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MUMBAI

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IN BRIEF

Massive fire breaks out at godown in Kurla

Mumbai Nov 28 (UNI): A major fire broke out at Khalil Shaikh Chawl, Kismat Nagar, Kurla (W), Mumbai, on Thursday night.

Several fire engines were rushed to the spot to douse the fire. Officials confirmed on Friday that it was a Leve

1-III fire and that no injuries were reported.

The fire, which started at 11:08 pm., affected 25-30 groundplus-three commercial structures and an equal number of residential structures, covering an area of approximately 100 x 150 sq. ft.

The Mumbai Fire Brigade (MFB) declared the blaze a Level-III fire at 11:44 p.m. and brought it under control by 3:15 a.m. on Friday. The cause of fire is under investigation.

Toddler from Pune enters India Book of Records

Pune, Nov 28 (UNI): One-and-a-half-vear-old boy from the city has created a record by entering the India Book of Records identifying around 45 car brands from around the world in just 2 minutes and 53 seconds.

Neel Nikhil Bhalerao's achievement is not limited to numbers; it also highlights his potential for even greater accomplishments in the future, said a release here today.

At such a young age, memorizing a large number of names and presenting them confidently is remarkable, and he is being praised everywhere. Being included in the India Book of Records is a matter of pride for anyone, but achieving it at such a young age makes it even more significant.

Behind this success, along with Neel's determination, the guidance, patience, and encouragement of his parents — mother Prerana Bhalerao and father Nikhil Bhaleraohave played important role.

If the qualities present in such young children are recognized and nurtured in the right direction, they can reach great heights. Neel's success has brought pride not only to Maharashtra but to the entire country, added the release.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Paryaya Puttige Mutt seer Sri Sugunendra Theertha Swamiji during 'Laksha Kantha Gita Parayana' programme at Sri Krishna Mutt, in Udupi,

SC issues interim order to go ahead with Maha elections

Friday asked Maharashtra government

Maharashtra State Election Commission from notifying reservations in excess of 50 per cent in the local bodies, where elections are yet to be notified. Elections to local reservations in excess of 50% have already been notified will be subject to the

However, in exceptional as 332 village councils.

New Delhi, Nov 28 (UNI) cases, if this limit is

and the Maharashtra State not give any stay regarding Election Commission to the 57 seats whose issues conduct local civic body have been resolved due to elections in its interim order. the court's decision. The court restrained the However, the final fate of these 57 seats will now depend on the next hearing to be held on January 21, 2026. If the Supreme Court verdict goes against the elected candidates, they may civic bodies where lose their elected positions, according to lawyers familiar with the matter.

Election Commission outcome of the result of the lawyer Advocate Balveer reservation limit has been It clarified that poll exceeded in some municipal State Election Commission. results of all local civic councils and town councils. bodies in Maharashtra, There is more than 50 per the hearing to be held on including where the 50 per cent reservation in 40 January 21, 2026 will be cent ceiling on quota has municipal councils and 17 applicable to municipal been breached, will depend town councils. Besides this, corporations. Therefore, if on its final verdict, which will elections have not been elections in places where be delivered on January 21, announced yet in about 32 2026.After Friday's Supreme Zilla Parishads and 29 Court order, pending metropolitan municipalities, municipal elections will be which include the held by maintaining the 50 Brihanmumbai Municipal per cent reservation limit. Corporation (BMC) as well

Elections to village : The Supreme Court on exceeded, then those councils and other local the elections will be held. bodies are expected to be The Supreme Court did announced in the first week elections to municipal corporations are likely to be

> December 2025. The 50 per cent reservation limit has been exceeded in some municipal corporations. Among these, the 50 per cent reservation limit has been exceeded in Municipal Nagpur Corporation Chandrapur Municipal Corporation.

announced by the end of

Elections will be held in writ petitions, the court Singh stated that the these places as per the decision of the Maharashtra

However, the outcome of the 50 percent limit has been exceeded are cancelled, the elected candidates may have to step down from their positions and contest elections again, lawyers said.

Govt stops accepting Aadhaar card as proof of date of birth

the leadership of Chief cancelled. Devendra Minister Fadnavis, after rising on the Civil Registration complaints of forged birth System portal will also be certificates and misuse of documents.

According to the Revenue Department, forged documents. Aadhaar card is not a proof of date of birth. Hence any Chandrashekhar Bawankule birth certificates issued has directed authorities to solely on the basis of investigate suspicious Aadhaar will be cancelled, certificates and take and action will be taken necessary action. against officials responsible documents.

The department clarified of December 2025, while that Aadhaar is not linked to confirming date of birth. any official birth registration record and therefore cannot to present an official birth serve as birth proof.

Nagpur, Nov 28 (UNI): guideline for processing Maharashtra birth registrations. Several government has decided to orders issued by tehsildars discontinue the use of will be withdrawn and Aadhaar cards as valid pending applications that do proof of date of birth and the not meet the standard decision, was taken under operating procedures will be

Corresponding entries deleted.Officials say the tightened procedures aim to curb the growing use of

Revenue Minister

With this decision, the approving such Aadhaar card will remain valid only as identity proof and not as a document

Citizens will be required certificate or other legally The state has also recognised documents for issued a 16-point verification birth-related verification.

Mumbai, Nov 28 (UNI): In a significant setback for the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) ahead of the upcoming municipal elections, the party's Kalyan-Dombivali District President Prakash Bhoir resigned from

His resignation has dealt a political blow to MNS chief

Bhoir said he had submitted his resignation from both the primary membership of the MNS and the position of District President to Raj Thackeray. He stated that he felt undervalued within the organisation and therefore decided

Bhoir added that he would announce his next political move shortly. Amidst his resignation, Bhoir's presence at a meeting with BJP State President Ravindra Chavan in the Kalyan-Dombivali region has fuelled speculation of his possible entry into the Bharatiya Janata Party.

MNS faces setback as Kalyan-Dombivali chief quits

Raj Thackeray.

to step down.

Shinde says Sena-BJP alliance ideological, not situational

Nashik, Nov 28 (UNI): after the Sindhudurg district Chief Minister Eknath significant. Shinde today asserted that circumstances.

alliance is not based on grounds of crossing the 50 power or situations. It was percent reservation limit due forged on ideology by to OBC quota provisions. 7,995 crore. Balasaheb Thackeray, Atal The court has completed its Bihari Vajpayee and Lal hearings on the matter. Krishna Advani. This his visit to Nashik.

political of both parties—particularly political message.

Sena-BJP alliance in Deputy Shinde's assertion politically Ministry of Defence (MoD) support including spares, Indian

the alliance is rooted in Supreme Court delivered an (LOAs) with ideology and not driven by important verdict on Government of the United political convenience or Maharashtra's local body elections, ruling that polls "The Shiv Sena-BJP cannot be postponed on the

partnership is old, strong verdict, Shinde said, "We and will remain permanent," will announce an official Shinde told reporters during stance only after studying the Supreme Court order in His remarks come in the detail. However, we fully backdrop of heightened respect the court's discussion decision." Against the technical assistance, triggered by BJP leader backdrop of upcoming local Ravindra Chavan's recent body elections, the sensitive comment that the alliance issue of OBC reservation, "should last at least until and visible strains within the December 2." Tensions alliance, Shinde's statement between grassroots workers is being viewed as a crucial

helicopter support pact amid tariff dispute New Delhi, Nov 28 (UNI) Kumar Singh in the national indigenous product and Amidst ongoing speculation dispute—have further: In a significant boost to capital today. The deal aims services development

sustainment support of the Indian Navy's MH-60R helicopter fleet, in a deal valued at approximately Rs

under the US Foreign Responding to the Military Sales (FMS) programme, in the presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh in the national capital. The deal aims to provide comprehensive support, including spares, training, and periodic maintenance facilities in India. The LOAs were inked

India, US sign key MH-60R

the facilities in India. States for five-year here today, the MoD said technologically advanced, provisioning of spares, submarine The LOAs were inked support, training and the support will enable of 'Intermediate' level ensuring

Sales (FMS) programme of with the vision of Indian exports, triggering US, in the presence of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. This panic and raising concerns Defence Secretary Rajesh would further lead to over economic ties.

over the future of the Shiv fuelled speculation, making defence cooperation, the to provide comprehensive through MSMEs and other on Friday signed Letters of technical support, training sustainment support will Earlier in the day, the Offer and Acceptance and periodic maintenance significantly enhance the operational availability and In a statement issued maintainability of the that the sustainment all-weather MH-60R Support is a comprehensive helicopters, which are package which includes equipped with antisupport equipment, product capabilities. Additionally, technical support, repair operation of these and replenishment of helicopters from dispersed components and setting up locations as well as ships, component repairs and performance across all Periodic Maintenance primary and secondary Inspection facilities in India. m i s s i o n s . T h e In-country development announcement comes amid of these facilities will ensure the recent turbulence in trade capability build-up in the relations between India and long run and reduced the US. In August 2025, the dependence on the US US imposed tariffs as high under the Foreign Military Government, thus aligning as 50 percent on many



Avani Lekhara lauds **Deaflympics shooters for record** show in Japan

Paralympian Avani Lekhara and Olympian Manu Bhaker praised India's best-ever performance at the recently-concluded 25th Summer Deaflympic Games held in Tokyo, Japan, where the country clinched 20 medals including nine Gold, seven Silver and four Bronze medals.India finished sixth in the medal standings out of 62 participating nations. Interestingly, deaf shooters fuelled India's strong display at the Deaflympics, clinching a total of 16 medals including 7 Gold, 6 Silver and 3 Bronze medals. (See on page 7)

Jairam Ramesh challenges PM to advocate for South Africa's ...



Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh on Friday called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to actively champion South Africa's cause following US President Donald Trump's announcement that South Africa will not be invited to the 2026 G20 summit in (See on page 2)

Akhilesh Yadav hits out against SIR exercise, appeals to



Samajwadi Party National President Akhilesh Yadav has appealed to all opposition parties, and even to all NDA allies, to "unite and expose the BJP's grand conspiracy" to delete the names of genuine voters through the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the country. (See on page 4)

BNP leader says former premier Khaleda Zia in 'extremely



BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir has said party chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia's health has deteriorated to an "extremely critical" state, urging people across Bangladesh to pray for her recovery.

(See on page 5)

Seminar on Ending Digital Violence against Women held



(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, Nov 28: The seminar "Ending Digital Violence against Women" was organized at Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) as the inagural programme of 16 days of Activism to Gender-Based Violence programme.

The keynote speaker, Ms. Uma Sudhir, Executive Editor, NDTV South in her address said that in the era of modern technology, not Director, Centre for only famous women but Women's Studies, Dr.

also housewives are being harassed easily by tampering with the pictures posted social networking sites. Appreciating the programs she said that there was a need to raise voice against violence.Prof. Syed Ainul Hasan, in his presidential address, said that in the digital age, every individual is facing a threat, and this requires awareness.

Prof. Farida Siddiqui,

Shabana Kesar, Head, Dept. of Women Education and Prof. V.S. Chairperson, Internal Complaints Committee were the conveners of the program. The Department of Women Education, Internal Complaints Committee and Centre for Women's Studies in collaboration with Cultrual Activity Centre of MANUU is organzing the programme under the theme is "Unite to End Digital Violence against all

Women and Girls".

Jairam Ramesh challenges PM to advocate for South Africa's inclusion in 2026 G20 Summit

New Delhi, Nov 28 (UNI): Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh on Friday called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to actively champion South Africa's cause following US President Donald Trump's announcement that South Africa will not be invited to the 2026 G20 summit in Miami.

Taking to social media platform X, Ramesh emphasized South Africa's importance as Africa's largest economy by GDP and its historic ties with India through forums like BRICS, IBSA, and the BASIC grouping. "The Prime Minister styles himself as champion of Mahatma Gandhi's early South... Will he now press India's longstanding Southandregional diplomacy. case to continue.

his 'good friend' Trump to ensure South Africa gets its rightful place at the next G20?" he questioned, reflecting concerns echoed by Indian officials over the diplomatic fallout of the exclusion. Trump's decision followed his boycott of the recent Johannesburg G20 summit, citing alleged "human-rights abuses" against white Afrikaners a claim dismissed by South African President Cyril Ramaphosa's office as "punitive" and based on "misinformation."

Ramesh highlighted the deep historical relationship between India and South support for the antiapartheid movement. He called this a "special relationship" that warrants strong diplomatic support.

The call from Ramesh amid wider international reactions, with Chancellor Friedrich Merz also expressing intent to persuade Trump reconsider South Africa's exclusion, stating that "the G7 and G20 are formats that should not be made smaller without good reason."

As global powers weigh in, India's stance on South Africa's participation in the next G20 Africa, referencing summit will be closely watched as a test of its Africa and the Global activism in the country and commitment to the Global clearing the way for the every year on the birth

HC rejects **Haryana Sports** Minister's plea in poll misconduct case

Chandigarh, Nov 28 (UNI) The Punjab and Haryana High Court has dismissed Haryana Sports Minister Gaurav Gautam's plea for dismissal of a petition filed against him for allegedly using religion to influence voters in the state Assembly elections last year.

The court's rejection of the plea to dismiss the petition filed under Order 7 Rule 11 of the Civil Procedure Code has dealt a setback to the minister in the ongoing election misconduct case.

The court has now scheduled December 4 for framing of issues, allowing the matter to proceed to trial. The case stems from a petition filed by former Haryana minister and Congress leader Karan Singh Dalal after the 2024 Assembly elections. Dalal alleged that Gautam sought votes on religious grounds during his campaign, calling it a corrupt practice under election law. The petition also claims that the minister linked his campaign to religious sentiments and participated in religious events to influence voters.

The High Court had earlier issued notice to Gautam, directing him to file a written reply by January 6, 2025. However, failure to respond within the stipulated period became a key argument raised by Dalal's counsel, who sought closure of the minister's right to defend. Justice Archana Puri granted Gautam a final opportunity to submit his statement, which he eventually did through counsel Vijay Kumar Jindal, denying all allegations.

hearing After arguments, the court rejected Gautam's request to dismiss the petition,

Congress Gears Up for Crucial Winter Session Battle, **Focuses on Electoral Integrity and National Security**

(UNI): The Congress Parliamentary Strategy Group (PSG) is set to convene a critical meeting on Sunday at 5 pm at 10 Janpath, the residence of Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi, to finalize the party's approach for the upcoming Winter Session of Parliament.

This meeting coincides with an all-party meeting called by the government on the same day, setting the stage for a potentially intense and confrontational parliamentary session.

The Congress aims to present a united and tough stance on pressing national issues, with a particular focus on protecting the integrity of the electoral

process. The party plans to highlight alleged malpractices irregularities in recent state elections, especially in Bihar, and raise concerns over the controversial Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls (SIR). Congress leader Jairam Ramesh has accused the Election Commission and ruling allies of "silent invisible rigging," while the Commission maintains that SIR is a transparent and essential exercise for fair elections.

Security concerns will also dominate the agenda, with Congress expected to demand clarity from the government on the recent Red Fort terror blast and question whether the "new normal doctrine" of treating terror attacks as acts of war-invoked after the Pahalgam attack—will be applied to the November 10 incident. The party is also likely to push for discussions unemployment, rising income disparities, foreign policy challenges, and border security.

Further, Congress will reiterate its call for the Prime Minister to respond to US President Donald Trump's repeated claims of brokering an India-Pakistan ceasefire, adding to the diplomatic discourse.

Concerns government interference in key constitutional bodies such as the Election Commission and judiciary will be raised, with Congress emphasizing the need to uphold institutional autonomy.

Social issues, including rising crimes against women and Scheduled Castes, along with the demand for full statehood for Jammu and Kashmir, are expected to broaden the conversation.

The PSG meeting's primary objective is to build consensus Congress MPs and coordinate strategies with allies in the INDIA coalition, aiming to hold the government accountable and press for urgent legislative and policy action. The outcomes from this meeting will shape the party's parliamentary engagement and set the tone for the Winter Session's proceedings.

Sit-in demanding "Bharat Ratna" for Phule couple

Nagpur, Nov 28 (UNI): : A sit-in protest was staged in Nagpur on Friday to draw the attention of the Central Government toward demands that Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule be conferred the Bharat Ratna award posthumously.

Floral tributes were offered at the statue located at Phule Market Square to mark the death anniversary of Mahatma

On this occasion, participants also held a sit-in agitation to protest the Central Government's "indifference and delay" over the past 26 years in awarding the nation's highest civilian honour to the Phule couple.

Bhushan Dadave, coordinator of the Mahatma Phule Social Justice Council, Maharashtra, said that respectful homage is paid and death anniversaries of Mahatma Phule and Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule, along with repeated appeals for the Bharat Ratna to be conferred on the couple.

He added that a written petition is submitted annually through the Nagpur District Collector to Prime

Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and the union Minister of Social Justice.

The Maharashtra Government had approved and forwarded proposals in 2000, 2015 and again in 2025 through the respective Chief Ministers. "Despite

assurances, no action has been taken." Dadave said.

The organisations involved have now demanded that the Bharat Ratna be announced in January 2026 and presented to the Phule couple's descendant, Mrs. Neeta Ramakant Hole of

Ganesh Naik Hints at 'Clean-Up' in Kalyan—Thane



(By Bharat Dawre)

Ambernath, Nov 28: Maharashtra Forest Minister Ganesh Naik on Friday stirred political debate with a strongly worded remark widely interpreted as a pointed attack on the Shiv Sena (Shinde faction), during a meeting of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) workers in Ambernath.

Without directly naming the Shinde camp, Naik stated that the BJP welcomed those who joined its journey and was willing to face challenges with unity, but would firmly respond if anyone attempted to assert dominance, remarking that

"if someone tries to act like a boss, we will show them who the real boss is (Baap Honyacha prayatna karit asel tr tyala Baap Dakhvu)" Expressing confidence that the BJP would win all municipal bodies in Thane and Palghar districts including Navi Mumbai, Ambernath, and Badlapur Naik said that once the party strengthened its position in these regions, a "clean-up" would naturally follow in Kalyan and

His comments came a day after Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, addressing a rally in Badlapur, said the BJP sought control of

municipal councils not for displays of political power but for developmentoriented governance. Naik's meeting, attended by former MLA Narendra Pawar, election in-charge Narendra Suryawanshi, and district president Nandu Parab, focused on boosting cadre confidence and outlining the party's electoral strategy.

With civic election campaigns intensifying and Naik's remarks drawing attention, political observers are now looking toward the Shiv Sena (Shinde faction) for a possible response as the contest in Thane district grows increasingly competitive.

India strengthens AI readiness with new military handbook and predictive disaster alert System

AI Handbook for Military Leaders, driven by Artificial Intelligence systems,

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY Corrigendum-2 Tender notice No. CAO/CN/BNC/148/2025 dated 13.10.2025

Approx. value Item of Work Design, Customization, Rs. 6,66,00,380 Implementation, Operations & Maintenance support of Integrated Project Management and information system (PMIS) for various rojects under South Western Railway. (Tender Ref. No. PMIS-SWR-01) Date of Closing

Existing (15:00 Hrs.) (15:00Hrs) Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/Works/

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CENTRAL RAILWAY NOTICE FOR INVITING TENDER

Name of the work with its location Reconditioning & Overhauling of EOT Cranes Capacity 25/5 Ton. Make: AVON & SAICO at LTT Coaching Depot of Mumbai Division. Approx. cost of work: ₹49,39,745.50/- (Rupees Forty-Nine Lakh Thirty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-Five and Fifty Paise Only) Date of completion: 120 Days Bid Security: ₹98,800/- (Rupees Ninety-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Only) Date and Time of closing of tender submission: 17.12.2025 up to 11:00 hrs. Tenders shall be accepted only in Etendering format through the website www.ireps.gov.in Tender document is available in the website. "This tender complies with Public Procurement Policy Order 2017/dated 15.06.2017." OPEN TENDER Notice No. BB.M.LTT.TC. 52.EOT.Recondition.Vol2 dated

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Dialogue 2025.

simplifies complex concepts in and ethical considerations. It Artificial Intelligence and underscores that human Machine Learning, clearly oversight must remain central distinguishing them from to all lethal decisions, and flags traditional automation.

cognitive framework for adherence to International applying AI across key military Humanitarian Law as critical functions, including command factors in shaping military use and control, coordination, of AI. The concluding section

importance of balanced and human-machine teaming. Developed as a practical responsible adoption, the challenges such as data bias, It provides a structured system brittleness and

New Delhi, Nov 28 (UNI) The global security landscape communications, combat of the Handbook lays out concrete steps for intelligence- preparing the force for AI-enabled battlefields, a comprehensive guide designed (AI), was released today by surveillance-reconnaissance highlighting the need for strong leadership, to prepare commanders at all levels Defence Minister Rajnath Singh (ISR) and autonomous enhanced AI literacy, robust data ecosystems for the rapid transformation of the during the Chanakya Defence platforms. Emphasising the and doctrinal evolution to support effective

> Describing AI as a defining force in the reference for senior military document features dedicated evolving Revolution in Military Affairs, the decision-makers, the handbook chapters on risks, limitations defence minister said the real challenge for modern militaries lies not just in acquiring AIbased systems, but in understanding, integrating and applying them responsibly.

The Indian Army has unveiled Prakshepan, a state-of-the-art Military Climatology Artificial Intelligence system designed to deliver highly accurate predictive disaster alerts, significantly enhancing operational preparedness and civil support capabilities in vulnerable regions.

WESTERN RAILWAY INVITATION FOR ENGAGEMENT OF ATVM FACILITATOR

No. C 548/45/1/ATVM Facilitator Vol. VI [E-File No.-629307] dated 27.11.2025. Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Western Railway, Mumbai Division, invites application from Retired Railway Employees at all department of Mumbai division lead Quarters, Work-shops, of Western & Central Railway as well as from Genera Public for working as "ATVM Facilitator".

The contract is valid for 2 years, which can be extended to further one year subject to extension of the scheme and satisfaction of the Competent Authority.

No renumeration will be paid by the Railway for engaging as a facilitator, except the bonus on smart card recharge shall be @ 3% for journey upto 150 kms. The bonus for journey between 151km and 500 km shall be admissible @ 2% and thereafter, bonus shall be given @1% for tickets issued for distance beyond 500kms. The list of stations requiring ATVM facilitators and other terms & conditions are available on the official website - https:// wr.indianrailways.gov.in/ Tendel

Details_cpp.jsp?T_ID=21509⟨=1&id=0,3		
The filled in application forms will be received by this office	From 11:00 hrs of 02.12.2025	
Last date for submission of applications	Upto 17:00 hrs of 01.12.2026	
Place of submission of applications	Passenger Marketing Cell Office of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Commercial Department, Mumbai Central, Western Railway, Mumbai- 400008	
The applications after completion of all required formalities will be processed		

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED (FCFS) Basis only. All detailed terms and conditions are available on the website mentioned above.

BLO Jakir Hossain dies of heart attack in WB

Kolkata, Nov 28 (UNI): A Block Level Officer (BLO), identified as Jakir Hossain of Khargram in West Bengal's Murshidabad district, has died following cardiac arrest due to work pressure of SIR for digitisation, official sources said today.

Family sources said Jakir Hossain, a teacher of Digha Primary school in Murshidabad, who was the BLO of Booth No. 14 of Khargram, suffered a heart attack while uploading the SIR forms last night. He was rushed to the nearby health facility but died

Deceased's son, Ismadul Hossain, said his father was complaining about the work pressure for the past three weeks and was facing problems uploading the filled SIR forms, which he used to do during the night.

BRIHANMUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Tender Notice		
Department	Solid Waste Management	
Sub Department	Dy. Ch. Eng. (S.W.M.)Tr./Ex. Eng. Tr.(City)	
Subject	Supply of 1 No. of Animal Ambulance on hire basis under Ex.Eng. Tr.(City) Deptt.	
Bid No	2025_MCGM_1253466	
Bid Start Date & Time	29-11-2025 at 11.00 A.M.	
Bid End Date & Time	05-12-2025 at 04.00 P.M.	
Website	https://mahatenders.gov.in	
Email address	eetrcity@gmail.com	

PRO/2454/ADV/2025-26

Let's together and make Mumbai Malaria free.

Sd/-Ex. Eng. Transport (City)



People feed a flock of seagulls at a bridge over the Tapi river, in Surat, Gujarat.

Girl escapes suspicious man, reaches Latur safely

Latur, Nov 28 (UNI): A young girl who travelled from Karnataka to Maharashtra in panic after sensing danger at a bus stand has been safely reunited with her parents with the help of Udgir Police, an official said today.

The incident began when the girl was waiting at a bus stand in Aurad, located in Karnataka's Bidar district. According to an official from Udgir Police Station, the girl became alarmed by the suspicious behaviour of a man at the stand immediately boarded a bus

loss of another green

pocket, remarking that

planners must recognise

that trees are "survival

systems, not landscaping."

felling was suspended

following sustained

protests by green groups.

Around ten trees, including

four large ones, had already

been cut. A delegation of

local activists is scheduled

to meet the Superintendent

of Gardens to explore

Meanwhile, an online

petition launched by

NatConnect received nearly

300 signatures.NatConnect

said the cutting was halted

after urgent intervention by

forwarded

Additional

By Friday evening, the

Former president of the Vidarbha Sahitya Sammelan, Dr. Mirza was widely acclaimed across Maharashtra for his witty and engaging stage performances.

one of its cherished literary

figures, Dr. Mirza Rafi

Ahmad Beg, popularly

known as "Mirza Express",

who passed away on Friday

morning at 6:30 am after a

prolonged illness. He was

68.A native of Dhanaj

(Manikwada) in Ner taluka

of Yavatmal district, Dr.

Mirza had been residing at

his home named "Mirza

Express" in the Navsari

area on Walgaon Road,

Amravati.

With 20 published poetry collections and more than 6,000 recitals of his signature program "Mirza Express", he remained a prominent figure in Marathi literary circles.He had been undergoing treatment for kidney-related complications in recent days.Dr. Mirza began writing poetry at the age of 11 and made his stage debut in 1970, quickly becoming a central attraction at sammelans across

Vidarbha and Marathwada.

Amravati, Nov 28 He also penned popular (UNI): : Maharashtra lost newspaper columns, notably "Mirzaji Kahin."

Renowned Poet

Dr Mirza passes

away in Amravati

and humorist

Known for his humorous yet poignant writing, Dr. Mirza addressed themes ranging from agriculture and rural life to farmers' issues, social challenges, and political contradictions. His works in Marathi and the Varhadi dialect won admiration across communities, with poems like "Motha Manus," "Satva Mahina," "Uth Ata Ganpat," and "Jangadbutta" achieving widespread popularity. He is credited with coining the word "Jangadbutta." Dr. Mirza also served as

a trustee of the Sant Fakirji Maharaj Temple Trust. He hailed from a prominent family; his father Mirza Razzak Beg (Bhaiji) was an influential political and social figure in Yavatmal and senior legal expert Firdos Mirza of Nagpur was his cousin. His simple, inclusive interpretation of religious harmony and his mastery over the Varhadi dialect earned him a devoted following across Maharashtra. His demise is widely mourned, with many describing it as a major loss to the region's linguistic and cultural heritage.

Sting operations going on across Sindhudurg: Rane

Kolhapur, Sindhudurg, Nov 28 (UNI): In a sign of growing discord between Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) and Shiv Sena(Shinde) in the Sindhudurg district ahead of local bodies elections, Sena (Shinde) MLA Nilesh Rane today warned that the sting operation that he carried out at BJP leader's house was not the last one, but such operations are ongoing across the district and he was directly in touch with the election officer.

Talking with reporters at Malvan, Rane, who had carried out sting operation at a BJP office-bearer's residence in Malvan two days ago where he found a bag allegedly filled with cash, gave an open challenge to the BJP once again, reiterating that such sting operations were going on across the district.Rane urged media to continue coverage of such sting operations which are now going on in the district while demanding that this system should stop.

He further said that he was also in touch with all election officers across the district and he had also talked with district superintendent of police on this issue.He revealed that he visited different places in the district and gave evidences about distribution of cash to the voters by the BJP candidates. Criticising BJP state president Ravindra Chavan, Rane reiterated his allegation that Chavan was responsible for not agreeing to alliance between BJP and Shinde Sena in the district.

HC asks state to file an ATR on air pollution in Mumbai

Mumbai Nov 28 (UNI): The Bombay High Court today asked the state government Maharashtra Control Board (MCB) to submit an action taken report (ATR) on the air pollution in Mumbai on December 15 regarding the measures they had taken last year. It said that pollution caused by construction activities in the city can be tackled if the mitigating guidelines are strictly implemented.

A bench of Chief Justice Chandrashekhar Justice Gautam Ankhad gave this direction during the hearing of a petition raising concerns over the deteriorating AQI in Mumbai, while claiming that the country's financial capital has deteriorating each year since 2023.

The bench directed the state to constitute an independent five-member committee, comprising officials from Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) and the state government's public health department, to inspect construction sites and ascertain whether guidelines are being adhered to.During the hearing, senior counsel Darius Khambata, who was appointed by the court to assist it, said that the guidelines laid down by the court in 2024 for construction including installation of CCTV cameras, sensorbased air pollution monitors and water sprinkling, are not being followed.Arguing on behalf of BMC, senior counsel Milind Sathe said there are special squads that conduct random checks at construction sites."They (authorities) will start impounding and issuing challans. The orders should not lead to harassment of

citizens," the court said. Meanwhile, in a related development, the BMC has issued stop-work notices to 53 construction sites for contributing to air pollution, as the city grapples with deteriorating Air Quality Index (AQI). The civic body had earlier directed that the air pollution guidelines it had laid down should be followed strictly.

Tree cutting in Powai halted amid protests; concerns raised after 100 trees reportedly lost

An ongoing tree-cutting operation in Powai has triggered strong protests from residents and environmental groups, who described the felling of nearly 100 mature trees on a private plot in Chandivali as an "AQI time bomb" waiting to explode. The chopping began this week despite permissions having been granted in February 2024, prompting a sharp backlash from the neighbourhood.NatConnect Foundation sent an urgent email to Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and BMC Commissioner Bhushan Gagrani, demanding that the cutting be halted immediately and calling for an overhaul of Mumbai's tree policy. The organisation termed the sudden loss of a mature

canopy "heart-wrenching

and ecologically reckless"

Buldhana, Nov 28 (UNI):

Congress leader and former MLA

Rahul Bondre has alleged that

Vidyadhar Mahale, personal

secretary to Maharashtra Chief

Minister Devendra Fadnavis and

husband of BJP MLA Shweta

EAST COAST RAILWAY

Dt. 24.11.2025

Name of Work: CONSTRUCTION OF 4 NOS. OF LIMITED HEIGHT SUBWAYS (BY CAST-INSITU)

IN LIEU OF LEVEL CROSSINGS I.E., VS-1 AT KM

413/5S-6S VS-8 AT KM 418/14S-15S VS-17 AT

KM. 426/3S-4S & VS-21 AT KM. 428/12S-13S ON

BOBBILI-SALUR LINE UNDER ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/RAYAGADA OF

Approx cost of the work : ₹ 11,97,09,956.76

EMD: ₹ 7,48,600/-, Completion period of the

Tender closing date & time : at 1500 hrs. of

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in

person shall be accepted against such letter head and received in time. All such manua offers shall be considered invalid and shall be

rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender

documents of the above e-tender is available in

Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (fifteen) days before the

date of closing of tender to note any changes

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg),

rebsite www.ireps.gov.in

corrigendum issued for this tender.

work: **06 months**.

already fragile ecology could not withstand further depletion. The clearance allows the felling of 45 trees and transplantation of 70 from a plot near Shimmering Heights in Chandivali's L

Residents said the abrupt start of work represented a severe ecological setback in an area battling shrinking cover deteriorating air quality, adding that there was no assurance of survival of transplanted compensatory trees.

Public distrust was heightened by references to the Aarey Metro shed compensatory plantation issue, where many saplings reportedly failed to survive or were never planted. Residents said this highlighted systemic flaws and underscored the need for transparent, science-

government employee.

motivated'.

wider public consultation.

Tree-cutting teams began work on Thursday, leading shocked locals to contact NatConnect. Director B. N. Kumar immediately alerted Commissioner Gagrani, who asked Additional Municipal Commissioner (Eastern Suburbs) Amit Saini to verify the situation. Despite this, cutting reportedly resumed on Friday morning, intensifying fears that decades-old trees would be lost before intervention.

Environmental groups said the loss of mature trees amounted to destroying "natural oxygen plants, sinks carbon biodiversity hubs." NatConnect noted that Mumbai has just one tree for every four residents, far below the recommended three trees per person, and warned that removing

Mahale, is campaigning for the BJP despite being a

Mahale was openly campaigning for the ruling party

in the run-up to the December 2 elections to

of Conduct, he demanded action against Mahale.

constituency in Buldhana district, denied the

allegations, calling them 'baseless' and 'politically

a Diwali Milan event held before the Model Code

municipal councils and nagar panchayats.

Bondre on Thursday claimed that Vidyadhar

Calling it a serious violation of the Model Code

Shweta Mahale, who represents the Chikhali

She claimed the video being circulated was from

winter pollution meant "triggering an AQI time bomb."

Local leaders echoed the concern. Powai resident Manoj Samudra explained that a 20-year-old tree provides carbon sequestration, canopy cover, air purification and groundwater benefits that saplings cannot match for decades, stressing that numerical replacement ignores canopy volume and carbon stock. Residents also argued

that the Tree Authority's seven-year maintenance requirement transplanted saplings was inadequate, with Samudra stating that true ecological compensation required 20-25 years of protection.

Pamela chairperson of the BMCappointed Advanced Locality Management Committee, said she was "deeply shocked" at the

My husband attended the

event before that. Bondre

could have raised an

objection earlier," she said.

timing of the allegation

saying "There was a chief

minister's rally here and the

candidature of Pandit

Deshmukh was declared.

make

accusations after 15 days?

Why did he wait so long?"

The MLA also pointed

such

She questioned the

alternatives to safeguard biodiversity.Commissioner Gagrani NatConnect's complaint to Commissioner (Eastern Suburbs), who asked the Garden Department to examine the issue.

Cheema,

Fadnavis aide accused of campaigning for BJP while in govt job: Cong BJP leaders such as Amit Shah and Devendra Fadnavis had campaigned in the constituency, yet her husband never attended any rally despite serving as the chief minister's

> personal secretary. "My husband never campaigned then, and he has not done so now," she claimed."Bondre has targeted me in the past as well. Since I have defeated him twice, this is nothing

of Conduct came into effect. out that during last year's "The code was implemented on November 4. assembly elections, senior but hatred," she added. Few cmplaints in Pune voters' list,

Why

Pune Nov 28 (UNI); The number of complaints regarding errors in the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) voters' list is very small, and corrective action is underway at full speed. All discrepancies will be

WESTERN RAILWAY

Mumbai - 400008. invites Sr. No.: 1 E-Tender Notice No: BCT/25-26/265 dt.26.11.2025. Work and Location Churchgate-Virar section: Removal and disposal of muck, garbage, plastic, plastic bags, papers and other waste materials rom the track under ADEN (T/S) PI section. **Approx. cost of work** ₹ 1,17,15,686.80. **EMD**: ₹ 2,08,600/-Sr. No.: 2. E-Tender Notice No: BCT/25 26/266, dt.26.11.2025. Work and Location: Churchgate-Virar section: I Situ Reconditioning of CMS crossing by using Robotic welding technology Churchgate-Virar suburban Section Approx. cost of work: ₹ 1,38,78,753/-EMD: ₹ 2,19,400/-. Date and Time o Submission of both Tender: Til 23.12.2025, 15:00 hrs. Date and Time of Opening of both Tender: On 23.12.2025 at 15:30 hrs. For further details please visit our website

www.ireps.gov.in Like us on : f faceboo

resolved before the municipal elections, assured PMC Deputy Commissioner and Election Officer Prasad Katkar while speaking to a delegation from the Shiv Sena (Shinde faction). The Shiv Sena (Shinde faction) has alleged that the voters' list contains numerous errors ahead of the upcoming polls.

City chief Nana Bhangire, coordinators Anand Goyal and Sandeep Shinde questioned Katkar on how these issues would be resolved before polling day. They also complained that the election website created by the PMC was not functioning properly.

Responding to these concerns, Katkar stated that the mistakes in the voters' list were minor and technical in nature.

Katkar today assured that coordination with the State Election Commission (SEC) was ongoing and all errors would be corrected in time. He further clarified that the issues with the election portal had been resolved and it was now functioning

So far, 3,438 complaints regarding the voters' list have been received, with the

discrepancies will be resolved: PMC official highest—1,702—coming from the Sinhagad Road area. These are technical issues, and corrective work is underway. All complaints will soon be addressed, said Katkar.

However, Shinde faction coordinator Anand Goyal objected to Katkar's explanation. He stated that no mistake in the electoral process can be considered minor, and questioned how these errors went unnoticed until the elections were around the corner. He added that citizens were not given adequate time to verify voters' lists. Simply correcting technical errors is not enough; the administration must re-run the entire verification process, Goyal asserted.

BRIHANMUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Hydraulic Engineer's Department No. E.E.(Maint)/5384/MW dated: 28-11-2025

e-Tender Notice

The Commissioner of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation invites online tenders for the following works from the eligible bidders. The Bid start date and time and Bid End Date and Time is specified in the detailed tender notice on B.M.C's website under Tender Section and Mahatender Portal.

Sr. No.	Bid No.	Name of Work
1.	2025_MCGM_1253217	Supply of SS304 repair clamp fixtures of various sizes for emergency repair and maintenance works of water mains under AE WW (ERC) office. Tender Start Date: - 29-11-2025 Tender Due Date: - 08-12-2025

The intending tenderers shall visit the BMC website at http:// portal.mcgm.gov.in and Mahatender portal website at http:// mahatenders.gov.in for further details of the tender.

PRO/2450/ADV/2025-26

Let's together and make Mumbai Malaria free.

Sd/-**Executive Engineer** (Maintenance) Meter Workshop

CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender Notice No. RR/PR/SNPD 291/24-25/67/R 1. Name of Work: Construction of Wheel shop shed (size 80x10 m2) with General Electrification and gantry grider for 5T Capacity EOT Crane for maintenance & POH of loco wheel & misc. activities etc At EMU POH Workshop, Sanpada. 2. Approx Cost of work: Rs. 23027254.7 3. Earnest Money: Rs. 265100/- 4. Cost of Tender Form: NIL 5. Completion period: 12 Months 6. Date and time of closing of tender submission: 18/12/2025 upto 14:30 hrs. 7. Bidding start date: 04/12/2025 8. Tenders shall be accepted only in E-tendering format through the website www.ireps.gov.in. Tender document is available on the website. 696

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VARIOUS WORK

Sr. DEN (South), MMCT, Mumbai Central

STANDARD POST

The Great Home **Collapse**, visitors rule the roost

By the time India folded for another humiliating defeat at home, there was a sense of dread that felt eerily familiar — the dread of a great institution collapsing not in a blaze of catastrophe, but in a slow, steady, almost bureaucratic slide.

After the 0-2 home debacle against South Africa, Indian cricket has seemingly arrived at a moment where its own mythology weighs more than its performance.

What follows is not just a report on cricket. It is a case file. A dossier. A dissection of how a team that once commanded the world on its own soil began stumbling like a heavyweight who suddenly forgot how to punch.

The official statements that emerged after the series sounded strangely serene. "Learnings." "Longterm plans." "Transition." Familiar words from the familiar vocabulary of evasion. But beneath these glossy phrases lies a year of chaos — selections that seemed whimsical, roles that lacked definition, senior players pushed in and out like pieces in a political reshuffle, and youngsters catapulted into roles without the apprenticeship earlier generations endured.

The whirlwind begins at the selection table under Gautam Gambhir, where the whiteboard has constantly been wiped clean and rewritten. Nineteen Tests, fortyfive changes, a churn so violent that it has left India's red-ball identity pulverised.

Players speak off the record about being unsure about their place even after scoring runs. Net sessions resemble job interviews more than team preparations. There are whispers — the sort that echo in corridors but never reach microphones — that the constant flux has created a climate of insecurity the dressing room has not felt in two decades.

Look closer, and the most alarming symptom emerges: the No. 3 position, once the sanctum of Rahul Dravid's tranquillity and Cheteshwar Pujara's stoicism, reduced to a slot of experimentation.

Sai Sudharsan's elevation is the most debated chapter of this season-long novel of curiosities — a talented player, yes, but one whose first-class record did not demand that he be entrusted the most intellectually and temperamentally demanding position in Test cricket. The numbers paint an unflattering picture. The optics paint an even grimmer one: a system chasing the romance of potential rather than the discipline of pedigree.

Meanwhile, visiting teams have dismantled the foundations of India's once impregnable fortress. South Africa's seamers, New Zealand's swing-bowlers, their batsmen armed with sweep shots and patience, walked into Indian venues as if carrying roadmaps authored in Bengaluru, Kolkata, and Mumbai. They read the soil, the cracks, the bounce, and the breeze better than India. They adapted quicker. They adjusted faster. They showed a hunger that India — numbed by years of home dominance — seemed to have misplaced. Behind the scenes, coaches and analysts have been caught off guard by how thoroughly opponents have prepared for Indian conditions. A South African support-staff member reportedly joked, "We know what to expect here more than some of your own boys do." His tone was light, but the sting was heavy. For decades, India's home conditions were their textbook and their weapon. Suddenly, they had become a riddle India could not solve. In the quiet of the dressing room after the losses, there seemed to be a faint drift of uncertainty. Nothing explicit, but a sense that some roles may not always feel sharply defined. Likewise, there appeared to be a gentle undercurrent of debate about the team's broader direction.

A few in the ecosystem seemed to wonder, almost to themselves, whether the current emphasis on multiformat adaptability might, at times, blur the old distinctions that Test cricket traditionally rewards the sort of craftsmanship built over seasons of domestic grind rather than the quick polish of franchise bursts.But perhaps the most damning indictment is the decline of India's spin supremacy. For years, it was not just a strategy — it was a doctrine, a religion, a cultural heritage. Now, foreign willowers wander into Indian pitches with the confidence that Indian batsmen once reserved for their own backyard. They sweep, reverse-sweep, paddle, slog. They dictate the pace. Indian spinners, by contrast, appear caught between philosophies — should they dart it in, float it up, rip it across, or simply hope for magic in conditions no longer reliably enchanted?

The underlying picture is grim: India are not merely losing matches. They are losing their identity, the very soul of their red-ball cricket. Previous regimes — John Wright, Gary Kirsten, Ravi Shastri, Rahul Dravid built blueprints that balanced aggression with discipline, talent with experience, flair with structure. The current regime, if insiders are to be believed, has spent more energy on finding new doors than on walking through the ones that already existed.

Among legends of the game, the murmurs are growing. Some blame injuries. Others blame scheduling.

A few daring souls even whisper about "leadership incompatibility." But the one word that surfaces repeatedly is drift. Not collapse — drift. A drift subtle enough to be denied but potent enough to erode confidence, strategy, and direction.

Chilling effect of a privacy upgrade

(By Shrey Madaan)

A few days ago, the government notified the Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025, touted as proof that India is finally taking privacy seriously. On paper, they promise stronger citizen rights, greater trust, and real accountability in the digital economy. However, as the fine print makes clear, India's new data framework does something very different: it grants sweeping powers to the State while imposing heavy burdens on journalists, start-ups, and everyday consumers.

For a country that prides itself on being the world's largest democracy and a rising digital superpower, this should worry us. On paper, the DPDP framework promises control and consent. But for millions of Indians, especially those who rely on an independent press and the Right to Information to hold power

accountable, these rules threaten to shrink the very transparency that keeps democracy healthy.

Two of the country's most important media watchdogs, DIGIPUB and the Editors Guild of India, have sounded the alarm. Their message is simple: the new rules could make journalism itself a consent-based activity. If routine newsgathering is reinterpreted as "data processing," reporters may need consent from the very people they are investigating. That's not privacy protection. That's a muzzle. And the consequences do not stop at the newsroom.

The rules weaken the RTI framework by diluting the public-interest override, a principle that enables journalists and citizens to access and publish sensitive information, when public interests outweigh potential harm caused by disclosure. This safeguard

has enabled people to uncover corruption, exposed wrongdoing, and empowered ordinary citizens for nearly two decades. At the same time, Rule 23 gives the government the authority to demand personal data from any platform or company, without notifying the user whose data is being accessed.

Companies are explicitly prohibited from telling you when the State comes knocking. So, while citizens may soon be forced to jump through more hoops to access information, the State gets an express lane. Start-ups innovate because they aren't bogged down by compliance paperwork. Journalists investigate because they can protect their sources. RTI activists ask difficult questions because they know the law backs them.

Under the new regime, these pillars wobble. Small Firms and startups now

face the same stricter audits, annual impact assessments, and compliance certifications that even global tech giants follow. This is a huge blow for India's start-up ecosystem, which is already struggling funding winters and regulatory whiplash, this is not protection; it's a hurdle. When young companies are compelled to divert their scarce resources into paperwork instead of developing products, innovation suffocates, competition and consumers pay the

researchers, and publicinterest watchdogs, the chilling effect is immediate. When the line between reporting and "processing personal data" becomes blurry, over-compliance becomes the safe, and undemocratic, choice. A law that claims to

empower citizens while

And for journalists,

ultimate price.

tightening its grip on press and limiting transparency neither safeguards democracy nor consumers. The world already shows us what happens when data laws go too far. Europe's GDPR, despite its good intentions, created a compliance maze that hurt small businesses and cemented the dominance of Big Tech.

Innovation stalled,

smaller players suffered and consumers lost out on competition and choice. India risks repeating the same mistakes, but this time it could lead to weaker transparency at home and a press that's even more constrained to question the authority. A smarter path is possible. The government must introduce an explicit journalistic exemption to protect reporters, whistleblowers, and public-interest investigations, and

reinstate the RTI publicinterest override that has long empowered citizens to hold power accountable.

And it must ensure that privacy safeguards don't morph into more surveillance or unchecked access to personal data. India has built bold digital public infrastructure before, UPI, CoWIN, and DigiLocker. But the success of these systems came from clarity, openness, and trust. Not opacity. Not uncertainty. Not silence in the face of democratic concerns. A fair data regime should empower the citizens, not intimidate them. It should strengthen their control over personal data, not create rules that leave them second-guessing the State. Protect consumers, not burden innovators.

(The writer is Indian Policy Associate, Consumer Choice Center) In arrangement with The Statesman

Main artery in a woman's heart severely swollen

(Standard Post Bureau)

The heart is the most vital organ in the human body. However, a 49-yearold woman recently developed a lifethreatening cardiac problem. The major artery of her heart—responsible for supplying blood from the heart to the rest of the body—had become dangerously swollen. In addition, her aortic valve had completely failed. As a result, the blood that should have flowed to the body was instead leaking backward into the heart. This caused extreme pressure on the heart chambers, leading to and strain.

hour open-heart surgery and saved her life. Chief Consultant Cardiac Surgeon Dr. Nisarga shared



details of the case.

these complications, the woman had been experiencing severe breathlessness and significant enlargement was unable to walk even short distances. She could Doctors at KIMS not manage her daily of Dr. Aluri Ravikumar, the Hospital, Kondapur activities. With her cardiology team conducted performed a high-risk, six- husband no longer alive essential pre-operative and her son recently finishing his studies but still unemployed, she had been completely dependent

on her brothers for daily needs. Realizing the seriousness of her condition, her brothers brought her to KIMS Hospital with great hope.

Under the supervision cardiac evaluations. The family was counseled in advance about the complexity and risks involved in the surgery. During the operation,

the surgeons removed the completely swollen aorta and the damaged aortic valve, replacing them with an artificial aorta and prosthetic valve. This procedure is medically known as the Modified Bentall Procedure. The surgery lasted for six hours, and the patient recovered faster than expected."It is

region's most prestigious

long-term recognitions,

influence. A select group of

distinguished Indians —

only

to

with

global

extended

individuals

exceptional

identify such conditions early and seek medical attention immediately. A swollen aorta can rupture at any time, and if that happens, the patient dies instantly. Because we were able to replace it at the right time, she can now live a normal life. Modern artificial organs and advanced hemostatic techniques completely transformed recovery after complex heart surgeries, helping patients return to normal life much sooner," said Dr. Nisarga.

extremely important to

The surgical team included Chief Cardiac Surgeon Dr. Nisarga, Cardiac Surgeon Dr. Vineeth, Cardiac Divya, Dr. Gorinta, and Dr. Bhavani, Senior Surgical Assistant Mano, and Senior Clinical Perfusionists Dayakar Swamy, Jagan Mohan, and Abhishek.

global peace initiatives has

earned international

recognition. He represents

2,843 companies across 63

countries as the Chairman

of WTITC, serves as

Akhilesh Yadav hits out against SIR exercise, appeals to opposition, NDA allies to 'expose BJP's conspiracy

Lucknow, Nov 28 (UNI) : Samajwadi Party National President Akhilesh Yadav has appealed to all opposition parties, and even to all NDA allies, to "unite and expose the BJP's grand conspiracy" to delete the names of genuine voters through the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the country.

"The BJP will first Anesthesiologists Dr. destroy those parties that consider it their ally. Therefore, we appeal to every citizen of our country to abandon all work and stop the SIR's fraud," he said in his appeal to the NDA alliance partners.

> Yadav, in a statement here on Friday, termed the SIR as "a fraud on democracy". "The public should be aware, today votes are being cut; tomorrow, names will be removed from farms, land, houses, ration cards, caste, and reservations, and then they will reach to the accounts and lockers of the middle class. This is a huge conspiracy against the countrymen, which will lead to a situation worse than the British slavery. This is the time to wake up and save every vote," he stated.

> Akhilesh Yadav said that complaints have been received that District Magistrates/District Election Officers, Additional District Magistrates (Elections), SDMs (EROs), and Supervisors are pressuring BLOs to submit voter enumeration forms under the third option.

"By submitting voters who are under the third option, BLOs will send notices to millions of voters upon publication of the draft voter list on December 9, requesting documents from them for verification. Consequently, the names of most voters will be deleted from the final voter list on February 7, 2026," he claimed.

UAE Awards prestigious Golden Visa to Sundeep



(Standard Post Bureau)

Global technology leader and cross border strategist Sundeep Kumar Makthala has been awarded one of the rarest and most prestigious honours offered by the United Arab Emirates — a Palace-

Endorsed UAE Golden Visa, granted with the support of the Ras Al Khaimah Palace Office.

This distinguished 10year residency recognition was awarded without any investment requirement, with all visa-associated

costs fully sponsored by the UAE Government, reflecting the nation's extraordinary trust in Makthala's global contributions.

The UAE Golden Visa, introduced in 2019, is considered one of the entrepreneurship, and

including Shah Rukh Khan, Sonu Sood, and M.A. Yusuff Ali — have previously received this honour. Receiving it purely on merit, and without investment, places Makthala in a very exclusive category. In a notable gesture of warmth and respect, the UAE has also extended

Golden Visas to Makthala's entire family, including his wife, children, and parents, acknowledging the values and global orientation the family represents.

Makthala's work across technology, innovation diplomacy,

Global President of TITA, and has facilitated crossborder innovation through Tconsult and his Middle East expansion mission ExpandME. His Cyber Satyagraha Peace Mission, endorsed by Nobel Laureates, amplifies his global influence in ethical technology and peacebuilding.He has addressed audiences in 63 countries, including at the United Nations, Microsoft Headquarters, and the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates, and has been acknowledged by leaders such as Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and international

Governor takes quick action against cutting of trees inside Raj Bhavan

West Bengal Governor CV was present at the scene,

cutting and ordered an inquiry upon learning that the action was taken without his knowledge or approval. The Governor has directed the removal of the concerned PWD engineer and assistant engineer from

Raj Bhavan with immediate effect. The truck which was taking timber was also detained. The Governor convened emergency meeting and summoned the officers from Police, Forest, Public Works Department, for

ordered the formation of an enquiry committee to fix up responsibility for the attempted selection of felling of the trees of the Raj Bhavan Estates.Sources said the Raj Bhavan expressed serious concern

entering into a high security zone with axes, chainsaw, pruning saw and other cutting tools.

business icon Carlos Slim.

The Raj bhavan is taking expert legal opinion for further action in the matter, sources added.

Kolkata, Nov 28 (UNI): immediately stopped the aconcurrent evaluation.He over unauthorised people

Ananda Bose today took stern action against unauthorized cutting of heritage treeswithin the Raj Bhavan premises in Kolkata. The Governor, who

Takaichi's remarks on Taiwan send severely wrong signal to "Taiwan independence" separatist forces

Beijing, Nov 28 (UNI): Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's remarks concerning Taiwan have sent a gravely wrong signal to "Taiwan independence" separatist forces, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said on Friday, while also blasting Taiwan leader Lai Ching-te's stunt in support of Japan. Takaichi's remarks, which imply the possibility of armed intervention in the Taiwan Strait, drew opposition and criticism from the international community and insightful individuals within Japan. However, Lai posted a photo on social media showing himself holding sushi made with Japanese seafood in a show of support for Japan.

"Japan imposed colonial rule in Taiwan for half a century and committed innumerable crimes there. Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) authorities' attempt to court Japan for so-called Taiwan independence is contemptible," Mao said.

Takaichi's comments on Taiwan interfere in China's internal affairs, send a seriously wrong signal to "Taiwan independence" separatist forces, and jeopardize peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, Mao added.

She noted this year marks the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the 80th anniversary of Taiwan's restoration to China.

She urged Japan to deeply reflect on its historical crimes, draw lessons from history, adhere to the one-China principle, and exercise caution in its words and deeds regarding the Taiwan question.

"We demand that Japan retract its erroneous remarks, cease interfering in China's internal affairs, and demonstrate its commitments to China through concrete actions," the spokesperson said.

EU condemns surge in West Bank settler violence, urge Israel to protect Palestinians

Paris, Nov 28 (UNI): France, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Italy condemned what they called a "massive increase" in Israeli settler violence against Palestinian civilians in the occupied West Bank, warning that the escalation is destabilising the territory and undermining efforts to restore regional security.

In a joint statement, the foreign ministers of the four countries, often referred to as the E4, cited United Nations data showing a sharp rise in incidents in recent weeks. Figures from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs recorded 264 settler attacks in October, the highest monthly total since the UN began tracking such cases in 2006.

"These attacks must stop," the ministers said, adding that the violence "sows terror among civilians" and threatens not only ongoing peace efforts but also "the lasting security of the State of Israel itself." They urged the Israeli government to meet its obligations under international law to protect Palestinians in the occupied territories, saying public condemnations by Israeli leaders "must be translated into action."

The ministers urged Israel to ensure accountability for perpetrators and to prevent further violence by addressing its "root causes." They also renewed their opposition to any form of annexation, "partial, total or de facto," and criticised settlement policies they said violate international law.

Warning that further weakening of the Palestinian Authority would harm prospects for governance in Gaza, the ministers reaffirmed their support for a negotiated two-state solution.

At least 10 people killed in Israeli attack on Syria

Damascus, Nov 28 (UNI): Israeli airstrikes early on Friday killed at least 10 people, including women and children, in the town of Beit Jinn in the southwestern countryside of Damascus, following reported clashes between Israeli troops and local residents, Syrian state

Syrian state-run Al-Ekhbariya TV reported that several others remained trapped under the rubble as rescue efforts were hampered by continued Israeli drone activity over the area.

The broadcaster said the strikes were carried out shortly after an Israeli military patrol reportedly entered Beit Jinn and was surrounded by local residents, leading to an exchange of fire before the patrol withdrew, and air raids intensified.

Citing medical sources, Al-Ekhbariya said the body of a woman arrived at Al-Mouwasat Hospital in Damascus, along with 11 wounded, including a woman and a child, suffering injuries ranging from moderate to

The channel also reported a wave of displacement, with dozens of families fleeing Beit Jinn toward nearby towns and villages deemed safer, amid continued drone flights along the road between Beit Jinn and Mazraat

Meanwhile, the Syrian Civil Defence said on its official Telegram channel that its teams had been unable to enter the town to evacuate the wounded or assess the damage due to the danger posed by unexploded ordnance and ongoing Israeli targeting of movement around the town's entrances. It warned that the obstruction of rescue efforts was putting the lives of civilians at further risk.

Earlier reports said Israeli forces had withdrawn from the town and taken positions on Bat al-Warda hill on

No official figures have yet been released regarding the total casualties or extent of the destruction.



INS Kora and INS Khanjar, two frontline guided missile corvettes of the Eastern Naval Command, at their port call during a visit to the city as part of Navy Week celebrations 2025, in Kolkata. The ships are being displayed at Khidderpore Docks.

Russia, Venezuela sign 19 cooperation agreements

Moscow, Nov 28 (SPUTNIK/UNI): The Russian and Venezuelan delegations have signed the final act of the highlevel intergovernmental Russian-Venezuelan commission meeting, along with 15 cooperation agreements and three additional accords covering education, research, youth policy, oil production, peaceful atomic energy, and other areas, a Sputnik correspondent reported.

The signing ceremony held videoconference, with Russia's delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Chernyshenko, and Venezuela's delegation headed by Executive Vice President and Minister of People's Power of Hydrocarbons Delcy

Among the documents signed were the final act of the 19th meeting of the commission, a protocol of cooperation through a intent between the Russian memorandum between

state nuclear corporation Rosatom and Venezuela's Ministry of Science and Technology on peaceful atomic energy cooperation, and a memorandum between the Russian manufacturing company Welltechs and the Venezuelan state-owned oil and natural gas company Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. on artificial nitrogenbased oil production technologies.

Further agreements were inked between Russian and Venezuelan geological agencies and universities to advance mineral exploration and research, as well as an education agreement on additional programs between Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. and Russian National University of Oil and Gas "Gubkin University." Additionally, the parties agreed on youth policy Russia's Federal Agency for Youth Affairs and Venezuela's Ministry of the Popular Power for Youth and Sports.

"The Russian side highly values the outcomes and the agreements reached. We set a clear course and identified next steps on all key bilateral issues," Chernyshenko said during the meeting. The official reaffirmed Venezuela's status as a reliable partner and ally for Russia in Latin America and on the global stage, highlighting the trustful political dialogue at all levels. The May meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro confirmed their commitment to deepening cooperation, he said. The two countries continue to expand collaboration in nuclear energy, military-technical fields, and healthcare, Chernyshenko added.

family: Trump Washington, Nov 28 (UNI): President Donald Trump said the US administration is exploring the possibility of deporting the family of Rahmanullah Lakanwal, the Afghan national accused of shooting two National Guard members in

US administration

shooting suspect's

considering

deportation of

Washington, D.C. He also called for an even more aggressive immigration crackdown following the attack.

Lakanwal, who arrived in the US in 2021 under Operation Allies Welcome after assisting the CIA in Afghanistan, had his electronic devices seized by authorities. His family was also interviewed, according to FBI Director Kash Patel

Extensive investigation is on as the FBI has been searching multiple properties including Lakanwal's residence in Washington state.

As per US media reports, the probe agencies have announced reviews of asylum cases and even some green card holders.

The Afghan man shot Sarah Beckstrom, 20, and Andrew Wolfe, 24, at close range just a few blocks from the White House. Beckstrom later died from her injuries, while Andrew Wolfe, 24, remains in critical condition.Lakanwal had been living in Bellingham, Washington, with his wife and children, US Attorney for the District of Columbia

asylum in April under the Trump administration, multiple law enforcement officials told CNN. When asked whether Lakanwal was granted asylum under his administration, Trump said, "When you—it comes to asylum, when they're flown in, it's very hard to get them out."Trump, responding to the incident, condemned the Biden administration's handling of Afghan evacuees, claiming the vetting process for those resettled under the program was inadequate. "They came in unvetted," criticizing administration for allowing potentially dangerous individuals to enter the country. The suspect, who was wounded during the attack, had reportedly passed all security checks before arriving in the US, according to officials. However, Trump argued that such incidents point to larger failures in the Afghan resettlement process. He further warned, "We have a lot of others in this country. We're going to get them out." The attack occurred near the White House, close to the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, where senior White House staff work.

worked in Afghanistan with the CIA, according to the agency's director, John Ratcliffe. He was granted he said,

Jeanine Pirro said. The 29-

year-old had previously

Pakistan **Finance Minister** pledges to address all problems highlighted by IMF ahead of its \$1.2bn bailout package

Islamabad, Nov 28 (UNI) Pakistan's Finance Minister Mohammad Aurangzeb has pledged that the government will address all the problems plaguing its treasury, as highlighted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and expressed the hope to reach an agreement with the lending

Stating that reforms were a need of the hour, Aurangzeb said Islamabad will strive to remove them. Pakistan is working to secure its next \$1.2 billion bailout package next month, extended under the body's \$7bn Extended Fund Facility (EFF).

"These are points identified by the IMF that require action, and we will work to resolve them," Aurangzeb told Geo News on Nov 27, expressing confidence that Pakistan will succeed in reaching a staff-level understanding.

"God willing, an agreement with the IMF will be reached. The IMF board's upcoming decisions will show the way forward."

His comments came post the release of the IMF's 'Governance and Corruption Diagnostic Assessment: Pakistan', a sweeping evaluation report which studied all the problems in depth, and identified the deeply entrenched corruption within every institution in Pakistan as the core of its

Noting its institutions were extremely weak amid the rampant corruption in every sphere, the IMF report added that the country's elite has seized control of all the policymaking mechanisms, and greatly suppressed all prospects for growth whiile severely undermining the state's capacity to deliver services.The acknowledged that efforts under the EFF have brought "significant progress" in stabilising the m a c r o e c o n o m i c environment and restoring confidence. But it said systemic corruption remains a major obstacle, eroding public trust, draining resources and weakening

BNP leader says former premier Khaleda Zia in 'extremely critical' condition as party urges nationwide prayers

Dhaka, Nov 28 (UNI): BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir has said party chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia's health has deteriorated to an "extremely critical" state, urging people across Bangladesh to pray for her recovery.

Making his comments after offering the Friday Jumma prayers at a gathering in Naya Paltan, Dhaka, the BNP leader said that the former PM's long political struggle had taken a severe toll on her health.

"Her contribution to the democratic movement is undeniable. She spent her entire life fighting for democracy," he told supporters."She endured imprisonment persecution. And in the end, she became seriously ill and had to be hospitalised. You know she again fell ill over the last few days and was admitted to Evercare Hospital."

Alamgir confirmed, that condition had worsened on Thursday night. "Doctors said her condition is extremely critical. That is why, on behalf of our party, we sought prayers after Jumma from people across the country for the recovery of the leader of democracy, the mother of democracy, our national leader Begum Khaleda Zia."

"Once again, we are urging the entire nation to pray for her," he added.

Historically noted for her virulent anti-India and strong pro-Pakistan stance, Zia's own tenure in the country was a mixed bag, seeing on one end, a greater shift towards Islamic radicalism, distancing itself from secularism, engaging in strong national corruption and political violence, while also liberalising Bangladesh's economy in 90's, restoring parliamentary democracy, making education for girls free and mandatory, launching infrastructure projects, and strategic poverty alleviation schemes. According to BNP Media Cell member Shairul Kabir Khan, the former premier is being treated in the coronary care unit at Evercare Hospital under intensive monitoring by a medical board comprising and foreign specialists. She was admitted late on Nov 23.

The BNP leader and former premier, currently 79, has been facing health complications for some time now, which have only compounded in recent years, requiring frequent hospitalisation.

However. worsening condition has become a central issue of

concern for both the party leaders and its supporters, all of whom have reiterated the urgent need for improving Bangladesh's problem laden medical sector, urging advancing the nation's medical technology, upgrading its national medical facilities and improving access to treatment and healthcare for citizens. Professor Dr Md Shahabuddin Talukder, an Evercare specialist overseeing her treatment, is leading the team.

ProfrFM Siddiqui, another member of her medical board, said the BNP chief has developed infections in both her heart and lungs.

US tightens immigration rules, reviews asylum and green cards following WH shooting

Washington, Nov 28 (UNI): US administration officials announced a sweeping re-examination of asylum cases and green cards issued to citizens of certain countries following the shooting of two National Guard members near the White House in Washington, D.C.The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) identified the suspect as Rahmanullah Lakanwal, a 29-year-old Afghan national who entered the US under a policy initiated during the Biden administration after the 2021 US withdrawal from Afghanistan and continued under the Trump administration. Hours after the attack, US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) indefinitely suspended the processing of immigration requests for Afghan nationals, pending review. DHS said the review would extend to all asylum cases approved under the Biden administration, though it did not clarify if only Afghan nationals or individuals from other countries were included. USCIS Director Joseph Edlow stated that, at President Trump's direction, a "full-scale, rigorous re-examination" of all green cards issued to aliens from countries of concern would also be conducted.

EU prepares new Russia sanctions package for 2026 despite peace efforts, amidst growing internal dissent

: Even as Moscow and Washington continue negotiations on a potential settlement to end the nearly four-year Russia-Ukraine war, Brussels is pressing ahead with plans for further sanctions against Russia in 2026, the European Commission has told Izvestia. The European Parliament has also indicated that at least three new sanctions packages could be adopted next year if the conflict remains unresolved.

According to European officials, the bloc sees no 2026 is a realistic scenario,

Brussels, Nov 28 (UNI) reason to alter its approach, despite the fact that the original US peace plan for Ukraine included a clause gradually lifting on sanctions — a provision whose status in the revised draft agreed in Geneva remains unclear. "The EU still intends to

work on further sanctions until President Putin sits down at the negotiating table," the Commission said.MEP Tomasz Zdechovský of the European People's Party told Izvestia that adopting "three or more" packages in

depending on the security situation. The US media platform, Politico, had earlier reported that Brussels plans to start drafting its 20th sanctions package early next year, targeting Russia's energy income and its alleged "shadow fleet".

Analysts, however, argue that the EU's determination to tighten sanctions is driven less by Ukraine and more by the desire to restrain a strategic competitor.Many Brussels view sanctions not only as a political instrument but as a form of

economic contest with Russia.

"Even without the conflict, tensions would have increased. Sanctions today are also a new practice of competitive struggle," said Yegor Sergeev of MGIMO University.

Yet the effectiveness of the existing 19 packages is increasingly questioned in the West. Russian President Vladimir Putin has repeatedly noted that sanctions failed to inflict the economic collapse many in Europe had hoped for.



A well-designed cooking area has minimal clutter and maximum efficiency. Whether you're redecorating or totally remodelling, we list some of the best ideas for small spaces as we know every inch counts

Choose Pretty Tools

If your cabinets are too cramped to fit all of your kitchen gear, stealthily use the cuter items as decor. For instance, chunky vintage cutting boards or bright colanders can double as artwork. And a row of matching mixing bowls stuck above cabinets looks intentional, not

Try a Drop-Leaf Table If you yearn for an eat-in kitchen,

but a large table just won't fit, consider a foldable option. The leaves flip up so everyone has a spot come dinner time, but tuck out of the way when not in use.

Add a Breakfast Bar Open space, like the edge of a

and a few benches.

Lighten UpBarbara Westbrook, interior designer and author of Gracious Homes, knows the power of pale hues. She chose Pratt and Lambert's Chalk Grey paint for this kitchen's walls and range hood to brighten the room and impart a sense of openness.

counter, windowsill, or kitchen

pass-through, magically morphs

into extra eating space with a board

Go with big shelves Open shelving can offer a ton of

flexible storage, but requires a full commitment for it to look stylish. A wall dedicated to shelves looks like a purposeful design statement, but a lowly cart just looks like clutter.



Get Rolling

While you're cooking, a wheeled cart is as helpful as a big island, but can roll out of the way when you're

Squeeze in Seating Even an awkward, narrow

nook can comfortably seat six, if you choose efficient built-in benches instead of chairs. Bonus: Extra storage hides under the lovely seats.

Look Up

In the world

Hanging pots and pans from the ceiling frees cabinets of bulky equipment and creates visual



interest, too. Designer Jason Grant used a natural timber to

Although English has been

colonial tradition, the novels

written in English have been

culturally embedded. Check out

some of the top selling Indian

deeply expressive, rich and

novels you'll love reading

passed over in India as a



create a rustic look - try a vintage ladder for a similar effect.

(With inputs from good-

housekeeping)

ndia has always had a rich literary heritage and over the years, the number of Indian and Indian origin authors making their mark in the international field of English writing has increased exponentially. If you enjoy reading and want to expand your repertoire, here are seven Indian authors you must absolutely read this year.

Jhumpa Lahiri



Indian American author, Lahiri won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2000 for her debut collection of short stories, The Interpreter of Maladies. Her 2013 The Lowland was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the National Book Award For Fiction. Drawing from her own life, Lahiri's writing often explores the conflict Indian immigrants feel when adapting to a new life in America.

Amitav Ghosh



Amitav Ghosh is a Bengali writer from India living and teaching in New York. He's the author of some absolutely wonderful literary gems like The Circle of Reason, The Calcutta Chromosome, The Hungry Tide, Sea of Poppies and River of Smoke the Ibis Trilogy) etc. I simply love the attention to detail in his books something that literally transports you into a different time and place.

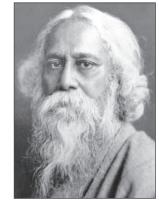
(the first two installments of

Vikram Seth



An Indian writer and poet, Vikram Seth is an established author in the international literary field. His book A Suitable Boy is the longest single volume novel in the English language and his collection of poems such as Beastly Tales is an important contribution to the English language poetry Canon.

Rabindranath Tagore



Tagore was the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize in Literature (1913). Gitanjali (translates to 'offerings of song') is considered to be one of the most beautiful examples of verse. He is also the author of the Indian, Bangladesh and Sri Lankan national anthems. Tagore famously returned his knighthood to the British in 1919 in response to the

Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.

Devdutt Pattanaik



A physician turned writer, Pattanaik is a mythologist, author and illustrator. Author of the hugely popular Jaya, Sita, The Pregnant King etc, Devdutt Pattanaik has a huge fanbase in India. His simple yet gripping retelling of Hindu epics, coupled with some absolutely charming illustrations make his books very popular. If you're interested in Hindu mythology, he has to be on your reading list.

Ruskin Bond



Born to English parents in pre-independent India, Ruskin Bond continues to live in the country of his birth. He is the author of children's classics such as The Room On The Roof, The Blue Umbrella, Ghost Stories From The Raj, Funny Side Up etc. His writing draws heavily from his own life living in the hills in north India and his rich experiences there. A must read author for all age



Khushwant Singh

Lawyer, politician, jourand Khushwant Singh did it all. Best known for his biting wit, sarcasm and acid laced opinions, he is the author of internationally acclaimed books like Train To Pakistan, The Company Of Women, Truth, Love and a Little Malice etc Khushwant Singh is definitely an interesting addition to any reading list.

FINGER LICKING GOOD

Whether you love cozying up with a well-written memoir or just want a little juicy entertainment this weekend, these are the ones that you need to get on your shelf

he discovery of a new recipe usually involves an interesting background story. In many cultures the art of cooking and eating is central to national identity and heritage. Take one classic Julia Child recipe, add a tablespoon of food blogger Molly Wizenberg and stir in some of Marco Pierre White's reminiscences, now simmer: before you can utter the word diet, you'll have cooked up a sexy literary feast well worth a nibble.

MY LIFE IN FRANCE BY JULIA CHILD



duced average

Joe America to the art of French cooking, but here she recounts her trials and tribulations of becoming a successful chef, moving to France, enrolling in cookery classes at Cordon Bleu and immersing herself in French culture. She doesn't boast or brag, simply retells in pages of pure enjoyment how she got to her revered position in the nation's hearts.

DELANCEY BY MOLLY WIZENBERG

Closing each chapter A TIGER IN THE with a mouth-watering recipe. Molly Wizenberg discloses in this book what

pened Delancey when h e r husband left school witho u t

graduating to become a pizza chef. Years of pizza research later, they are still married and their love for pizza's still going strong. Beware: you'll develop cravings for melted mozzarella on crispy pizza dough while devouring this book!

THE DEVIL IN THE KITCHEN BY **MARCO PIERRE** WHITE



surprise, given that the world's first celebrity chef and bad boy of the kitchen, Marco Pierre White, is the perpetrator. Recounting his UK upbringing in a working class environment to the moment when he transformed himself into one of the most revered and feared chefs in the industry, White gives us valuable insight into why he's

MIRIAM'S KITCHEN BY ELIZABETH

so temperamental.

EHRLICH

Published in the late 1990s, Elizabeth Ehrlich's memoir recounts how she spent her

formavears being quite undecided about Jewish

heritage. Cooking family favorites with her mother, a Holocaust survivor, provides Elizabeth with the chance to hear stories and anecdotes that are not just part of immediate family history but also important to Jewish history as a

TOAST BY NIGEL SLATER

Remembering the reason for his life-long passion for food and cooking, chef Nigel Slater recounts the early 1960s, when British cuisine was the laughing stock of the world. Following his mother's untimely death,

Slater' father hired a housekeeper. housekeeper teaches young

Nigel



the basics of cooking and the rest, as they say, is British food legend.

KITCHEN BY

CHERYL LU-LIEN TAN

This is a delicious tale of growing up

Singapore and emigrating at 18 years of age to N e w York, personal

journey as aromatic as Singapore Noodles that explores not just Tan's love for food and cooking, but also her culture and family heritage.

MASTERING THE ART OF SOVIET COOKING BY ANYA VON BREMZEN



Anya grew up in Russia, where food was scarce, before moving to Philadelphia and Queens, New York, where the von Bremzen family were overwhelmed by the sheer variety of ingredients available. Her mother begins to cook enormous Russian family dinners and, while preparing and eating such culinary luxuries, Anya, her grand-mother and mother exchange stories about their family's history.

Avani Lekhara lauds Deaflympics shooters for record show in Japan

Jaipur, Nov 28 (UNI): Paralympian Avani Lekhara and Olympian Manu Bhaker praised India's best-ever performance at the recently-concluded 25th Summer Deaflympic Games held in Tokyo, Japan, where the country clinched 20 medals including nine Gold, seven Silver and four Bronze medals.India finished sixth in the medal standings out of 62 participating nations.

Interestingly, deaf shooters fuelled India's strong display at the Deaflympics, clinching a total of 16 medals including 7 Gold, 6 Silver and 3 Bronze medals.

Double Paralympic gold medallist Avani, who graced the medal ceremonies at the ongoing Khelo India University Games in Jaipur, said: "It's really nice seeing India doing so good. Especially, we have seen a lot of medals coming up in shooting. I'm very happy and proud of them. I just want them to keep on doing this, and we also keep on supporting them as an audience so that they do better and better in upcoming years as well."

Many of the Indian shooters won multiple medals at the Deaflympics. Mahit Sandhu lead the medal charge, securing four medals, followed by Pranjali and Abhinav Deshwal, claiming three medals each, and Dhanush Srikanth pocketing two medals. Double Olympic medallist Manu Bhaker, who began her shooting journey by winning multiple medals in the Khelo India School Games back in 2017, said that she herself gets inspired by the resilience shown by specially-abled sportspersons.

"We ourselves get motivated when we watch speciallyabled athletes performing so well in international competitions. It is their passion and their fighting spirit that inspires us. From my side I want to give my best wishes to each and every one of them and congratulate them for their amazing performances at the Deaflympics. We look up to you and if we can be of any help, we would love to help whenever needed," Manu Bhaker said. Having won gold in the women's 10mAir Rifle standing SH1 category at the Khelo India Para Games 2025, Avani highlighted how the Government of India's initiative has helped strengthened the grassroot-level sports ecosystem.

"Government of India and especially SAI is doing a really nice job because competitions like Khelo India University Games, especially for the athletes at grassroots level, it gives them massive motivation. It gives them a platform to showcase their talent and serves as a launching pad for them for performing well in international events. If we see a lot more competition coming up at grassroots level, we'll see more elite level athletes in the future," Avani signed off.

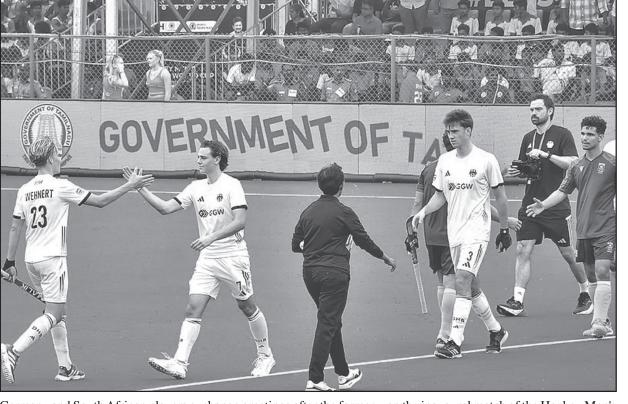
BCCI confirms India U19 squad for ACC Asia Cup

Mumbai, Nov 28 (UNI): The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Friday announced a 15-member India U19 squad for the upcoming ACC Men's U19 Asia Cup, scheduled to be held in Dubai from December 12.

Top order batter Ayush Mhatre has been named Haryana, Maharashtra, captain of the side, while Vihaan Malhotra will serve as vice captain. "The Junior Cricket Committee has picked the India U19 squad for the upcoming ACC Men's U19 Asia Cup to take place in Dubai from 12th December," the BCCI statement said.

The Junior Selection Committee has also named four standby players: Rahul Kumar, Hemchudeshan J, B.K. Kishore and Aditya Rawat, who will be available should any changes be required before the tournament begins.

India has been placed in Group A, alongside arch-rivals Pakistan, Qualifier 1, and Qualifier 3, setting the stage for a high-voltage group phase. Group B features Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, and Qualifier 2.India U19 squad for Asia Cup: Ayush Mhatre (C), Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Vihaan Malhotra (vc), Vedant Trivedi, Abhigyan Kundu (wk), Harvansh Singh (wk), Yuvraj Gohil, Kanishk Chouhan, Khilan A. Patel, Naman Pushpak, D. Deepesh, Henil Patel, Kishan Kumar Singh, Udhav Mohan, Aaron George.



Germany and South African players exchange greetings after the former won the inaugural match of the Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2025, in Madurai on Friday.

BFI names Nieva as women's boxing head coach

Bengaluru, Nov 28 (UNI): The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) on Friday announced the appointment of Santiago Nieva as Head Coach of the India Women's National Boxing Team, bringing back one of world boxing's most respected highperformance minds at a time when Indian women pugilists are riding unprecedented momentum. The Swedish strategist, who earlier served as India's High Performance Director from 2017 to 2021, returns with a clear mandate: to elevate India's women boxers into consistent global medal contenders as the nation enters a decisive new Olympic cycle leading to Los Angeles 2028.

Indian women's boxing has recorded a string of standout performances in recent months, capped by a clean sweep at the World Boxing Cup Finals 2025 in Greater Noida, where the squad claimed seven gold, one silver and two bronze medalsseveral in Olympic weight divisions.

With competitive parity now integral across seven women's Olympic categories, Nieva will be tasked with developing depth, refining technical systems, and institutionalising worldclass training structures.

BFI said the move reinforces its long-term investment in scientific training and highperformance systems. Expressing his

excitement, Nieva said he was delighted to return to India. "Super excited to come back to India. I had five wonderful years here in my previous stint. I am very much looking forward to this next chapter, and hopefully, we can create something big together. There is huge potential within the Indian women's team, and in LA 2028, we'll be aiming for something big and create history."

Nieva brings over two decades of elite coaching experience spanning multiple continents, having served as Boxing Australia's National Head Coach and Technical Lead, and earlier as Head Coach and Sports Director of Sweden's national program. His previous

stint with India was marked by major breakthroughs, including two medals at the 2019Men's World Championships and India's largest-ever Olympic boxing contingent at Tokyo 2020, where Lovlina Borgohain won a landmark bronze.

BFI President Ajay Singh welcomed Nieva's return, calling it "an important step forward for our women's programme" and emphasising the international expertise he would inject into the system. He also acknowledged the significant contribution of former head coach D Chandralal, who will continue to play a key role in the national coaching

Srihari finishes with nine Golds

Jaipur, Nov 28(UNI) :World Champion Aditi Gopichand Swami continued her unbeaten run in the Khelo India competitions with the Shivaji University archer claiming gold in compound women's individual event on Day 5 of the Khelo India University Games Rajasthan 2025 at the Jagatpura Archery Range here on Friday.

On the other hand, Olympian Srihari Nataraj and Bhavya Sachdeva helped Jain University stamp their authority in the pool, ending contingent's swimming campaign with 27 gold medals. Jain University sit atop the medal standings with 45 medals.

The fifth edition of KIUG 2025 is being held

across seven cities in Rajasthan. A whopping 4448 athletes from 222 Universities are competing in 23 medal disciplines. The Games are being held under the aegis of the Sports Authority of India in collaboration with the Rajasthan State Sports Council and is being hosted by Poornima University.

19-year-old Aditi, who had won the gold medal in all the Khelo India Youth Games she entered, made a fantastic Khelo India University Games debut by securing gold in the women's compound individual event. In the individual final, Aditi defeated Taniparthi Chikitha of Lovely Professional University

147-143 to top the podium.

"The Khelo India Games provided me the platform to experience how top level competitions are held and that helped me immensely when I went for international competitions. My form was a bit indifferent in the last few months and I was keen on performing well here as I am looking forward to the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics where Compound Archery has also been included," she told SAI Media.

Just like Aditi has been a dominant force in archery, Bangalore's Jain University underlined their stature as the best swimming contingent.

The second edition champions, who boast of the country's best swimmers including Olympian Srihari Nataraj, bagged seven gold medals out of nine events on the final day of swimming action to complete their eventual tally, including 27 gold medals, 9 silver and 9 bronze.

Lovely Professional University is second with 22 gold medals and Guru Nanak Dev University is third with 21 gold medals.

Olympian Srihari Nataraj was the star of the final day at the SMS Swimming pool winning the 100m freestyle gold with a time of 52.30s and 50m backstroke (26.53s) before joining his teammates in the 400m Medley Mixed relay to finish the Games with nine gold and two silver medals.

Kamboj headlines Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Round 2

New Delhi, Nov 28 (UNI): In a thrilling set of Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 cricket encounters, Railways, Rajasthan, Puducherry, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra, and Delhi registered notable victories across the country.

Harvana edged out Punjab in Hyderabad in a Super Over finish after both sides scored 207 in the regulation 20 overs. Anshul Kamboj was the star with figures of 2-26 and then picked up two more wickets in the Super Over, including first-ball dismissals of Abhishek Sharma and Sanvir Singh. Nishant Sindhu scored 61 off 31

balls and Ankit Kumar a quick 26 from 11 balls to made 51 to set up Haryana's total, while Sumit Kumar contributed 28.Punjab's chase saw Anmolpreet Chama Milind 35 and Tanay Singh blaze 81 off 37 balls, ensuring a tie before the Super Over. Ashwani Kumar picked up 3 for 31 in Haryana's bowling effort. Haryana required just 2 runs in the Super Over, which they achieved with Nishant Sindhu hitting 4 off one ball.In Hyderabad, Maharashtra chased down 192 set by Kolkata, with Arshin Kulkarni remaining unbeaten on 89 off 54 balls and Prithvi Shaw hitting a blistering 66 off 36 balls, sharing a 117-run opening

seal an 8-wicket win in 18.4 overs. Hyderabad had earlier posted 191/8 with Thyagrajan 32, while Jalaj Saxena picked up 2-25. Railways defended 149

against Kerala by 32 runs at Lucknow. Atal Bihari Rai picked up 3 for 23 and Shivam Chaudhary claimed a brace as Kerala faltered. managing only 117/8.

Sanju Samson scored 19 off 25 balls, Rohan Kunnummal 8, while Salman Nizar (18) and Ankit Sharma provided minor resistance. Navneet Virk (32) and Ravi Singh (25) had earlier supported Railways' innings.Rajasthan recorded

their second consecutive victory by chasing 170 set by Tripura. Opener Shubham Garhwal blitzed 51 off 20 balls before falling PowerPlay.Kunal Singh Rathore contributed 33 as Rajasthan reached 171/5 in 18.5 overs. Tripura's M B Mura Singh hit 40 and Sridam Paul 37, while Kamlesh Nagarkoti claimed a three-wicket haul of 3-34. Puducherry defeated Baroda by 17 runs, posting 166/9 thanks to Aman Khan's 72 and Jayant Yadav's 34. Baroda were restricted to 149, with Adil Ayub Tunda picking up 4-

30 and Raj Limbani taking 3

wickets. Only Shivalik

Sharma (56) and Atit Sheth (37) offered resistance.

Madhya Pradesh posted 174/8 with fifties from Venkatesh Iyer and on the last ball of the Harsh Gawali, before dismissing Bihar for 112. Shivang Kumar's 3-wicket haul along with Shivam Shukla and Tripuresh Singh (2 wickets each) helped secure a 62-run victory. Vaibhav Suryavanshi managed just 13 for Bihar.

Andhra defeated Odisha by 66 runs, scoring 184/7 with contributions from Ricky Bhui (47), KS Bharat (42), and a quick cameo by Shaik Rasheed (24 off 12). Prithvi Raj Yarra and Saurabh Kumar picked up three wickets each as

Odisha were bowled out for 118, with Sourav Gouda top-scoring 24.Delhi clinched a last-ball thriller against Tamil Nadu. chasing 198 with Himmat Singh hitting the winning six. Yash Dhull top-scored with 71 and Ayush Badoni added 41. Prince Yadav took 3-43. Tamil Nadu's innings included Tushar Raheja's 72 and Amit Sathvik's 54, but Varun Chakaravarthy went wicketless despite bowling 4-47.Among performances. Anshul Kamboi's Super Over heroics for Haryana and Arshin Kulkarni's unbeaten 89 for Maharashtra stood out as the top individual contributions of the day.

UP Warriorz strongest on paper ahead of WPL 2026

Bengaluru, Nov 28 (UNI): The 2026 Women's Premier League (WPL) is set to be one of the most exciting seasons yet, with the recent mega auction leaving fans speculating on which franchise will dominate.

Among the six teams, UP Warriorz have emerged as the most balanced and inspiring side, combining star power with depth and versatility.

UP Warriorz, retaining only uncapped Shweta Sehrawat, went all out in the auction to assemble a formidable squad. The team secured World Cup winner Meg Lanning, Deepti Sharma, Phoebe Litchfield, Deandra Dottin, and Sophie Ecclestone, ensuring a strong overseas presence.

The Indian contingent has been reinforced with Kiran Navgire, Harleen

Deol, Pratika Rawal, Kranti Gaud, and Asha Sobhana, providing a perfect blend of experience and young talent. While the team's wicketkeeping options are yet to be fully strengthened after letting go of former skipper Alyssa Healy, the overall squad balance is impressive.

UP Warriorz's strategy focused on assembling a core of reliable allrounders limited. alongside explosive batswomen, giving them flexibility in all conditions. Their aggressive auction moves, including the successful right-tomatch bids for Sophie bowlers. Ecclestone and Kashvee Gautam,

season Analysts say this approach, combined with

indicate the franchise's

intent to dominate the

a deep roster of matchwinners, makes UP Warriorz a team to watch closely.

Mumbai Indians, the reigning champions, retained continuity by bringing back Amelia Kerr for Rs 3 crore and building around their successful core. They also added uncapped Indian talent, though their mediumpacer options remain

Delhi Capitals focused on allround strength and leadership depth with Laura Wolvaardt, Chinelle Henry, and Marizanne Kapp, while relying heavily on overseas fast

Royal Challengers Bengaluru, 2024 winners, targeted allrounders and capped players, including Smriti Mandhana, Ellyse Perry, and Nadine de Klerk, forming a powerful

batting lineup but with some concerns over Indian middle-order experience.

stand.Rahul Tripathi added

Gujarat Giants invested heavily in overseas stars like Beth Mooney and Sophie Devine but remain topheavy due to a less experienced Indian bench.

Experts say while all franchises have their strengths, UP Warriorz's combination of explosive batting, reliable allrounders, and strategic auction planning makes them arguably the strongest and most inspiring team heading into WPL 2026. Strongest XI for UP

Warriorz: Meg Lanning, Phoebe Litchfield, Harleen Deol, Kiran Navgire, Deepti Sharma, Deandra Dottin, Sophie Ecclestone, Asha Sobhana, Shipra Giri (wk), Kranti Gaud, Shikha Pandey.

India Women to face Sri Lanka in five T20Is from **Dec 21-30**

(UNI): India's women cricket team is set to face Sri Lanka in a five-match T20 International (T20I) series from December 21 to December 30, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced on Friday. The opening two matches of the series will be hosted at the ACA-VDCA Stadium in Visakhapatnam, while the remaining three encounters will take place at the Greenfield International Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram.India were last seen in T20I action in July this year, during their tour of England, where they clinched the series 3-2. Sri Lanka, on the other hand, last played a T20I series in March, drawing 1-1 against New Zealand after the final

match was washed out.

Ranchi, Nov 28 (UNI):

Bengaluru, Nov 28 The city of Ranchi is witnessing heightened excitement ahead of the first One-Day International (ODI) between India and South Africa, scheduled for November 30 at the JSCA International Stadium. With both teams having arrived in the city, preparations are in full swing as players sweat it

sessions.

On Thursday, the Indian and South African squads trained rigorously at the JSCA Stadium. Indian players focused heavily on regaining their form, engaging in extended batting, bowling, and fielding drills. The South African camp also undertook deep practice

out in intensive practice

India-South Africa ODI: Excitement peaks in Ranchi as teams tune up sessions, fine-tuning their

closely with both batsmen and bowlers. Indian bowling coach Morne Morkel expressed satisfaction with the team's preparations and highlighted the positive atmosphere within the dressing room.

strategy and working

He said the team has put the recent Test defeat behind them and is fully focused on the ODI series."The players are ready to take the field with full energy. We are confident of giving South Africa a strong challenge. We aim to win this ODI series," Morkel stated.

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Ashwini Vaishnaw Inspects Chandigarh Station Redevelopment Work

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Nov 28: Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways, Information and Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information today Technology, undertook comprehensive inspection the ongoing redevelopment work at the Chandigarh Railway Station. The Minister was briefed by senior officials regarding the progress of the station's modernization project. Following the detailed review, Shri Vaishnaw Ashwini expressed his satisfaction with the progress of redevelopment of Chandigarh station. During the inspection, Shri Ravneet Singh, Minister of State for Railways and Processing Industries, Shri Ashok Kumar Verma, General Manager Northern Railway and senior officials were present.

While addressing the media at Chandigarh Railway Station, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw said,



"Chandigarh Railway Station is being redeveloped as a worldclass station. Many innovations have been carried out, one of which is a modular design, in which pre-fabricated designs are used. The station will bridge the two ends of the city Panchkula and Chandigarh via roof plaza. The station is being redeveloped at a cost of ?462 crores. The work is going on at a fast pace. The team is investing its best efforts to redevelop the station at a faster pace.

The redevelopment of Chandigarh Railway Station aims to transform the station into a world-class facility. Chandigarh station significant importance as a key gateway, serving a high volume of tourists and travelers heading to popular destinations in Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.The expedited efforts will focus on enhancing passenger amenities, improving connectivity, and creating a modern, accessible, and efficient travel hub that reflects the city's planned architecture and meets the growing demands of its

Earlier, The Union Minister inspected Semi Conductor Laboratory (SCL), Mohali. He conducted the review meeting at SCL. He

informed that SCL is being modernized and expanded with an investment of Rs 4500 Crores. Latest technologies are being adopted by SCL.

This morning, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw along with Shri Ravneet Singh, conducted window trailing inspection of New Delhi-Chandigarh section. During the inspection, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw interacted with track maintainers, PWI, and Department Signal maintenance staff. The staff shared their experiences with the Minister regarding their fieldwork. During the interaction, the Minister inquired about the maintenance of signals, relays, points, turnouts, crossings, and other related tasks. The track maintainers briefed him on the challenges they face in the field. Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw shared his experiences on the best signal and track maintenance procedures being followed globally and encouraged the staff to adopt better practices.

Electricity bill collection campaign in **Bhandup circle** in full swing: "Electricity bill payment centers will remain open on holidays

(Standard Post Bureau) Bhandup, Nov 28:

Currently, an electricity bill collection campaign is underway in the entire Bhandup circle. In this the electricity supply of 27,498 customers with outstanding dues has been disconnected.

For the convenience of customers, electricity bill payment centers in Bhandup circle of Mahavitaran will be kept open even on holidays. Accordingly, on Saturday, November 29, 2025 and November 30, 2025, all the authorized electricity bill payment centers under the circle have been kept open and the facility to pay bills has been made available.

However, Mahavitaran has appealed to customers to cooperate in paying their electricity

Along with the

electricity bill payment centers, Mahavitaran has provided various options for paying electricity bills. A discount of Rs. 10 is being given for paying electricity bills online. The payment can be made on the website of Mahavitaran or through Mahavitaran's mobile app as well as offline options such as banks, private secured payment centers. The Chief Engineer of Bhandup Circle, Mr. Sanjay Patil, has appealed to the customers to pay their current and overdue electricity bills using the facilities available for uninterrupted electricity

successful validation of the computerized

Modification in Tatkal booking

system: Western Railway

OTP authentication for Mumbai Central -

Ahmedabad Shatabdi Express

(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, Nov 28

:Western Railway will be implementing an important modification in the Tatkal booking system in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Railway Board.

Tatkal tickets will now be issued only after authentication of a systemgenerated One Time Password (OTP). This OTP will be sent to the mobile number furnished by the passenger at the time of booking, and the ticket will be issued only after OTP.

According to press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer, Western Railway Shri Vineet Abhishek, this OTPbased Tatkal authentication system will be implemented with effect from 01st December 2025 at 00:00 hrs and will initially apply to Train No. 12009/12010 Mumbai Central Ahmedabad Shatabdi Express.

The new system will be applicable for Tatkal bookings made through

counters, authorized agents, IRCTC website and IRCTC mobile app. The objective of this change is to ensure transparent Tatkal bookings and to facilitate genuine passengers in getting better access to Tatkal tickets. Passengers are advised to provide a valid, accessible mobile number at the time of booking to ensure smooth completion of the OTP verification process. Western Railway urges all passengers to take note of this important change.

Western Railway Extends the trips of special train between **Mumbai Central - Indore**

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Nov 28: For the convenience of passengers and with a view to meet the travel demand, Western Railway has extended the trips of Special Train on Special Fare between Mumbai Central & Indore.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the details of the train is as under:Train No. 09085/ 09086 Mumbai Central -Indore (Tri - Weekly) Special:Train No. 09085

Special departs from Mumbai Central every Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 23.20 hrs and reaches Indore at 13.00 hrs, the next day. The trips of this train have been extended further from 28th November to 31st December, 2025. Similarly, Train No. 09086 Indore -Mumbai Central Special departs from Indore every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday at 17.00 hrs and arrives Mumbai Central at 07.10 hrs, the next day. The trips of this train have been extended further from 29th

IRCTC Launches Innovative

Zurich, Innsbruck, Venice,

Pisa, Florence, Rome &

together an estimated 100-

200 passengers from

multiple IRCTC regional

offices, representing a

significant step forward in

operational expansion and

customer convenience by

integrating multiple travel

origins into a single

Early Bird Discount

To enhance value for

customers, IRCTC has

introduced Early Bird

Discounts of 1 5,000 to 1

6,000 per person on select

upcoming international tours.

coordinated journey.

This initiative will bring

Milan

Offers

Japan Tour

MOSD Tour Model

Mumbai Central - Indore

November to 01st January, 2026.Enroute this train will halt at Borivali, Vapi, Surat, Vadodara, Dahod, Ratlam and Ujjain stations in both directions. This train comprises of First AC, AC 2-Tier and AC 3-Tier Coaches. The booking for the

extended trips of Train Nos. 09085 & 09086 opens from 29th November, 2025 at all PRS Counters and on IRCTC website. For detailed information regarding timings of halts and composition, passengers may please visit

Extension of Visakhapatnam—Bengaluru and Bhubaneswar—Yesvantpur Special train services: SWR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Nov 28: The East Coast Railway has notified the extension of services for Train Nos. 0 8 5 8 1 / 0 8 5 8 2 Visakhapatnam-Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru-Visakhapatnam Weekly Express Special and Train Nos. 02811/02812 Bhubaneswar-Yesvantpur-Bhubaneswar Weekly Express Special, in order to manage the increased passenger rush. Train No. 08581

Visakhapatnam-SMVT Bengaluru Weekly Express Weekly Express Special, Special, running on has

December 2025. Similarly, Train No. 08582 SMVT Bengaluru-Visakhapatnam Weekly Express Special, operating on Mondays, is extended from 08th December 2025 to 29th December 2025."

Train No. 02811 Bhubaneswar-Yesvantpur Weekly Express Special, running on Saturdays, will now continue its services from 06th December 2025 to 27th December 2025. Likewise, Train No. 02812 Yesvantpur–Bhubaneswar operating on Mondays, is extended from 08th

December 2025 to 28th December 29th December 2025."

Each train will operate four additional trips in each direction during the extended period. These special services will continue to run with their existing timings, stoppages, and composition."

II. Extension of Hyderabad-Belagavi-Hyderabad Special Train Services

The South Central extension of services for Train Nos. 07043/07044 Hyderabad-Belagavi-Hyderabad Weekly Express Special to clear the from 7th December 2025 to 29th heavy rush of passengers composition."

during December 2025.

Train No. 07043 Hyderabad-Belagavi Weekly Express Special, running on Thursdays, has been extended from 04th December 2025 to 25th December 2025. Similarly, Train No. 07044 Belagavi-Hyderabad Weekly Express Special, operating on Fridays, is extended from 05th December 2025 to 26th December 2025.

Each train will operate Railway has notified the four trips during this extended period. These services will continue to operate with the existing days of service, timings,

Mumbai Passenger Reservation System: CR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Nov 28: Mumbai PRS will be shut down from 23.45 hrs of 30.11.2025 to 01.30 hrs of 01.12.2025 for change of station code of Banaras station from "BSBS" to "BNRS". "Due to the shutdown, following services will not be available during the above period:

- Passenger Reservation System,
- Coaching refund,
- Charting activities, Train Firing,
- IVRS.

- Current Reservation,
- Chart Display,
- Touch Screen, Refund counters and
- Coaching refund terminal

However, TDR will be issued for refund as per extant refund rules Internet booking for Mumbai PRS trains will not be

available during the above mentioned period. Passengers/Rail users are requested to bear with the

Railway Administration for this important maintenance work.

ECI deploys 12 senior IAS officers as electoral roll observers for Bengal's special revision drive

Kolkata, Nov 28 (UNI) The Election Commission of India (ECI) has appointed 12 Electoral Roll Observers for the state, with the mandate to oversee every crucial layer of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls based on the qualifying date of January 1, 2026. The observers have also been tasked to ensure all instructions issued by the Commission are followed without drift or

Calling West Bengal a state of "large area, numerous electors and complex geography," the Commission emphasised that the deployment of experienced observers is essential to maintain oversight across districts that also share substantial international borders.

The observers will monitor every stage of roll preparation, guide district authorities, and ensure timely corrective action, while following directives issued earlier on October 27 and November 4.Among those appointed is Smita Pandey (IAS, WB:2005), tasked with supervising Paschim Bardhaman, Purba Bardhaman and Birbhum. Tanmay Chakraborty

(IAS, WB:2006) will oversee Malda and Murshidabad, while Shri Randhir Kumar (IAS, WB:2006) has been assigned North 24 Parganas and Kolkata North—two of the state's most densely populated electoral jurisdictions.In south Bengal, C. Murugan (IAS, WB:2007) will monitor South 24 Parganas along with Kolkata South, reflecting the Commission's focus on urban-rural crossverification.In the northern part of the state, R. Arjun (IAS, WB:2010) will oversee Coochbehar, Alipurduar and Jalpaiguri and Rajeev Kumar (IAS, WB:1997) has been given charge of Howrah.

Neelam Meena (IAS, WB:1998) will cover East Medinipur, West Medinipur and Jhargram—districts where population mobility requires vigilant roll management. The twin districts of Uttar and Dakshin Dinajpur have

been placed under Ashwini Kumar Yadav (IAS, WB:2001), and the hill districts of Darjeeling and Kalimpong will be monitored by Niranjan Kumar (IAS, WB:2007).

Further west, Devi Prasad Karanam (IAS, WB:2008) has been assigned Purulia and Bankura, Rachna Bhagat (IAS, WB:2009) will oversee Nadia, while (IAS. Vishwanath WB:2010) will take charge of Hooghly, bringing the list of observers to 12.All observers have been directed to prepare districtwise review and visit plans in consultation with the CEO and ensure that every instruction related to SIR is implemented without exception.

service.

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Nov 28: The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), a leading organisation in the travel and tourism sector, has announced the launch of an innovative travel initiative – the **Multiple Origin, Single Destination** (MOSD) tour model. This pioneering concept enables travellers from different parts of India to converge at a single international through destination coordinated departures managed by IRCTC's regional offices.

Under the MOSD initiative, IRCTC is introducing two major international packages:

Dubai Tour Departure: 22 January 2026 (Ex-Mumbai)

Duration: 4 Nights / 5

Days **Destinations:** Dubai &

Abu Dhabi **Price:** 1 91,500 per person (twin sharing)

Europe Tours Scheduled Departures: April & June 2026

Duration: 12 Nights / 13

Days **Destinations:** Paris,

Brussels, Amsterdam, Cologne, Mannheim,

before 17 December 2025

To avail discount: Travellers must pay 30% of the package cost by the due date. Remaining payments will follow a cutand-pay schedule.

Bookings made on or

Price: 1 3,90,000 per

person (twin sharing)

Offer

Christmas & New Year Holiday Specials

IRCTC has also rolled out exclusive festive season holiday packages for Christmas and New Year, designed to provide seamless, enjoyable, and memorable travel experiences.

Domestic Packages:-Kerala, Andaman, South India, Odisha, Rann of Kutch, Ayodhya, Varanasi &Saurashtra

International Packages:-Nepal & Sri

Each curated package includes:

Cherry Blossom

Departure: 29 March 2026 (Ex-Mumbai) **Duration:** 9 Nights / 10

Days **Destinations:** Tokyo, Mt. Fuji, Hakone, Nagoya,

Kyoto, Osaka & Hiroshima **Price:** 1 3,49,700 per person (twin sharing) Astonishing

Australia Tour **Departure:** 5 May 2026

(Ex-Mumbai) **Duration:** 11 Nights / 12

Destinations: Melbourne, Cairns, Gold Coast & Sydney

Flight tickets, accommodation, meals, transfers, sightseeing, tour manager services, travel insurance, and **GST**—ensuring a complete and hassle-free holiday

experience.

Shri GauravJha, Group General Manager, IRCTC West Zone, stated that these specially curated packages aim to offer travelers comprehensive comfort and convenience during the festive season.

Travellers can explore and book all packages

IRCTC's official website: www.irctctourism.com