

IN BRIEF

Three tourists drown, five missing in Shiroda Velagar sea tragedy

K o l h a p u r / Sindhudurg, Oct 3 (UNI) : A family outing turned tragic today evening when eight tourists from Belgaum, Karnataka, were swept away by strong waves while bathing in the sea at Shiroda Velagar in Sindhudurg district.

Police said three bodies have been recovered so far, while five others remain missing. One teenage girl was rescued safely. According to officials, the group had ventured into the water near Velagar Suruchi Baug when they were pulled away by the rough tide. Local fishermen and lifeguards immediately launched a rescue operation, managing to save one and recover three victims, but efforts continue to trace the remaining five.

The deceased have been identified as Farin Irfan Kittur (34), Ibad Irfan Kittur (13), and Namira Aaftab Akhatar (16), all from Londa in Belgaum district. Those still missing are Mohammad Isaq Kittur (36), Iqwan Imran Kittur (15), Farhan Mahammad Maniyar (25), and Zaqir Nisar Maniyar (13). The rescued girl has been identified as Isara Imran Kittur (17). Search operations are underway with lifeguards and police teams deployed in the area.

Neena Kulkarni wins Bhawe Award

Sangli (Maha), Oct 3 (UNI) : Renowned actress of Marathi-Hindi theatre and films, Neena Kulkarni, has been selected for this year's prestigious Vishnudas Bhawe Puraskar, on behalf of Akhil Bhartiya Natya Vidyamandir Committee (ABNVC), Sangli.

In a press conference today, Sharad Karale, ABNVC president, said Kulkarni has selected for her outstanding contribution in play, Marathi-Hindi films and TV serials as an actor, producer, director and writer. The award carries Rs 25,000 in cash, a shawl, Shreephala and a 'Manchinha'. Karale said Kulkarni has acted in 25 Marathi plays, including 'Guntara Hrday He', 'Hamidabaichi Kothi', 'Mahasagar', 'Savitri', 'Aaksmat' and 'Dehbhan'. She also acted in many Marathi and Hindi films including 'Aai', 'Shevtili', 'Bioscope', 'Mogara', 'Phulav' and Hindi films as 'Dag -- The fire', 'Purush', 'Hangama' and 'Bhutnath'.

Marathi will always remain a classical language: CM



Mumbai, Oct 3 (IANS) : Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday said that Marathi was a classical language in the past, is still so today, and will remain that in the future also.

"Language is a medium to keep culture alive. Every language in the country has given a cultural legacy. Since language is important in this cultural uplift, everyone should try to keep their own language, mother tongue and other languages alive.

"Marathi language was classical in the past, is still today, and will remain so in the future also," he added.

He was speaking after the inauguration of Abhijat (classical) Marathi Bhasha

Samman Diwas and Abhijat Marathi Bhasha Week.

"Respect for Marathi is our respect. It is the respect of the poets who sang Ovees (poetic meter used in Marathi poems for rhythmic prose) in the villages and in the house. It is the respect of Vasudev (who sings devotional songs for alms) who comes to Ramprahari (early morning). It is the respect of the aarti, bhajans and kirtans that echo from the temples. It is the respect of the tradition of saints, the poetry of the poets.

"It is the respect of all such thinkers, from the meaningful Deepika (commentary on the Bhagavad Gita) of Sant

Dnyaneshwar to the philosophical thoughts of Babasaheb Ambedkar," said the chief minister.

He further said that 25 per cent of the total number of libraries in the country are in Maharashtra and Marathi language has become rich because the Marathi people have tried to pass on the love of literature and ideas to the next generation.

"It is a matter of pride that the largest number of literary dictionaries are in Marathi language. At the same time, more than 200 literary conferences are held in Marathi every year. Marathi is the only language that expresses all kinds of ideas and provides various

platforms," he expressed.

CM Fadnavis said that in the digital age, literature and books worth crores of rupees are still being sold. Along with literature, there were theaters in different languages in the country today, but now it seems that there has been some relaxation in it. He added that Marathi fans and theatre workers have cultivated a rich Marathi theatre.

In his speech, the Minister of Marathi Language Uday Samant said that the government will continue to work to take Marathi to the global stage.

"Marathi is not just a language, it is the breath of Maharashtra's culture. The Maharashtra government will continue to work to take this language of Dnyaneshwar, Tukaram, and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj to the global stage," he added. "Due to the historical heritage of Dnyaneshwari, Tukaram Gatha, and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's Marathi language Rajkosh (reference book), the Central Government decided to give Marathi the classical language status. The respect of Maharashtra has been further enhanced," he said.

Bombay HC upholds SBI's fraud classification of Anil Ambani's account

Mumbai, Oct 3 (UNI) : The Bombay High Court today refused to quash and set aside the order passed by the State Bank of India (SBI), which had classified the loan account of Reliance Communications and its chairman, Anil Ambani, as 'fraud'. The classification was made on June 13, 2025, under the Reserve Bank of India's Master Directions on Fraud Risk Management and SBI's internal policies.

Ambani had challenged the move, arguing that the bank had not followed principles of natural justice. He claimed that he was not allowed to be heard before the account was flagged as fraudulent.

He also stated that some crucial material used in the classification was initially withheld and only provided to him after a delay of six months. The High Court, however, upheld SBI's decision, noting that the classification was in line with regulatory guidelines.

Cong alleges 'vote theft' in Aaland, seeks ECI data

Nagpur, Oct 3 (UNI) : Senior Congress leader and Karnataka State Policy and Planning Commission vice-chairman B R Patil today alleged large-scale voter fraud in the 2023 Aaland assembly elections and accused the Election Commission of India (ECI) of failing to act adequately.

Speaking to reporters in Nagpur, Patil claimed that over 6,000 names were targeted for deletion from the voters' list through a "systematic conspiracy" designed to ensure his defeat. He asserted that fraudulent applications were filed using automated software.

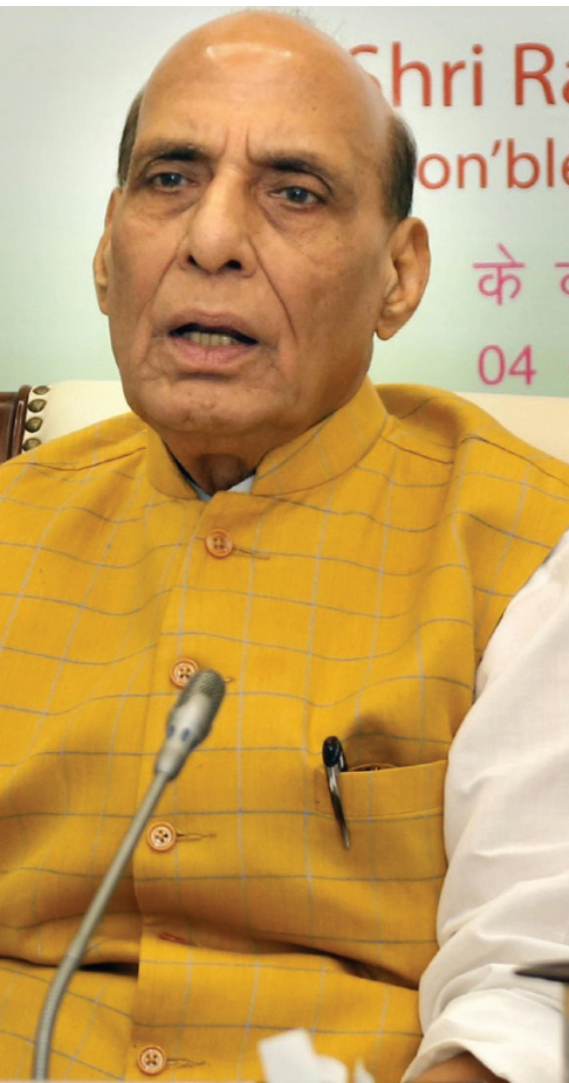
Patil stated that while the party had "recovered the stolen votes," the culprits behind the attempt to delete the names were yet to be identified.

He noted that a party worker's name being marked for deletion first alerted him to the fraud in February 2023. An FIR was filed by the Returning Officer, and the case is now under probe by a Special Investigation Team (SIT).

The Congress leader criticised the ECI's response as "evasive and inadequate," arguing that the attempt amounted to disenfranchising voters.

Patil demanded that the ECI provide the required data to the SIT to advance the investigation. He warned that if the poll body failed to cooperate, Congress would consider approaching the High Court or staging protests.

"Democracy is being hijacked by mechanised systems. We want to know who is behind this," he said.



We did not ask 'dharma' of terrorists, we targeted terror

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today highlighted the 2016 surgical strikes, the 2019 Balakot air strikes, and Operation Sindoor as powerful examples of India's firm commitment to protecting its people and national sovereignty. "Whenever India's pride and dignity have been at stake, we have always made no compromises. When we responded to the Pahalgam terror attack, we did not ask the dharma of the terrorists - we targeted terror, not civilians or military establishments," he said at an event organised by Jain International Trade Community (JITO) in Hyderabad.

(See on page 2)

Apple Removes App for Tracking ICE Agents From App Store



US tech giant Apple removed the ICEBlock app, designed to track the location of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, from its App Store after an explicit request from the Department of Justice, US Attorney General Pam Bondi said.

(See on page 3)

Trump issues stark ultimatum to Hamas, gives them till ...



US President Donald Trump, following on his ultimatum to Hamas over agreeing to the deal, gave the terror group the definitive deadline of 6pm EST, Sunday, to either agree to his 20-point plan or otherwise face total devastation.

(See on page 5)

Ashu Malik continues fine form as Dabang Delhi reclaim top ...



Dabang Delhi K.C. returned to the top of the table with a dominant display to record a 43-26 win against UP Yoddhas at the SDAT Multi Purpose Indoor Stadium in Chennai on Friday. Ashu Malik led the way with a Super 10, while Fazel Atrachali scored four tackle points,

(See on page 7)

Jalgaon youth hacked to death

Jalgaon, Oct 3 (UNI) : A 27-year-old man was brutally murdered with a sword and a sickle in the Kasamwadi area of Jalgaon city in broad daylight on Friday. The incident took place around 12:30 pm, leaving the locality in a shock.

The deceased has been identified as Dnyaneshwar alias Nana Bhika Patil (27), a resident of Kasamwadi. According to police, he had an old dispute with a group of youths from the same area.

On Friday afternoon, while Dnyaneshwar was standing near Ekta Mitra Mandal in front of his house, two men suddenly attacked him with sharp weapons, inflicting serious injuries to his stomach and thigh. His relatives rushed him to the Government Medical College in a private vehicle, but doctors declared him dead on arrival. As soon as the news spread, senior police officers, including Divisional Police Officer Nitin Ganpure, Police Inspector Baban Awhad, and PSI Chandrakant Dhanke of MIDC Police Station reached the hospital to take stock of the situation. Acting swiftly, the local Crime Branch arrested the prime accused, Yogesh Santosh Patil alias Pintu (27), a resident of Kasamwadi, from the Nashirabad area within hours. He was later handed over to the MIDC police station for further investigation.

Superintendent of Police Dr Maheshwar Reddy and LCB Police Inspector Rahul Gaikwad had directed immediate action in the case, which led to the prompt arrest.

Instead of Hindutva, Uddhav Thackeray praises offspring of Khans in Dussehra rally

Mumbai, Oct 3 (UNI) : Uddhav Thackeray only spoke the language of Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi and criticised Hindutva at the Dussehra rally, besides targeting the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Bharatiya Janata Party, the BJP has alleged.

"Only the language of Sonia and Rahul Gandhi was heard at the Dussehra rally from Shivtirtha. By openly abandoning Balasaheb's (Shiv Sena



founder Balasaheb Thackeray) ideological legacy of Hindutva, his own son, Uddhav Thackeray, planted the ideas of the offspring of Khans.

FIR against four for abetting suicide of Mumbai caterer over property dispute

Mumbai, Oct 3 (UNI) : An accidental death case on Mumbai railway track today took a new turn after the railway police have registered a case against four individuals for allegedly abetting suicide of a 46-year-old man who allegedly committed suicide over property dispute by lying on the tracks, where a local train ran over him.

The offence was registered days after the funeral took place when the family found a suicide note in his daughter's notebook, which revealed that the man took his life over a property

dispute. The family then approached the police, following which the case was registered.

According to the railway police, the deceased, Ramesh Gupta, was a caterer on September 19, around 8 pm, allegedly laid on the tracks near Andheri railway station, where a local train ran over him.

Upon receiving the information, the railway police arrived at the scene. At that time, they did not find any suicide note and transported him to Cooper Hospital, Vile Parle West, where the doctor declared him dead.

Balasaheb's memorial is right there at Shivtirtha," BJP state media chief Navnath Ban said yesterday.

He said listening to Uddhav's words "must have caused great sorrow to Balasaheb's soul."

Addressing a press conference at the BJP state office, Ban further said that earlier, the late Balasaheb Thackeray would offer "a treasure of ideological thoughts" through the Dussehra rally, which used to be an ideological

gathering. "But yesterday's rally was a gathering of people who have been ideologically circumcised," he claimed.

BJP also hit back at Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut for his remarks.

"Raut should not talk about mud at all. From Shivtirtha, you spread ideological filth," Ban said.

He said people have rejected Uddhav Thackeray for "betraying Balasaheb's ideology."

Solapur Division of Central Railway Observes Swachh Bharat Divas on Gandhi Jayanti

Several Awareness Programmes Organised at Solapur, Latur, Kalaburagi under Swachhata Pakhwada 2025

(Standard Post Bureau)
Solapur, Oct 3 : The Solapur Division of Central Railway observed Swachh Bharat Divas as part of the ongoing Swachhata Pakhwada 2025 on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. The day was marked with a series of cleanliness awareness activities reflecting the values of Gandhiji's vision of Swachh Bharat.

Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Dr Sujet Mishra flagged off a Walkathon from the DRM Office to the Solapur Railway Station main gate, where around 150 officers and staff enthusiastically participated. On this occasion, the DRM administered the Swachhata Shapath to reaffirm the collective commitment towards cleanliness and hygiene.

The DRM, along with senior officials including Sr. DME, Sr. DCM, Sr. DEN (Co), Sr. DFM, Sr. DEN (C), CMS, ADME, ASC, and Station Manager, paid floral tributes to Gandhi Ji at the Station Manager's office, Solapur.

As part of Amrit Sanwad with passengers, a thought-provoking Nukkad Natak was performed on Platform No. 1 at Solapur



station in front of passengers of Udyan Express and other scheduled trains. The play, staged by the cultural team, conveyed the importance of maintaining cleanliness at stations and in trains. The performance was widely appreciated by passengers and audience present. The cultural team was lauded for their impactful contribution towards spreading the

message of Swachhata. Concluding the day's events, Sr. DME (Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer) Shri Ram Lal Pyaase expressed gratitude to all participants for their active involvement in the Swachhata rally and officially declared the culmination of Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) Abhiyan 2025. He emphasised the significance of celebrating Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti as

Swachh Bharat Divas. Similar Swachhata rallies and awareness programmes were organised at all depots and stations including Kalaburagi, Latur, Dharashiv, Kurduwadi, Wadi, Pandharpur etc. Through these activities, Solapur Division reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to cleanliness and public awareness, upholding the timeless ideals of Gandhi Ji.

Kalaburagi and Shahabad Stations of Solapur Division of Central Railway to have Stoppages for Bidar-Bengaluru Cantt Special Trains

(Standard Post Bureau)
Solapur, Oct 3 : Indian Railways will run special train services between Bidar and Bengaluru Cantt. These special trains will stop at 2 stations of Solapur Division of Central Railway, namely: Kalaburagi and Shahabad. Bidar – Bengaluru Cantt Specials
- 07063 specials will depart Bidar at 14:40 hrs on 04.10.2025 and arrive Bengaluru Cantt at 05:00 hrs next day.
- 07064 specials will depart Bengaluru Cantt at 22:30 hrs on 05.10.2025 and arrive Bidar at 14:40 hrs next day.
Halts: Humnabad, Kamalapur, Kalaburagi, Shahabad, Yadgir, Raichur, Mantralayam Road, Adoni, Guntakal, Anantapur, Dharmavaram and Yelahanka.

Composition: 1 AC-II Tier, 2 AC-III Tier, 17 Sleeper Class, 2 General Second Class and 2 Luggage Cum Brake Vans. (24 Coaches)
Reservation & Booking: Reservations for special trains 07063/07064 on special charges are open at all computerised reservation centres and on website www.irctc.co.in.
Bookings for unreserved coaches can be done through booking counters at stations and UTS app also.
Passengers are requested to travel with valid tickets to avoid inconvenience.
For detailed timings and halts of these special trains, please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or download NTES App.

We did not ask 'dharma' of terrorists, we targeted terror not civilians, military establishments: Rajnath Singh

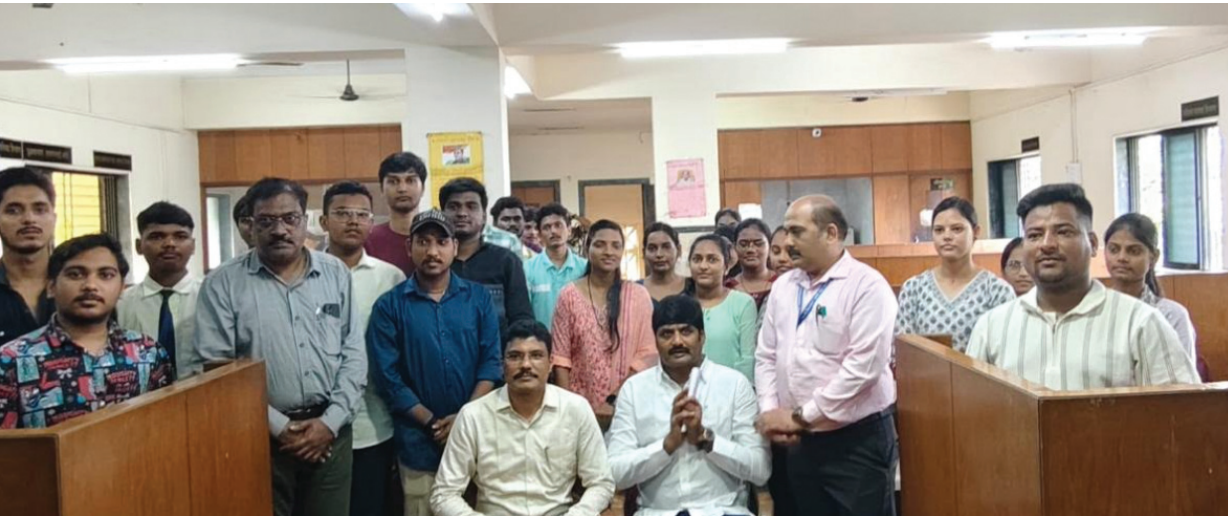
New Delhi, Oct 3 (UNI)
: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today highlighted the 2016 surgical strikes, the 2019 Balakot air strikes, and Operation Sindoor as powerful examples of India's firm commitment to protecting its people and national sovereignty. "Whenever India's pride and dignity have been at stake, we have always made no compromises. When we responded to the Pahalgam terror attack, we did not ask the dharma of the terrorists -we targeted terror, not civilians or military establishments," he said at an event organised by Jain International Trade Community (JITO) in Hyderabad.

humane ideals taught by Lord Mahavira, a Defence Ministry statement said. Highlighting the rapid strides made in Defence sector, Rajnath Singh said India's Defence exports which stood at around Rs 600 crore in 2014, have surged to over Rs 24,000 crore today. He expressed confidence that Defence exports would cross Rs 50,000 crore by 2029. "From Tejas fighter jets to Akash missiles and Arjun tanks, our armed forces are increasingly being equipped with Made-in-India platforms," he said. Calling it a testimony of India's journey towards Aatmanirbharta, Rajnath Singh spoke about the recent agreement to procure 97 Light Combat Aircraft from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, with more than 64 percent indigenous

content. "Today, India manufactures everything from toys to tanks. India is rapidly progressing towards becoming the world's manufacturing hub. And the day is not far when India will emerge as the factory of the world. And all this will be possible because the government's intentions are clear and its policies are in the national interest," he added. He also talked about the economic growth of India as the nation is currently the world's fourth-largest economy. With an estimated GDP of 7.3 trillion USD by 2030, it is on track to becoming the third-largest economy. Citing the International Monetary Fund reports, he said that based on average growth rates, India is on track to becoming the world's

second-largest economy by Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) by 2038. The Defence Minister lauded the legacy of great Jain personalities like Dr Vikram Sarabhai, Dr DS Kothari, Dr Jagdish Chandra Jain, and Dr Meenakshi Jain, whose work continues to inspire the nation. He also commended the government's efforts to preserve India's Jain heritage, including the repatriation of over 20 stolen idols of Tirthankaras from abroad, and the recognition of the Prakrit language - used in Jain scriptures - as a Classical Language of India. He urged the citizens to draw inspiration from the teachings of Lord Mahavira and the principles of Jain Dharma - especially non-violence, truth and Aparigraha (non-possessiveness) - as India marches towards becoming a developed nation by 2047.

Bhiwandi Nizampur City Municipal Corporation launches the Abhijat Marathi Language Week



(Standard Post Bureau)
Bhiwandi, Oct 3 : In order to ensure maximum research, conservation and awareness regarding the Abhijat Marathi language, a government circular has been notified to celebrate Abhijat Marathi Language Day on 03 October every year and Abhijat Marathi Language Week from 03 October to 09 October. Accordingly, the Abhijat Marathi Language Week in Bhiwandi Nizampur City Municipal Corporation was

inaugurated on 03 October 2025 at 12:00 am at Shri Markandey Mahamuni Library by Hon. Additional Commissioner Vitthal Dake by lighting the lamp. Within the said program, a program by Ms. Sanskriti Sadanand Mhatre, the winner of the program of Mahavakat of Maharashtra, has been organized. Also, a book exhibition was organized by the library. A large number of MPSC / UPAC students were present at the said

program. On this occasion, the Hon. Additional Commissioner motivated the said students to further enhance the heritage of Marathi. On the occasion of the said program, Mr. Santosh Shetty Hon. Corporator, Assistant Commissioner (Elections) Nitin Patil, Library Department Head Sudam Jadhav and officers and employees were present in large numbers. Also, various programs were organized in the schools of

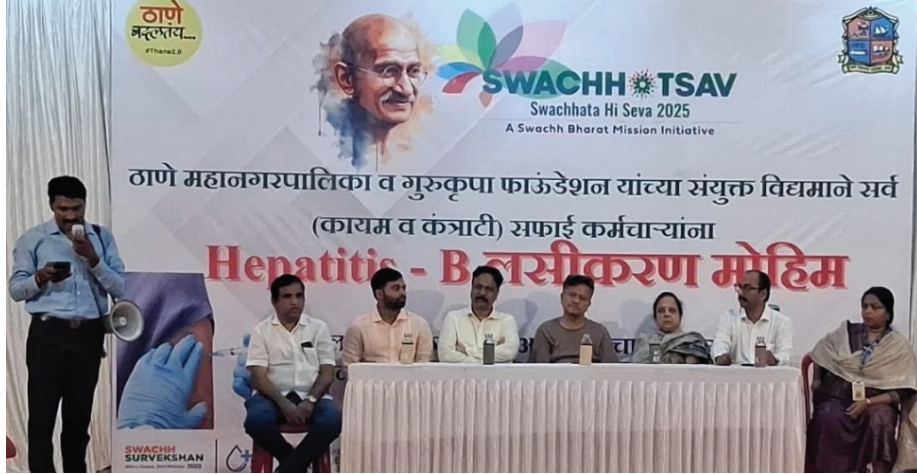
the Municipal Corporation on the occasion of the Classical Marathi Week. The Municipal Corporation will celebrate the Classical Marathi Language Week from October 3 to October 9, and a book fair, book exhibition, lecture series and various programs will be celebrated. The Administrator and Commissioner Anmol Sagar B.P.S. appealed to the citizens to also attend the said program.

ED arrests Shivshankar Mayekar in Rs 1,200 Crore Goa land scam

New Delhi, Oct 3 (UNI)
: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) today said it has arrested Shivshankar Mayekar in connection with a land scam case involving Yeshwant Sawant and others. He was produced before a special PMLA Court during the day, which granted ED custodial remand till October 10.

The ED initiated an investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) based on an FIR registered by the Goa Police against Yeshwant Sawant and others under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) for allegedly defrauding the Comunidade of Anjuna of land located at Survey No. 496/1-A, Anjuna. The accused reportedly produced fake documents to get the land mutated in their names, after which parts of it were sold to other individuals, generating additional Proceeds of Crime (POC). ED's investigation revealed that Shivshankar Mayekar was one of the key figures behind the fraud. He allegedly acquired several land parcels in Goa in the

Vaccination campaign of Safai Mitra begins under the Swachhta Hi Seva initiative



(Standard Post Bureau)
Thane, Oct 3 : If the sanitation workers come into contact with biomedical waste while performing their duties and get injured, there is a possibility of these sanitation workers getting infected with Hepatitis B. Therefore, as a precautionary measure, the Thane Municipal Corporation's Solid Waste Management Department and Gurukripa Foundation have undertaken a Hepatitis B vaccination campaign for all these sanitation workers. The Swachhta Hi Seva initiative's vaccination campaign for Safai Mitra was started on 01 October at Bharat Ratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Bhavan in Vartaknagar. Deputy Commissioner Manish Joshi and Dinesh Tayde, Health Officer Dr. Rani Shinde, Assistant Commissioner of Vartak

Nagar Vijay Kawale, Dr. Kiran Pandit and Dr. Jyoti Awhad, etc. were present on behalf of Gurukripa Foundation. The Solid Waste Management Department, through CSR, is vaccinating all regular and contractual sanitation workers in the municipal service along with Gurukripa Foundation. A total of 70 sanitation workers were vaccinated in the first vaccination session. Deputy Commissioner Manish Joshi clarified that about

4500 employees will be vaccinated in phases. The vaccines required for vaccination have been prepared. Hepatitis B vaccine is given as the first dose, the second dose after one month and the third dose after six months. The Hepatitis B vaccination program has been started under the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign. Health Officer Dr. Rani Shinde said that this vaccination will be done according to a specific schedule by determining the places according to the ward committee.



BRIHANMUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Asst. Commissioner 'S' Ward
A.E./ SWM /7045/S, dtd. 03-10-2025

EOI NOTICE

EOI for appointment of NGO sanstha for dry waste segregation centre in 'S' Ward Application is invited under EOI by Experienced Sanstha in this sector, the interested sanstha can submit application by following due procedure.

The EOI document containing the details of qualification criteria, submission requirements, brief objective & scope of work etc, details are available at Below address.

Office of Asst. Commissioner "S' ward
4th floor, LBS Marg.
Near Mangatram Petrol Pump
Bhandup (W), Mumbai-400076.
Tel No. 022-25947570

The last date of accepting EOI application is 11.10.2025 (01.00 pm) kindly note after this date, no application is accepted in any form.

PRO/1795/ADV/2025 - 26

Sd/-
Assistant Eng.
(SWM) 'S' Ward

Avoid self medication.

CENTRAL RAILWAY

AIR SPRING TEST RIG ALONG WITH POWER PACK WORK

E-Tender Notice No. RR/PR/SNPD/283/24-25/59/R, Date: 26.09.2025.
Name of Work: Design, Development, Fabrication of Fixture for testing of multiple bench Air Spring Test Rig along with power pack & hydraulic cylinder Capacity- Minimum 30 T in EMU POH Workshop SNPD. Approx. Cost of work: Rs. 48,62,190/-. Earnest Money: Rs. 97,300/-. Cost of Tender Form: Nil. Completion period: 6 Months. Date and time of closing of tender submission: 18.10.2025 upto 11:30 hrs. Bidding start date: 04.10.2025. Tenders shall be accepted only in E-tendering format through the website www.ireps.gov.in Tender document is available on the website. AK-502

Download UTS App for Tickets



Officials conduct social and educational survey (caste census), in Chikkamagaluru, Karnataka.

CVC guidelines were violated in Mithi cleaning tender process, asserts Cong

Mumbai Oct 3 (UNI) : The clarification given by the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (BMC) on the allegations involving the tender process for Mithi river cleaning is an admission of irregularities, and that the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) guidelines were violated, said Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee spokesperson Sachin Sawant today.

In the tender for Mithi river cleaning, the turnover requirement for a pump manufacturing company was initially fixed at ₹50 crore. However, after the

pre-bid meeting, this requirement was changed to Rs 210 crore. Since the pump manufacturer's role is only to supply pumps to the contractor company, this change was deliberately made to prevent competition, Sawant said.

According to the CVC guidelines, after a tender is published, the eligibility criteria must not be made stricter in order to avoid reducing competition. Based on this clear guideline, Sachin Sawant had written to the Municipal Commissioner alleging irregularities in the tender process. In response,

municipal officials told the media that since the pump supply portion of the tender is worth Rs 700 crore, they could not specify technical standards for the pumps, and therefore they felt the pump manufacturing company should have a turnover equivalent to 30% of the value and that this change was made in good faith. Rejecting the corporation's explanation, Sawant again lashed out at the BMC. He said this was the third time the tender had been issued. The first time was in March 2023, but it was later cancelled. It was reissued on February 14, 2025, and again cancelled.

Finally, it was reissued on September 2025. In all three tenders, the turnover requirement for the pump manufacturing company was fixed at Rs 50 crore. "Was the BMC intention wrong for the past three years? Was the engineering department or the consultant asleep all this while? If the project value was equally large earlier, why did the 30% turnover requirement not come to their mind then? Sawant questioned.

Sawant has demanded that the tender should be immediately scrapped and an inquiry conducted against municipal officials.

Mumbai records Dasara auto sales high

Mumbai, Oct 3 (UNI) : Mumbai recorded a surge in vehicle sales on Dasara, registering 10,541 vehicles in a single day and surpassing last year's figure of 9,063. This 14 percent increase compared to 2023 was attributed by experts to reduced vehicle prices following the Central Government's GST cut.

According to the transport department, demand was highest for small four-wheelers and two-wheelers below 350 cc. A total of 7,579 two-wheelers and 2,962 four-wheelers were registered across Mumbai.

The Tardeo, Wadala, Andheri, and Borivali RTO offices reported the largest share of new registrations. Tardeo recorded 2,243 two-wheelers and 835 four-wheelers; Wadala registered 1,687 two-wheelers and 723 four-wheelers; and Andheri logged 1,285 two-wheelers and 554 four-wheelers.

The price reduction followed the lowering of GST on small four-wheelers (up to 1,200 cc engine capacity and less than four metres in length) from 29 percent to 18 percent. Two-wheelers below 350 cc saw a similar reduction from 28 percent to 18 percent.

This tax reduction caused vehicle prices to drop by Rs 20,000 to Rs 1.25 lakh, providing a major boost to sales. Sellers reported a sharp rise in demand for compact cars, while officials noted that buyers also showed significant preference for electric four-wheelers this year. The rush began during Navratri and peaked on Dasara, indicating strong consumer sentiment.

My teenage daughter was asked for nude photo , actor Akshay Kumar

Mumbai Oct 3 (UNI) : Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar while sharing a disturbing real-life incident involving his teenage daughter during the inauguration of 'Cyber Awareness Month October 2025' by Maharashtra police said his daughter was asked for a nude photo while she was playing online game.

The inauguration of Cyber Awareness Month October 2025 was held at the Director General of Police (DG) office today. The event, aimed at spreading awareness about the growing threats of cybercrime, was attended by state Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, senior

police officials ; Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar; Actress Rani Mukerji, and others. "One of the highlights of the program was Akshay Kumar sharing an incident about his daughter, Nitara." Narrating the experience, Kumar explained how his daughter, while playing an online video game a few months ago, encountered an unknown person who initially sent friendly and encouraging messages.

The game allowed her to play with strangers. The person on the other side started with polite messages like 'thank you', 'well played', and 'fantastic'. It seemed like a nice person. After some

time, he asked if she was male or female. When she replied female, the tone of the conversation changed," Kumar said.

He revealed that the stranger then abruptly asked his daughter to send nude pictures. "My daughter immediately shut down the game and informed my wife. Thankfully, she didn't hesitate to share what happened, which was the best part," the actor said.

Kumar said such approaches are part of a larger pattern of cybercrime where predators first build trust and then attempt to exploit minors, often leading to extortion and even tragic cases of suicide.

'Bhik Mango' protest in Latur demands loan waiver for farmers

Latur, Oct 3 (UNI) : A symbolic protest demanding a waiver of farmers' loans was organised in Nalegaon, Latur district, where villagers donated money under the banner of the Shetkari Patra movement.

The campaign, called the 'Bhik Mango' movement, was led by activist Sahdev Wonalay, who carried a plough on his shoulders to symbolise the plight of farmers.

During the protest, villagers contributed a total of Rs 2,056, which organisers said would be deposited in the State Cooperative Bank and used towards freeing the Jai Jawan Jai Kisan Sahakari Sugar Factory from its debts. Wonalay, an active member of the Shetkari

Patra movement, has previously walked from Ahmedpur to Mumbai's Mantralaya demanding that farmers' suicides be declared a national calamity.

He had also staged a food boycott and submitted a letter to then Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, but claims no effective action was taken. Addressing the gathering, Wonalay accused the Maharashtra government and the Central Cooperative Department of allocating funds according to the preferences of leaders associated with the BJP while neglecting cooperative institutions owned by farmers.

He warned that unless the sugar factory is freed from debt and handed over to cultivators, the economic

crisis of farmers would only worsen. Alongside the loan waiver, the protest also raised demands for reforms in agricultural laws, equal remuneration for labour, and economic justice for rural communities. Villagers supported the initiative by offering donations, with activists including Manoj Vaman Rao Karonde, Mohan Nana Jadhav, and Namdev Shingade joining the movement. Wonalay clarified that the campaign was intended as a symbolic step to draw the government's attention to the problems faced by farmers. The protest comes at a time when Marathwada continues to witness farmer suicides and mounting debt, with villagers emphasising the need for immediate government intervention.

Mumbai gets breather: IMD issues no alerts, weather stabilizes

Mumbai, Oct 3 (UNI) : The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued no alerts for Mumbai and any district in the region today, bringing much-needed respite for citizens.

The city woke up to cloudy skies in the early hours and the clouds soon disappeared, leaving behind clear skies and sunny atmosphere.

After days of relentless showers that battered the Konkan belt through September, residents finally experienced stable weather conditions.

Mumbai, temperatures expected to hover between 26 degrees and 31 degrees.

While the absence of rainfall provided relief from waterlogging and traffic snarls, the combination of heat and high humidity made the day feel warmer than the actual temperature.

Neighbouring Thane and Navi Mumbai also reported a drop in rainfall intensity.

Throughout September, residents in these cities struggled with disrupted daily routines due to frequent heavy showers and water accumulation in low-lying areas.

63 held in illicit liquor crackdown

Latur (Maha), Oct 3 (UNI) : In a crackdown on illicit liquor trade, the local police registered 62 cases and arrested 63 persons involved in manufacturing and selling of moonshine across the district.

The large-scale operation resulted in the seizure of liquor and materials valued at nearly Rs 3 lakh, while 710 litres of homemade chemicals were destroyed at the site of seizures.

The campaign was launched under the directives of Superintendent of Police Amul Tambe, with the active supervision of Additional Superintendent Mangesh Chavan. As

many as 36 police officers and 161 personnel were deployed in multiple teams to conduct surprise raids in both rural and urban areas.

The raids targeted individuals engaged in secretly brewing, storing and selling illicit liquor.

Officials said the action was taken in the jurisdiction of several police stations across the district. Those operating illegal kilns were identified and taken into custody.

Police said the crackdown formed part of a wider special campaign against unlawful liquor activity and assured that such strict action would continue to curb the menace.

Navi Mumbai Airport to be named after Loknete D B Patil: CM

Mumbai, Oct 3 (UNI) : The much-awaited Navi Mumbai International Airport will be named after the late five-time MLA, Dinkar Balu Patil, also known as D B Patil.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis made the announcement today, adding that the union Government had approved the naming proposal.

The airport will now be officially known as 'Loknete D B Patil Navi Mumbai International Airport'. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the state's proposal," Fadnavis said. The Centre had earlier approved the name 'Navi Mumbai International Airport' while granting permission for its construction.

D B Patil, born in Jasai, Raigad district, on January 13, 1926, was a prominent leader of the Shetkari Kamgar Paksha (Peasants and Workers Party) in

North Konkan, Maharashtra.

His father, Balu Gauru Patil, was a farmer and teacher who promoted education in Jasai and the surrounding villages. His mother's name was Madhubai.

Patil pursued a law degree in Pune, largely supported by his brother, Atmaram Balu Patil.

Patil had a distinguished political career. He served as the Mayor of Panvel Municipality. He was elected as an MLA five times from the Panvel-Uran Assembly constituency and served once as a Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Council. He also held the position of Leader of the Opposition in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly. Additionally, he was elected twice as a Member of Parliament from the Raigad Lok Sabha constituency.

MLA Rohit Pawar consoles farmer's family, urges against suicide

Latur, Oct 3 (UNI) Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MLA Rohit Pawar today met the family of a small farmer who recently died by suicide in Thodga village of Ahmedpur taluka, Latur district. The deceased was identified as Bhaskar Rao Saheb Tarde. He had reportedly taken the extreme step due to heavy debts and the severe impact of incessant rains on his crops. Pawar was in Ahmedpur taluka to assess crop losses. He interacted directly with affected farmers and inspected fields where soybean and other crops had been extensively damaged by the recent downpours.

While consoling the

bereaved family, Pawar urged farmers not to lose hope despite the crisis.

He stressed that such acts cause immense pain to families. He appealed to cultivators to face challenges with courage instead of giving in to despair. Local officials and party workers accompanied the MLA.

ST driver commits suicide at Tarakpur bus depot after alcohol charge

Ahilyanagar, Oct 3 (UNI) : An ST driver committed suicide by hanging himself in the bus in the Tarakpur bus station area in Ahilyanagar district.

According to police, the ST driver was identified as Suresh Chandrabhan Dhamore (54), resident of Sarola Kasar, Tal. Ahilyanagar. The Topkhana police received information yesterday morning that a person had hanged himself in an ST bus in the Tarakpur depot. On receiving the information, the police immediately rushed to the spot. The police admitted the person to the district hospital for further treatment, but the doctors declared him dead. On learning about the suicide, a large crowd of ST employees gathered in the area. An accidental death has been registered in this regard at the Topkhana police station. Meanwhile, on Wednesday, Shivaji Maruti Khajindar (56), the traffic controller of Tarakpur depot, had filed a complaint against driver Dhamore at Topkhana police station.

According to the complaint, driver Dhamore was suspected of drinking alcohol while on duty on the Tarakpur-Ghospuri bus. When he was medically examined on the instructions of senior officers, it was found that he had consumed alcohol.

A case was registered against him under the Prohibition Act in this case. It is being speculated that Dhamore may have taken this extreme step due to the shock of this action or fear of defamation. The police are conducting further investigation.



**BRIHANMUMBAI
MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

**Office of the Assistant
Commissioner, 'C' Ward**
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Expression of Interest / Tender

Applications are being invited from interested local organizations / local organizations with experience in the said work to prepare a list of eligible candidates for supplying one (01) multi-purpose worker for a period of six months for cleaning and other various works at the dispensaries and health centers in the 'C' Division. It is mandatory for interested local organizations / organizations with experience in the said work to have a minimum experience of one (1) year in supplying multi-purpose workers. Priority will be given to local organizations with experience in the 'C' Division for this work. One (01) organization is required based on the needs of the work.

Interested local organizations can obtain all information regarding this work, the tender form (Nivida Arj), and the Expression of Interest (EOI) form by first paying a scrutiny fee of ₹ 4284/- (₹ 3630/- + 18% GST) at the civic facilitation center. After paying the fee, these documents will be made available by the Medical Health Officer, 'C' Division, at the Divisional Assistant Commissioner 'C' Division Office from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM on the dates 10.10.2025 and 13.10.2025. The last date for organizations to submit the application at the 'C' Division Office is 13.10.2025 (until 3:00 PM). This section outlines the process for obtaining and submitting the necessary forms for the contract.

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C Department (C Department)

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STANDARD POST

Sustaining dairy sector: A pillar of rural livelihoods

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah reiterated the need to strengthen India's dairy sector for reasons rooted in both economic and social impact.

The sector is a crucial pillar of rural livelihoods, especially for small and marginal farmers, and provides daily income, unlike seasonal crops, making it a reliable source of sustenance.

He also pointed out that India's dairy sector has grown by 70 per cent over the decade, making it the fastest-growing dairy industry in the world.

Milk production rose from 146 million tonnes to 239 million tonnes, and milch animals increased from 86 million to 112 million.

In order to provide further impetus, White Revolution 2.0 was launched by the Ministry of Cooperation as part of the aim to realise the vision of "Sahkar se Samridhhi" or strengthening the cooperative movement in the country.

It comprises various initiatives taken by the ministry, which itself was formed recently by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, since its inception in 2021, to extend the reach to the grassroots and enhance the performance, productivity and profitability of cooperative societies.

As the Minister pointed out, India's dairy sector is the backbone of rural livelihoods and a symbol of inclusive growth. As the largest milk producer in the world, India has combined farmer-led cooperatives, women's participation and scientific practices to achieve remarkable progress.

Incidentally, the first White Revolution was initiated in the 1970s under Dr. Verghese Kurien, who came to be known as the "Father of the White Revolution". It ushered the country into increased milk production and made India self-sufficient in dairy.

To build on the gains of White Revolution 1.0 and drive the next wave of growth in India's dairy sector, White Revolution 2.0 focuses on modernising cooperatives, expanding their reach, and diversifying services.

The launch of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for White Revolution 2.0 on September 19, 2024, and the formal launch three months later, marked a fresh push to strengthen dairy cooperatives, generate jobs and empower women.

The White Revolution 2.0 initiative will be implemented for five years (2024-25 to 2028-29). By then, milk procurement by dairy cooperatives is expected to reach 1,007 lakh kg per day.

Given that the dairy sector is a backbone of rural livelihoods, nutrition security, and cooperative ethos, protecting and nurturing it aligns with broader economic, social, and strategic goals.

Seasonal and regional fluctuations are mitigated by a pan-India milk grid, and with government procurement support to maintain farm-gate prices.

While safeguarding existing gains, there is continued support to the sector through subsidies, credit facilities, R&D in fodder and animal health, among others, to ensure India's dairy sector remains resilient, inclusive, and capable of meeting future domestic and international demand.

Meanwhile, countries like the United States, being dairy surplus and a sector dependent primarily on export, are pressing for zero-duty access to India's USD 150-billion worth dairy market.

In the ongoing bilateral trade negotiations, the US team has tied dairy access to wider demands – calling on India to align with global norms, ease restrictions on oil imports, and lower barriers in services and manufacturing. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick recently urged New Delhi to "play ball" on market-opening if it wants greater access to American consumers, explicitly flagging agriculture and dairy as critical sticking points.

Apna.co Launches AI-Powered ‘Apna Safety’ to Combat Job Scams During India’s Festive Hiring Surge

(Standard Post Bureau)

As India enters its peak hiring season, Apna.co, the country's leading jobs and careers platform, has unveiled 'Apna Safety', an AI-powered recruiter verification system designed to prevent job scams and protect millions of job seekers during the festive hiring surge.

Apna Safety delivered strong results in its August and September 2025 pilot. More than 146,000 recruiters were verified through AI checks, leading to a 45% reduction in fraud exposure for jobseekers. Within two months, safety-related complaints on Apna's Play Store listing fell by 60 percent, and the app reached a 4.7 rating on the Play Store, the highest among jobs platforms in India.

More than half of verified cases were related to opportunities for freshers and first-time jobseekers, a group

historically most targeted by scams. These outcomes show Apna's proactive approach to platform safety, and demonstrate that AI-driven verification can scale while strengthening trust across India's hiring ecosystem.

Apna Safety allows candidates to verify a recruiter's authenticity by entering a phone number on the Apna app or at apna.co/apna-safety. Recruiters are flagged as active, blocked, or unregistered, and suspicious profiles can be reported through the same flow. Apna's AI system runs multiple layers of verification. Company legitimacy is checked against GST, PAN, and CIN records, while recruiter details are validated using Aadhaar. The system then cross-references this information with domains, legal business names, and digital activity patterns to generate a credibility score.

Recruiters who fail these checks are restricted or blocked, protecting candidates from fraud at the start of their search.

Apna Safety also flags common scam patterns within the app. Candidates are alerted to red flags such as demands for registration fees, security deposits, training charges, opening bank accounts, salary transfers, or pressure to buy digital products as a condition of employment. By embedding these alerts in the job search experience, Apna warns candidates in real time and reinforces trust in the hiring process.

Fraudulent job practices remain one of India's most persistent employment risks. Common tactics include fraudsters impersonating recruiters from various companies and asking for fake registration fees, security deposits, or training/course charges, as well as demanding that candidates

open bank accounts, transfer salaries, or purchase digital products as a condition of employment.

According to the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), Indians lost over ₹22,800 crore to cyber fraud in 2024, with job-related and part-time/WFH scams emerging as the single largest category of complaints. Industry estimates suggest job-related scams alone may have cost India roughly ₹5,100 crore. The hardest hit are frontline roles such as e-commerce, logistics, telecalling, customer support, and warehouse operations, where hiring is most intense ahead of the festive season and freshers are most vulnerable.

Commenting on the launch, Nirmitt Parikh, Founder & CEO of Apna.co, said: "Every year, lakhs of Indians fall prey to recruitment scams, and that

is simply unacceptable. This is an industry-wide threat to the trust on which livelihoods are built. With AI-powered Apna Safety, we are setting a new standard for verification and accountability in the hiring ecosystem and moving decisively toward a scam-free job market. In Q3 2025 alone, Apna facilitated over 2.7 crore job applications, evidence of both the scale of opportunity and the responsibility we carry. Our mission is clear: every Indian should be able to pursue opportunity with confidence, dignity, and safety.

We will keep raising the bar until trust becomes the default currency of India's workforce."

Apna.co is committed to provide a secure and trusted platform to the Recruitment industry and hence is comes with various solutions to address ongoing challenges.

Apple Removes App for Tracking ICE Agents From App Store: US Attorney General

New Delhi, Moscow, Oct 3 (UNI/SPUTNIK) : US tech giant Apple removed the ICEBlock app, designed to track the location of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, from its App Store after an explicit request from the Department of Justice, US Attorney General Pam Bondi said.

ICEBlock is a trafficking tool that allows users to anonymously report the location of ICE officers. It has been criticized by US authorities for endangering agents and helping illegal migrants evade the authorities.

The 'ICEBlock app' works as a crowdsourced and anonymous alert system for reporting Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent locations. Basically, users anonymously report sightings which then trigger push notifications and alerts to other users with a five-mile radius.

Developer of this app Joshua Aaron told 404 media "ICEBlock is no different from crowd sourcing speed traps, which every notable mapping application, including Apple's own Maps add, implements as part of its core service. This is protected speech under the first amendment of the United States Constitution." "We are determined to fight this with everything we have. Our mission has always been to protect our neighbours from the terror this administration continues to reign down on the people of this nation." Aaron added. "We reached out to Apple today demanding they remove the ICEBlock app from their App Store — and Apple did so," Bondi told Fox News. Apple reportedly confirmed the removal of ICEBlock and similar apps from the App Store, citing "safety risks" associated with ICEBlock as the reason.

NY Cinemas Rebrands as Devgn Cinex - A New Era Begins

(By Rajesh Undi)

Indian superstar Ajay Devgn joined hands with Vishwa Samudra Group to unveil Devgn Cinex, the new identity of NY Cinemas, at the iconic North Bombay Sarbojanin Durga Puja held at the SNDT Women's College grounds in Juhu. The high-profile rebranding event drew the city's cultural and film fraternity, marking a grand new chapter for cinema in India. The ceremony began with Durga Puja festivities, followed by the big reveal of the Devgn Cinex logo against a backdrop of cheers, music, and lights. The rebrand came as Vishwa Samudra and NY Cinemas joined forces, with the group pledging to redefine the movie-going experience through upgraded theatres, modern digital technologies, and nationwide expansion. Speaking at the



launch, Ajay Devgn said, "Durga Puja is a celebration of tradition, togetherness and shared joy. In many ways, cinema does the same, it brings people closer through stories. And what better day than today to announce the next chapter for our cinemas. With Devgn CineX, our vision is to bring this magic to audiences across India with state-of-the-art

formats that allow every emotion and every moment of a film to be experienced at its fullest. Shivdutt Das, Executive Director of Vishwa Samudra, added, "Devgn Cinex is more than a new name; it is a vision to transform cinema halls into spaces of innovation, comfort, and culture. We are committed to scaling this brand across India.

With its debut, Devgn Cinex announced plans to introduce premium formats, while also leveraging modern digital technologies, including AI, app and web platforms, customer engagement tools, and rewards programs to create seamless experiences for moviegoers. The company also outlined its strategic focus on expanding

across metros, tier-1 cities, and particularly strengthening its footprint in South India in the coming years. Mr. Satish Kottakota, Chief Executive Officer, NY Cinemas, added, "Devgn Cinex is ready to expand its footprint with new screens planned across the country. Our immediate focus will be metros and tier-1 cities, particularly in South India, where the appetite for cinema is unmatched. This is just the start of a growth story we are excited to share with audiences nationwide."

The event's cultural setting at North Bombay Durga Puja, a gathering spot for Mumbai's creative community since 1948, lent the launch both heritage and emotional depth. The ceremony was also graced by acclaimed actress Kajol, wife of Ajay Devgn, and Mrs. Sonam Shivdutt, who joined the celebrations as special attendees.

Samman Saudaminicha program organized in Bhandup Circle of Mahavitaran



(Standard Post Bureau)

Bhandup, Oct 3 : Today, our country has made a lot of progress in various fields and women are supporting men shoulder to shoulder in this progress of the country. No matter how complex the field is, women are not behind anywhere. To salute women for such achievements, this year, for the first time, the 'Samman Saudaminicha' program has been started across the state under the new concept of Mahavitaran Headquarters and was organized by Bhandup Circle today on 1 October 2025 at Thane Urban Board Office.

Director (HR) Shri. Rajendra Pawar was

present as the chief guest for this program. The program was chaired by the Chief Engineer of Bhandup Circle Shri. Sanjay Patil, Superintendent Engineer of Vashi Board Shri. Deepak Patil, Assistant General Manager (F&A) Shri Praveen Rahangdale, Thane Mandal (In-charge) Superintendent Engineer and Thane-2 Executive Engineer Shri Manik Rathod, Executive Engineers Mr. D. B. Pawar, Satish Jadhav and Mr. Chandramani Meshram, Bhandup Parimandal Assistant General Manager (HR), Mrs. Namita Gazdar, Smt. Usha Gaonkar who came as special guest and speaker in the program and



other senior officers and women employees were present. "The program started with offering a wreath to the image of Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule and lighting the lamp. After that, the program was introduced by Bhandup Parimandal Assistant General Manager (HR) Mrs. Namita Gazdar. It is very commendable how a woman manages her home and performs outside work or responsibilities so easily. On this occasion, women engineers, officers and employees who have proven themselves competently by working in the technical field of electricity were honored through Mahavitaran.

Lower Level Clerk Smt. Sheetal Shelar, Assistant Accountant Smt. Priya Patil and Assistant Accountant Smt. Poonam Wagh were honored in a representative manner. On this occasion, they expressed their feelings and talked about how they overcame the challenges in their life as a woman.

After that, Smt. Usha Gaonkar, while giving a lecture on the topic The Dance of Shakti Work Life Balance, explained the special importance of the nine days of Navratri and how women should balance their life and work. "Chief Engineer Bhandup Circle Shri Sanjay Patil said, "In Indian culture, we



respect women's power but it is very important to express this feeling of gratitude. When we hold such programs, our unity increases, our consciousness increases and we can work more vigorously. Earlier, the condition of women was very different, but now due to industrialization, women have come out of the house and are learning and working shoulder to shoulder with men in every work.

Just as women help men financially and take care of their responsibilities at home. Similarly, only if men also help them equally in every work, it will be proved that we have implemented

gender equality in a true manner. Therefore, we should all try for this and prepare our next generation in that way". Hon. Director (HR) Shri Rajendra Pawar said, "While working, always think about how it can be done differently or better. Women definitely work more honestly than men and are very capable of multi-tasking.

They manage their home and outside responsibilities equally well. That is why I am proud of Nari Shakti. But in all this, it is very important for you to take care of yourself. You should work with integrity and the idea of ??taking your company further by contributing as much as possible."

Typhoon Bualoi leaves 51 dead

Hanoi, Oct. 3 (UNI) : Typhoon Bualoi and ensuing floods and landslides have killed 51 people, left 14 others missing and injured 164 across northern and central Vietnam, with preliminary economic losses estimated at nearly 15.9 trillion Vietnamese dong (about 608 million U.S. dollars), the Vietnam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority said in a report on Friday.

The typhoon damaged or submerged more than 238,000 houses, inundated nearly 89,000 hectares of rice and other crops, and caused losses to over 17,000 hectares of aquaculture and nearly 50,300 hectares of forests.The typhoon also severely damaged infrastructure, with over 8,800 electricity poles downed and nearly 468,500 households still without power, while nearly 1,500 schools were damaged, according to the report.Local authorities are continuing recovery efforts, mobilizing equipment to clear blocked roads, restore essential services and support affected communities, the report added.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh on Thursday approved a support package worth 2.524 trillion Vietnamese dong (about 96.5 million dollars) from the central budget reserve to 15 affected localities for emergency relief, Vietnam News Agency reported Friday.

Laos warns of more heavy rain as tropical storm Matmo approaches

Vientiane, Oct 3 (UNI) : The Lao weather bureau has issued a nationwide warning for continued rainfall as tropical storm Matmo approaches, urging the public to stay alert and prepare for potential flooding and landslides.

The storm is moving west-northwest at a speed of 20 km per hour and is expected to cross the Philippines before entering Laos, bringing thunderstorms, strong winds, and heavy rainfall to various parts of the country from Oct. 3 to 7, according to a report from the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology under the Lao Ministry of Agriculture and Environment on Friday.Officials are urging all communities and local authorities to remain alert and take precautionary measures. Prolonged heavy rainfall may trigger landslides, flash floods, and urban flooding in several areas.Several provinces in Laos are experiencing widespread flooding due to continuous rainfall. With river levels still rising and saturated ground conditions following previous storms, the risk of further flooding remains high. Residents are advised to stay informed and follow official safety instructions.

Death toll from Indonesia school collapse rises to 8

Jakarta, Oct. 3 (UNI) : The death toll from the collapse of a school building in Indonesia's East Java province has risen to eight, a senior rescue official said Friday.

Suharyanto, head of the National Disaster Management Agency, said three more bodies were retrieved by rescuers, bringing the fatalities to eight. He said heavy machinery has been deployed in the ongoing excavation, with 55 people still unaccounted for.Earlier, rescue workers had relied mainly on manual excavation out of concern that heavy equipment could trigger further collapse.Part of the multi-storey Al Khoziny Islamic Boarding School in Sidoarjo district collapsed on Monday while undergoing unauthorized renovation, trapping dozens of students.

Scientists in Australia create natural plastics for everyday packaging

Melbourne, Oct. 3 (UNI) : Australian scientists have developed natural plastic films from food waste sugars that could replace petroleum-based packaging, offering compostable alternatives for food and agricultural uses.

The study led by Australia's Monash University (MON) highlights the potential of a new type of biodegradable plastic by converting food waste sugars into polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHA) biopolymers, said a MON statement released Friday.

"This research demonstrates how food waste can be transformed into sustainable, compostable ultrathin films with tunable properties," said Edward Attenborough from the MON Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering.

By selecting different bacterial strains and blending their polymers, the researchers produced films that behave like conventional plastics and can be molded into other shapes or solids, the statement said.

As global plastic production exceeds 400 million tons annually, most of it single-use, the study provides a framework for designing bioplastics for temperature-sensitive packaging, medical films and other products, addressing the global challenge of single-use plastic waste, it said.

The researchers fed two soil-dwelling bacteria -- Cupriavidus necator and Pseudomonas putida -- a carefully balanced "diet" of sugars with the right blend of salts, nutrients and trace elements, according to the study published in the British journal Microbial Cell Factories.

Once the microbes produced the plastics inside their cells, the researchers extracted and cast them into ultrathin films about 20 microns thick, and tested their stretchiness, strength and melting behavior."The versatility of PHAs means we can reimagine materials we rely on every day without the environmental cost of conventional plastics," Attenborough said, adding this opens the door to sustainable alternatives in packaging, especially where they can be composted along with food or agricultural waste.

The researchers said they are now working with industry partners to develop biodegradable packaging and medical solutions with potential commercial applications.

Germany urges Iran to resume negotiations with UN on nuclear program

Berlin, Oct 3 (UNI) : Germany has urged Iran to resume negotiations with the UN over its nuclear program, following the snapback trigger of all pre-2015 international sanctions, Foreign Minister Johann Wadephul said on Friday."Iran must never come into possession of a nuclear weapon," Wadephul told Funke Media Group, reports Iran International.

While he adamantly maintained that Tehran can never be allowed to possess a nuclear bomb, he warned of imminent risks in the aftermath of the 12-day Iran-Israel war and the US airstrikes, espousing fears of further fuelling the Islamic Republic's nuclear weaponisation.

Tehran, due to its lack of international cooperation, credibility, and transparency, made the renewal of sanctions unavoidable, Wadephul remarked, adding that it was a grave mistake detrimental to the people of Iran, as the snapback sanctions are crippling Tehran's already fragile economy.Echoing the line of the other E-3 nations, such as France and Britain, Berlin has likewise not ruled out negotiations, with Wadephul stating "My hope is that it will now change course. That is why our offer to resume negotiations remains on the table."



Residents stay outside their homes for fear of aftershocks at earthquake-hit Bogo city, Cebu Province, Central Philippines on Friday.

Israeli Navy intercepts last of Global Sumud Flotilla vessels, moves forward with swift deportation of all passengers

Jerusalem, Oct 3 (UNI) : The Israeli Navy on Friday intercepted the last of the Global Sumud Flotilla's 42 vessels attempting to breach its maritime blockade of the Gaza Strip, which had sailed to the war-torn enclave citing solidarity with the Palestinians in face of Israeli cruelty. Authorities in Jerusalem have said that over four of the roughly 470 detained activists have already been deported.

The final ship, the Marinette, lagged behind due to mechanical issues before being boarded by Shayetet 13 naval commandos. Organisers

confirmed that all flotilla vessels had now been intercepted, while no violence was reported by the IDF personnel, who were instructed to exercise special caution, reports Times of Israel.

The Navy's interception of the flotilla vessel came in the wake of organisers rejecting all IDF calls to turn back from what they had designated as a 'critically dangerous zone', and vowed to sail on to the war-torn enclave citing their solidarity.

The activists from the dozens of boats underwent a "thorough inspection process," police said,

adding that they were handed over to the Population and Immigration Authority and the Israel Prison Service for further processing before deportation.

More than 600 police officers, prison officials and immigration authorities were deployed to Ashdod Port, as activists were detained and readied for deportation.

Israel's Foreign Ministry mockingly described the flotilla as a "H a m a s - S u m u d provocation," calling the whole mission to deliver aid a charade for garnering social media attention.

Israeli Police released a video showing a foreign ministry official inside one of the flotilla's largest vessels. The footage revealed that the vessel had no aid on board, drawing attention to its empty interior.

"Procedures are underway to wrap up the provocation and finalise the deportation of the participants," the ministry said. "All are safe and in good health."

The ministry released photos of Swedish campaigner Greta Thunberg and South African activist Mandla Mandela among those detained.

UN denounces Israel's designated 'humanitarian zones' in Gaza City as 'places of death', rules no place there is safe

Geneva, Oct 3 (UNI) : The UN has stated there is no safe place for the Palestinians who have been ordered to leave Gaza City, as the global body has called Israeli-designated humanitarian zones in the south as "places of death."

"The notion of a safe zone in the south is farcical," UNICEF spokesman James Elder told reporters in Geneva after visiting Gaza, reports Times of Israel.

Describing the infrastructure being turned to rubble and the dangers in the area, he noted that "bombs are dropped from the sky with chilling predictability; schools,

which have been designated as temporary shelters are regularly reduced to rubble, (and) tents... are regularly engulfed in fire from air attacks."The IDF have designated areas such as Khan Younis and the coastal strip of Al-Mawasi as humanitarian zones, urging civilians to move there and directing aid deliveries to those sites.

Israel says no ground operations are conducted in these areas and that its forces take special precautions to mitigate, if not completely avoid, civilian casualties.

Elder insisted that "the issuance of a general or a blanket evacuation order to

civilians does not mean that those who remain behind lose their protection as civilians".As such, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians have fled Gaza City in recent weeks amid the new IDF ground offensive. The military has urged them to move south, to a newly-established humanitarian zone in Khan Younis.Israel first declared the area a safe zone early in the war but has carried out repeated strikes on it since, hitting Hamas hideouts and installations.

Likewise, the Israeli military had earlier urged Palestinians to relocate to a "humanitarian area" in Al-Mawasi on the coast,

where it says aid, medical care and humanitarian infrastructure will be provided, Elder remarked.

However, pointing out the horrible condition of the area, he said that Al-Mawasi, "is now one of the most densely populated places on Earth. It's grotesquely overcrowded and has been stripped of the most basic essentials of survival".The IDF has carried out repeated air raids in Khan Younis and Al-Mawasi, including efforts to eliminate Hamas military chief Muhammad Deif.

The UN had begun in late 2023 "debunking this concept of a unilaterally-declared safe zone", Elder

said, stressing that "the law is very clear".

"It is the responsibility of the occupying power, Israel, to ensure that a safe zone has all the essentials for survival: that is, nutrition, shelter and sanitation."None of those are present in a level that is needed by the people," Elder said, adding that the UN at the start had "at least assumed that these places would not be bombed".

But over the past 18 months, the designated safe zones had been hit "dozens of time", and "people in tents have suffered from airstrikes".

While the Israeli military has acknowledged that it

Australian gov't working to support citizens on humanitarian flotilla detained by Israel

Canberra, Oct. 3 (UNI) : Australia's health minister said on Friday that the federal government is working to support citizens detained by Israel after attempting to deliver aid to Gaza by sea.Mark Butler told Seven Network television on Friday morning that the government has put in a formal request for information on how many Australians were detained on the humanitarian flotilla that was intercepted by the Israeli navy while attempting to break the blockade of Gaza.rganizers of the flotilla on Thursday said that five Australians had been detained.Butler said that Australia has asked Israel for clear information about the detainees and for consular access to them.

"Australians want to see aid flow, particularly basic aid like food and medicines to civilians in Gaza, but for those who are detained, of course, we will be providing consular support to them," Butler said.Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade issued a statement on Friday morning calling on all parties to respect international law to ensure the safety and humane treatment of those involved in the flotilla.It repeated Australia's call for Israel to enable the sustained and unimpeded flow of humanitarian aid into Gaza.

has been striking targets in or in the vicinity of declared humanitarian safe zones, it justified its move, stating that Hamas embeds its terror operatives in these places, arming them with weapons and installing command and control centres among the civilian population, using them as bait for its p r o p a g a n d a war.Nonetheless, the UN, along with human rights groups, have strongly condemned Jerusalem's 'humanitarian zones', and likened them to 'death camps' due to the IDF's frequent airstrikes against Hamas targets in these areas, regardless of the civilian presence.

Massive fire erupts at Chevron refinery in Los Angeles

Los Angeles, Oct 3 (UNI) : A massive fire broke out Thursday night at a Chevron refinery in El Segundo, Los Angeles County in the U.S. state of California, local media reported.Firefighters and officers responded after receiving multiple reports of an explosion. The refinery, located at 324 West El Segundo Boulevard, has its own fire department, which is currently battling the blaze and has so far prevented the flames from spreading to other areas of the facility, said the reports.

The El Segundo Police Department is not aware of any immediate injuries or evacuations.

Washington, Oct 3 (UNI) : US President Donald Trump, following on his ultimatum to Hamas over agreeing to the deal, gave the terror group the definitive deadline of 6pm EST, Sunday, to either agree to his 20-point plan or otherwise face total devastation.He also urged the Palestinians in Gaza to "immediately" move to the "safer parts" of the war-torn enclave.Taking to Truth Social, Trump, issuing a stark threat stated that its remaining fighters are "MILITARILY TRAPPED, just waiting for me to give the word, 'GO,' for their lives to be quickly extinguished."He added: "As for the rest,

we know where and who you are, and you will be hunted down, and killed."The POTUS reiterated his demands, calling for the release of all hostages – alive and dead – affirming that the White House would secure an immediate ceasefire, assuring the release of all hostages within 72 hours and a phased Israeli withdrawal, as well as calling for the terror group's total disarmament.

"An agreement must be reached with Hamas by Sunday evening at SIX (6) p.m., Washington, D.C. time," Trump wrote. "If this LAST CHANCE agreement is not reached,

all HELL, like no one has ever seen before, will break out against Hamas." US and Israeli officials have indicated they expect a cautious, qualified reply from Hamas, and mediators in Doha and Cairo have been pressing the group to engage.As per the Times of Israel, the Islamic terror outfit has been preparing a broadly positive response with amendments, voicing discontent over the last-minute changes made to the plan, on whims of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.Egyptian and Qatari officials had expressed frustration at the sudden alterations,

which they claimed were made for Jerusalem's appeasement.Trump also framed his deadline as a regional consensus, mentioning the support extended to the deal by the Gulf States, and assured "amnesty" for those Hamas members who would renounce violence and choose to leave Gaza.He said the plan "spares the lives of all remaining Hamas fighters," language likely to be rejected by both hardliners in Gaza and by critics in the Arab world.

Trump vowed: "We will have PEACE in the Middle East one way or the other. The violence and bloodshed will stop."

Health

Are you chained to your office desk for long hours at a stretch with little to no daily exercise? Does your life circle around your laptop?

Is typing while hunched over a tiny desk how you spend each day? If the answer is yes, then you need to get proactive about your mental and physical state of being. To help you achieve just that, here are eight yoga asanas for the office that will help you combat mental and physical stress by increasing your concentration levels and relaxing any muscle tensions. Read and practise right away!

1: Wrist Stretches- Perform these simple stretches as a warm up exercise before starting your work and you'll never complain of wrist pain. (1) Extend and stretch both wrist and fingers acutely as if they are in a hand stand position and hold them up for a count of 5. (2) Make a tight fist with both hands and then bend wrist down while keeping the fist and hold it for a count of 5.

2: Neck Asana- Breathe in as you bend your head in the right direction. Try and aim at a point where your shoulder touches the ear.



Bring back your childhood Exercises

The fun, excitement, fights and the boisterous yelling of childhood is etched in all our hearts.

We all share a similar memory, returning from school, indulging in snacks and hustling down to play with your friends. Most of us knew ourselves to be strong, agile and energetic back then. Then why is that the very activities that worked for us and made us fit as kids are relegated to 'childhood' memories alone? We take a look at childhood activities and exercises that can help us shape up through adulthood. Begin today!

Skipping rope: How do you reduce body fat and build stamina in a short period of time? Skipping rope is your answer; you can skip at home, it doesn't cost much, is convenient and a great exercise if you are on the run. Take notes: It will help you increase your cardio vascular capacity and lung capacity, also builds your agility, speed, balance, and coordination. You can burn roughly 1,000 calories per hour. But remember - skipping rope for an hour is stuff athlete workouts are made of.

Monkey bars: You want to build your strength, get primitive, well not literally. Most playgrounds and schools have monkey bars and kids love it. It helps in back development and is a great addition to any upper body workout. It gives a whole new meaning to hanging around with friends.

Cycling: All of us have fallen off a bicycle, but



that didn't deter us from cycling around and popping a wheely. But now a car or a bike is the most preferred mode of transport. Well yes, it is convenient but doesn't make us sweat. Cycling is a full body workout, builds your cardio respiratory health, also muscle and strength. Whatever the problem-stress, weight loss, heart disease or shaping your body cycling is perfect for you.

Running: From the time we are toddlers to adulthood we are always running. It comes naturally to kids but it's a stretch for adults. Run if you want to be fit, lose weight, increase stamina, tone your body and the list goes on. But a word of caution, running can cause certain injuries.

Hula hoop: A baby of the 60s, hula hoops are evergreen with young girls. Once you get the rhythm of the twirl, you can sweat out 100 calories in ten minutes. Hula hoop wards off cardiovascular illness; it improves your co-ordination and helps in

muscle tone. But if you're going to hula hoop for fitness, check on workout hula hoops meant for exercise. They are different from the ones available in stores.

Climbing: As kids we have scaled walls and climbed trees; now that you're an adult you can't do the exact same thing, but you can still engage in rock climbing. Along with the above activities, climbing also improves cardiovascular health, weight loss and improves muscle tone. This common trend running through childhood games makes you want to go back to the past.

Swimming: This is one activity we wish was included in our school curriculum. Swimming is the best activity during summers. Besides, swimming can do wonders to your body mentally and physically. It builds muscles, improves strength, and you are guaranteed a healthy heart and powerful lungs. A full body workout, swimming improves co-ordination, posture, and is a great way to bust stress.

Outdoor sports: As Indians, sport is the last thing we want to engage in unless it plays on the tube. But if we did engage in sports we wouldn't be obese, sluggish, or have a string of ailments. They say laughter is the best medicine, but outdoor sports can beat it any day. It's beneficial for heart problems and other diseases, co-ordination, conditioning, and builds you mentally, keeps you alert and is a lot of fun.



8 yoga asanas for the Office

Exhale as you bring your back to the normal position. Make sure you keep your neck and spine long. Now do the asana on the left side. Perform five breathing cycles on each side.

3: Reversed Shoulder Rotation and Thoracic Wave-

Inhale as you move your shoulders in an upward and backward direction. Exhale as you move them in a downward and frontward direction. Pay key attention to the breathing cycle and keep your neck and spine comfortably straight. Perform eight to ten rotations on each side.

4: Cow Face Pose for your upper back-

Take both your hands and clasp your hands behind your back. If you are unable to clasp, don't try too hard, comfortably stretch your fingers towards one another. Release with an exhalation. Now shake your arms for about 30 seconds and repeat.

5: Cat Asana for the lower back-

While exhaling, bend your back in a backward direction creating a sharp curve in your spine.

Now bend in a forward direction with the point between the shoulder blades and inhale. Do it for 5 breathing cycles to relieve your body of long hours at the desk.

6: Konasana for toned arms-

Stand straight with legs wide apart. Now bend forward from your waist. Try and touch the ground with the tips of your fingers, if possible place both your hands on the ground while standing. Your upper body should be in a straight line. Look ahead by about 3 inches. Perform konasana for 10 to 30 seconds and breathe normally throughout the asana.

7: Bhastrika for your abdomen-

Sit in a comfortable position with your back straight. Close your eyes and start exhaling and inhaling via nose by focusing on the abdominal muscles. As soon as you release your abdominal muscles you'll realize that your diaphragm contracts before you start to inhale. Hear the sound of your breath and perform this asana 5 times at a stretch. Give it a pause. Breathe normally. And start again. Complete one to two rounds on a daily basis and increase the number of your breaths by 5, each week.

8: Leg Extension Asana-

Sit in a comfortable position with one leg bent and placed on a chair or desk in front of you. Place both your hands on your feet. Keeping your spine straight, inhale and extend your leg



outward while holding it with your hands. Stay in this position for 3 to 5 breaths. Exhale as you come back to the normal position, while moving your hands and placing them on your waist. Stay in this position for 3 to 5 breaths. Relax. Perform 5 to 10 rounds like this. Read more Personal

In today's fast paced world, stress and running around are an inevitable part of most peoples lives. And while lethargy and tiredness are commonplace, if you find yourself constantly thinking of doing nothing but just lying down, you may have a problem on your hands.

While there may be several underlying issues when it comes to feeling drained out, some of the most common ones include...
- An iron deficiency or anaemia is one of the first things that your doctor will check for when you complain of frequent tiredness. A lack of iron in your diet will result in lethargy after some time. While anaemia is more prevalent among women, men also get affected. And doctors say that an increasing number of young women today are suffering from this ailment (menstruating women are most prone to anaemia). One of the best ways to keep this ailment at bay is to eat a diet rich in

Reasons why you

feel tired most of the time

iron — think green, leafy vegetables.
- Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) is another common ailment that makes one feel constantly exhausted, which eventually affects the quality of one's life. Patients often complain that in spite of sleeping for the stipulated



hours daily, they still end up feeling tired the next day. While doctors say that it is difficult to pinpoint what exactly causes CFS, some reasons include a hormonal imbalance, a viral infection, low immunity or even stress. Treatment differs from patient to patient and include a range of therapies.
- Another reason could be fluctuating blood sugar levels. Diabetes may have different symptoms and one common one happens to be often feeling

exhausted. Other symptoms include frequent trips to the washroom and feeling thirsty. A simple blood test will help you figure out if your blood levels are in control.
- Feeling depressed or anxious about something? This could cause to to feel tired often, worsening other symptoms. Don't hesitate to visit a mental health care expert for treatment.

Should you eat curd at night?

The hot season is here and so is the urge to consume foods that cool down your system. Curd, evidently, stands on top of the list. And why not. Curd is an excellent source of good bacteria and aids digestion. It is good for your teeth and bones. But as with most of the foods, there are some rules that you need to follow for consuming curd. One of the most commonly heard rules is to avoid eating it at night. But is it valid for everyone. Here are some of the rules:
- Do not eat curd at night, especially if you are prone to cough and cold. Ayurveda explains that curd consumption at night is not good as it leads to mucus development. But if you can't do without it, opt for buttermilk instead.
- If you are eating curd during the day, have it without sugar but if you are eating curd at night, add sugar or

some black pepper. It will assist in digestion and calm your digestive system.
- Never have hot curd.
While the basic rules apply, if you are a curd lover, we bring you some easy options to include it in your diet, anytime of the day:



Curd rice: This is very good for the stomach and a light option for the summers too.
Curd with sugar: Add a spoonful of sugar to your curd and you are good to go.
Buttermilk/ Lassi: Ditch aerated drinks for these two options.
Raita: A common Indian side dish, you can add onion, cucumber, tomato to your curd with some herbs and a healthy option is all set.
Kadhi: Mixing gram flour (besan) with buttermilk makes for an appetizing curry called Kadhi. It is mostly eaten with rice (you might want to opt for brown rice).

17th Mini Nationals Handball Championship Concludes at Nizam College, Hyderabad



(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, Oct 3 : The 17th Mini Nationals Handball Championship was successfully conducted at Nizam College, Hyderabad, from 26th to 29th September 2025, with enthusiastic participation from several state teams across the country.

Boys Final Result:

In an exciting and closely contested final, Delhi defeated Telangana with a narrow margin of 24-23 to emerge as champions.

Girls Final Result:

The Telangana girls team clinched the championship title, registering a strong 15-10 victory over Haryana.

In Picture (Dignitaries Present):

Malreddy Ram Reddy, Chairman Telangana State Road Development Corporation & President Telangana Handball Association, Mahesh Kumar, President, Handball Federation of India (Chief Guest), Mettu Sai, Chairman, Telangana

Fishermen Co-operative Societies Federation (Guest of Honour), Pritpal Singh Saloja, Secretary General, HFI (Guest Of Honour), Khurshid Khan, Chairman, HFI Technical Committee, Rama Shankar Sharma, Chairman, HFI Referee Board, S. Pavan Kumar, General Secretary, Telangana Handball Association, Narinder Singh, General Secretary, Chandigarh Handball Association, Vicky, General Secretary, Dadra & Nagar

Haveli Handball Association, S. Venkat Ram Reddy, President, Ranga Reddy District Handball Association, C. Thirumal Reddy, General Secretary, Ranga Reddy District Handball Association, Siva Kumar, South Asian Ambassador The championship witnessed high-quality matches, great sportsmanship, and showcased the growing popularity of handball among young athletes in India.

Bengaluru Torpedoes come from behind to beat Goa Guardians in five-set thriller

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, Oct 3 : Bengaluru Torpedoes came from behind to pick up a thrilling 15-9, 11-15, 13-15, 17-15, 15-9 win on the second day of the fourth season of RR Kabel Prime Volleyball League powered by Scapia at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium here. Jalen Penrose was named the Player of the Match. India badminton star Satwiksairaj Rankireddy was also in attendance, supporting the Torpedoes. Sethu began his magic with the serves straightaway as Goa's libero Ramanathan struggled to receive the ball. Matt West distributed his passes efficiently to keep options in attack as Penrose and Joel Benjamin put the Torpedoes in the lead with thunderous spikes. Chirag's aggressive style of play brought Goa fans a glimmer of hope. With Nathaniel Dickinson and the

veteran Jeffrey Menzel's cross attacks, Goa started finding rhythm. Winning two consecutive super points in a row changed the momentum on the court in Goa's favours.

The Torpedoes continued to play in high gear, but Goa kept matching their intensity. Rohit Yadav's super serve stunned the Torpedoes while Prince shut down Bengaluru with tremendous blocks as the Guardians took the lead. Penrose's counterattack and serves brought the Torpedoes back into the contest.

Nitin Minhas brought the goods with his blocking to push the match to the fifth set. Joel started attacking from the left side of the court, while Mujeeb combined with Penrose in defence as Bengaluru picked up their first win of the season. Having won the game 3-2, the Torpedoes earned two points, while Goa gained 1 point.

Bengaluru Bulls fall short again as Puneri Paltan complete double

Chennai, Oct 3 (UNI) : It was a case of déjà vu for the Bengaluru Bulls as they fell short in yet another tiebreaker, this time succumbing to Puneri Paltan after the two sides were level on 29-29 in a thrilling encounter at the SDAT Multi Purpose Indoor Stadium on Thursday night. The loss marked the Bulls' second tiebreaker defeat to the Paltan this season, allowing their opponents to complete a double and climb to the top

of the points table.

The match was a gripping affair from start to finish, with both teams locked in an intense battle that saw the scores level at full time. Despite a spirited fightback in the final five minutes of regulation time, the Bulls couldn't find the winning touch when it mattered most in the decider.

Speaking after the match, the Bulls' coach BC Ramesh reflected on a frustrating night that saw his team come agonizingly

close to victory. "It was a very tough, very close match," he said.

"We had a very good comeback in the last five minutes and the team played well in the tiebreaker, but we just didn't have the luck we needed."

The coach acknowledged that the team's preparation hadn't quite translated onto the court. "We underestimated two or three players from their side, and we didn't play the way we expected to," he admitted candidly.

"That made the difference in such a tight contest."

Despite the disappointment, there were positives to take away from the performance. The Bulls showed character and resilience with their late rally, and demonstrated that the team has quality in its ranks. Looking ahead, the coach remained optimistic about the challenges to come. "The upcoming game is going to be a good one," he said with determination. "We're excited about it and ready to bounce back."

Ashu Malik continues fine form as Dabang Delhi reclaim top spot with comprehensive win over UP Yoddhas

Chennai, Oct 3 (UNI) : Dabang Delhi K.C. returned to the top of the table with a dominant display to record a 43-26 win against UP Yoddhas at the SDAT Multi Purpose Indoor Stadium in Chennai on Friday. Ashu Malik led the way with a Super 10, while Fazel Atrachali scored four tackle points, leading a comprehensive display for their side. Gagan Gowda set the tone for the game with a multi-point raid to give his side an early two-point

opening before Ashu Malik levelled things up for his side. The former exchanged raids with Neeraj Narwal, keeping things close between the teams. With the two sides going toe-to-toe, Surjeet Singh registered the first tackle of the match on Bhavani Rajput. However, UP Yoddhas opened up an 8-6 lead courtesy Shivam Chaudhary and Gagan Gowda, after the opening ten minutes. Fazel Atrachali began the second quarter

with a tackle on Bhavani Rajput, and Ashu Malik did what he does best, managing the first Super Raid of the game to give his side the lead. He followed that up with another multi-point raid, cleaning up the Yoddhas and inflicting an ALL OUT to give his side a 14-9 lead. With the tempo slowing down slightly, the defenders began to take control of the game. Ashu Malik continued to lead the charge for Dabang Delhi with nine points in the first

half, while Gagan Gowda was doing the same for Yoddhas with eight points to his name. In an enthralling first half that saw the pendulum swing one way and then the other, Joginder Narwal's side held a four-point lead with the score at 17-13.

Ashu Malik began the second half with a raid that helped him complete his eighth Super 10 of the season, extending Dabang Delhi's lead. With Ajinkya Pawar also chipping in,

UP Yoddhas show tenacity in high-intensity raiding battle against Dabang Delhi

Chennai, Oct 3 (UNI) :

In a match where every raid carried weight, UP Yoddhas held their nerve through extended phases of pressure, pushing Dabang Delhi K.C. to match them raid for raid in a contest defined by strategy rather than flamboyance.

Both sides executed 41 raids apiece, but the finer margins told the story of the evening, as Dabang Delhi secured a 43-26 win at the SDAT Multi-Purpose Indoor Stadium.

Delhi completed 20 successful raids at a success rate of 48.78%, slightly ahead of the Yoddhas' 17 successful raids at 41.46%. Yet, UP's approach wasn't about sheer volume—it was about timing and momentum. They matched Delhi's longest successful raid streak of four, ensuring the momentum swings never tilted too far.

Even without a super raid on the night, UP's raiders struck at an impressive 48.78% strike rate, showcasing sharp decision-making in crucial moments. The Yoddhas' ability to string together raids despite Delhi's tight defensive formations kept them firmly in the contest. Their efficiency was especially notable given the quality of defenders they faced. The numbers also reflect UP's disciplined structure. With both teams attempting the same number of raids, it was their adaptability on the mat that stood out—rotating raiders, absorbing pressure, and preventing defensive lapses from turning into runaway leads. While the final scoreline leaned Delhi's way, the underlying metrics highlight a Yoddhas unit that went toe-to-toe with one of the league's most dynamic attacking sides. Nights like these are about setting tactical foundations, and on that front, the UP Yoddhas walked away with plenty of positives. UP Yoddhas face the Telugu Titans on October 5, while Dabang Delhi take on the Jaipur Pink Panthers on October 6.

they ensured some daylight between themselves and their opponents. Fazel Atrachali further extended that lead to eight points, helping his team inflict a second ALL OUT. Despite Gagan Gowda completing his Super 10, UP Yoddhas were struggling to close the gap. Surjeet Singh and Ajinkya Pawar also contributed to Dabang Delhi's cause, keeping them in the driver's seat as they established a steady nine-point lead with ten minutes to go in the game.

Fifty celebration for dad, ton for Indian Army: Jurel

Ahmedabad, Oct 3 (UNI) : Towards evening at Narendra Modi Stadium, Dhruv Jurel today played a knock that will linger long in Indian cricket lore as the wicketkeeper-batsman notched his maiden Test century, a patient and sparkling 125 off 210 balls, but it was the gestures and soulful celebrations that truly stole the show.

On reaching fifty, Jurel raised his fist in a simple, heartfelt salute to his father, Nem Chand, a retired Havildar and Kargil War veteran. By the time the century arrived, he stood tall, bat held upright, mimicking a guard-of-honour, a silent tribute to the Indian Army. "My fifty celebration was for my father.

The hundred celebration was for the Indian Army because I have seen how hard they work.

They deserve it," Jurel said after the day's play.

The innings was not just a personal milestone, it was a statement. India, having lost wickets steadily early in the day, found a rock-solid anchor in Jurel, who combined grit with flashes of audacious strokeplay, hitting 15 fours and three sixes.

Ravindra Jadeja, unbeaten on 104, partnered him in a 206-run fifth-wicket stand, narrowly missing the Indian record against West Indies for that position, held by VVS Laxman and Sachin Tendulkar's 214-run stand in Kolkata, 2002. Together, they rewrote the script, leaving the West Indies spinners searching for answers.

KL Rahul, finally ending his home-ground century drought, joined the party with a patient 100 off 197 balls. The three contrasting

styles - Rahul's stoic patience, Jurel's emotive brilliance, and Jadeja's measured dominance — wove a rich tapestry of batting mastery.

Each shot, each run, was a reaffirmation of India's upper hand. By stumps, India had reached 448 for 5 in 128 overs, a massive lead of 286 runs, the scoreboard a clear warning to the West Indies camp: the game was slipping away.

It was a day when cricket became more than numbers. It became emotion, tribute, and history. The salute has already become Jurel's signature, first seen during his maiden Test fifty against England in 2024. Yet today, with the fans sensing the pulse of history, every cheer resonated with pride - for the player, for his father, and for the Indian Army.

Bengal edge Odisha, top Group A

New Delhi, Oct 3 (UNI) : Bengal secured their first win in the 30th Senior Women's National Football Championship for the Rajmata Jijabai Trophy 2025-26 Final Round, edging past Odisha 1-0 at the Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama Ground in Narainpur, Chhattisgarh, on Friday. The side had opened their campaign with a goalless draw against Goa.

The lone goal of the match came in the 59th minute when Mousumi Murmu rose to head in a perfectly floated cross from Rimpa Halder. Bengal had dominated possession in the first half, creating several chances, and took firm control of proceedings

after taking the lead. Odisha nearly drew level in the dying moments when Jasoda Munda's header from a corner struck the crossbar.

With the win, Bengal topped Group A with four points from two matches. They are followed by Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu, tied with three points each. Chhattisgarh bounced back from an opening day loss to Tamil Nadu, defeating Goa 2-1 in a dramatic encounter. Goa had taken the lead in the 28th minute through Karishma Purushottam Shirvoikar, who slotted home after being released by a through ball.

Chhattisgarh, however, staged a late comeback

thanks to substitute Devika Yadav, who scored twice. She equalised in the 80th minute following a fumble by Goa goalkeeper Ria Rajesh, and then struck the winner deep into injury time after a left-footer from Kiran Pisdar ricocheted off the crossbar, leaving Devika alert to tap in the rebound.

Bengal and Chhattisgarh now look well placed to challenge for the top spots in Group A as the tournament progresses.

Match results:

Bengal 1 (Mousumi Murmu 59') defeated Odisha 0

Chhattisgarh 2 (Devika Yadav 80', 90 5') defeated Goa 1 (Karishma Purushottam Shirvoikar 28').

Nishad nails Asian Record in gold-winning effort; Simran storms to 100m victory

New Delhi, Oct 3 (UNI) : Nishad Kumar and Simran emerged the toast of the goodly home crowd with gold medal winning efforts within moments of each other in the men's High Jump T47 and women's 100m T12 respectively the IndianOil New Delhi 2025 World Para Athletics Championships at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Friday. India vaulted from 11th place on the medals table to fourth, thanks to the twin gold medals won in the span of a few minutes. Earlier, Preeti Pal picked up a bronze for India in the women's 200m T36 final and Pardeep Kumar claimed another bronze in the men's Discus Throw F46 final. India now has 6 gold, 5 silver and 4 bronze for a total of 15 medals so far.

Both Nishad Kumar and Simran held their nerves under pressure and turned in stellar displays to warm the hearts of the home fans. Nishad Kumar's calm saw him beat Türkiye's Abdulla Ilgaz and three-time defending champion Roderick Townsend (USA) to the gold in great style.

He did not court failure until he had asked for the bar to be at World Record height of 2.18m and secured the Asian Record after Abdullah Ilgaz had secured a European mark at 2.08m. Nishad Kumar did well to pass the 2.12m and pile the pressure on the

Türkiye athlete after the world record holder, Townsend exited after clearing just 2.03m.

The 25-year-old sprinter, Simran, also got a personal best. She had clocked 12.08 seconds in the semifinals on Friday morning. Though she admitted to being nervous for the final, she turned up with confidence in her own ability. Teaming with guide Umar Saifi, she broke the 12 second barrier for the first time, dipping home in 11.95 seconds in the final.

It seemed natural that Nishad Kumar and Simran claimed much of the spotlight, but even they would concede that it is only fair to share it with Catherine Debrunner (Switzerland) who swept all five gold medals for women's T53 events and Thailand's Pongsakorn Paeyo who won his third gold of New Delhi 2025 by winning the men's 800m T53 crown. Catherine

Debrunner single-handedly accounted for five of Switzerland's six gold, winning the 400m T53 final in a Championships Record time of 50.58 seconds. She made it a most memorable New Delhi 2025 by dominating an amazing range of women's T53 (100m, 400m and 800m) and T54 (1500m and 5000m) events. Pongsakorn Paeyo added the men's 100m T53 to the 400m and 800m gold medals won earlier this week to emerge the most successful male athlete with three gold medals. Danielle Aitchison set a new world record in winning the women's 200m T35 final while Annie Carey (USA) also set a new women's Long Jump T44 World Record. With 12 gold, 18 silver and 7 bronze, Brazil continues to stay on top of the charts ahead of China which has 9 gold, 16 silver and 13 bronze. Poland is in third place with 8 gold, 2 silver and 5 bronze medals.

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CR's Mumbai Division organises Safety Seminar

Principal Chief Electrical Engineer highlights importance of safe train operations

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 3 : Central Railway, Mumbai Division's Traction Rolling Stock Operations department organised a Safety Seminar on Prevention of Signal Passing At Danger (SPAD), on 03.10.2025 at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus Auditorium, Mumbai.

Shri Anoop Kumar Agarwal, Principal Chief Electrical Engineer(PCEE) graced the occasion along with Shri Chandra Kishore Prasad, Principal Chief Safety Officer(PCSO) and Shri Hresh Mina, Divisional Railway Manager(DRM), Mumbai Division, Central Railway.

Senior Officers from Headquarters and Mumbai Division also attended the Seminar. Around 300 Running staff and Divisional Chief Loco Inspectors participated in the Safety Seminar. The focus of the deliberations was on the importance of role of running staff towards the Prevention of Signal Passing at Danger (SPAD), ensuring safe train working, and the action to be taken in case of accidents and unusual occurrences. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Anoop Kumar Agarwal, Principal Chief Electrical Engineer, highlighted the importance of safe train operations, professional & personal discipline, importance of Signal Location Announcement System (SILAS), Fog Safe Device (FSD) & administration's approach towards providing better facilities for crew.

Shri Chandra Kishore Prasad, Principal Chief Safety Officer emphasized the importance of finger pointing and calling



technique for calling out signals. "Shri Hresh Mina, Divisional Railway Manager, Mumbai Division, instilled pride in role of Running staff towards safe train operations and focused on "Mission Zero SPAD""

Shri Sanjay Singh, Chief Electrical Engineer(OP), spoke on preventive measures, RS flap valve operation to curb SPAD & the need for maintaining attentive speed as per signal aspects. Shri M. L. Vishnoi, Additional Divisional Railway Manager (OP/Safety)

Mumbai Division, focused on the need for adequate rest before duty and also conducted an interactive Question & Answer (Q&A) session. Shri Satish Ambore, Junior Scientific Officer, shared valuable insights on the psychological perspective of SPAD and global safety practices related to crew.

The seminar provided an interactive platform for participants to learn from experiences of higher officials by their words of wisdom & highlighted the importance of safe train running and challenges

through Q&A session. The event concluded with vote of thanks proposed by Shri Shikhar Srivastava, Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRO), who expressed his deepest gratitude to the officials from the TRSO department and the running staff.

This initiative highlighted Mumbai Division's ongoing commitment to fostering a culture of safety and operational excellence, aiming to minimize risks and ensure the highest standards in railway operations.

Central Railway's contribution to a Clean Environment

In addition to ensuring safe train operations, Central Railway is also focussing on its social responsibilities by organising cleanliness activities as part of the Swachhata Pakhwada-2025- Special Campaign 5.0.

As part of Special Campaign 5.0 (October 2-31, 2025), Central Railway is undertaking activities focusing on Swachhta and systematic disposal of e-waste. The campaign also emphasizes thorough cleanliness, improved space management, workplace beautification, environment-friendly initiatives, green practices, and digitization across the network.

Special attention is being given to direct public engagement, incorporating citizen feedback at stations, and maximizing revenue through disposal of redundant materials and scrap, thereby institutionalizing Swachhta and modern management standards across the railway.

Western Railway launches Swachhata Pakhwada 2025 campaign to promote cleanliness and Hygiene



Mr Vivek Kumar Gupta, General Manager of Western Railway, administering the Swachhata Pledge along with senior officers at WR Headquarters.

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 3 : Indian Railways is observing Swachhata Pakhwada 2025 from 1st to 15th October, 2025 to promote cleanliness, hygiene, and environmental awareness across stations, offices, workshops, and trains. In this direction, Western Railway has launched Swachhata Pakhwada Campaign 2025, engaging employees, passengers and local communities in

plays (Nukkad Natak), volunteer-driven Shramdan, and tree plantation drives were organized with enthusiastic participation.

The second day, coinciding with Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti and Swachh Bharat Diwas, saw continued cleaning and awareness activities at station premises, railway colonies, and track areas. Passengers and local communities were encouraged to take the Swachhata



Shramdan by WR Officers & staff over Mumbai Central Division.

innovative activities to foster a clean and healthy environment. The campaign was inaugurated by Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta, General Manager of Western Railway, at the WR's Headquarters, Churchgate, where he administered the Swachhata Pledge. GM and other PHODs also signed the Swachhata Pledge Board.

According to a press release issued by the Public Relations Department of Western Railway, officers and staff at headquarters and divisional offices took the Swachhata Pledge on the first day. Activities such as awareness rallies, morning marches (Prabhat Pheris), street

Pledge, with active participation from NGOs and community organizations.

Western Railway also conducted the Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS-2025) campaign prior to the Pakhwada, featuring cleanliness drives, tree plantations, health and safety camps, marathons, cyclothons, youth engagement programs, Waste-to-Art projects, zero-waste celebrations, and door-to-door awareness campaigns.

These efforts reinforce Western Railway's commitment to the Swachh Bharat Mission, creating cleaner, safer, and healthier communities across its network.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Japanese Minister H.E. Hiromasa Nakano visit Surat HSR site

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 3 : Japan's Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport & Tourism H.E. Hiromasa Nakano arrived at Surat airport today and was accorded a traditional Garba welcome. "Hon'ble Minister of Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw, along with H.E. Hiromasa Nakano, visited the Surat High-Speed Rail (HSR) construction site.

Hon'ble Ministers reviewed key components of the project, including the track slab laying car and the track slab adjustment facility.

Both the Ministers expressed satisfaction with the quality standards being followed and commended the rapid pace of construction. The visit reflects strong collaboration between India and Japan in implementing India's first High-Speed Rail corridor.

Power supply to electricity consumers in Bolinj restored

(Standard Post Bureau)
Kalyan, Oct 3 : The Mahavitaran system succeeded in restoring the power supply that was disrupted due to heavy rains in Bolinj in Virar division of Mahavitaran on the afternoon of Dussehra.

According to the information provided by Mahavitaran, the power supply of about 35,000 people in Bolinj was disrupted at 7 pm on 1st October due to heavy rains accompanied by stormy winds.

The failure occurred in the Bolinj 22 kV power line originating from the 100 kV Vasai power line of Mahapareshan. The power line passes through the creek. Due to the rain, the water was coming up to the chest. In such a difficult situation, under the guidance of Mahavitaran's Branch Engineer Tatyasaheb Jagtap, Sachin Sable, Santosh Kamble, Sanjay Rane, Nikhil Vanmali, Dinesh Mukne, Janamitra went down to restore power supply in the flood waters. Once, when an attempt was made to start the power supply by checking the power line, sparks started flying. As a result, the entire power line was inspected and the disk insulator broken by the lightning strike was replaced. After this, power supply to 25,000 electricity consumers was restored



around midnight.

On October 2, after the flood waters receded, Mahavitaran started warlike efforts to check the system and restore power supply. As a result, the supply of the remaining electricity consumers was

restored by 1 pm.

Chief Engineer Chandramani Mishra, Superintendent Engineer Sanjay Khandare, and Executive Engineer Prashant Dani have praised the work done by Mahavitaran's Janamitra.

Western Railway to run a weekly special train

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 3 : 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 a Special Train on Special fare between Bandra Terminus - Barhni stations.

According to a press release issued by Public Relations Department of Western Railway, the details of this train is as under:

- Train No. 05034/05033 Bandra Terminus - Barhni Weekly Special [16 Trips]

Train No. 05034 Bandra Terminus - Barhni Weekly Special will depart from Bandra Terminus every Saturday at 09:30 hrs and will reach Barhni at 22:15 hrs, the next day. This train will run from 11th October to 29th November, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 05033 Barhni - Bandra Terminus Weekly Special will depart from Barhni every Thursday at 21:30 hrs and will arrive Bandra Terminus at 06:30 hrs, on Saturday. This train will run from 09th October to 27th November 2025.

Enroute, this train will halt at Borivali, Vapi, Valsad, Surat, Vadodara, Ratlam, Kota, Bayana, Idgah Agra, Tundla, Etawah, Kanpur Central, Aishbagh, Badshah Nagar, Gonda and Balrampur stations in both directions.

This train comprises of Sleeper Class and General Second Class Coaches.

The booking for Train No. 05034 will open from 05th October, 2025 at all PRS counters & on IRCTC website.

Railways to run 30 additional Special trains for Diwali Festival 2025

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, Oct 3 : Railways will run 30 additional Special Trains for the convenience of passengers during the upcoming Diwali festival season.

Details as given below:

1) LTT- Madgaon -LTT Weekly Special (6 Services)
01003 Weekly special will leave Lokmanya Tilak Terminus every Monday at 08.20 hrs on 06.10.2025, 13.10.2025 & 20.10.2025 and will arrive Madgaon at 22.40 hrs same day. (3 services)
01004 Weekly special will leave Madgaon every Sunday at 16.30 hrs on 05.10.2025, 12.10.2025 & 19.10.2025 and will arrive Lokmanya Tilak Terminus at 06.20 hrs next day. (3 services)

Halts: Thane, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Khed, Chiplun, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Kankavali, Sindhudurg, Kudal, Sawantwadi Road, Thivim and Karmali.
Composition: One AC-2Tier, Three AC-3Tier, Two AC-3Tier Economy, 8 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second class, 1 Second Seating cum Guard's brake van and 1 Generator Van.
Reservation: Bookings for special train 01003 will open on 04.10.2025 at all computerised reservation centres and on website www.irctc.co.in.

2) Panvel-Chiplun-Panvel Unreserved Special (24 Services)
01159 Unreserved Special will depart Panvel at 16.40 hrs every Friday, Saturday & Sunday from 03.10.2025 to 26.10.2025 and arrive Chiplun at 21.55 hrs same day.
01160 Unreserved Special will depart Chiplun at 11.05 hrs every Friday, Saturday & Sunday from 03.10.2025 to 26.10.2025 and arrive Panvel at 16.10 hrs same day.
Halts : Somatane, Apta, Jite, Pen, Kasu, Nagothane, Roha, Kolad, Indapur, Mangaon, Goregaon Road, Veer, Sape Wamne, Karanjadi, Vinehere, Diwankhavati, Kalambani Budruk, Khed and Anjani
Composition: 8 MEMU Coaches.
Passengers are requested to note that the above trains will run as UNRESERVED and tickets can be booked through UTS system with normal charges as applicable for superfast mail/express trains.
For detailed timings at halts of special trains please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or download NTES App
Passengers are requested to avail these special train services.
Pune-Danapur-Supaul express to run with revised train numbers as follows:
Train no 12149 Pune-Danapur-Supaul express, will now run with new Train number 11401 with effect from 4.12.2025.
Train no 12150 Supaul-Danapur-Pune express, will now run with new Train number 11402 with effect from 4.12.2025.
Passengers to please note the change.

ED conducts searches in Gurugram in Rs 346 crore bank fraud case

New Delhi, Oct 3 (UNI) : The Enforcement Directorate (ED), Gurugram Zonal Office, recently conducted search operations at three residential and commercial premises linked to Dandamudi Venkateswara Rao, promoter of the Sravanthi Group, Sravanthi Infratech Pvt. Ltd. (SIPL), and its group company Sravanthi Energy Pvt. Ltd. (SEPL) in Gurugram. The searches were carried out in connection with an ongoing investigation into siphoning and diversion of public funds by Hythro Power Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) and its directors, Amul Gabrani and Ajay Kumar Bishnoi, to their related entities and those connected with HPCL, causing substantial losses to banks. According to the complainant banks, the fraud amounted to Rs. 346.08 crore between 2009 and 2015. The ED initiated a PMLA investigation based on an FIR registered by the CBI under various sections of the IPC, 1860, and the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, for offences including criminal conspiracy, cheating, and criminal misconduct by the accused persons, thereby causing wrongful gain to themselves. The probe revealed that Sravanthi Infratech Pvt. Ltd. has remained a debtor of over Rs. 10 crore since 2013-15, with no recovery to date. Further, during FY 2018-19 and 2019-20, equity shares of SEPL worth Rs. 18.43 crore, having a face value of Rs. 10 per share and held by its bankers (Class-A shares).