs 1,500 monthly stipend for over a year. The total diversion of funds to ineligible accounts was estimated at Rs 164 crore. The editorial described this as a “mechanism to influence voters rather than empower women.”

In parallel, Congress leader Balasaheb Thorat from Sangamer constituency alleged that nearly 9,500 bogus voter registrations had been added to electoral rolls in his area, accusing authorities of weak verification procedures.

The Opposition dismissed the ruling coalition's counter-allegations about opposition scams as diversionary tactics.

Another controversy raised pertains to a Pune-based Jain Trust land deal valued at approximately Rs 230 crore, which allegedly proceeded despite the Charity Commissioner's status quo orders on the property. The Opposition demanded a detailed clarification, asserting that the Mahayuti coalition routinely avoids accountability.

The political confrontation has intensified following the Chief Minister's repeated remarks about exposing voter list irregularities, which the Opposition interprets as an indirect admission of administrative lapses.

Three stalls damaged as early morning fire erupts in Thane’s Diva Market

Thane, Oct 24 (UNI) : A fire broke out in the early hours today, damaging three commercial stalls in Thane’s Diva area. The blaze occurred at storage units in Jivdani Nagar, and while property losses were

reported, no casualties or injuries occurred, according to municipal officials.Yasin Tadvī, Chief of the Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) Disaster Management Cell, said the fire control unit received a call at 3:07 am.

The affected stalls were being used to store Plaster of Paris idols, which were destroyed in the fire.Fire brigade teams rushed to the spot, assisted by technicians from the local electricity supply company

to manage electrical hazards during firefighting operations. The blaze was brought under control by 3:45 am, after a forty-minute operation that prevented the fire from spreading to adjoining structures in the market.

PM raises issue of "jungle raj", Tejaswi targets NDA on rising

(Contd from page 1)

from Bihar."With sustained efforts of the NDA government, Bihar would become an industrial hub in the days ahead, if allowed to serve the people of the state for another term", the Prime Minister said.

RJD leader Tejashwi, countering the allegations of "Jungle Raj" when his party was in power, claimed Law and order had totally collapsed during the NDA's governance, headed by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. Crimes have increased alarmingly, but still Chief Minister Kumar was claiming to have established the rule of law in Bihar, he pointed out.

"Unemployment has increased alarmingly during NDA rule in Bihar and youths of the state are forced to

migrate other parts of the country, in search of their livelihood", Yadav said, adding that only Grand Alliance could provide jobs to youths if voted to power.

Shah, while addressing a public meeting seeking support for NDA candidates, said that RJD had given party ticket to Osama, son of don turned politician Mohammad Shahabuddin who had whipped terror during RJD's rule.

" Now during the rule of NDA in Bihar, none with ' Jungle Raj ' mindset can harm people of Bihar", the union Minister assured. During the regime of RJD, people of Siwan had suffered a lot and were badly affected by lawlessness but that era was now over, he pointed out.

"Terrorists used to get VIP treatment and they were served foods on their demand in jail during Congress rule while under NDA regime, they were being targeted even inside their homes," he said.

Polling for the 243 seats in the Bihar assembly elections is to be held in two phases on November 6 and 11. Counting of votes is to be taken up on November 14.

Voters will teach lesson to those igniting OBC-Maratha conflict, says Patil

Mumbai, Oct 24 (UNI) : Hemant Patil, National President of India Against Corruption and leader of the OBC Ekjut Parishad, today warned that voters will give a fitting reply to political parties attempting to create an artificial conflict between the OBC and Maratha communities in the upcoming local body elections in Maharashtra.

Patil stated that the upcoming local body elections will reveal the true grassroots strength of political parties. He stressed that reservation is a sensitive issue related to constitutional rights. While he acknowledged that the demands of the Maratha community are legitimate, he called attempts to divide society or turn the OBC community against them "completely inappropriate."

Patil appealed to all sections of society to find a peaceful and constitutional solution to the reservation issue. He emphasised that maintaining unity between the two major social groups—the approximately 52 percent OBC population and the 33 percent Maratha community—is crucial for Maharashtra's social stability.He asserted that the focus of the upcoming elections should be on issues of development, transparency, and honest governance, not caste equations. Through the India Against Corruption and the OBC Ekjut Parishad, awareness campaigns will be conducted to preserve social harmony.Patil added that the state government should respect the Supreme Court’s decisions on reservation and proceed in a manner that ensures justice for all sections of society.

Raut demands arrest of minister Bawankule over 'phone surveillance' remarks

Mumbai, Oct 24 (UNI) Shiv Sena (Thackeray faction) MP Sanjay Raut today demanded the arrest and thorough investigation of Maharashtra Minister and BJP leader Chandra shekhar Bawankule, alleging that he threatened BJP workers by claiming their conversations and messages were being closely monitored.

Raut accused the BJP of phone tapping both opposition leaders and its own party workers, asserting that such actions amounted to a serious breach of privacy and law. The controversy follows Bawankule's recent warning to party workers that any act of disloyalty would not go unnoticed, stating: “Every conversation and WhatsApp message you send or receive is being closely watched.”

Raut demanded that Bawankule be arrested under the Indian Telegraph Act. The MP also questioned whether the BJP was using Pegasus-like spyware to monitor communications. “Are these conversations being heard by Bawankule himself or at the BJP office? This must be investigated,” he said.The Shiv Sena leader further alleged that the BJP’s IT cell, State President Ravindra Chavan, and certain agencies in Nagpur have established a “war room” to conduct surveillance on both political opponents and party members.

Family alleges negligence after newborn's death

Palghar, Oct 24 (UNI): A tribal woman from Palghar district lost her newborn during delivery at Mokhada Rural Hospital, with her family alleging that medical negligence caused the tragedy.Relatives claimed that no doctor was available for nearly twelve hours and that only nursing staff attended to the patient during labour.

The incident occurred on October 22, when 25-year-old Vaishali Ashok Batre was admitted for childbirth. Her husband alleged that despite repeated requests, a doctor did not attend to his wife in time, leading to the death of their newborn.

The family further claimed that hospital authorities later transferred the mother and deceased infant to Khodala Primary Health Centre without a proper explanation.

Family members accused the hospital of failing to provide timely intervention and specialist support, calling for action against the staff responsible. The case has sparked public concern over the quality and availability of medical services in rural healthcare centres.

However, Taluka Medical Officer Dr. Bhausaheb Chatter, speaking to the media today about the incident, denied the allegations of negligence.

He stated that a doctor was on duty at Mokhada Hospital but was attending an emergency snakebite case when the delivery began. Dr. Chatter added that the doctor rushed to the maternity ward immediately after being informed the newborn was not crying, but found the baby already deceased.

A preliminary medical assessment suggested that the infant may have suffered from congenital complications.

Fishermen to receive subsidised electricity rates, equal to farmers

Mumbai, Oct 24 (UNI) : Fishermen across Maharashtra will receive electricity at the same subsidised rates currently enjoyed by farmers. This major relief applies to all sectors related to the fishing industry, following a decision by the Mahayuti government.

The move follows the recent recognition of fisheries as an agricultural activity. Fisheries Minister Nilesh Rane had actively demanded that fishermen receive the same benefits as farmers—a demand now approved by the state government.According to an official government circular released today, fishermen, fish farmers, fish vendors, and those involved in aquaculture will all be eligible for the subsidised electricity rates. The decision has been widely welcomed by fishing communities across the state.

CENTRAL RAILWAY

CAMC OF ALL PMS EQUIPMENT

Mumbai Division. Central Railway has called tender for CAMC of all PMS Equipment {Thin client with monitor and keyboard-06, Dot matrix Printer-07, Bar code Printer-04, HHT-05, HHT mini-Printer-05, Weighing Machine-05 (LTT), 01 (DR), 01(PNVL), 01(TNA)} over Mumbai Division for a period of Two years on www.gem.gov.in through e-tendering module. The interested bidders are required to get participate in the bid process and all necessary documents to be uploaded prior to the opening of Bid. For further details the interested bidders are requested to visit the website www.gem.gov.in to know the details: Open Tender- GeM Bid Number: **GEM/2025/B/6809213, Date: 20.10.2025. Name of the work:** CAMC of all PMS Equipments {Thin client with monitor and keyboard-06, Dot matrix Printer-07, Bar code Printer-04, HHT-05, HHT mini-Printer-05, Weighing Machine-05 (LTT), 01 (DR), 01(PNVL), 01(TNA)} over Mumbai Division. **Address of the office:** DRM office, Commercial Branch, Mumbai Division, 1st floor, Reservation centre, CSMT, Mumbai-400001. **Work Location:** Lokmanya Tilak Terminus, Dadar, Panvel & Thane Station, Mumbai Division. **Advised value:** Rs. 10,51,488/- **Tender type:** Single Packet System. **Tender closing Date and Time:** 10.11.2025 at 15:00 Hrs. **Period of contract:** Two Years. **Validity of Offers:** 60 Days. **Tender Document available on website:** <https://gem.gov.in/> Further Addendum /corrigendum, withdrawal of Tender, change in date, time extension, clarification etc. if any, in connection with the subject tender, will only be uploaded in the website. Bidders should regularly visit the website to keep themselves updated. DE-585

खतनाक व बिस्फोटक सामान के साथ यात्रा करना दंडनीय अपराध है

EAST COAST RAILWAY

E-AUCTION OF ADVERTISEMENT

Auction Catalogue No. CAT-ADVTD-006-1

(1) Lot No./Category : ADVT-WAT-RGDA-OH-232-25-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)

Description: THE WORK INVOLVES INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF VIDEO WALL/SCREENS AT LOCATIONS AS ILLUSTRATED IN THE SKETCH OF RAYAGADA (350 SQ.FT.) AND JAGDALPUR (150 SQ.FT.) STATIONS FOR DISPLAY OF ADVERTISEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH E-AUCTION POLICY CC-14 OF 2020 AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT OF CC-14 OF 2022.

Lot start date & time : 28.10.2025 at 1000 hrs. (for sl. no. 1 & 2).

Lot end date: 28.10.2025 (for sl. no. 1 & 2). End time: At 1030 hrs. (for sl. no. 1) & 1040 hrs. (for sl. no. 2).

Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee (for sl. no. 1 & 2), Trips/Days : 1826 (for sl. no. 1 & 2), Minimum Increment (%): 0.2 (for sl. no. 1 & 2), Lot Status : New in Published Catalogue (for sl. no. 1 & 2).

Complete information of the above e-Auction Notice is available in website : www.irops.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, PR-725/Q/25-26

EAST COAST RAILWAY

SUPPLY OF MATERIALS

(1) Tender No. 30256967, Dt. 16.10.2025

NAME OF WORK : FABRICATED SIDE STANCHION FOR BRNA WAGON DRG. NO. W/LG-1843 ALT-2. MATERIAL AND SPECIFICATION AS PER DRAWING. (WARRANTY PERIOD : 30 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF DELIVERY). INSPECTION BY : TPI AGENCY, QUANTITY : 3000 NOS.

(2) Tender No. 30256774, Dt. 17.10.2025

NAME OF WORK : RTVS (REAL-TIME VIEWING SYSTEM DEVICE) AS PER MHA SPECIFICATIONS ARE ATTACHED FOR SENIOR DIVISIONAL SECURITY COMMISSIONER / RPF/WALTAIR. (WARRANTY PERIOD : 24 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF SUPPLY). INSPECTION BY : TPI AGENCY, QUANTITY : 01 SET.

Note : Material to be supplied within 30 days (for Sl. No. 1) and 90 days (for Sl. No. 2).

Date and Time of Opening of Tender : 17.11.2025, at 1500 Hrs. (for both Tenders)

Complete details available at : www.irops.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Materials Manager / PR-713/Q/25-26

EAST COAST RAILWAY

SUPPLY OF MATERIALS

(1) Tender No. 30256967, Dt. 16.10.2025

NAME OF WORK : FABRICATED SIDE STANCHION FOR BRNA WAGON DRG. NO. W/LG-1843 ALT-2. MATERIAL AND SPECIFICATION AS PER DRAWING. (WARRANTY PERIOD : 30 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF DELIVERY). INSPECTION BY : TPI AGENCY, QUANTITY : 3000 NOS.

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Complete details available at : www.irops.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Materials Manager / PR-713/Q/25-26

VBA leads 'Jan Aakrosh Morcha', demands case withdrawal

Ch. Sambhajanagar, Oct 24 (UNI) :The Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) today led a large-scale public demonstration, the Jan Aakrosh Morcha, in Ch. Sambhajanagar, drawing hundreds of participants to demand social justice and the protection of constitutional rights.The primary demand of the protest was the withdrawal of cases registered against Rahul Mukasere and other Ambedkarwadi activists. Protesters alleged that government and police authorities had acted with bias to suppress dissenting voices.

BRIHANMUMBAI MAHANAGARPALIKA	
EOI	
Subjects : Providing cleaning and Housekeeping services to the Mahatama Jyotiba Phule Market (Phase- 2)	
Department	Asst. Engineer (SWM) ‘A’ ward
Bid Start Date & Time	21-10-2025 at 11.00 a.m.
Bid End Date & Time	27-10-2025 at 11.00 a.m.
Website	https://portal.mcgm.gov.in
Contact Officer Name & Number	Shri Arun Vaidya, A.E. (SWM) ‘A’ Ward Office Phone : 22661353 Mobile No. 9820739100
Email	seswm01.a@mcgm.gov.in
PRO/2000/ADV/2025-26	
Let’s together and make Mumbai Malaria free.	Sd/- Asst. Commissioner ‘A’ Ward

STANDARD POST

A crucial pivot point in Asia’s geopolitical chessboard with India watching closely

The upcoming meeting between US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping in South Korea this Thursday transcends a mere bilateral dialogue—it represents a critical juncture in Asia’s shifting geopolitical landscape, carrying significant ramifications for India’s strategic calculations.

Set against the complex backdrop of South Korea’s geopolitical tensions, this summit will delve into pressing issues spanning trade disputes, technological competition, and security challenges surrounding the Korean Peninsula and the broader Indo-Pacific region. For India, positioned at the crossroads of these global dynamics, the outcomes of this high-stakes encounter could reshape its diplomatic and security strategies.

Firstly, the Trump-Xi talks may herald either a recalibration or further deterioration in US-China relations, which have fluctuated between cautious cooperation and intense rivalry. A thaw could ease regional tensions, influencing India’s engagements with both powers. Conversely, escalating hostility might intensify strategic competition, compelling India to navigate an even more complex security environment.

Secondly, the summit takes place amid escalating US-Russia tensions, exacerbated by sanctions on Russian oil entities and stern warnings from President Vladimir Putin. India’s enduring energy partnership with Russia places it in a delicate position, especially as the US has responded with punitive tariffs targeting India’s Russian oil imports—complicating bilateral negotiations with Washington.

Amid these complexities, Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s decision to participate virtually in the ASEAN summit—eschewing a face-to-face meeting with Trump—signals India’s nuanced diplomacy.

It reflects New Delhi’s determination to uphold strategic autonomy while selectively engaging with global powers, prioritising energy security and economic growth over transactional politics. For India, the Seoul summit presents both challenges and opportunities. It necessitates a proactive approach: accelerating energy diversification, strengthening regional alliances, and deepening participation in Indo-Pacific multilateral frameworks.

India’s adeptness at balancing the competing interests of an ascending China, an assertive US, and a resilient Russia will be crucial to safeguarding its influence and security in the coming years.

In essence, as Trump and Xi convene in Seoul, India stands at a pivotal crossroads. The summit’s results will reverberate across Asia, testing India’s diplomatic agility and vision for a stable, multipolar regional order.

The future of India’s strategic stature depends on its ability to harness these shifting dynamics while preserving its sovereignty and developmental aspirations.

Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss (SSNHL): Presentation and Treatment

(Standard Post Bureau) Sudden sensorineural hearing loss (SSNHL) is defined as a rapid loss of hearing of 30 decibels (dB) or more in one ear, affecting at least three sound frequencies, and happening within 72 hours or less. It usually affects one ear and is considered a medical emergency because early treatment can significantly improve recovery.

People with SSNHL often notice a sudden drop in hearing, sometimes when they wake up in the morning or while using the phone.

The hearing loss can range from mild to complete. Many describe the ear as feeling “blocked” or “full,” which is often mistaken for earwax or a common ear blockage.

Around 70–90% of patients experience ringing in the ear (tinnitus), and

about 30–40% may feel dizziness or imbalance (vertigo), showing inner ear involvement. Usually, there is no pain, discharge, or visible issue when the ear is examined.

What causes it? In many cases, the cause of SSNHL is unknown, called idiopathic SSNHL. However, possible reasons may include:

Viral infections such as herpes, mumps, or influenza Problems in blood supply to the inner ear

Autoimmune ear disease (when the immune system attacks the ear)

Tumors like acoustic neuroma

Side effects of certain medications (ototoxic drugs)

Head or ear injury

Diagnosis: The diagnosis is confirmed through a hearing test (audiometry), which helps differentiate



Dr. Sumit Mrig, Director & Unit Head, ENT, Max Smart Super Specialty Hospital, Saket

between nerve-related (sensorineural) and other types of hearing loss. Simple tests using a tuning fork (Rinne and Weber tests) can give initial clues

—for example, sound heard better in the opposite ear suggests SSNHL.

An MRI scan of the brain and ear canals is often done to rule out

tumors or other inner ear problems. Blood tests may be suggested in some cases to check for infections or immune-related causes.

Treatment: Quick treatment — ideally within the first two weeks — gives the best chance of recovery. The main treatment is steroids, which reduce swelling and inflammation in the inner ear.

Steroid Injections in the Ear- Used when oral steroids can’t be given (such as in diabetes or high blood pressure) or when oral treatment doesn’t help.

Other Supporting Treatments - Antiviral medicines may be given if a viral cause is suspected, though evidence is limited. B l o o d - t h i n n i n g medicines are sometimes used to improve blood flow to the inner ear. Hyperbaric Oxygen

Therapy (HBOT) may also help if started early, by improving oxygen supply to the inner ear tissues.

Recovery and Prognosis

Some people recover naturally — around 30–60% regain hearing within two weeks. Recovery is usually better when:

- Hearing loss is mild or moderate
- Only low-pitched sounds are affected
- There is no dizziness
- Treatment starts early

On the other hand, complete or deep hearing loss, delayed treatment, and severe vertigo may reduce the chances of full recovery. In short, SSNHL needs quick medical attention. Recognizing the symptoms early and starting steroid treatment on time can make a big difference in hearing recovery.

Indian Railways Gears Up for Smooth Return Journey of Passengers After Chhath Puja; 6,181 Special Trains Notified to Facilitate Passengers Returning to Their Workplaces After the Festive Season

(Standard Post Bureau)

Indian Railways is ensuring a smooth and comfortable festive journey for passengers by operating over 12,000 special trains across the country. To manage the massive festive rush, holding areas equipped with all passenger amenities have been set up at major stations such as New Delhi, Anand Vihar Terminal, Udhna, Pune, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and others. Railway staff are working round the clock to guide passengers, maintain order, and ensure that everyone reaches home safely to celebrate the festivals with their loved ones. More than 900 special train trips are taking place in the next three days across the country to clear the festival rush.

Railway is now gearing up for the safe and comfortable return journey of passengers after the Chhath Puja festivities. For the period of 28th October till November, 6181 special trains have been notified to facilitate passengers returning to their workplaces after festival season.

Around 30 stations in Bihar are gearing up for the festive rush with holding areas, additional ticket counters, CCTV surveillance, and other passenger-friendly arrangements. Additional coaches are also being attached to existing services to accommodate increased demand. Weather proof holding areas are being created at major stations to manage large passenger inflows and



provide convenient waiting facilities before train departures. Some of the stations where holding areas are being established include Patna, Danapur, Rajendra Nagar Terminal, Saharsa, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Samastipur, Barauni etc. in Bihar and Gorakhpur, Ballia and Banaras in Uttar Pradesh. In addition to this additional Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs), Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters, and mobile unreserved ticketing (m-UTS) facilities have been made available to make travel more convenient for passengers.

On the auspicious occasion of Chhath Puja, Indian Railways has also started playing Chhath songs at railway stations. This initiative aims to connect passengers with the festive spirit and make their journey more pleasant. At major stations like Patna, Danapur, Hajipur, Bhagalpur, Jamalpur, Sonpur, New Delhi, Ghaziabad, and Anand Vihar Terminal, these songs allow passengers to



experience the essence of home and culture, infusing their journey with devotion and joy. To maintain smooth operations, Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been deployed in adequate numbers for safety and regulation. Passenger assistance booths, information counters, queue management systems and public announcement systems have been strengthened. Cleanliness, lighting, and sanitation facilities are being closely monitored at all major stations. Dedicated war rooms at the

Railway Board, Zonal, and Divisional levels are functioning round-the-clock to monitor and coordinate operations, ensuring real-time responses to any passenger requirements.

At stations like Patna, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Gaya, Saharsa, etc. 24x7 medical booths have been set up to address any passenger health emergencies. In coordination with the State Government, Fire Brigade, and Ambulance services are also kept in readiness to ensure prompt medical

assistance and safety management.

Indian Railways, through careful planning, improved passenger services, and a strong emphasis on convenience and care, is dedicated to providing a seamless travel experience.

A passenger travelling from Guwahati to Bihar for Chhath Puja with her family expressed gratitude to Indian Railways for

another passenger at Siddharth Nagar Railway Station appreciated the station’s cleanliness, the availability of clean drinking water, and other modern conveniences, including easily accessible charging ports in the waiting area.

Indian Railways is actively working to debunk fake videos and misinformation circulating online through its official X

Jairam Ramesh alleges government “Airbrush” of coral reefs to push great Nicobar mega project

New Delhi, Oct 24 (UNI) : Congress leader Jairam Ramesh today accused the Modi government of manipulating official maps of Great Nicobar Island to facilitate the contentious mega infrastructure project, sparking fresh environmental and procedural controversies. Taking to social media platform X, Ramesh stated, “Another day, another revelation of how the Modi Government has bulldozed the Great Nicobar Mega Infra

Project through due process. Now we learn that official maps of the island have been airbrushed to remove corals from the map.” He pointed out stark differences between the 2020 and 2021 government maps, explaining, “The 2020 map showed extensive coral reefs along the southern and western coasts of Great Nicobar, including Galathea Bay—the proposed site for the international container transshipment terminal. But the 2021 revision shifted these

reefs mid-sea, a biologically impossible location for coral reefs, conveniently clearing the path for the mega-project.”

Ramesh highlighted the grave environmental consequences, noting, “Nearly the entire island was classified as CRZ-IA in 2020, a coastal regulation zone prohibiting port construction. Yet by 2021, Galathea Bay was mysteriously excluded from this protected category, enabling development to move forward.”

China’s development faces period of strategic opportunities, challenges: Xi

Beijing, Oct 24 (UNI/ SPUTNIK) : China's development is currently experiencing a period marked by both blossoming strategic opportunities and growing risks and challenges amid increasing global uncertainty and unpredictability, Chinese President Xi Jinping said."The development of our country is currently experiencing a period in which strategic opportunities coexist with risks and challenges, under conditions of rising uncertainty and unpredictability," Xi said at a meeting dedicated to the drafting of China's 15th Five-Year Plan for social and economic development, as quoted by Chinese news agency Xinhua.China needs to closely monitor and accurately assess the international situation, actively identify emerging changes, and respond to them effectively, the president added. "No matter how the external environment changes, we must stay focused on doing our own work well," Xi said.

China's political course must take into account the importance of effectively preventing and mitigating risks while continuously improving the quality and resilience of development, he added.

Major U.S. airports issue ground stops or delays amid air traffic controller shortages

Washington, Oct. 24 (UNI) : Multiple major U.S. airports on Thursday issued ground stops or delays amid air traffic controller staffing shortages, reflecting the widening effects of the ongoing federal government shutdown, now in its 23rd day.

Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA), just outside of the U.S. capital, issued a ground delay program. Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) in New Jersey LaGuardia Airport (LGA) in New York, and George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston issued ground stops due to staffing, temporarily halting all departures.

According to the latest information from Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), departures to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport are delayed for an average of 31 minutes as of 9:30 p.m. Thursday (0130 GMT on Friday).

According to data from FlightAware, over 5,000 flights within, into, or out of the United States have been delayed, with 80 cancellations.

Starting this month, some 13,000 air traffic controllers and 50,000 Transportation Security Administration (TSA) employees have continued working without pay. The TSA is responsible for security screening at U.S. airports.

As two parties continue to trade blame and accusations, there is a growing possibility that the government shutdown could drag on into November, even the holiday season.

"We fear there will be significant flight delays, disruptions and cancellations in major airports across the country this holiday season," White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said Thursday.

Trump terminates trade negotiations with Canada over 'fake' Reagan ad on tariffs

Washington, Oct. 24 : US President Donald Trump announced Thursday that he is terminating "all trade negotiations" with Canada following a dispute over a television advertisement protesting tariffs. The advertisement, produced by the government of Ontario, was described by Trump as "fake" and "egregious."

In a post on Truth Social, Trump accused Canada of using a fraudulent advertisement featuring former President Ronald Reagan criticizing tariffs. "The Ronald Reagan Foundation has just announced that Canada has fraudulently used an advertisement, which is FAKE, featuring Ronald Reagan speaking negatively about tariffs," Trump wrote. "The ad was for \$75 million. They only did this to interfere with the decision of the US. Supreme Court, and other courts."

"TARIFFS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND ECONOMY OF THE U.S.A. Based on their egregious behavior, ALL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADA ARE HEREBY TERMINATED," he added.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute earlier criticized the advertisement, saying it "misrepresents" Reagan's 1987 radio address on free and fair trade and that Ontario had not received permission to use or edit the remarks.The foundation said it was "reviewing legal options" and encouraged the public to view the unedited version of Reagan's speech. The ad, part of a USD75 million campaign launched by Ontario Premier Doug Ford, aired across several US television markets this week.

Ford wrote on social media platform X that the campaign aimed to make the case against American tariffs on Canadian goods, saying: "Using every tool we have, we'll never stop making the case against American tariffs on Canada. The way to prosperity is by working together." The diplomatic flare-up comes amid heightened trade tensions. Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said earlier this week that Canada plans to double its exports to non-U.S. markets in response to what he called the "threat" of Trump's renewed tariff agenda.

Carney met with Trump earlier this month in an effort to ease tensions as Canada, the United States, and Mexico prepare for a review of the USMCA trade deal, which Trump negotiated during his first term but has since criticized.

New snake species discovered in west China's bio-diverse region

Chengdu, Oct 24 (UNI) : Chinese scientists discovered a new species of snakes in the West China Rain Zone, situated primarily in southwest China's Sichuan Province, and named them western China mountain snakes, the Chengdu Management Branch of the Giant Panda National Park said on Thursday.

Relevant findings were published in the international, peer-reviewed journal Zoosystematics and Evolution in September.

Between 2020 and 2025, researchers with the Chengdu Institute of Biology of the Chinese

Academy of Sciences, Qinghai University, among other institutes, found a number of non-venomous snakes measuring about 80 centimeters in length in the Giant Panda National Park's segment in Chengdu, capital city of Sichuan, and in lush forests on Mount Emei.By comparing specimens and genetic sequences of these snakes with those of the known species Plagiopholis styani, the other member of the genus Plagiopholis, it was confirmed that these snakes belong to a distinct species, the first new species of the genus Plagiopholis identified in nearly a century.

2 Russian military airplanes briefly violate airspace: Lithuania's Armed Forces

Vilnius, Oct. 24 (UNI) Lithuania's Armed Forces said on Thursday that a Russian fighter jet and a refuelling aircraft briefly violated the country's airspace near the southwestern town of Kybartai, which borders Russia's Kaliningrad exclave.In response to the incident, two Spanish Air Force Eurofighter Typhoon jets, currently serving under NATO's Baltic Air Policing mission, were scrambled and flew to the area of the violation.

Lithuanian President Gitanas Nauseda and Prime Minister Inga Ruginiene called the alleged violation a serious breach of international law.

Sudan owes Russia up to USD 10 million from Soviet era: Finance Minister

Moscow, Oct 24 (UNI/ SPUTNIK) Sudan’s outstanding debt to Russia from the Soviet period amounts to between \$5 million and \$10 million, while an additional USD12 million owed to Moscow remains frozen in Sudan due to Western sanctions, Sudanese Finance Minister Jibril Ibrahim Mohamed said."Sudan doesn't have a large debt to Russia.

We’re talking about a debt of five to ten million dollars left over from the Soviet era, but let’s be honest: such a sum is extremely insignificant for a country like Russia," he said. According to the minister, the USD12 million cannot be transferred to Russia due to Western restrictions, but alternative methods are being discussed.

"There was also a debt estimated at approximately USD12 million, but we were unable to transfer these funds directly to Moscow, so we decided to deposit them into Russia's account at our Central Bank, where they are currently held. I met with my Russian colleagues to discuss ways to transfer these funds," he said. The minister also said the central banks of Russia and Sudan are negotiating the use of national currencies for settlements.

Tel Aviv, Oct 24 (UNI) : US Vice President JD Vance has left Israel with an optimistic note, saying Rafah, a city in the southern Gaza strip, could be rebuilt in two to three years.Vance said Palestinians should be able to move into a “Hamas free zone” in southern Gaza “in the next couple of months”.

He told reporters on Thursday in Tel Aviv before he boarded Air Force Two that the hope is for people to be able to move back to Rafah.Vance said the reconstruction effort could start “very quickly” in areas not under Hamas control.

“You’re going to have first some people, and then more, and then hopefully in a couple years, a half a million people living in security, living in comfort, and also living in a situation where they’re not threatening their Israeli neighbours,” Vance said.

It is the first time the US

Over 21,000 affected as heavy rains continue across Sri Lanka

Colombo, Oct. 24 (UNI) Over 21,000 Sri Lankans have been affected by the current heavy rains, the Disaster Management Center (DMC) said on Friday.A total of 21,778 people from 5,361 families have been affected by the bad weather, the DMC said, adding that 591 houses have been damaged, and four people have died.

The country's Department of Meteorology said that heavy rains of over 50 mm are expected on Friday and Saturday in several provinces. Winds of up to 40 km per hour are also likely in the seas off the western and southern provinces.



Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, left, and European Council President Antonio Costa arrive for an EU Summit at the European Council building in Brussels.

Rebuilding Rafah to take up 2 to 3 years, says Vance

administration has spoken in detail about the potential timeline for the reconstruction of Gaza, which has been devastated in two years of war.

The vice president’s visit this week to the region was meant, at least in part, to ensure Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu remains committed to the US-negotiated deal as some Trump administration officials worry he could work to thwart it, CNN previously reported.

Vance told reporters Thursday that, so far, both Israel and Hamas are respecting the ceasefire with “exceptions”.

“There are little exceptions to break out here and there that would be expected when these two parties have been at war for two years. But so far, the ceasefire is actually holding. The peace is actually holding,” he said.

Vance further said he

felt “pretty good” about maintaining the fragile peace but did admit there was potential for “little breakouts of violence.”

“Look, if this peace sticks, you’re going to have these little breakouts of violence. Our message to the Israelis has been: ‘help us build this peace.’ Obviously, the Israelis have their own interests, but we’re going to keep on trying to work with both them and the Gulf-Arab states to make this peace stick,” he said.

Vance acknowledged the upcoming challenges the ceasefire will face as mediators try to create a mechanism to carry out the disarmament of Hamas. The responsibility will ultimately fall to an international force to be deployed to Gaza, an effort that Vance said will require patience.

“Our hope in the administration is that the International Security

Force is going to now take the lead in disarming Hamas,” he said. “That’s going to take some time, and it’s going to depend a lot on the composition of that force.”

The US vice president slammed a pair of preliminary votes in Israel’s parliament designed to advance annexation of the occupied West Bank – territory that the international community considers part of a future Palestinian state.

Vance said he had been told the votes were “symbolic” and a “political stunt.”

Annexing all or parts of the West Bank has been a goal of Israel’s right-wing for years. Many hardliners had celebrated Donald Trump’s presidency as an opportunity to advance that agenda, believing he would provide American support to a measure that would immediately face a massive international

backlash. But Vance poured cold water on the idea of applying Israeli sovereignty to the West Bank.“The West Bank is not going to be annexed by Israel. The policy of the Trump administration is that the West Bank will not be annexed by Israel. That will continue to be our policy,” Vance added.

Meanwhile, in a related development, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who landed just hours after Vance flew out, said the ceasefire effort remains a top priority for US President Donald Trump. He said that the efforts to date are “a very important achievement,” but added that “there’s more work to be done and bigger achievements that lie ahead, and so we’re here to work on that.”“We feel very positive and confident that we’re going to get there, despite substantial obstacles. We’re going to get there,” Rubio noted.

Maduro boasts of ‘thousands’ of Russian anti-aircraft missiles as Trump threatens military action

Caracas, Venezuela, Oct 24 (UNI) : Venezuela has 5,000 Russian-made anti-aircraft missiles in “key air defense positions,” its President Nicolás Maduro claimed amid growing tension over the United States’ military deployment in the Caribbean.

US President Donald Trump has said he is weighing military action inside Venezuela as part of a counter-drug trafficking campaign and a broader effort to weaken Maduro, a longtime foe of Washington, reports CNN.

“Any military force in the world knows the power of the Igla-S and Venezuela has no less than 5,000” of them, Maduro said during an event with military personnel on Wednesday broadcast by Venezolana de Televisión (VTV).The Russian Igla-S missiles are short-range, low-altitude systems similar to American Stingers. They can shoot down small aerial targets such as cruise missiles and drones, as well as helicopters and low-flying planes.

Maduro said the missiles, light enough to be carried by a single soldier, had been deployed “even in the last mountain, the last town, and the last city of the territory.”

The US has deployed 4,500 Marines and sailors to the Caribbean to strengthen operations against cartels and demonstrate military power. It has carried out several lethal strikes on boats off the Caribbean coast that it alleges were trafficking narcotics.Lawmakers from both parties in the US have questioned the legality of the strikes on the alleged “narco boats.”Last week, Trump said he had authorized the CIA to conduct covert action in Venezuela and said the US was considering expanding its military campaign to land, as part of an intensifying US pressure campaign that officials say is aimed at ousting Maduro. Maduro said the missiles, light enough to be carried by a single soldier, had been deployed “even in the last mountain, the last town, and the last city of the territory.”The US has deployed 4,500 Marines and sailors to the Caribbean to strengthen operations against cartels and demonstrate military power. It has carried out several lethal strikes on boats off the Caribbean coast that it alleges were trafficking narcotics.

Health

Eat right for a good Sleep

Read on to know what nutrients you need to add to your diet for a peaceful nightly nap. A new study has, for the first time, shown that certain nutrients may play an underlying role in short and long sleep duration, and that people who report eating a large variety of foods — an indicator of an overall healthy diet — had the healthiest sleep patterns.

Short sleep

Experts suggest that short sleep is an issue when the body doesn't get enough of water along with the following:

- 1. **Vitamin C:** Good sources of vitamin C include strawberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, papaya, black currant, kiwi and bell peppers. An adequate amount of Vitamin C is also known to build a strong immune system and helps fight diseases.
- 2. **Selenium:** Found in nuts, meat and shellfish, Selenium is a trace mineral important for all body functions and is vital for immunity. Non-vegetarian sources of selenium are tuna, sardines, oysters, shrimps,

clams, chicken, turkey, beef, liver, lamb, pork and eggs. Vegetarian sources include nuts, sunflower seeds, mushrooms, onions, wheatgerm, barley, brown rice and oats. PS: Lutein and Zeaxanthin are two of the most abundant carotenoids found in green leafy. Scientists say how our bodies react to these chemicals can cause bad sleep disturbances.

Long sleep

According to the study, long sleep is associated with less intake of total carbohydrates and other nutrients like:

- 1. **Theobromine:** It is found in tea and chocolate. In fact, it is present in all cocoa products. Though it is a heart stimulant increasing heart beat, it also dilates the blood vessel to lower the pressure.
- 2. **Decanoic acid:** A saturated fat, it is found in mother's milk, dairy products, nuts, seeds and their oils. It is good for the heart and helps reduce total cholesterol. Its antibacterial properties also help fight gastritis.
- 3. **Choline:** Found in eggs and fatty meats that includes beef, liver, fish, crabs, eggs, cauliflower, tofu, almonds, peanut butter and Navy

beans, it contributes to the structure of our cell membranes. It protects the liver from fat deposits and damage, and also offers protection against cardiovascular disease.

About the study

Researchers from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania analysed data from the 2007-2008 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which includes demographic, socioeconomic, dietary, and health-related questions.

Findings

Food variety was highest in normal sleepers and lowest in very short sleepers. Differences across groups were found for many types of nutrients, including proteins, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals. The authors found that total caloric intake varied across groups. Short sleepers consumed the maximum calories, followed by normal sleepers. They were followed by very short sleepers who were followed by long sleepers.

How to manage Diabetes in 5 steps

It's a common fact that once you manage to lower your sugar level you need to control in and maintain it so that it doesn't spike.

Besides following a diabetic diet, there are few important parameters that you should have in place. To help you out and to chalk a diabetes control plan we have Dr. Shalini Jaggi, Senior Consultant at Action Diabetic Centre, Delhi based Sri Balaji Action Medical Institute. She tells us five basic ways to control and manage diabetes



effectively. How to manage diabetes Taking regular medications and going for periodic check-ups with doctors helps keep diabetes under control. Following a strict diet keeps diabetes under check. A person with diabetes should follow a diet which is low in carbohydrates, high in fiber and contains adequate amounts of proteins, vitamins and minerals and avoid fatty foods and sweets. He/she should also take frequent small meals (5 meals pattern). A person with diabetes should engage in some brisk physical exercise daily for about 45 minutes to 1 hour. Such lifestyle modifications keep the disease in control to a great extent. To keep one's diabetes in check, a person should do a self monitoring of blood glucose (SMBG) level.

Secrets to staying slim



Most people struggle with weight. You may eat healthy and exercise regularly but there may be another problem. For too long, people have lived under a 'clean your plate' mentality. From a young age, people are trained to eat everything before them, whether they fill up or not. Overeating is a serious problem, but you can put an end to it with ease. Along with avoiding uttering the phrase 'super-size', there are measures you can take to stop yourself from eating too much. It may seem difficult, but with a few simple tips you can trick your brain into stopping yourself. You may think this will prevent you from feeling full, but it is quite the opposite. The mind is a powerful tool, and your grumbling stomach doesn't stand a chance. **Small sips** When drinking anything other than water,

sip slowly, and sip small. When drinking large amounts of liquid at once, people don't realise how much they are drinking. Sure it's a liquid, but they have calories too. Some of the biggest offenders are orange juice, beer, soda, and those 'healthy' drinks like vitamin water.

Savour the 'odours'

Now, don't rummage through the garbage for food. Find something with a powerful fragrance. The olfactory glands play a big part in your appetite as well as how your brain reacts to things. In a study, people sat in rooms with varying intensities of vanilla smell. Then they were offered vanilla custard to eat. The ones who smelled it the most already, stopped sooner. The point is when your nose gets a mouthful before you do, you will feel fuller, sooner. Try this with odorous cheeses, vegetables, and seasonings.

Contrast your colours

Mashed potatoes are delicious and you will want seconds. But that may be because you ate off a white plate, and couldn't tell how much you ate. If you eat food off a plate that is very different in colour, you notice yourself clearing space. Your brain takes this as a sign of how much you really ate. It will alert the stomach sooner that you are full, before you gorge.

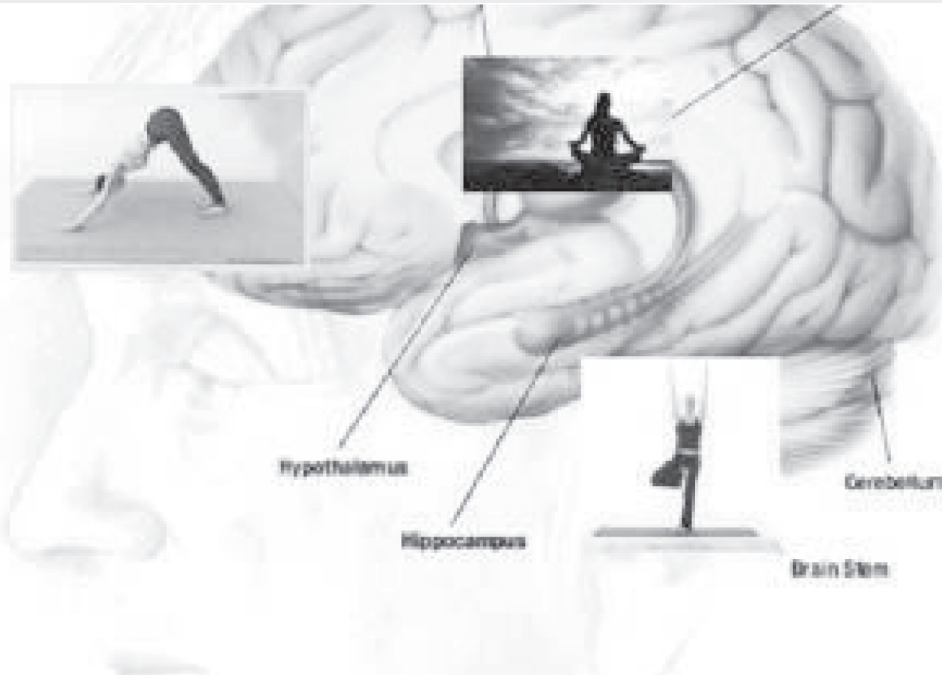
Use a smaller plate

A large plate will appear to fox you of how much food you got. A small plate with the same portion will naturally seem like much more; in some cases, too much more. It's simple as that.

Dim the lights, turn down the tunes

Studies have shown that restaurant atmospheres actually stop people from eating too much. This is to produce a turnover of customers. If it works there, why not try it at home?

20 minutes of yoga boosts Memory



While yoga exercises are known to help build one's physical stamina, a new study has explored the benefits of this ancient Indian practice of meditation for the brain too.

According to the research, 20 minutes of yoga per day effectively improves a person's mental ability in terms of memory and concentration. Moreover, yoga is found to be more effective at boosting brain power than conventional aerobic exercise. Conducted on 30 female students, the

experiment required the participants to do experimental 20-minute yoga sessions involving seated, standing and supine yoga postures that included isometric contraction and relaxation of different muscle groups and regulated breathing. The session concluded with a meditative posture and deep breathing. The researchers compared the benefits of yoga to vigorous exercises by asking the participants to run on the treadmill for 20 minutes. The cognitive assessment taken post both the sessions revealed that the participants' concentration levels were higher post the yoga session. According to the study, enhanced self-awareness that comes with meditation exercises and the reduction of anxiety and stress leads to increased brain function.

Tweak lifestyle to prevent Thyroid problems

In recent times, the prevalence of thyroid disorders in urban women in their early 30s, has increased and is on the rise. Earlier, it was unusual for young women to have a thyroid affliction; it was an ailment that scourged older women mostly. "But now," says weight management expert Dr Amrapali Patil, "Almost 30% to 35% of women belonging to this age group are affected." She also claims the phenomenon is global. According to her, a healthy diet that has all the necessary nutrition and stress reduction in your daily life, may minimise the chance of developing thyroid problems. An under-active thyroid can respond to natural remedies such as acupuncture, yoga, panchakarma, ayurveda etc. And the following can help in hypothyroid states — sea-kelp, selenium, flaxseed oil, zinc and multi-vitamins. Dr Patil talks about some more tips that should be followed to deal with thyroid problems, along with your doctor's prescription...Following a low glycemic index diet (a diet which doesn't enable the immediate pouring of sugar in blood) helps. Cut out energy-sapping foods such as those with high sugar and fat content. -Also, regular exercise is crucial. Exercise not only enables weight-loss benefits but also releases 'happy hormones' in the body, thereby reducing the stress levels, and helping you deal with low moods and depression.-Strong tea, coffee and tobacco should be avoided when suffering from hyperthyroidism. Supplements having vitamins and nutrients such as riboflavin, lecithin and thiamin may help.



Manimuthu, Diksha lead India’s Charge into QF's

Chengdu, Oct 24 (UNI) : India’s girls continued to shine on Day 2 of the Badminton Asia U-17 & U-15 Championships, with top seed Shaina Manimuthu and sixth seed Diksha Sudhakar storming into the quarterfinals of the U-15 girls’ singles after impressive victories in Chengdu.

Shaina maintained her fine form, ousting China’s Li Man Lin 21-17, 21-16 with commanding control from start to finish. In the U-17 section, Diksha showed her composure as she outclassed Chinese Taipei’s Pin Hsuan Chiang 21-19, 21-15 to secure a last-eight berth.

Among other standout results, Lakshya Rajesh advanced with a strong 21-16, 21-11 win over Korea’s Lee Yun Seo in the girls’ singles U-17 contest, while the U-17 girls’ doubles pair Aditi Deepak Raj and Ponnamma BV Vriddhi held their nerve to edge Korea’s Lee Yun Seo/Park Yoo Jeong 17-21, 21-15, 21-17. In boys’ doubles, Charan Ram Thippana and Hari Krishna Veeramreddy produced a clinical 21-14, 21-8 victory against Japan’s Kosuke Shinozaki/Hiroto Nakatsuka, and Jagsher Singh Khangurra eased past Malaysia’s Winson Choh 21-12, 21-17 in singles. In the U-15 boys’ singles, Wazir Singh narrowly missed out on a quarterfinal spot after a valiant 19-21, 22-20, 22-24 loss to seventh seed Revan Adrilleo Saputra of Indonesia.



People participate in the 3rd international Tawang Marathon, in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh on Friday.

Tawang Marathon 3.0 concludes with over 4,300 participants, showcasing spirit of endurance and unity

Itanagar, Oct 24 (UNI) : The third edition of the Tawang Marathon concluded successfully today, reaffirming Tawang’s growing reputation as a hub for endurance sports and adventure tourism.

The event, held amidst the breathtaking high-altitude landscapes of Arunachal Pradesh, celebrated the spirit of fitness, determination, and unity through sports.

The marathon was flagged off by Tawang MLA Namgye Tsering, and Corps Commander, Gajraj Corps, Lieutenant General Gambhir Singh.

The Tawang Marathon 3.0 drew an overwhelming response, registering over

6,200 runners and witnessing participation from more than 4,300 athletes representing various parts of the country. The youngest participant was just 9 years old, while the oldest was 77, showcasing the event’s universal appeal and inclusive spirit.

The winners (full marathon – 42 km): Male category: Sikandar Chindhu Tadakhe – 2 hrs 49 mins 12 secs (Bib No. 42009), Ganga Hang Subba, and Kh Romajit Singh; female category: Saraswati Rai – 3 hrs 42 mins 06 secs (Bib No. 43014), Shivani Chaurasia, and Meena Kumari Subba.

Half marathon (21 km):

Male category: Tsetan Namgyal – 1 hr 15 mins 19 secs, Kresstarjune Pathaw, and Jeevan Singh; 10 km run: Male category: Sanjay Singh – 34 mins 44 secs, Ravi Choudhury, and Akash Patwal; female category: Ruby Kashyap, Karma Idong Lanzes, and Shakuntala Devi; 5 km run: Male category: Lahudkar Rohan Gajanan, Gopal Singh Lamgariya, and Munna Yadav; female category: Moromi Das, Pema Dechen, and Thinlay Wangmu.

Special awards were presented to local talents in recognition of their promising performances and to encourage emerging runners from the region.

The prize distribution ceremony was graced by senior dignitaries, including GOC-in-C 71 Division, 5 Mountain Division Chief of Staff, Corps Commander Gajraj Corps, Zilla Parishad Chairperson Leki Gombu, and MLA Namgye Tsering.

The Tawang Marathon, jointly organized by the Indian Army and the Arunachal Pradesh government, once again underscored the region’s enthusiasm for sports, adventure, and community participation.

The event has become a symbol of Tawang’s unity and growing prominence on India’s national marathon circuit.

Rain washes out SL-Pak WWC match in Colombo

Colombo, Oct 24 (UNI) : Rain forced the 25th match of the ICC Women’s World Cup 2025 between Sri Lanka Women and Pakistan Women at the R Premadasa Stadium to end without a result here today. Pakistan had reached 18 for no loss in 4.2 overs when play was stopped. Omaima Sohail remained unbeaten on 9 off 9 balls and Muneeba Ali was on 7 from 17 deliveries. Sri Lanka had earlier won the toss and opted to bowl. Malki Madara conceded just 3 runs in 2.2 overs, while Sugandika Kumari gave away 15 runs in her two overs. This marks the third rain-affected Pakistan match in the tournament, after their fixture against England was washed out and only 25 overs were possible against New Zealand. Colombo once again played spoilsport, but groundstaff earned appreciation for their constant work over the last three weeks. This was the final match scheduled in Colombo. Pakistan remain the only side without a win in the competition. Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu said the team has made errors in all departments in the losses to India and England, and is now focused on improving. She said senior players are guiding younger teammates and encouraged her side to play positive cricket.

Chamari added that Sri Lanka has beaten strong teams in the past year and remains close to the level of the top four sides but must cut down mistakes to compete consistently.

Pakistan captain Fatima Sana said the team’s bowling and fielding were strong, but batting shortcomings prevented them from finishing close matches.

She noted that Pakistan had limited match practice before the tournament and hoped for more cricket ahead of next year’s T20 World Cup.

Calling herself still in a learning phase as one of the youngest captains, Sana said she looks to remain calm under pressure and expressed joy at the support she receives from young fans and former players.

J&K sports council mandates use of govt infra for championships, trials

Jammu, Oct 24 (UNI) : To ensure uniformity, transparency and optimum utilization of government sports facilities, the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council has directed all its recognised sports associations to mandatorily conduct district/UT level championships and selection trials in government-owned sports infrastructure available across J&K. In a circular issued by the secretary, J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul, all recognized sports associations are directed to mandatorily utilise the government sports infrastructure to ensure uniformity, transparency and its optimum utilization.

The circular directed that the non-compliance with these instructions shall be viewed seriously and may lead to appropriate administrative action, including suspension of financial assistance or recognition of the association concerned. “It has been observed that various sports associations recognized with the J&K Sports Council are conducting district and UT level championships and selection trials in privately owned sports facilities despite the availability of adequate government owned sports infrastructure developed and maintained by the J&K Sports Council,” the circular read. It said the J&K Sports Council has over the years established sufficient sports infrastructure across the UT to facilitate proper training, competitions and selection activities.

“Conducting official championships and trials in private venues not only undermines the optimal utilization of government infrastructure but also affects the participation levels and performance standards of athletes, as the facilities available in private setups often do not meet the requisite norms and specifications,” it said.

In case, it read, the required infrastructure is not available under the jurisdiction of the J&K Sports Council for a particular sport or event, the association concerned may utilize private infrastructure only after obtaining prior written permission from the divisional sports officer. “The request for such permission must clearly specify the reasons for non-availability of government infrastructure and details of the proposed private venue,” it stated.

Narwal exudes confidence ahead of PKL playoffs

New Delhi, Oct 24 (UNI) : Dabang Delhi K.C. Head coach Joginder Narwal is confident that his team will excel in the PKL season 12 playoffs that will start here at the Thyagaraj Indoor Stadium on Saturday.

In an exclusive interaction with UNI, at the pre playoffs press conference on Friday Narwal said that his team has performed consistently throughout the four legs of the tournament (Vizag, Chennai, Jaipur and Delhi legs) and have enough depth in there squad to go all the way

"we did well in all the legs, we were able to check out new players as well, we went through many tough contests so we are ready for the playoffs and would do well at home."

Dabang Delhi K.C. are tied with Purni Paltan at 26 points at the top of the points table. Narwal, who won Season 8 as a player with Dabang Delhi K.C. felt that the new format that allows for eight teams to qualify for the 'play ins', and involves a five raid tie breaker is a very viewer friendly format

"The tie-breaker format is exciting both for the players and also for the viewers as well, the new 'Play in' rules means that a team can make a come back in the league even at a later stage which means the interest in the league and unpredictability in the league remains till the end which is a viewer friendly format." He refused to pick any single player as the stand out player attributing the team success to team spirit "Fazel (Atrachali), Ashu Malik, Neeraj, Naveen all the players have played their part in this team effort." He expressed happiness at the growing success of the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL).

Season 12 is most aggressive, well contested edition till now: Ashu Malik

New Delhi, Oct 24 (UNI) : Dabang Delhi K.C. skipper Ashu Malik feels that the ongoing Season 12 of the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) is the most well-contested and aggressive edition so far. Talking to UNI on the sidelines of the pre-playoffs press conference today, Malik said, "As you have seen, there have been several very close matches this season, so many matches going to the wire. When things become so tense, things heat up, it becomes very aggressive out there, so I will say this has been a very closely contested and aggressive

season." PKL Season 12 started on August 29 with the Vizag leg, 47 of the 108 league matches were decided by five points or less, while the winners of 27 matches were decided in the last 90 seconds.

The playoffs will start here at the Thyagaraj Indoor Stadium on Saturday.

Dabang Delhi K.C. are tied with Purni Paltan at 26 points at the top of the points table.

Ashu, who was the highest raider in Season 10 and the second highest raider of Season 11, expressed satisfaction at

his team's performance. "We have played well throughout and even those matches that we lost, they were very close matches, one we lost in a tie breaker, another one we lost by just one point, so we have been consistent."

Looking forward to the playoffs, he stressed the importance of remaining calm under tense situations.

"In the Playoffs, every raid and tackle can change the game. I've realised that staying calm is my biggest strength- aggression can cost you focus. When the pressure rises, I just remind myself to play with a fresh

mind and trust our preparation. We've fought hard all season, and we're ready to give our best when it matters most," he said.

On the embarrassing 26-61 loss to Patna Pirates on Wednesday, he said that there is nothing to worry

"We had already qualified, hence we wanted to test the second rung of our players, so it is not something that would play on our mind."

He praised Head Coach Joginder Narwal, who had himself captained the Delhi franchise to a title win in Season 8 "He has been a very big player; he was the

captain who won the title in season 8, so he knows what it takes to win. He has faced every possible situation as a player himself, so his insights are invaluable," said Malik.

He said the players did not take much time to adjust to the new format of five tie-breaker raids followed by a golden raid.

"This rule of five tie breaker raids has been there in the nationals since at least two decades so we were familiar with the format and I think it is a very exciting format both for players as well as the viewers," he added.

Pune Grand Tour 2026 receives UCI's Class 2.2 race status

New Delhi, Oct 24 (UNI) : India has successfully secured the historic hosting rights for a landmark 'Pro Stage Elite Race for Men' - an international cycling competition and an Olympic qualification points race. The proposed Pune Grand Tour (PGT) 2026 will be India's first-ever union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) approved Class 2.2 classification competition, featuring multi-stage road race. Earmarked as an elite event in UCI's annual calendar, the Pune Grand Tour 2026 is pegged as India's groundbreaking move into global cycling, combining with athletes grit, glory and passion for a world class competition.

Scheduled from

January 19 to 23, 2026, the Pune Grand Tour 2026, inspired by iconic global stage race the Tour de France, will see four competitive stages covering a distance of 437 kms, riding through dynamic mix of urban stretches, hilly terrain and rural landscapes, testing riders endurance and showcasing geographic diversity of Pune district and Maharashtra's culture.

Terming it as a 'pivotal moment in Indian sporting history', Jitendra Dudi (IAS), Pune District Collector and administrative incharge, Pune Grand Tour 2026, recognises the opportunity of hosting an UCI Class 2.2 race as an 'ambitious project aiming to make it an annual event in Pune.'

"We reckon the opportunity as a hallmark project to bring together India's sport, tourism and community pride. The inaugural season of Pune Grand Tour 2026 will lay the groundwork for transformative initiatives to build and enhance infrastructure bandwidth, aiming to put India and Pune on UCI's global cycling destination," said Jitendra Dudi.

Pankaj Singh, President, Cycling Federation of India (CFI) says, "CFI is deeply committed to accelerating the growth of the sport in the country. Towards this journey, the Pune Grand Tour 2026 is a proud milestone. Hosting an UCI Class 2.2 race in partnership with Maharashtra Government reflects the

State's ambition in embracing the sport. Pune Grand Tour 2026 will provide our athletes with a competitive environment along with world's Pro riders, world-class standards, and help strengthen India's position as a rising cycling nation."

David Lappartient,

President, union Cycliste Internationale, said, "We are delighted to welcome the Pune Grand Tour to the UCI Tour calendar. Its recognition as a UCI 2.2 race marks a significant milestone for Indian cycling and reflects the region's commitment to promoting world-class sporting events."

Alyssa Healy rested, Aus seek unbeaten run in WWC

Indore, Oct 24 (UNI) : In the grand spectacle of the ICC Women's World Cup 2025, a titanic clash awaits at Holkar Stadium here tomorrow, as Australia Women face the resurgent South Africa Women.

And here's the twist in the tale: the mercurial Alyssa Healy, Australia's skipper and one of the linchpins of their unbeaten campaign, will sit out the match to keep her fresh for the semifinals. Australia, the juggernauts of the tournament, have yet to taste defeat. Their recent demolition of England, won with six wickets and 57 balls to spare, was a masterclass in all-round excellence.

Annabel Sutherland

starred with an unbeaten 98 and three wickets, while Ashleigh Gardner's century stamped Australia's authority. With the bowling spearheaded by Sutherland, Gardner, and Sophie Molineux, the Green and Gold juggernaut rolls on, even in the absence of Healy. South Africa, after a shaky start, have hit their stride, riding a wave of five consecutive wins, including a thumping 150-run (DLS) victory over Pakistan.

Laura Wolvaardt's 90 runs anchored the innings, with Marizanne Kapp and Nadine de Klerk delivering explosive contributions. The South African side, brimming with confidence

and skill, is now a serious contender to challenge the world leaders.

The Holkar Stadium pitch promises a high-octane encounter, with a par score around 330. The weather, temperamental as ever, hints at intermittent showers and cool 15°C temperatures, ensuring that the game's outcome could swing on fine margins. Toss strategies are likely to favour bowling first, allowing teams to counter any rain interruptions.

History and form indicate that Australia holds a slight edge in recent clashes, two wins to one in the last three matches, but South Africa's surge makes them no mere pushovers.

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WR to run superfast special train between Bandra Terminus - Jodhpur

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 24 : For the convenience of passengers and with a view to meet the travel demand during the festive season of Diwali and Chhath Puja, Western Railway will run Special Train on Special fare between Bandra Terminus - Jodhpur station.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the details of these trains are as under:

1. Train No. 04834/ 04833 Bandra Terminus – Jodhpur Superfast Special [02 Trips]

Train No. 04834 Bandra Terminus – Jodhpur Superfast Special will depart from Bandra Terminus on Monday at 10:00 hrs and will reach Jodhpur at 11:25 hrs, the next day. This train will run on 27th October, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 04833 Jodhpur – Bandra Terminus Superfast Special

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 24 : For the convenience of passengers, Western Railway has provided an additional stoppage at Dahod station to Bandra Terminus – Ludhiana and Mumbai Central – Shakur Basti.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the details are as under:

Train No. 09097 Bandra Terminus – Ludhiana Special will halt at Dahod station for journey commencing from Bandra Terminus on 26th October, 2025. The train will arrive Dahod station at 05:25 hrs and depart at 05:27 hrs. Similarly, Train No. 09098 Ludhiana – Bandra Terminus Special will halt at Dahod station for journey commencing from Ludhiana on 28th October, 2025. The train will arrive Dahod station at 23:53 hrs and depart at 23:55 hrs.

Train No. 09003 Mumbai Central – Shakur Basti Special will halt at Dahod station for journey commencing from Mumbai Central on 25th October, 2025. The train will arrive Dahod station at 17:48 hrs and depart at 17:50 hrs. Similarly, Train No. 09004 Shakur Basti – Mumbai Central Special will halt at Dahod station for journey commencing from Shakur Basti on 26th October, 2025. The train will arrive Dahod station at 00:31 hrs and depart at 00:33 hrs.

Central Railway to run 18 additional Special trains between Mumbai-Nagpur and Pune-Nagpur

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 24 : Central Railway will run 18 additional Special Trains between Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) - Nagpur and Pune-Nagpur for the convenience of passengers during the Diwali festival season.

Details as given below:

1. CSMT-Nagpur-CSMT Special (6 services)
01011 Special will depart CSMT at 00.20 hrs on 26.10.2025, 28.10.2025 & 30.10.2025 and arrive Nagpur at 16.05 hrs same day (3 services)
01012 Special will depart Nagpur at 22.10 hrs on 26.10.2025, 28.10.2025 & 30.10.2025 and arrive CSMT at 14.05 hrs next day (3 services)
Halts: Dadar, Thane, Kalyan, Igatpuri, Nashik Road, Manmad, Chalisgaon, Pachora, Jalgaon, Bhusaval, Malkapur, Shegaon, Akola, Murtizapur,

Central Railway Diwali & Chhat Puja Festival Special Trains today

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 24 : Vijay Kumar, General Manager, Central Railway stated that Central Railway will be running a total of 24 trains on 26.10.2025.

The details are as under:

MUMBAI DIVISION-26.10.2025
Details of trains departing from CSMT/LTT/Panvel
1. Train no 01031 CSMT- Banaras Special departing CSMT at 07.35 hrs
Halts: Dadar, Thane, Kalyan, Nashik Road, Chalisgaon, Jalgaon, Bhusaval, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Katni, Satna, Manikpur & Prayagraj Chheoki
Composition : One First AC cum AC 2-Tier, One AC 2-Tier, 18 AC 3-Tier; & 2 Generator Car.
2. Train no 01047 CSMT-Danapur Special departing CSMT at 15.00 hrs
Halts: Dadar, Thane, Kalyan, Igatpuri, Nashik Road, Bhusaval, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Satna, Manikpur, Prayagraj Chheoki, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn, Buxar and Ara.
Composition : Two AC-3Tier, 18 Sleeper Class / General Second Class, 2 General Second class cum Guard's Brake Van.
3. Train no 01079 CSMT- Gorakhpur Special departing CSMT at 22.30 hrs
Halts: Dadar, Thane, Kalyan, Nashik Road, Manmad, Jalgaon, Bhusaval, Khandwa, Itarsi, Bhopal, Bina, Virangana Lakshmbai Jhansi, Orai, Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti and Khalilabad
Composition : Three AC-3Tier, 10 Sleeper Class, 5 General Second Class and 2 General Second Class cum Guard's Brake Van.
4. Train no 01007 LTT-Latur Special departing LTT at 00.55 hrs
Halts: Thane, Kalyan, Lonavala, Pune, Daund, Kurduwadi and Dharashiv
Composition : Three AC 3-Tier, 10 Sleeper Class, 5 General Second Class, 2 General Second class cum Guard's Brake Van.
5. Train no 05326 LTT-Gomti Nagar Special departing LTT at 07.55 hrs
Halts: Kalyan, Igatpuri, Nashik Road, Bhusaval, Khandwa, Itarsi, Rani Kamlapati, Bina, Virangana Lakshmbai Jhansi, Orai, Kanpur Central, Aishbagh, Lucknow City and Badshahnagar
Composition : One AC-2 Tier, Three AC-3 Tier, 8 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second Class and 2 Second Seating cum Guard's Brake Van.
6. Train no 01143 LTT-Danapur Special departing LTT at 10.30 hrs
Halts: Thane, Kalyan, Nashik Road, Bhusaval, Khandwa, -Itarsi, Jabalpur, Satna, Manikpur, Prayagraj Chheoki, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn, Buxar and Ara.
Composition : Three AC-3Tier, 10 Sleeper Class, 5 General Second Class and 2 General Second Class cum Guard's Brake Van.
7. Train no 01123 LTT-Mau Special departing LTT at 12.15 hrs
Halts: Thane, Kalyan, Igatpuri, Nashik Road, Jalgaon, Bhusaval, Khandwa, Itarsi, Bhopal. Bina, Virangana Lakshmbai Jhansi, Orai, Govindpuri Jn, Fatehpur, Subedarganj, Mirzapur, Varanasi Jn, Jaunpur Jn and Aunrihar..
Composition : Two AC 2-Tier, Eight AC 3-Tier, 4 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second Class, 1 General Second class cum Guard's Brake Van & 1 Generator Car.
8. Train no 05586 LTT-Saharsa Special departing LTT at 16.35 hrs
Halts: Kalyan, Manmad, Bhusaval, Khandwa, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Katni, Satna, Prayagraj Cheoki, Pt.Deen Dayal Upadhyay Jn, Danapur, Patliputra, Hajipur, Muzzafarpur, Samastipur,Hasanpur Road, Khagaria, Mankar and Simri Bhaktiyarpur..
Composition : Two AC-2Tier, 5 AC-3Tier, 2 AC-3Tier

Economy, 6 Sleeper Class, 5 General Second Class, 1 General Second Class cum Guard's Brake Van and 1 Generator Van.

9.Train no 05038 Panvel- Gomti Nagar Special departing Panvel at 14.55 hrs
Halts: Kalyan, Igatpuri, Nashik Road, Manmad, Bhusaval, Khandwa, Itarsi, Bhopal, Bina, Virangana Lakshmbai Jhansi, Kanpur Central and Aishbagh,
Composition: One AC First, Two AC 2-Tier, 6 AC 3-Tier, 8 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second Class, 1 Pantry Car & 2 Generator Cars.
10.Train no 01159 Panvel- Chiplun Unreserved Special departing Panvel at 16.40 hrs
Halts: Somatane, Apta, Jite, Pen, Kasu, Nagothane, Roha, Kolad, Indapur, Mangaon, Goregaon Road, Veer, Sape Wamne, Karanjadi, Vinehere, Diwankhavati, KalambaniBudruk, Khed and Anjani
Composition: 08 CARMEMU PUNE DIVISION-26.10.2025“
Details of trains departing from Pune / Hadapsar / Khadki / Daund / Sainagar shirdi / Kolhapur
11.Train no 01415 Pune-Gorakhpur Special departing Pune at 06.50 hrs
Halts: Daund Chord Line, Ahilyanagar, Kopargaon, Manmad, Bhusaval, Khandwa, Itarsi, Bhopal, Bina, Virangana Lakshmbai Jhansi, Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Gonda and Basti.
Composition:Four AC-3Tier,6Sleeper Class,6General Second Class and 2 General Second Class cum Guard's Brake Van.
12. Train no 01411 Pune- Sanganer Special departing Pune at 09.45 hrs
Halts: Lonavala, Kalyan, Bhiwandi Road, Vasai Road, Palghar, Vapi, Valsad, Surat, Ankleshwar jn, Vadodara, Ratlam, Bhawani Mandi, Ramganj Mandi, Kota and Sawai Madhopur.
Composition Four AC 3-Tier, 6 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second Class, 2 General Second class cum Guard's Brake Van.
13.Train no 01449 Pune-Danapur Special departing Pune at 15.30 hrs
Halts: Daund Chord Line, Ahilyanagar, Kopargaon, Manmad, Bhusaval, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Satna, Prayagraj Chheoki, Pt.Deendayal Upadhyay Junction, Buxar and Ara
Composition : Four AC 3-Tier, 6 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second Class, 2 General Second class cum Guard's Brake Van.
14.Train no 01457 Hadapsar- Danapur Special departing Hadapsar at 08.30 hrs
Halts: Daund Chord Line, Ahilyanagar, Kopargaon, Manmad, Bhusaval, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Katni, Satna, Manikpur, Prayagraj Chheoki, Pt.Deendayal Upadhyay Junction, Buxar and Ara.
Composition: 2 AC 2-Tier, 14 Sleeper Class / General Second Class & 2 Second Class-cum- Guard's Brake Van.
15.Train no 01210 Hadapsar- Nagpur Special departing Hadapsar at 15.50 hrs
Halts: Uruli, Daund Chord Line, Ahilyanagar, Belapur, Kopargaon, Manmad, Jalgaon, Bhusaval, Malkapur, Shegaon, Akola, Badnera, Dhamangaon and Wardha.
Composition: Four AC 3-Tier, 6 Sleeper class, 6 General Second Class and 2 General Second Class cum Guard's brake van.
16.Train no 01453 Hadapsar- Ghazipur City Special departing Hadapsar at 16.00 hrs
Halts: Daund Chord Line, Ahilyanagar, Belapur, Kopargaon, Manmad, Chalisgaon, Bhusaval, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Katni, Satna, Prayagraj Chheoki, Varanasi, Jaunpur & Aunrihar.
Composition: 2 AC 2-Tier, 14 Sleeper Class / General Second Class & 2 Second Class-cum- Guard's Brake Van.
17.Train no 01923 Hadapsar- Virangana Lakshmbai Jhansi Special departing Hadapsar at 19.10 hrs
Halts: Daund Chord line, Ahilyanagar, Kopargaon,

Manmad, Bhusaval, Itarsi, Rani Kamlapati & Bina
Composition: One AC 2-Tier, 3 AC 3-Tier, 7 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second Class and 2 General Second Class cum Guard's brake van.
18.Train no 01427 Khadki-Hazrat Nizamuddin Special departing Khadki at 16.45 hrs
Halts: Lonavala, Kalyan, Bhiwandi Road, Vasai Road, Palghar, Vapi, Valsad, Surat, Vadodara Junction, Ratlam, Bhawani Mandi, Ramganj Mandi, Kota, Gangapur city, Bharatpur Junction, Mathura and Kosi Kalan
Composition : 16 AC 3-Tier & 2 Luggage / Generator cum Guard's brake van.
19.Train no 01425 Daund-Kalaburagi Unreserved Special departing Daund at 05.00 hrs
Halts: Bhigwan, Parewadi, Jeur, Kem, Kurduwadi, Madha, Mohol, Solapur, Tikekarwadi, Hotgi, Akalkot Road, Boroti, Dudhani and Ganagapur
Composition : 10 General Second Class and 2 Second Class-cum-Luggage-cum Guard's Coach .
20.Train no 01451 Kolhapur-Kalaburagi Special departing Kolhapur at 06.10 hrs
Halts: Hatkanangale, Jaysingpur, Miraj, Arag, Belanki, Salagre, Kavathe Mahankal, Langarpeth, Dhalgaon, Jath Road, Mhasoba Dongargaon, Javale, Wasud, Sangola, Pandharpur, Modlimb, Kurduwadi, Madha, Mohol, Solapur, Akalkot Road, Dudhani and Gangapur Road
Composition : Four AC 3-Tier, 6 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second Class, 2 General Second class cum Guard's Brake Van.
21.Train no 04716 Sainagar Shirdi - Bikaner Special departing Sainagar Shirdi at 19.35 hrs
Halts: Manmad, Bhusaval, Khandwa, Harda, Itarsi, Bhopal, Ujjain, Nagda Jn, Shamgarh, Ramganj Mandi, Kota, Sawai Madhopur, Durgapura, Jaipur, Dahar Ka Balaji, Ringus, Sikar, Lachhmangarh, Shekhawati, Fatehpur, Churu, Ratangarh, Rajaldesar & Sri Dungargarh
Composition : One AC -2 Tier, Two AC 3-Tier, Eleven Sleeper Class, Four General Second Class, 2 General Second class cum Guard's Brake Van.
SOLAPUR DIVISION-26.10.2025
Details of trains departing from Kalaburagi / Latur
22.Train no 01426 Kalaburagi – Daund Unreserved Special departing Kalaburagi at 20.30 hrs
Halts: Ganagapur, Dudhani, Boroti, Akalkot Road, Hotgi, Tikekarwadi, Solapur, Mohol, Madha, Kurduwadi, Kem, Jeur, Parewadi & Bhigwan
Composition : 10 General Second Class and 2 Second Class-cum-Luggage-cum Guard's Coach .
23. Train no 01452 Kalaburagi – Kolhapur Special departing Kalaburagi at 18.10 hrs
Halts: Ganagapur, Dudhani, Akalkot Road, Solapur, Mohol, Madha, Kurduwadi, Pandharpur, Sangola, Wasud, Javale, Mhasobadongargaon, Jath Road, Dhalgaon, Langarpeth, Kavathe Mahankal, Salagre, Belanki, Arag, Miraj, Jaysingpur and Hatkanangale
Composition : Four AC 3-Tier, 6 Sleeper Class, 6 General Second Class, 2 General Second class cum Guard's Brake Van.
24. Train no 01008 Latur - LTT Special departing Latur at 16.00 hrs
Halts: Dharashiv, Kurduwadi, Daund, Pune, Lonavala, Kalyan & Thane"Composition : Three AC 3-Tier, 10 Sleeper Class, 5 General Second Class, 2 General Second class cum Guard's Brake Van.
Bookings for above Special trains already open at all computerised reservation centres and on website www.irctc.co.in
For detailed timings at halts of this special train please visit <http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or download NTES App
Passengers are requested to avail the special train services and travel with valid tickets to avoid inconvenience.

Central Railway to run 18 additional Special trains between

Mumbai-Nagpur and Pune-Nagpur

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 24 : The birth anniversary of Kittur Rani Chennamma, the valiant queen of Kittur and one of India's earliest women freedom fighters, was commemorated with reverence at Rail Soudha, the headquarters of South Western Railway, today.

On the occasion, Shri Mukul Saran Mathur, General Manager, South Western Railway, offered floral tribute to the portrait of Rani Chennamma. Shri P. Ananth, Additional General Manager, along with Principal Heads of Departments, Senior officers and staff members, were present and paid homage to the great freedom fighter.The

New Delhi, Oct 24 (UNI) : Vice President CP Radhakrishnan will be visiting the Republic of Seychelles from October 26 to 27 to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Patrick Herminie, the newly elected President of Seychelles.This visit, extended at the invitation of

SWR Commemorates Birth Anniversary of Kittur Rani Chennamma



gathering remembered with pride the indomitable spirit and valiant struggle of Rani

Chennamma against British rule in defense of her land and people. The history of Rani Chennamma's heroic resistance and her famous saying — “Kappa koda beke kappa?” — were recalled, symbolizing her bold challenge to the British and her unyielding determination to protect her kingdom's sovereignty.

Her fearless defiance continues to stand as a timeless message of courage, dignity, and patriotism.

The event served as a reminder of Rani Chennamma's unwavering devotion to her motherland and her enduring legacy, which continues to inspire generations to stand firm for truth, justice, and freedom.“

VP to represent India at Seychelles’ President-elect’s swearing-in

The government, will be undertaken on behalf of India, according to an official government statement. During the visit, Radhakrishnan will convey India's heartfelt congratulations to President-elect Dr Herminie and reaffirm the enduring and robust ties between the two nations.The inauguration ceremony stands as a testament to the strengthening diplomatic and strategic partnership that has evolved over the years. Seychelles occupies a strategic position in India's foreign policy, especially within the ambit of Vision MAHASAGAR, which focuses on enhancing maritime cooperation and fostering strong partnerships throughout the Indian Ocean region.The island nation remains a key ally in India's commitment to solidarity and collaboration among Global South countries. In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs emphasized, “The Republic of Seychelles is a vital partner in India's vision to boost regional connectivity and collective progress. The Vice President's visit underscores our unwavering commitment to nurturing and expanding this partnership.”