#### www.standardpost.in

Simultaneously Published from VISAKHAPATNAM, GUNTUR, DELHI, HYDERABAD, MUMBAI & PUDUCHERRY

STANDARD POS

Vol.12. No.314

VISAKHAPATNAM

Thursday, February 20, 2025

Pages: 8 Rs.1

Dola

**ENGLISH DAILY** 

### IN BRIEF

#### **971**st Avatarotsavam of Saint Sri Anantalwar to be observed in Tirumala on Feb 23

Tirumala, Feb 19 (UNI) The 971st Avatarotsavam of the great Sri Vaishnava Saint Sri Anantalwar will be observed in here on February 23.

Tirumal Tirupati Devasthanams in a release on Wednesday said It is an ancient tradition to observe the Avatarotsavam of Sri Anantalwar in the Purusaivari Tota under the aegis of Alwar Divya Prabandha Project of TTD which begins on that day from 9.30 am onwards.

On the occasion, the successors of Sri Anantalwar settled all over the country gather together in Purasaivari Tota (Anantalwar Tota) here to perform special pujas, recitation of Divya Prabandha Pasurams and spiritual programs.

As per sacred texts, Anantalwar was believed to be the incarnation of Sri Adisesha, the holy serpent king and pioneered Pushpa Kainkaryam in Tirumala.

**Central govt** approves Rs



New Delhi, Feb 19 (UNI): Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) held in the police parade also sensitise people about Minister and the Excise senior leader and Shalimar Bagh MLA Rekha Gupta will be the new Chief Minister of Delhi.

Meanwhile, New Delhi MLA Parvesh Verma has been named as the Deputy Chief Minister.

The announcement came after the BJP legislature party meeting, which was held at the party's Delhi unit office on especially to eradicate the wherever cannabis or drugs crore was allocated to the Wednesday evening. 50-year-old Gupta, an MLA from the brewing of country-made are found or being sold. Shalimar Bagh constituency, defeated Aam Aadmi Party's liquor and its consumption leader Bandana Kumari in the recently held Assembly in the state. election.Rekha Gupta is a prominent leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party, whose life is dedicated to social service and made liquor menace was free State' in six months. A and its sale," the minister politics. She began her political journey through the Akhil eliminated in 10 districts program will be taken up to added, stating that the Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) at Daulat Ram College, under the 'Navodayam' create awareness among government has taken all Delhi University, in 1992.

In 1996-97, she became the President of the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU), where she actively implemented once again liquor," the minister youth from becoming raised student issues.

After being elected as a councillor from North Pitampura ensuring that the poor do in 2007, she worked on developing basic facilities in the area, such as libraries, parks, and swimming pools.

For the welfare of women and children, she launched initiatives like the "Sumedha Yojana," which supported the minister observed. economically weaker female students in pursuing higher education. As the head of the Women Welfare and Child called on the youth to be acknowledged that the five years, there have been Development Committee, she led empowerment campaigns vigilant about ganja, drugs, for women.

The BJP returned to power in Delhi after 27 years, having clear that old brands have project construction. won a clear majority of 48 out of 70 seats in the Assembly been revived, and steps are election, the results of which were declared on February being taken to ensure that also taken steps to utilise Kandula Narayana Reddy, 8. The swearing-in ceremony for the new chief minister is liquor is transported to water resources properly. and Collector A Thameem scheduled for February 20 at Ramlila Maidan.

# Rekha Gupta to be Govt committed to make next CM of Delhi AP illicit-liquor free **State: Excise Minister**

(Standard Post Bureau) 12 types of tests by keeping Chandrababu Naidu is for Excise and Minor Kollu manufacturing of liquor. Ravindra has asserted the

Government's commitment that 'Eagle Teams' have to make Andhra Pradesh as been formed to check the Welfare illicit-liquor-free State.

ground here on Wednesday, the ill effects of ganja and Minister are working with Minister Kollu Ravindra drugs. The Excise Minister the aim of making Andhra said that the government appealed to the people to Pradesh a state free from has taken up the call 14405 and 1972 to drugs and narcotics. 'Navodayam-2.0' program provide

now with the aim of observed. addicted to the illicit liquor,"

Minister Kollu Ravindra shops only after conducting

Ongole, Feb 19: Minister a special eye on the striving hard to bring investments to the state in a The minister highlighted big way," he noted.

Minister for Social illegal transportation of illicit Balaveeranjaneya Swamy Addressing a program liquor, and the teams would maintained that the Chief information "As much as Rs 100

'Eagle System' in the

"The government is budget, which will check the working sincerely to make brewing of country-made "In 2016, the country- Andhra Pradesh a 'Ganja- liquor, its transportation,

He claimed that the state government.

The government has Damacharla Janardhan Rao, "Chief

program. The Navodayam people in the rural areas these steps with the program is being about the ill effects of illicit objective of discouraging addicted to drugs. Bala Veerajnajeya Swamy not suffer financially and is progressing under the suggested that the excise

also health-wise by being leadership of Chandrababu officials should also work at Naidu and with the financial the field level to curb the support of the central illicit liquor menace. He He lamented that during the last Centre had allocated huge cases where drugs have and illicit liquor. He made it funds for the Polavaram been found even in colleges in remote areas.MLAs

Minister Ansariya also spoke.

APMSME DC Chief

while addressing the

participants in the validatory

session said that the AP

Government has introduced

financial assistance, and

ease of doing business

ecosystem, has emerged as

a key player in India's export

prospective business of

USD 70, 66,250. In this 38

MOUs were signed by the

first-time exporters and

business worth around USD

Regional Chairman FIEO

South while welcoming the

delegates and participants

during the validatory

session said that exports

from Andhra Pradesh in the

year 2023-24 was USD. 19.3

billion with 5 percent share

successful B2Bs across

India and said Andhra

Pradesh is having the

potential to gain 10

percent of India's export

He shared experience of

in India's export.

Gopalakrishnan,

The session generated

Andhra Pradesh, with its

schemes.

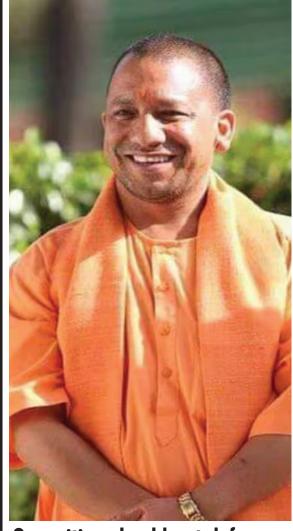
industrial

promotion

initiatives.

landscape.

**Two-day Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet** 



#### **Opposition should not defame** Sanatan and India for ....

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday accused the opposition parties of spreading false rumours regarding Maha Kumbh and appealed that it should not defame the ancient Sanatan culture and India for political gains. On the second day of the budget session of the Assembly, the CM said, "Why are you defaming India? I regret that while fighting with Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), you started fighting with India." Describing SP President Akhilesh Yadav's statement that the country can never become a developed India as unfortunate, he said that a political party has so much ill will towards its country. (See on page 2)

#### India, Malaysia agree to enhance cooperation in .....



The 13th Malaysia-India Defence Cooperation Committee (MIDCOM) meeting took place in Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday, where both sides identified ways to deepen existing collaboration, particularly in the defence industry, maritime security, and multilateral engagements. (See on page 3)

**EX-CM Jagan demands Govt** to provide remunerative

### 1554 cr of additional assistance to 5 states

New Delhi, Feb 19 (UNI) A high-level committee, under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday approved Rs 1554.99 crore of additional central assistance under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to five states, affected by flood, flash flood, landslides, cyclonic storm during the year 2024. The HLC approved central assistance of Rs 1554.99 crore to five States from NDRF, subject to an adjustment of 50 percent of the opening balance for the year available in the SDRF, a Home Ministry statement said.Out of the total amount of Rs 1554.99 crore, Rs 608.08 crore has been approved for Andhra Pradesh; Rs 170.99 crore for Nagaland; Rs 255.24 crore for Odisha; Rs 231.75 crore for Telangana and Rs288.93 crore for Tripura. This additional assistance is over and above the funds released by the centre to the states in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at the disposal of the states.

# prices to chilli produce

(Standard Post Bureau) Guntur, Feb 19: Former Chief Minister and YSRCP president YS Jagan Mohan the brunt.

Reddy voiced his concern at the declining price of chilli produce, putting the farmers in lurch, and demanded Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu to take steps to provide remunerative prices to the chilli produce.

Reddy visited the mirchi yard and interacted with farmers here on Wednesday. Speaking on the occasion, he observed that since the coalition government came to power, farmers had been deprived of MSP.Moreover, there are no buyers to purchase the chilli produce.

The prices of chilli have drastically fallen from Rs 27,000 to Rs 8,000 per quintal and yield per acre has also fallen down drastically when

costs have gone up and the same in Krishna, NTR,

government side. The Chief

Minister and the Agriculture resulting in the farmers left Chief Minister alleged.

Naidu and his coalition nothing to the farmers. But government stopped implementing revolutionary

Jagan alleged.

compared to the previous to chillis, turmeric and Reddy criticised.

### Man gets 20 years jail for raping minor-girl

police.

Eluru, Feb 19 (UNI) : An accused in the house a minor girl on May 5, 2014, when minor girl rape case was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment by POCSO court here on Wednesday.

According to the police, the Eluru district POCSO Sessions Court Judge Uma Sunanda sentenced Donga Chinna Brahamaih (24) to 20 years rigorous imprisonment for sexual assault of a minor girl. The court also imposed a Rs 5000 fine on him. The Judge ordered to the Government to pay Rs 5 lakh compensation to the rape victim.

According to the police, the convict Donga China Brahmaiah introduced into

year. Above this, the input onions but also to 24 crops. When the farmers did not get tenant farmers are bearing MSP, the government had The two-day Reverse Executive Officer Vishwa M provided the same to the Buyer-Seller Meet (RBSM), "The situation is the farmers. The Rythu Bharosa organized by the Andhra Kendras were used as an Pradesh Guntur, Bapatla, Prakasam, anchor point for farmers Development Corporation Kurnool and Anantapur during the previous regime," districts as well. Despite hereminisced and lashed out collaboration with the incentives to support such a grave situation, there at Chief Minister for not Federation of Indian Export MSMEs, including export is no review from the taking steps to check falling Organisations (FIEO), prices of chillies.

at the same time, the farmers. Integrated farm labs opportunities. were set up for quality

When the victim complained of stomach

pain, her parents took her to the doctor,

the accused and filed the charge sheet.

concludes at VSKP

in the international market. (Standard Post Bureau)

Visakhapatnam, Feb 19 : MSME (APMSME DC) in several policies and concluded here on

"We made the best use Wednesday. The event Minister have no concern of technology to map the brought together over 25 prices of commodities international buyers from 18 in the lurch," the former across the state through CM countries and over 430 strategic coastal location, APP when we were in power. MSME exporters (amongst robust infrastructure, and When crops were affected 196 were first time thriving government have done by pests, our field staff used exporters), creating a to take care and advise the dynamic platform for export

The RBSM was control. The chilli farmers inaugurated by Dr N Yuvraj, reforms brought by the used to get the maximum Secretary (Industries and previous regime led by him, price. The present Commerce), Government of government has reversed Andhra Pradesh, who "During YSRCP regime, many of our decisions highlighted the critical role we had given MSP not only including crop insurance," of MSMEs in driving AP's 29, 28,000. export growth and economic

> The Secretary highlighted various trade promotion initiatives of AP Government and focus given for developing critical infrastructure with the aim to help industries to reduce logistics costs. POCSO Act 2012 by the Ganapavaram

The event aimed to provide opportunities for FIEO in organising previous MSMEs to access international markets.

who confirmed that she was pregnant. The Dr Yuvraj also explained accused, Chinna Brahmaiah, fled to Dubai. The then DSPs KGV Saritha and G on the various infrastructure projects being executed by Venkateswara Rao investigated the case, Andhra Government for basket within a short span and the then DSP K Eeshwara Rao arrested making exports competitive of time.

#### IOC president Bach issues ...



International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach expressed his expectations for the younger generations during his visit to Beijing Sports University. Bach Tuesday emphasized the IOC's effort to bridge esports with traditional sports, highlighting the importance of maintaining Olympic values throughout this process. (See on page 7)

#### Nitish announces development of industrial area in Dehri



Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar announced to develop the industrial area of Dehri in Rohtas district. Kumar visited Rohtas on Wednesday during his ongoing Pragati Yatra, where while announcing to develop an industrial area in Dehri he said it would open new vistas for the people. (See on page 8)

development. the victim was alone in her house and sexually assaulted her. A case under

crime number 110/2020 Under Sections 417, 420, 448, 376 IPC & Sec 5 (1) & 6 of

#### STANDARD POST, Visakhapatnam

#### Thursday, February 20, 2025



Samajwadi Party leader Atul Pradhan carrying a bunch of sugarcane and a photo of former prime minister Chaudhary Charan Singh arrives to attend the Budget Session of UP Assembly at Vidhan Bhawan, in Lucknow on Wednesday.

## Pandemonium in Odisha Assembly, House adjourned for day without much business

Bhubaneswar, Feb 19 (UNI) : The Odisha Assembly witnessed chaos as Opposition BJD and Congress members disrupted proceedings, forcing Speaker Surama Padhi to adjourn the house thrice during the day, eventually adjourning it for the day without transacting much business.

The house was first adjourned at 10:31 AM, just a minute after it convened for the day to take up the Question Hour, until 4 PM without transacting any business. This came as BJD and Congress members stormed into the well of the house, shouting slogans against the government.

While BJD members, holding placards, rushed to the podium and raised slogans opposing the state government's move to

Union FM Nirmala Sitharaman restructure the Executive Committee of Mission Shakti, Congress members protested against the rising cases of atrocities against women under the current BJP dispensation.

After the house was adjourned, agitated BJD members, holding placards in their hands, marched in a procession to the Mahatma Gandhi statue inside the Assembly premises and staged а protest, demanding the immediate withdrawal of the notice for restructuring the Executive Committee of Mission Shakti.BJD leaders Rajendra Pratap Swain and Arun Sahu accused the BJP government of attempting to saffronize Mission Shakti and restructuring it against the wishes of lakhs of women who have been

past two decades. They highlighted that these women have been staging an indefinite protest in front of the Assembly for the last six days, opposing the government's move.

The BJD members argued that there was no justification restructuring Mission Shakti and alleged that the BJP government was deliberately pursuing the move for political gain. When the house reassembled at 4 PM after the adjournment to take up the Private Members' Bill, the situation remained unchanged. Both BJD and Congress continued

slogans inside the well of the house, disrupting proceedings and forcing the Speaker to adjourn the serving the program for the house twice, finally **Opposition should** 

not defame Sanatan

#### adjourning it at 5:15 PM for the day.

Before the Speaker adjourned the house until 10:30 AM on Thursday due to the continued ruckus, agitated BJD and Congress members staged a noisy walkout.

During the day BJD member Renendra Paratap Swain accused the BJP government of trying to bring changes and amend the Constitution which was countered by Law Minister Prithiv Raj Harichandan.

for

members

shouting

The Speaker, however, took strong exception to the actions of the Opposition members for stalling the business of the house and not cooperating with the debate. She warned that she would be forced to take action against them if they continued to disrupt Assembly proceedings.

Two get lifer for gang

### Fill vacancies to address the Johannesburg staff constraints on for G20 Foreign health facilities: Sakina Itoo

services,

care.

facilities.

said.

projects to enhance patient

officers of the health

department to fill the

vacancies of paramedics

and doctors to address the

staff constraints on health

healthcare accessibility and

ensure timely availability of

life-saving drugs as well as

other healthcare facilities to

the public," the minister

the officers of the health

department to conduct drug

audits of all the medical and

The minister directed

"Address gaps in rural

She called upon the

New Delhi, Feb 19 (UNI) External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is paying a twoday visit to Johannesburg, South Africa, on February 20-21 to participate in the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM). His visit is at the invitation of the Minister of International **Relations and Cooperation** of South Africa Ronald Lamola. EAM's participation in the G20 FMM will strengthen India's engagement with G20 countries and bolster the voice of the Global South in this important forum, a statement said.

EAM to visit

**Ministers'** 

Meeting

EAM is expected to hold a few bilateral meetings on the margins of the FMM.

Srinagar, Feb 19 (UNI): Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, on Wednesday called upon the officers of the health department to fill the vacancies of paramedics and doctors to address the staff constraints. The minister said this

while chairing a meeting at the Civil Secretariat here to review the performance and functioning of Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education departments in Baramulla district.

Sakeena Itoo stressed the importance of strengthening healthcare

ensuring chemist shops to control adequate medical staff, and malpractices, if any. expediting work on ongoing She asked them to

ensure that the establishments are complying with regulations like the installation of CCTV cameras, the implementation of computerised billing systems, and the maintenance of psychotropic drug records.

While reviewing the performance of the Social Welfare department in the district, the minister assessed the implementation of various beneficiary-orientated schemes for senior citizens. differently-abled individuals, and women.

# Embrace strategic thinking to meet future security challenges: CDS to RIMC cadets

New Delhi, Feb 19 (UNI) Armed Forces, a Defence challenges. : Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan on Wednesday urged the cadets of Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) to embrace technological advancements, strategic thinking, and adaptability to meet future security challenges.

Gen Chauhan visited the Rashtriya Indian Military College, reaffirming the institution's pivotal role in shaping the future leadership of the Indian

Ministry statement said. In his address, Gen Chauhan lauded RIMC's legacy of producing distinguished military leaders and emphasised the values of discipline, integrity, and service to the nation.

interacted with cadets and The CDS appreciated faculty, gaining insights the institution's into the carefully structured commitment to integrating training, modern education with military traditions, ensuring curriculum, and leadership development programs at that cadets are wellequipped for future the

## **CBI** dismantles a virtual asset supported transnational cyber crime network

Kolkata, Feb 19 (UNI) : The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) as a part of its ongoing Operation Chakra-IV has successfully dismantled a sophisticated

and bank accounts, under the pretext of offering tech support services.

They falsely informed the German-based victims that their bank accounts had

compromised.

was being produced before the Ld. Court of the Addl. Chief Judicial Magistrate-06, Rouse Avenue District Courts, New Delhi.

During a search conducted

at

Chauhan also visited the Highlighting the Somnath Resource Centre evolving nature of warfare, and Museum, which he urged cadets to embrace technological advancements, strategic thinking, and adaptability

to meet future security

During his visit, he

academic

institution.Gen

challenges.

showcases RIMC's rich history and the contributions of its illustrious alumni to the nation. The CDS took keen interest in the exhibits,

reflecting on the role of RIMC-trained officers in various military operations. As a mark of commitment to growth and resilience, Gen Chauhan planted a tree on campus.

NC govt will make people partners in ensuring peace instead of intimidating them: Tanvir Srinagar, Feb 19 (UNI): National Conference leader and Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Tanvir Sadiq on Wednesday said the Omar Abdullah Government will play its role in ensuring peace by making people partners instead of intimidating and threatening them. Sadiq who is also Chief Spokesperson of NC said this, while addressing a public meeting in Srinagar. He said the Government will ensure peace by making people partners. The NC leader said providing relief from the hardships, sufferings, bullying and oppression, the people have had to go through since 2015, is the main manifesto of NC. "The Government has started providing relief to the people as soon as it came into existence and with the cooperation of the people, the government will fulfill all the promises made before the elections", he asserted. Sadiq said the NC government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah will present the budget for the first time and the way he held meetings with all the stakeholders including public representatives on the budget is commendable. The NC MLA hoped that the budget would be "people friendly and youth oriented".

#### takes holy dip in Triveni Sangam

Prayagraj, Feb 19 (UNI) Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday experienced the sanctity of the Maha Kumbh by taking a holy dip in the Triveni Sangam, the confluence of Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati, in Prayagraj.

Expressing her joy, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman described the experience as a 'profound moment' in the Sanatan tradition.

She was welcomed in Prayagraj by Uttar Pradesh Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta 'Nandi,' who extended his greetings on her arrival. Accompanied by her family, she participated in the sacred ritual at the Sangam.

Highlighting the global significance of Maha Kumbh, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Tejasvi Surya said, "Today, I had the privilege of taking a dip in the Sangam along with hundreds of BJYM workers. No event of this scale has ever been organised anywhere in the world.

The greatest aspect of Maha Kumbh is its spirit of unity, bringing together people from across the country and beyond."

# and India for political gains: Yogi

Lucknow, Feb 19 (UNI) Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday accused the opposition parties of spreading false rumours regarding Maha Kumbh and appealed that it should not defame the ancient Sanatan culture and India for political gains.

On the second day of the budget session of the Assembly, the CM said, "Why are you defaming India? I regret that while fighting with Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), you started fighting with India." Describing SP President Akhilesh Yadav's statement that the country can never become a developed India as unfortunate, he said that a political party has so much ill will towards its country.

He said, "Now even people have started saying that Rahul Gandhi's presence in the country and Akhilesh Yadav's presence in UP is a guarantee of BJP's victory. This guarantee has been given by the by-elections."

Yogi said that there should be no politics on Maha Kumbh. "Express your views with decency and dignity, but do not call living people dead. People used to go to pilgrimages with devotion. How can anyone stop faith, do not defame them," he said.

He made a heartfelt appeal to the opposition parties and said, "Do not defame Sanatan and India for political gains. Question the government, but not the Maha Kumbh and faith. First you said that the numbers are being exaggerated. The SP chief himself reached there to see whether the crowd was actually gathering or not," he said.

The CM said, "Now he (Akhilesh) is saying that the crowd is too much, people are not getting a chance to bathe; extend the date. This is their double character. First they oppose, then they say extend the date. Chachu (Shivpal Yadav) was also saying the same thing, but we did not decide the date. This event is to be held from Paush Purnima to Shivratri. The date of Shivratri is fixed. It will be according to classical astrological calculations. It cannot be extended beyond this."

He took a jibe at Rahul Gandhi and Akhilesh Yadav and said, "Name has an impact. There is not much difference between Pappu and Tappu. Chachu has not named them without reason. Chachu is quiet right now but will show his true colours when the time comes."

Yogi said that this is the Maha Kumbh of unity. "The feeling of unity has worked to connect us and the world in the thread of unity," he said.

### rape in Barabanki

Barabanki (UP), Feb 19 (UNI): Two persons were sentenced to life imprisonment along with a penalty of Rs 2.30 lakh in a gang rape case by a special court in Barabanki district here in Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday, a prosecution officer said here.

Special Public Prosecutor Luv Tripathi said that the incident took place in a village under Satrikh police station area where the complainant's daughter had gone to the field on the night of January 20, 2017.

"When she did not return for a long time, the family started searching for her and found out that Shibbu Yadav and Kunni Yadav of the village had lured and taken her away," he said.

He said that six witnesses were produced by the prosecution during the trial in the court. "After hearing the statements of the witnesses and arguments of both sides, Special Additional Sessions Judge (Pocso Act) Gyan Prakash Shukla sentenced the two accused to life imprisonment and a fine of Rs 2.3 lakh each," he said.

virtual asset-supported cybercrime network that has been targeting German nationals since 2021.

" This operation was executed in close coordination with the German authorities," the federal Indian investigation agency said.

The International Operations Division of CBI registered a case on February 12, 2025, against Rahul Shaw, Shubham Sharma, Rajeev Budhiraja and unknown others, under section 120-B read with sections 420, 467, 468 and 471 of the Indian Penal Code as well as section 66D of the Information Technology Act 2000 and launched the investigation.

During 2021-2022, the accused persons allegedly conspired to target the German nationals by gaining unauthorized remote access to the victim's computer systems

Claiming that their funds were at risk, the accused, allegedly, manipulated the victims into transferring Euro 646,032 to cryptocurrency wallets

been

controlled by them," the CBI continued.

Following registration of the case, CBI began extensive searches at locations multiple associated/linked to the accused persons, yielding substantial incriminating

evidence. Searches conducted at six locations across Delhi, Kolkata and Siliguri from February 14-17 last revealed that this transnational cyberenabled financial crime network was channelling the proceeds of crime through virtual assets. They then arrested Rahul Shaw from Siliguri ( West Bengal), a key

### **Manipur Governor discusses** issues with NPP leader

Chief Minister.

Meanwhile,

Imphal, Feb 19 (UNI): A delegation of the National People's Party (NPP), Manipur, led by Y Joykumar Singh, State President, met Governor AB Bhalla at Raj Bhawan on Wednesday to discuss the issues the state is facing. The NPP had pulled off support for the N. Biren Singh-led government earlier; however, it decided to support the BJP-led

residential premises,7 mobile phones, a laptop and incriminating documents about the crime were recovered.

The CBI also unearthed an illegal Call Centre being operated by the accused Rahul Shaw and other accused persons at Webel IT Park, Matigara, Darjeeling, West Bengal and dismantled the same.

During the search, 24 hard disks of computer systems used by the accused persons, containing incriminating digital evidence, were recovered from the said illegal Call Centre. Further operations are ongoing to identify the proceeds of crime.The CBI said the investigation into the broader network and international leads are ongoing in close coordination with foreign accused in the case and he law enforcement agencies.

areas of the state. government immediately after

Gyanendra Pratap N Biren Singh resigned as Singh, Director General, CRPF, also called on the S. governor of Manipur, and Radhakrishnan, Chief General he gave a comprehensive Manager, State Bank of India (SBI), Guwahati Circle, along briefing on the deployment and operational activities with other officials, called on of the CRPF in the region. the Governor of Manipur. The He also informed the officials briefed the governor governor that the force is on the various initiatives undertaken by the bank to well prepared to control any situation at any point in time. reach even the far-flung

# **Major NDPL Supply Chain Busted in Andhra Pradesh**

Adani Gangavaram Port hosts Kabaddi tournament under **CSR** Program

#### (Standard Post Bureau)

Visakhapatnam, Feb 19 : Adani Gangavaram Port in association with the Adani Foundation, organised a Kabaddi tournament under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Program at Jalaripallipalem here on Wednesday. The tournament is part of a broader effort by the Port and Foundation to encourage physical fitness and promote sports culture in the region.Over the past three months, more than 750 local participants have actively competed in tournaments across various sports, including Volleyball, Cricket, Badminton, and Kabaddi.

Adani Gangavaram Port and the Foundation have been instrumental in building community infrastructure such as gyms, sports grounds, and boxing rings in the villages of Gangavaram, Dibbapalem, and Srinagar. These initiatives are aimed at fostering a culture of health and fitness, while providing the community with the necessary facilities to stay active and engaged."We believe that sports have the power to unite and empower communities. Through our ongoing CSR initiatives, we aim to not only improve the physical health of individuals but also create a positive environment that fosters teamwork and social harmony", the port said in a release here.

This Kabaddi Tournament is just one example of our commitment to the local community, and we are proud to support initiatives that help nurture talent and promote an active lifestyle, the release added. The event witnessed an enthusiastic participation of local villagers, with the Senior Management of Adani Gangavaram Port and Foundation, along with village heads of Gangavaram, presenting medals and prizes to the winners.

### **CSRK** Prasad assumes charge as new VC of JNTUK

Kakinada, Feb 19 (UNI) : Mr. CSRK Prasad has assumed charge as the new Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru technological University Kakinada (JNTUK) at a simple function held at the University on Wednesday.

Later interacting with the Registrar, directors, campus colleges principals and teaching and non-



teaching staff, he sought their cooperation in further development of the University. The new VC asked them to formulate the vision document reflecting the ideals of Vikasit Bharat of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Swarna Andhra Pradesh -2047 of the AP Minister Chief

He also wanted them to collectively strive for taking the university to top 100 in NIRF rankings and for

Chandrababu Naidu.

significant Non-Duty Paid Liquor (NDPL) supply chain has been dismantled across multiple districts in Andhra Pradesh, leading to numerous arrests and the seizure of a substantial quantity of illicit liquor. The State Task Force (STF) spearheaded the investigation, uncovering an extensive network that operated through private transport services and digital transactions. Authorities have identified Chennai-based supplier S. Prabhu as the central figure behind the operation, linking him to multiple illegal liquor distributions

throughout the state. The initial breakthrough occurred in East Godavari District on December 27, 2024, when Rajahmundry (North) police registered FIR No. 378/2024 under Section 34(a)(1) of the Excise Amendment Act 2020. A total of 112 bottles of various premium brands, including Johnnie Walker, Glenmorangie, Chivas Regal, and Jack Daniels, were seized. Two individuals, Burla Balakrishna and Muppana Ravikumar from Rajahmundry, were arrested.

Discrepancies in bottle quality and cap types raised suspicions that the seized liquor was not merely Non-Duty Paid but also counterfeit. Further investigation confirmed that the liquor was sourced from S. Prabhu in Chennai, identified as the main supplier to various illegal vendors in Andhra Pradesh.

bottles of NDPL liquor, Building on this lead, the STF uncovered another including Chivas Regal and NDPL case in West Johnnie Walker Gold Label Godavari District on January 8, 2025. Registered under FIR No. 09/2025 by Bhimavaram police, the

No. 4/2025. Two transport drivers linked to Venkataramana

operation resulted in the Transport were arrested. seizure of a Maruti Swift Further inquiries revealed Dzire car containing 25 that liquor shipments were being smuggled from Chennai using private transport networks. Several suspects, including former and current managers of Venkataramana Transport, remain at large, indicating a well-coordinated smuggling operation.

In Nellore District, a significant development occurred on January 13, 2025, with the detection of an NDPL case registered under FIR No. 12/2025 of the A.P. Prohibition Act 1995. Authorities seized 25 liquor bottles and arrested Muniswamy Nagaraju, a Reserve, and registered FIR repeat offender operating for eight years. Nagaraju had previously been arrested in a similar case in

2017 but was acquitted. Investigators determined that the liquor had been sourced from Chennai through private transport services, confirming the involvement of a broader network.

Authorities identified S. Prabhu from Chennai and Manikyam from Vyasarpadi as the two primary suppliers in the NDPL network. Their modus operandi involved receiving liquor orders via phone calls or voice messages, packaging the stock, and dispatching it through private transport services such as Venkataramana Transport and SRKALT Transport. Payments were processed digitally via platforms like PhonePe and Google Pay, with transactions

meticulously documented as evidence. To minimize detection risk, the accused avoided maintaining large inventories, opting instead to stock and distribute liquor based on demand.

The investigation linked multiple FIRs to Prabhu's illicit operations, including FIR No. 378/2024 in Rajahmundry (112 bottles supplied), FIR No. 09/2025 in Bhimavaram (25 bottles supplied), FIR No. 4/2025 in Vijayawada (12 bottles supplied), and FIR No. 12/ 2025 in Nellore (25 bottles supplied to repeat offender

Muniswamy Nagaraju). A pivotal moment in the case occurred when Chennai Police arrested S. Prabhu on January 28, 2025, while he was attempting to supply NDPL in Chennai. He was booked under FIR No. 6/2025 at PEW Madhavaram Police Station subsequently and remanded to Puzhal Central Prison, Chennai. Following his arrest, Andhra Pradesh authorities obtained a PT warrant from the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Nellore, and dispatched a team from Nellore-1 Town P&E Station to Chennai for further investigation.

The arrest of Prabhu is considered a significant achievement in dismantling the NDPL network operating across Andhra Pradesh. Authorities anticipate that ongoing investigations will reveal additional connections and aid in curbing the smuggling of illegal liquor in the state. The crackdown was led by several key officers, including Sri S. Madhu (P&E.S, State Task Force, Mangalagiri), Sri Jagadeeswara Reddy (Assistant Prohibition & Excise Superintendent, Nellore), and other senior officials from excise and enforcement teams statewide



the undersigned invites e-tender f



y instrumentation, detailed vestigations, etc. to assess fatigue fe as per RDSO, IRBM. Approx Tender Value in : (₹) 28,16,000/- EMD (₹): 56,400/- Completion period ir Ionths : 06 Maintenance period in Months : Nil

04. e-Tender No.: 08\_S\_SC\_25\_01 Name of the work: DKJ - MUGP ection: BDCR – Emergency Repairs o Running Room at BDCR. Approx ender Value in : (₹) 34,93,632 EMD (₹): 69,900/- Completion period n Months : 06 Maintenance perio n Months : 06

05. e-Tender No.: 09\_N\_SC\_25\_01 Name of the work: BPQ-KZJ 8 MAGH-GDCR Sections:- Proposed in itu reconditioning of CMS crossings & witches by using H3-C double lectrode (using two electrode system CP BUFFEB 040 (Buffer laver) & CF FOP 080 (Hard surfacing laver) approved by RDSO under Sr DEN/North/SC Jurisdiction. (1. The velder who will perform the job of econditioning should have certificate om the manufacturer appoved by RDSO for IRS H 3 C Class. 2. The ontractor should have the certificate om the manufacturer of RDSO for H 3 C class electrodes for execution vork.) Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 16,28,871/- EMD (₹): 32,600/ Completion period in Months : 12





bottles of premium liquor. Five individuals, including Kommisetty Venkateswarlu, a key dealer in Bhimavaram, were arrested. Investigators discovered that the liquor supply was routed through a well-organized network, with Prabhu's involvement becoming increasingly evident." The investigation extended to NTR District (Vijayawada), where another NDPL case was detected on January 12, 2025. Police seized 12

Heads of Pegasus Capital to One more woman dies of GBS in GGH

CAT-VSKP-GMU-4, Dt.13.02.25 TENDER TITLE / PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES AT CATERING STALL GENERAL MINOR UNIT (GMU-4) AT VISAKHAPATNAM STATION ON PLATFORM-1. Tender Value for 1 year : ₹ 23,08,777/-EMD:₹1,15,500/-

(2) E-Tender Notice No. ET-SRDCM-CAT-CHE-GMU-65, Dt.13.02.25 TENDER TITLE : PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES AT CATERING STALL GENERAL MINOR UNIT (GMU (55) AT SRIKAKULAM ROAD STATION ON PLATFORM-2. Tender Value for 1 year : ₹ 2,50,000/-

(3) E-Tender Notice No. ET-SRDCM-CAT-CHE-MB-24, Dt.13.02.25

TENDER TITLE : PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES ON MILK STALL UNIT NUMBER (M-8) AT SRIKAKULAN ROAD STATION OF PLATFORM-2. Tender Value for 1 year : ₹ 1,10,00 EMD : ₹ 10,000/-

(4) E-Tender Notice No. ET-SRDCM (4) E-lender Notice No. El-SADCM-CAT-RGDA-GMU-31, Dt.13.02.25 TENDER TITLE : PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES AT CATERING STALL GENERAL MINOR UNIT WOMEN (GMU-31) AT RAYAGADA STATION ON PLATFORM-2 & 3.

Tender Value for 1 year : ₹ 2,50,000 EMD:₹12,500/-(5) E-Tender Notice No. ET-SRDCM

CAT-RGDA-GMU-33, Dt.13.02.25 TENDER TITLE : PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES AT CATERING STALL GENERAL MINOR UNIT (GMU-33) AT RAYAGADA STATION ON PLATFORM-485

Tender Value for 1 year : ₹ 2,50,000 EMD: ₹ 12,500/-

(6) E-Tender Notice No. ET-SRDCM CAT-DVD-GMU-36, Dt.13.02.25 TENDER TITLE : PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES AT CATERING STALL GENERAL MINOR UNIT (GMU 36) AT DUVVADA STATION ON

#### ender Value for 1 year : ₹ 3,21,989/ EMD:₹16.500/-

(7) E-Tender Notice No. ET-SRDCM CAT-DVD-GMU-38, Dt.13.02.25 TENDER TITLE : PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES AT CATERING STALL GENERAL MINOR UNIT (GMU-38) AT DUVVADA STATION ON PLATFORM-4

Tender Value for 1 year : ₹ 1,25,000/-EMD:₹10,000/-(8) E-Tender Notice No. ET-SRDCM-CAT-DVD-M13-24, Dt.13.02.25

TENDER TITLE : PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES ON MILK STALL UNIT NUMBER (M-13) AT DUVVADA STATION ON PLATFORM-4.

#### ender Value for 1 year : ₹ 80,000/ EMD:₹10,000/-

(9) E-Tender Notice No. ET-SRDCM CAT-SCM-GMU-40, Dt.13.02.25 CAT-SCHING 40, DI 13.02.25 TENDER TITLE : PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES AT CATERING STALL GENERAL MINOR UNIT-WOMEN (GMU-40) AT SIMHACHALAM STATION ON PLATFORM-1. Tender Value for 1 year : ₹ 95,000/-EMD: ₹10,000/-Tender Period : 5 Years (For all the Tender

Fender Opening Date and Time: At 1100 Hrs. of 10.03.2025 (for all the Tenders). Complete details available at websit www.ireps.gov.in Sr. Divisional Commercial Manage

Waltair PR-1001/P/24-25

achieving better NBA ranking. `The teachers should accord priority for researches so that researches of quality could be taken up. They should encourage the students to launch start-ups and new

innovations so that they would come up bright providing employment

avenues to others instead of themselves seeking jobs Prasad added.The new

Vice Chancellor further said that besides providing value based education to students; plans would be formulated to ensure that the teaching would

be in tune with the change in engineering education. Incharge registrar Prof V Ravindranath, OSD Prof Koteswerarao, former Vice Chancellors Prof Muralikrishna,

GVR Prasadaraju, K Padmaraju, Srinivasakumar, former APPSC chairman Pinnmaneni Udayabhaskar, were among those attended.

### EAST COAST RAILWAY

Tender No. SANDT-CAMC-CIB-TIB CHE NAME OF WORK : COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR COACH GUIDANCE DISPLA BOARDS, SINGLE LINE TIB, MULT INE TIB AND AGDB AT SRIKAKULAN ROAD STATION OF WALTAIN DIVISION FOR A PERIOD OF 02 (TWO YEARS

Advertised Value (₹) : 10,41,468.00 EMD (₹) : 20,800.00, Tender Documen Cost (₹): 2,360/-, Period of Completion 24 Months

#### Bidding Start Date : 20.02.2025 Tender Closing Date and Time At 1500 Hrs. of 06.03.2025

Manual offers are not allowed against thi tender, and any such manual offe eceived shall be ignored. Complete information including -Tender documents of the above -Tenders is available in websit http://www.ireps.gov.in Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer Waltai PR-999/P/24-25

# extend their services to promote organic farming in Andhra Pradesh

Vijayawada, Feb 19 (UNI): Heads of the Pegasus Capital Advisors on Wednesday offered to extend their services to promote organic farming in Andhra Pradesh.

The Chairman of the Pegasus Capital Advisors, Craig Cougt, its Operating Advisor, Gina McCarthy, and its Chief Executive Officer of the Producers Trust, Keith Agoada, called on Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu at the State Secretariat in Amaravati near here and they discussed how to move forward in close coordination for promoting organic farming in the State.

Also, they focussed on bringing awareness among the farmers to go for alternate cops to withstand various kinds of environment, formation of an end-to-end system from farmer-to-consumer, market development, financing, data management and providing necessary infrastructure.

These organisations expressed their readiness to extend necessary assistance in this regard and also provide support to get financial help from both public and private organisations. The institutions are also ready to promote Andhra Pradesh as a Global Centre of Excellence for establishing an environment for organic farming. The Pegasus Capital Advisors and the Producers Trust entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Rythu Sadhikara Samshtha, a State Government body, to this effect.In fact, Wednesday's meeting is in continuation of the recent visit of the Chief Minister to Davos, during which he explained the objectives of the state government to the heads of various organisations.

Naidu also extended an invitation to them to come forward to promote natural farming in the State and following this Pegasus Capital Advisors and the Producers Trust representatives met the Chief Minister today.

Naidu, explained in detail to them the umpteen opportunities available in the state, the objectives of the state government and the prevailing conditions in the state.He also informed them that the food habits of the people are changing fast due to increasing awareness on health care and thus everyone wants healthy food.

Chandrababu said that in the coming days food production certification and traceability are going to be very crucial and thus the State Government is promoting both the farmers and the food production units.

Guntur, Feb 19 (UNI) One more woman died of Guillain Barre Syndrome (GBS) in the Government General Hospital on Wednesday.Health and medical department officials said that woman Sheikh Gouhar John, who had been undergoing treatment for GB Syndrome for the last few days, died on Wednesday.

The doctor of the GGH confirmed her death due to the GBS. It may be

**CITU** stages dharna protesting against removal

of staff in animal husbandry clinics

Kakinada, Feb 19 (UNI) Animal Husbandry department employees owing allegiance to the CITU have staged a dharna in front of the Collectorate here on Wednesday protesting against the removal of staff working in mobile animal husbandry clinics. They raised slogans demanding reinstatement of the removed staff and also clear the two months wage arrears. Addressing the demonstrators, CITU district president Duvva Seshu Babji said that there were fourteen mobile animal husbandry clinics in the district and drivers, pharmacists and veterinary doctors were working in it.

mentioned here that a few days ago, one woman, Kamalamma, died of GBS while undergoing treatment in the GGH.Meanwhile, Eluru district Collector K Vetri Selvi directed the medical officers to be vigilant following the outbreak of GBS. The Collector reviewed medical issues such as GBS, immunisation, prevention of maternal and child mortality, along with DCHS Dr. Paul Satish, DMHO Dr. R. Malini and Deputy

DMHO Dr. Nageswara Rao here on Wednesday.Speaking on the occasion, the collector said that medical officers should be vigilant in dealing with GBS disease, adding that there should be no room for any misconceptions about this disease and that people should be made aware of it. She directed the officials that suspicious cases should be brought to his attention along with DMHO and DCHS as soon as they are identified.

Maintenance period in Months : 0

Year or 50 GMT whichever is earlier 06. e-Tender No.: 10 N SC 25 OT Name of the work BPQ-K7.1 8 MAGH-GDCR Sections: Proposed ir situ reconditioning of CMS crossings by using Translamatic Robotic Welde Fechnology of RDSO under Sr.DEN/North/SC Jurisdiction Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 3,92,744/- EMD (₹): 1,07,900/ Completion period in Months : 12 Maintenance period in Months : 01 Year or 80 GMT whichever is earlier 07. e-Tender No.: 11\_NW\_SC\_25\_01 Name of the work PDPI-NZE section: Proposed laying of additiona pop lines (Track work) in connectio with New crossing station in betwee ARMU-NZB at Km: 162 to 164 Approx. Tender Value in : (₹ 2,06,31,309/- EMD (₹): 2,53,200/-Completion period in Months : 06 Maintenance period in Months

45davs 08. e-Tender No.: 12\_S\_SC\_25\_OT Name of the work: KZJ-KI, DKJ-S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.ir

MUGR & MTMI-JNPD section: TRR(P or a total length of 0.38 Kms, TSR(P or a total length of 2.00 Kms, CTR(S vith new wider base sleepers for a tota ength of 9.388 Kms. TSR(S) with new vider base sleepers for a total length o .424 Kms, TFR for a total length of 03.338 Kms, TBR by deep screening vith BCM on main lines for a tota enath of 39.084 Kms. TBR by deep creening with BCM on P&C for a tota 15 Nos., TBR by Manual/BCM on loop nes for a total length of 1.688 Kms hrough Turnout Rail Renewal (TWS CS, CMSC, WCMSC) for a total 58 Nos., TWSEJ for a total of 30 Sets and GJ for a total 80 Nos. unde Sr.DEN/South/SC section. Approx Tender Value in : (₹) 9.64.65.450.33 EMD (₹): 6,32,400/- Completion period in Months: 15 Maintenanc period in Months: 45days Tenderers should participate

through e-tendering only and no manual offers may be considered. All the prospective tenderers are requested to remit EMD through online payments / BG only The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto. All the prospective tenderers are advised to get GSTIN identification Nos. and submit along with their offer Sr.DEN/Co-ord/ A0238 Secunderabad For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents,

Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

For and on behalf of the President of India, Senior Divisional Commercia Manager, Vijayawada Division, South Central Railway invites the food and catering service providers for "Provision of Catering Services" for E-Auction through 'E-Auction Leasing' module of IREPS: www.ireps.gov.in fo installation and operation of General Minor units (GMUs), Special Minor Units (SMUs) and Multipurpose Stalls, Water Vending Machines (WVMs at various stations over Vijayawada Division. The E-auction schedule is detailed here under. Details of the assets offered in auction may be viewed in IREPS website.

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Follow us on y @SCRailwayindia Details of the Tender Notices of

E- Auction Notice No.: BZA-Catg-05-2024, BZA-WVM-2-2024,

BZA-MPS-06-2024 & BZA-MPS-0-2024. Dt: 17/02/2025

Type of Contract No. of Lots offered in the auction Auction schedule Date and opening time Water Vending WVMs under clusters of RJY and 05/03/2025 at 11:00 Hrs Machines NLR at various Railway station (WVMs) over BZA division MPS at RJY, SLO, NS, ANV, BZA 05/03/2025 at 12:00 Hrs Multipurpose stalls and TUNI Railway stations Catering 1. General Minor Units (GMUs) at 05/03/2025 at 15:00 Hrs NZD, NLS, PVD and AKVD Railway stations (4 GMUs) 2. Special Minor Units (SMUs) at NDO and GDR Railway statio (3 SMUs) Multipurpose MPS at BZA Railway station 06/03/2025 at 11:00 Hrs talls 1. It is the responsibility of the bidder to obtain digital signature for participating in E-Auctions The bidder should have Current Account in SBI and it should be linked with E-Auction leasing module in IREPS. 3. One time online self registration is compulsory to participate in E-Auction thereby no geographical restrictions for participation in any auction of any Division of Indian Railways. The time slots on the E-Auctions Dates mentioned above are available in E-Auction leasing module in IREPS application www.ireps.gov.in. Please note and participate in Auction accordingly. Railway Administration cannot be held responsible for any hindrance caused in the IREPS portal during E-Auction. Bidders are advised to go through the user manual through the Learning Center link available in the left navigation bar of homepage of IREPS application www.ireps.gov.in. to understand E-Auction procedure and participat

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Vijayawada A0237

## **STANDARD POST**

# Rekha Gupta – a non-controversial leader, loyal BJP soldier - set to helm Delhi govt

Fifty year old Rekha Gupta, a somewhat surprise choice by the BJP as the new Delhi Chief Minister, is a first time MLA and a non-controversial politician who has spent three decades serving the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in various capacities

While Gupta's choice over more prominent leaders like Parvesh Verma - who defeated AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal – Ashish Sood and Vijender Gupta, might seem a little surprising, it appears to be a part of the BJP's tactic to cement its base among the women - a section which has emerged as a major vote bank wooed by every party over the past few years. The BJP's manifesto ahead of the Delhi Assembly election also had many sops and announcements targeting women.

Gupta, an advocate, becomes the ninth CM overall and the fourth woman to helm the Delhi government after Sushma Swaraj, Sheila Dikshit and Atishi. AAP leader Atishi was Gupta's immediate predecessor and could be the face of the opposition in the legislature for he next five years after the defeat of Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia in the recent elections..

Another reason for the BJP's decision to opt for Gupta could be her Baniya community background, like Kejriwal. The Baniya community has been another strong support base of the saffron outfit, and Gupta's anointment in the cream post could help it further consolidate its support base among this section of voters. Gupta, who has risen through the ranks, began her political journey as a student leader with the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP). She was elected as president of the Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) in 1996-97 Gupta then moved into civic politics, becoming a three-time councillor, and also served as Mayor of South Delhi Municipal Corporation. She also contested against AAP's Shelly Oberoi for the Mayoral post of the MCD in 2022. Gupta, who filed her candidature from the Shalimar Bag constituency for the recent Delhi Assembly polls, won with a margin of over 29,000 votes over Aam Aadmi Party's Bandana Kumari. Gupta in fact proved third time lucly, as she had lost to the same rival in the 2015 and 2020 Assembly polls As an organisational leader, Gupta has been the General Secretary of the Delhi unit of the BJP and a national vice president of the party's women's wing - Mahila Morcha. Gupta, a member of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), is set to be sworn in on Thursday, as the BJP returns to power in the national capital after a long gap of 27 years.

# **Championing social justice : The** role of the Railway Protection Force

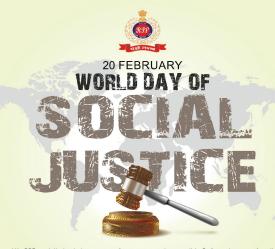
(Standard Post Bureau) or class meet, intermingle The World Day of and bond. The Railway Social Justice is celebrated Protection Force (RPF) every year on the 20th plays a pivotal role in February. It has been ensuring the safety and security of all these started by the UN to create passengers. awareness that even today, there are many people who

The very essence of are unable to get an equal social justice lies in opportunity to lead a better ensuring that all individuals life. The aim of the event is have equal access to rights, resources, opportunities to promote fairness. and protection. Fairness means equal It access to the same encourages fairness, standards of education, inclusivity and the dismantling of barriers that health care and all public services. This access must hinder the right to equal opportunity. Social justice be fair i.e. no person should is not just legal fairness, it be denied access merely by reason of caste, race, also involves access to social goods such as religion, gender or class. Social justice refers to the education, health, equitable distribution of employment and above all, resources, opportunities, security. Within this broad and privileges within a framework, the role of society. Every year this various institutions, day is celebrated with a including law enforcement agencies is vital in ensuring view to raise awareness and promote practical solutions that no individual is denied to address the issues of equal access to these poverty, exclusion, gender services. inequality and social

In this context, the role of agencies like the Railway In the context of India, Protection Force is crucial in maintaining not just the Indian Railways which is one of the largest security of Railway Railway networks in the property and passengers world weaves an intricate but also in upholding the matrix of connectivity social justice that is the across the length and basic right of every breadth of the country. individual.

With its Railway lines The Railway Protection reaching out to some of the Force (RPF) is an armed force of the Union remotest parts of the country, it provides the entrusted with the most accessible and responsibility of securing the country's vast Railway inexpensive method of travel to many people. This network. Beyond the tangled web of Railway enforcement of law, the RPF lines unites all Indians into plays a crucial role in the one single thread. In the broader concept of social vast expanse of its trains justice by ensuring that the and stations, millions of rights of vulnerable Indians irrespective of populations are respected, caste, race, religion, gender protected, and upheld

**Pen Cap Stuck in Lungs for 21 Years** 



We RPF work tirelessly to ensure safe, secure, and accessible Railway journeys for all, regardless of caste, race, religion, gender or class

X@rpf\_scr1 🞯 📑 @rpfscr

within its specific sphere of influence. The Indian Railway system serves millions daily, with a significant portion being women, children, senior citizens, and individuals marginalized from communities. The RPF stands as a shield for these vulnerable passengers, protecting them from crimes such as theft, harassment, and even violence. By ensuring their safety, RPF works towards a more equitable and just society, where all individuals can travel without fear.

The RPF has been proactive in safeguarding the rights of every passenger during travel on the Railways.

This includes ensuring equal treatment for people with disabilities. The RPF has been conducting relentless drives in coaches reserved for persons with disabilities and prosecuting regular passengers who encroach upon the facilities provided for them. In the year 2024, RPF has prosecuted 95.175 such people. Another vulnerable group of passengers traveling on Indian Railways are women passengers. By proactive deployment in coaches reserved for ladies, RPF has ensured the safety of female passengers, especially when traveling at odd hours. To make women passengers feel safer, RPF regularly prosecutes men traveling in coaches reserved for women. In the year 2024, RPF has prosecuted 1,02,130 such male passengers. RPF has launched the "Meri Saheli initiative" with its focus on passengers women traveling alone. There are more than 250 Meri Saheli teams who are daily attending 500 trains and are instrumental in providing a safer environment for female passengers. Similarly, RPF has undertaken an initiative called Operation Matri shakti to assist pregnant women who go into labour during train journeys. In the year 2024 alone, lady

managed to restore the

affected area with antibiotic treatment. The patient has

now fully recovered," said

the importance of timely

medical intervention in

such cases. "Leaving

foreign objects inside the

body for an extended period

is extremely dangerous. If

the patient had delayed

further, the lung tissue

completely damaged,

requiring surgical removal

of the affected section.

Fortunately, we identified

the issue in time and treated

it with medication. Parents

must be vigilant when their

children are playing and

observe what they put in

their mouths. If a child

accidentally swallows any

object, immediate medical

attention is necessary to

prevent severe complic-

ations," he cautioned.

would

have been

Dr. Nadella emphasized

Dr. Shubhakar Nadella.

assisted in 174 child births. RPF has launched Operation AAHT to ensure that women and children do not fall prey to human trafficking. RPF personnel actively collaborate with other law enforcement agencies to rescue trafficked individuals, especially those who are being exploited for forced labor or prostitution. In the year 2024, RPF has rescued 826 persons from the clutches of traffickers through Operation AAHT.

personnel have

RPF

There are several lost or abandoned children in contact with Railways who are in need of care and protection. If such children are not rescued or rehabilitated there is a high probability that they will fall prey to drug peddlers and criminals' gangs. Through Operation Nanhe Farishtey, RPF rescues such children and ensures their rehabilitation in collaboration with Ministry of Women and Child Development. RPF has rescued 14,756 children through Operation Nanhe

Farishtey in the year 2024. RPF lady personnel also play a crucial role in rescuing adults, including women in need of care and protection. These individuals may be runaways, abandoned elderly, drug addicts, destitute, or needing medical assistance. RPF rescues such individuals and hands them over to NGO's for rehabilitation. In 2024, RPF has rescued 4,047 people through its Operation Dignity.

proactive in safeguarding the rights of vulnerable communities and ensured that Indian Railways provides an equally accessible space to all the people irrespective of caste, race religion, gender or class. During the Covid pandemic, RPF provided food to thousands of laborer's who were stranded and ensured safe return to their homes following the due pandemic protocols. RPF proudly boasts of having the largest share of women personnel amongst all CAPFs today. The RPF's consistent efforts in providing safe journey to passengers coming from all strata of society without discrimination align with the boarder global goal of social justice. From tackling petty crimes to protecting passengers from RPF's terrorism, commitment to the cause of justice social is

unwavering. The RPF exemplifies how law enforcement agencies can not only uphold the law but also contribute to building a more just society by reaching out to the most vulnerable classes, preventing discrimination and extending a helping hand to the weaker sections of the society.

A sustained effort towards achieving these goals will be essential as India and Indian Railways in particular navigates through a socially diverse landscape ensuring that benefits the of development and security Thus RPF has been reach all citizens uniformly.

### **Markets4You Unveils**

### **Successfully Removed by KIMS Doctors**

(Standard Post Bureau)

iustice.

A 26-year-old man from Karimnagar had unknowingly carried a pen cap in his lungs for 21 years accidentally after swallowing it at the age of five. Over the past month, he had been experiencing persistent cough and unexplained weight loss. His condition worsened significantly over the last ten days, making it difficult for him to sleep. Upon consulting doctors, a CT scan was conducted, revealing an infection in the lower left lung. He was then referred to KIMS Hospital, Kondapur, Hyderabad, where a further CT scan was performed. Consultant Clinical and Interventional Pulmonologist, Dr. Shubhakar Nadella, provided insights into the case.

When the patient arrived, we conducted a CT



scan, which showed a lump-like structure inside his lungs. We initially assumed it was an obstruction causing his persistent cough. However, during the procedure, we discovered that it was actually a pen cap lodged inside. Midway through the procedure, we called in his elder brother and asked if he had ever swallowed anything as a child. That's when he recalled that, at the age of five, he had accidentally swallowed a pen cap. At that time, he was taken to a doctor, who conducted an examination

but found nothing abnormal, assuming that the foreign object had naturally passed out of the body.

The procedure to remove the pen cap took nearly three hours. Using a flexible bronchoscopy, we first carefully removed the tissue buildup, lymph nodes, and muscle formations around the object. Once the surrounding area was cleared, we successfully extracted the pen cap. The prolonged presence of a foreign body had caused lung damage, but we **Innovative Campaign** 



(Standard Post Bureau)

Markets4You, a leading global multi-asset trading platform, is excited to announce the launch of its latest advertising campaign "Think Gold, Think Markets4you" emphasizing the ease and accessibility of gold trading on its platform. The ad film, set in a historical context, creatively illustrates how Markets4you has transformed gold trading, making it accessible to everyone.

The advertisement presents a compelling storyline where a royal figure cleverly secures his wealth not by hoarding gold but by trading it on Markets4You. This creative narrative reinforces the idea that anyone can trade gold effortlessly with a secure and user-friendly experience. The creative narrative drives home a playful and witty message: "Smart King ka Gold Locker nahi Trading Account hota hain". - The narrative unfolds in a royal court where a thief is apprehended for attempting to steal the king's gold. Upon interrogation, the thief reveals that, despite his efforts, he couldn't locate any physical treasure in the treasury. The king then discloses his secret: to mitigate risks, he doesn't hoard physical gold but instead trades digital gold on Markets4you. This revelation underscores the message that in today's world, anyone can trade gold effortlessly through Markets4you's modern platform.

"We're thrilled to launch our 'Think Gold, Think Markets4You' campaign in India. The people of India are at the heart of our vision, and we're constantly inspired by their rich culture, heritage, and financial acumen. As part of our growth strategy, we want to make gold trading accessible to everyone-from seasoned investors to firsttime traders. Our goal is to create a seamless and trustworthy trading experience that aligns with each individual's financial journey." - Mrs. Marina Strauss, CEO of Markets4You.Markets4you ensures that trading is accessible to all by offering a user-friendly web platform, as well as Android and iOS applications. This multiplatform approach allows traders to engage with the markets at their convenience, anytime and anywhere

### India, Malaysia agree to enhance cooperation in defence industry, maritime security

New Delhi, Feb 19 (UNI) : The 13th Malaysia-India Defence Cooperation Committee (MIDCOM) meeting took place in Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday, where both sides identified ways to deepen existing collaboration, particularly in the defence industry, maritime security, and multilateral engagements.

The meeting was co-chaired by Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh and Secretary General of Ministry of Defence, Malaysia Lokman Hakim Bin Ali, a Defence Ministry statement said here.

Both sides expressed happiness at the growing bilateral defence cooperation with regular engagements between the two Armed Forces in recent years.

The two sides held wide-ranging discussions on effective and practical initiatives to further expand bilateral defence engagements and regional and global issues and also identified steps to further enhance cooperation in emerging areas such as cyber security and AI.

Moreover, they agreed to form a joint focus group to address non-traditional maritime security threats.

#### STANDARD POST, Visakhapatnam

### No good news for Ukrainians in coming days : Ex-Foreign Minister

Moscow/Kyiv, Feb 19 (UNI) : Ukrainians should not expect any positive news in the coming days as the country faces a hard period, ex-Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba has said.

"Do not look for light in the news in the coming days ... and remember that everything will be good in the end, and if everything is not good, then it is not yet the end," Kuleba said on social media on Tuesday.

On Saturday, Kuleba said that it is impossible to put an end to the Ukraine conflict in current conditions, as Kiev believes that it has enough resources to last till mid-summer and till the next batch of European aid.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and US President Donald Trump spoke over the phone for nearly an hour and a half last week. They discussed issues related to the exchange of Russian and US citizens, as well as the settlement of the conflict in Ukraine. The call was followed up by in-person talks between senior Russian and US officials in the Saudi capital of Riyadh on Tuesday.

#### 2 dead in Sydney house fire

Sydney, Feb. 19 (UNI): Two people have died and four more have been hospitalized after a house fire in western Sydney in Australia's state of New South Wales (NSW). Emergency services were called to the fire in the suburb of Heckenberg, about 30 kilometers west of central Sydney, at about 12:40 a.m. local time on Wednesday.

MSW Police said that the blaze was extinguished and officers and fire crews entered the property where they found a 46-year-old woman and a six-year-old girl deceased.Eight other occupants of the house escaped the fire and were treated at the scene by ambulance paramedics.

Four were taken to nearby hospitals, including a girl and a man being in a critical condition.

The fire caused extensive damage to the house.

Addressing reporters at the scene later on Wednesday morning, NSW Fire and Rescue Superintendent Adam Dewberry described the fire as "horrific and confronting" with flames coming out of every window. He said that police and firefighters have commenced an investigation into the cause of the fire.

### Spain's far-right Vox party opposes sending Spanish troops to Ukraine

Madrid, Feb 19 (UNI): The Spanish far-right Vox party does not support the idea of ??sending Spanish troops to participate in a peacekeeping mission in Ukraine, party spokesperson Pepa Millan said.

"We do not support sending troops anywhere. We believe that our forces, the state security forces and the army should first and foremost defend Spain and protect the Spaniards from the main problems that we are currently facing, including illegal migration," Millan said at a press conference on Tuesday.

At the same time, the party advocates increasing spending on the kingdom's defense, as this is an investment in the "security of all Spaniards."

Millan added that the informal meeting of European leaders held in Paris on Monday only showed a "true picture" of Europe's "inability" to take steps to ensure a "diplomatic solution to the Russian invasion."

The Washington Post reported on Monday, citing officials, that European countries are considering deploying a total of 25,000-30,000 military personnel to Ukraine, but not directly on the contact line. On Tuesday, Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera reported that EU countries voiced different positions on the issue of deploying peacekeeping forces to Ukraine at the recent informal summit in Paris. In particular, Spain, Poland, Germany and Italy reportedly opposed the idea, while France, the Scandinavian countries and the Baltic states, as well as the United Kingdom, declared their readiness to participate in the initiative.

# No point in changing Panama **Canal toll system : Vice President**

5

Panama City, Feb 19

(UNI) :The system of collecting toll from ships in the Panama Canal has proven its effectiveness for 25 years of work, and there is no point in changing it now, Boris Moreno, vice president for operations at the Panama Canal, told Sputnik."We see no need in changing the system because it has been working well for 25 years," Moreno said.

The system of setting a price for passing through the canal based on a

vessel's load capacities is all potential clients may confirmed by its authorities attend the hearing and and the Panamanian express their worries and government after a public disagreements, which "are hearing, he said, adding that being taken into account."

Only two countries have the benefit of free transit through the Panama Canal. Apart from the US, Colombian military vessels

same port, with an estimated

also have a right of free passage, the executive also said, adding that "apart from those two exemptions, all countries pay the same."

# **Brazilian prosecution** accuses Bolsonaro of attempted coup : Reports

Buenos Aires, Feb 19 (UNI) : Brazil's Office of the Prosecutor General has accused Former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro of an attempted coup over rots of 2022, the G1 news portal reported on Wednesday.

The former president also stands accused of the violent abolition of the democratic rule of law and participating in a criminal organization, the portal added. If the accusations are accepted by the Brazilian

Supreme Court, Bolsonaro will become a plaintiff in a criminal case.

Despite being barred from running for office, Bolsonaro reportedly plans to run in Brazil's 2026 presidential election. He expects Trump to pressure Brazilian judges to delay enforcement of his political ban. The ex-leader suggested that Trump could impose economic sanctions on the government of current Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, which could help his political comeback. In January 2023, Bolsonaro supporters, who had been protesting the results of the presidential election since late 2022, seized government buildings in the capital of Brazil, including the Congress, the presidential palace, and the Supreme Court.

### Italian police seize 788 kg of Israeli forces kill Palestinian cocaine in major drug bust teenager in South Gaza

inside hundreds of pallet Rome, Feb. 19 (UNI) : bags and in the engine Italian finance police seized compartment of a container a record 788 kg of cocaine carrying frozen fish.

According to officials, the seized cocaine had an estimated street value of approximately 126 million euros (131.6 million U.S. dollars).

Gioia Tauro, covering a total area of 440 hectares, Italy's is largest transshipment port and ranks as the ninth-largest container port in Europe. It is considered a major gateway for international drug trafficking, particularly

In a separate operation on Saturday, finance police confiscated an additional 110 kg of cocaine at the

**Trump cuts target next** 

generation of scientists.

market value of 20 million euros (20.8 million U.S. Belgium and

> overland to central and northern Europe. According to Italy's Anti-Drug Agency, 30.56 percent of all cocaine seized nationwide in 2023,

approximately 5.3 tonnes, discovered in was containers at Gioia Tauro.

is starting in his job.

employees by asking for

but

ways to cut health care

costs and computer

specialists who try to

government's antiquated

the

their resignations.

administrators

hunters

improve

Drug

Israeli military forces opened fire on Wednesday on a group of Palestinians near the airport area in Rafah, the southern Gaza Strip, killing a 16-year-old Palestinian teenager, according to local sources

Palestinian medics confirmed that Mahmoud Abu Zakar succumbed to his injuries after being struck by Israeli fire. His body was later transported to a nearby hospital for medical examination.

The Israeli army said in a statement that soldiers opened fire after spotting a suspect near their position

Policeman killed in attack on anti-polio team in NW Pakistan

Gaza, Feb 19 (UNI): The in southern Gaza, claiming January 19. The committee the suspect continued advancing despite warnings and posed an immediate threat.

> The army reiterated its borders, calling on calls for Gaza residents to international mediators to with comply its pressure Israel to uphold instructions, avoid the ceasefire terms and approaching Israeli stop the violations. positions, and use designated inspection extensive destruction caused by the Israeli

routes. In the wake of this incident, the Central Emergency Committee in Rafah reported that more been killed by Israeli fire in the city since the ceasefire agreement between Israel

has been under occupation for nearly nine months. The destruction has led than 20 Palestinians have to the collapse of infrastructure, homes, and public institutions, leaving the city needing and Hamas was signed on reconstruction.

condemned the ongoing

military incursions into the

city with Israeli vehicles

continuing to penetrate its

It also emphasised the

military in the city, which

# Musk says will bring **Starliner** astronauts back in 4 weeks



in a large-scale anti-drug operation on Tuesday, marking one of the largest drug hauls ever intercepted the country's bv authorities. The operation, conducted by the Guardia di Finanza in collaboration with Italy's National Customs Agency, took place at the southern port of Gioia Tauro in the

Calabria region, police confirmed in a statement. The cocaine was concealed in three shipping

containers arriving from South America, destined for various ports in Italy and Spain. Investigators found the drugs hidden

the

Tuesday.

cocaine.

#### dollars).Cocaine smuggled into Europe is primarily transported by sea from South America, entering either through major northern European ports in and witnesses. the Netherlands or, via the Strait of Gibraltar, through southern ports such as Gioia Tauro. From there, the drugs are distributed

#### 5 automakers in SKorea to recall some 76k vehicles

Seoul, Feb. 19 (UNI) : Five domestic and foreign automakers in South Korea will voluntarily recall some 76,000 vehicles for manufacturing defects, the transport ministry said Wednesday.

Kia Corp. will recall 35,571 units of two different models, including Niro electric vehicle (EV) for faulty airbag systems, according to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport.

BMW Korea will recall 24,371 units of 28 models, such as the 528i sedan, for problems in the cooling pump wire connector that pose a fire risk.

Software errors in transformer and hybrid control system prompted a recall in 8,056 units of two models, including Arkana hybrid sport utility vehicle (SUV) from Renault Korea Motors.

Tesla Korea will repair the electric power assist steering (EPAS) system's software errors in 7,781 units of Model Y.Jaguar Land Rover Korea will take corrective actions on 603 units of four models, including the Defender 110 P300 SUV, due to software efforts in the touch screen. Vehicle owners can visit repair and service centers to replace the faulty parts free of charge.

#### Over 200 people killed in rapid support forces' attacks in Sudan

Budapest, Feb 19 (UNI) : More than 200 people, including children and women, have been killed and hundreds of others have been injured in attacks by the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Sudan over the past three days, the Al-Araby Al-Jadeed news portal reported.

Two villages in White Nile State were attacked, the report said on Tuesday, adding that the region was previously completely free of any military action.

#### uhlia haalth la public nealli leauers: report

New York, Feb. 19 (UNI) erupts," noted the report. U.S. President Donald "The firings have also Trump's plan to shrink the excised the next generation size of the federal work force of leaders at the CDC (the dealt blows to thousands of Centers for Disease civil servants in the past few Control and Prevention), days, but the cuts to the the NIH (the National Department of Health and Institutes of Health), the Human Services, coming on Food and heels of the Administration, and coronavirus pandemic, the other agencies that the worst public health crisis in department oversees."

a century, have been The dismissals have especially jarring, reported also rattled graduate The New York Times on students eyeing careers in public health and the

"Experts say the firings biomedical sciences, it said, threaten to leave the adding that the cuts came country exposed to further as Robert F. Kennedy Jr., shortages of health the prominent vaccine workers, putting Americans skeptic and newly at risk if another crisis confirmed health secretary,

### 1 killed, 2 injured in Israeli attacks on South Lebanon

spokesperson

would maintain

the deadline for Israel's full Beirut, Feb 19 (UNI) An withdrawal from southern Israeli airstrike on a vehicle Lebanon under a ceasefire in the southern Lebanese agreement that took effect village of Aita al-Shaab on Nov. 27, 2024. While killed one person on Wednesday, Lebanon's Israel has withdrawn from most areas, it maintains state-run National News positions at five strategic Agency (NNA) reported. Lebanese broadcaster locations. Israeli

Al-Jadeed said the deceased was a member of Hezbollah. Separately, NNA

reported that two people were wounded by Israeli gunfire in the village of Al-Wazzani.

northern Israel, calling it The incidents follow the a "temporary measure" expiration early Tuesday of

approved by the U.S.-led body monitoring the ceasefire.

Lebanon's presidency said on Tuesday that any remaining Israeli presence on its territory would be considered an "occupation," reserving military the right "to employ all Nadav means" to ensure a full Shoshani said the army withdrawal

а Lebanese authorities presence at the five have also accused Israeli hilltop locations for forces of continuing observation and to airstrikes in southern protect communities in Lebanon, causing casualties, despite the ceasefire.

Islamabad, Feb 19 (UNI): A policeman was killed in firing by Officials at the NIH are unknown gunmen in especially concerned that Pakistan's northwest he might target more senior Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, police officials said on "The cuts over the Wednesday.

weekend have touched all According to the manner of health workers. police officials, some They are not only unknown armed persons scientists and disease attacked the polio also vaccination team in the who Bajaur district of the oversee grant proposals, province. analysts figuring out new

Police added that the team was engaged in a door-to-door

vaccination campaign to give polio drops to children when the attack happened.

The assailants fled the scene after carrying out the attack, and a search operation is underway to arrest the culprits, said the police.

Following the incident, a heavy contingent of police reached the area. Security forces cordoned off the area and launched an investigation into the attack.

Earlier this month, a policeman assigned to ensure security of polio workers was shot dead in Jamrud district of KP province.

According to government officials, 74 polio cases were reported in the country in 2024, while this year only two new case have been reported so far.

Washington, Feb 19 (UNI)) : The Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) head billionaire Elon Musk announced that he plans to bring back the astronauts who came to the International Space Station (ISS) on the ill-fated Boeing Starliner in about a month.

"I think it's about four weeks to bring them back," Musk said when asked by President Donald Trump during their joint interview on Fox News when he plans to launch.

Trump pointed out that Musk's team now has a goahead from him to fly the astronauts back to the earth.

"At the president's instruction, we are accelerating the return of the astronauts, which was postponed, kind of to a ridiculous degree," Musk said. "They're left up there for political reasons, which is not good"

The Starliner was launched on June 5 and docked to the ISS the next day. US astronauts Barry Wilmore and Sunita Williams were expected to stay in orbit for eight days and return to Earth on the same spacecraft. However, the undocking of the Starliner has been delayed several times due to problems with thrusters and the discovery of helium leaks. This has raised safety concerns, forcing Wilmore and Williams to remain on the ISS.

## Trump says to exclude **Musk from space-related** gov't decisions

Washington, Feb 19 (UNI) U.S. President Donald Trump said Tuesday that billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk will be excluded in space-related decision-making.

Trump made this remark at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida in reply to a question about Musk's potential conflicts of interest amid his efforts to cut government spending, according to media reports.

"So anything to do with possibly even space, we won't let Elon partake in that," he told reporters.

The White House has said Musk would recuse himself from any conflicts of interest between his business interests and efforts to reduce government spending via the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).

On Monday, regarding Musk's role in the Trump administration, the White House said he is a White House employee and senior adviser to the president. Musk is not an employee of DOGE, it said, adding that he has no decision-making authority. Trump said Tuesday that Musk could be called an "employee" or "consultant."

systems for tracking health information," added the report.



# Travel

6

# Driving down the Romantic Road in **Termany**

If in the olden times, all roads in Europe led to Rome, in the modern (at least for us Indians) they lead to Switzerland, Bollywood being its unofficial brand ambassador. When compared to the Alpine extravaganza of crisp mountain air, idyllic towns, placid lakes and panoramic views that Switzerland has to offer, its lesser explored immediate neighbours, namely, northern Italy, north eastern France and Belgium and southern Germany offer an additional abundance of history and heritage, art and architecture for the discerning traveller. South Germany, with its fairytale castles, grand palaces and timeless medieval towns, exudes the kind of rustic charm that would take one's breath away.

Situated literally within the geographic centre or the 'heart' of Europe, as is true of any heart, the region of south Germany has been wooed and won, as well as ripped open and trampled upon by many a ruler. This is reflected by a colourful mix of its region's culture, cuisine, customs and constructions, dating as far back as the time of the Romans. Such is the architectural diversity of south Germany that, for example, if one happens to pass by an ancient Roman amphitheatre, the next turn would have a Renaissance-style town hall flanked by a Gothic church overlooking a Baroque-style residential palace with a Rococostyle facade.

Frankfurt or Munich could serve as a good base from where one can plan an onward journey. The old town centres of Frankfurt and Munich provide spectacular viewing. The recommended tourist destinations around these major cities have been principally divided into two regions: the Rhine Valley and The Romantic Road.

The Rhine valley

The stretch of the Rhine valley between Rudesheim and Koblenz has more castles per

square kilometre perched on hill tops and looming over the meandering Rhine than anywhere else in Europe, while idyllic towns ornament every bend of the Rhine. The chair lift at Asmanshausen leading to walking trails along the vineyard studded Rhine gorge, river cruises from Bingen to Koblenz and then onto Cologne, castle converted hotel accommodations such as that in schloss Schoenburg with panoramic views are some options one would be tempted to try more than once. The architectural diversity of the heritage buildings of the town of Trier on the Moselle tributary is inspiring.

The Altstadt or the old town of Heidelberg on river Neckar with its imposing Renaissance-style castle looking over an intricate network of cobblestone streets takes you down the history lane. So does the walk along the Altebrucke or the old bridge at Wurzburg. A guided tour of the UNESCOprotected Residenz palace at Wurzburg that boasts of an exquisitely painted ceiling bigger in area than the Sistine Chapel including the room of mirrors is a complete

revelation.

For the holidayer looking for that perfect leisurely getaway, the Black Forest region typically has 'the woods lovely, dark and deep, albeit with no promises to keep.' The birthplace of cuckoo clocks, it is ironical to know that time seems to stand so still in a place where keeping time is everything.

Alpine vistas abound in this region, Fering one many hiking trails and picturesque drives in the summers and extreme skiing in the winters. I am also tempted to include the heritage city of Strasbourg in France and the Rhine falls located at the Swiss-German border town of Schaffhausen in the Black Forest region due to their proximity to the same. Strasbourg has Venice-like canals dissecting its old town. One can marvel at the potpourri of its architectural wonders from the vantage point of a boat along the canal.

#### The romantic road

Aptly called the Romantic Road, the route connecting Wurzburg in the north to Fussen in the south has fairytale towns all along its path. Rothenberg ob der Tauber being the prototype. The magnificence of the three 'dreamier than ever' masterpieces commissioned by the eccentric king Ludwig of Bavaria, namely castle Neuschwanstein (the same castle that inspired the Walt Disney logo), Linderhof palace with its shockingly lavish interiors and excellently landscaped gardens

including a manmade

underground lake and grotto, and palace Herrenchiemsee (the Versailles of Germany) situated on an island in the middle of the lake Chiemsee cannot simply be described in words. Though Germany, like most of Europe, boasts of an extensive rail network with train timings precise by the millisecond, a self-driven four-wheeler would do great for navigation, even for shoestring budgeteers if they are more than four people traveling together. One can do better justice to the region in terms of time convenience and accessibility to monuments on a self-driven tour. One can also obviously book with the tour companies like the many you will find on flipping through the pages of this very newspaper. But then again, not many Indian tour operators have this region covered on their itinerary and Bollywood song and dance sequences have yet to fully endorse this hidden treasure of Europe. Dr Saumil Sheth is a practising retina specialist and eye surgeon at Envision eye hospital and Ojas eye care. Fast facts

Climate: With summers not as hot as the Mediterranean, winters not as cold as the Alps, it's just perfect for some of the best wine in the world to be produced here.

Best time to visit: April to September. Most of the sites of tourist interest remain practically shut in the winter, unless one has serious skiing plans. Most castles and palaces are open all year round, but guided tours in English are frequent only during the summers. Castle converted hotel accommodations aren't very heavy on the pockets, but they are open in the summers only and get sold out rather quickly.

# New Zealand A potpourri of experiences

New Zealand may be an island nation on the far end of the world, but it can boast one of the most untarnished landscapes you will ever have the pleasure of seeing. The incomparable natural beauty alongside the vast number of outdoor activities that one can indulge in make

New Zealand a tourist's paradise. Walking through the countryside is popular among locals and tourists alike. This involves backpacking through lush forests or over magnificent mountains. . A number of biking trails that take you through a whole different array of stunning visuals are also available.

The Waitomo Caves in the southern Waikato region of the

North Island is a key tourist att raction. The caves, considered to be thousands of years old, are home to a huge number of glowworms that provide the only light to a section of the caves that is hidden away from natural light. The caves are also renowned for certain areas which exhibit stalactites and stalagmites. A cave system close to the Waitomo Caves, known as Gardener's Gut, holds the tallest stalagmite in New Zealand, the 'Birthday Candle.'

Milford Sound, a fjord in the Fiordland National Park on New Zealand's South Island is the most visited tourist destination in New Zealand. Daylong or overnight cruises are organized that will display the phenomenal natural splendour. The brilliant scenery, which was made possible by a

huge glacier in the last ice age, includes great cliffs and waterfalls, as well as marine and bird life. There is an underwater tourist observatory, which allows visitors to view black coral, which is otherwise not found so close to the surface of the water. One of the more fascinating tourist experiences that

you can explore is the Maori Hangi Dinner. Tours are set up to take you to one of the Maori villages in the Rotorua region of the North Island, where you will be treated to jaw-dropping displays of Maori weaponry, the graceful poi dance and the haka dance, that has been made famous by the New Zealand rugby team. This accompanied by a meal cooked in the traditional hangi style, where the food is cooked in underground pit ovens, leads to a truly unforgettable indigenous experience.

Adrenaline junkies are in for a field day as well. Queenstown, a resort town on the South Island, is known as the 'Adventure Capital of the World'. Jet

that caters to a variety of travellers. <u>Aaditya</u> <u>e takes you</u> Dav on a journey

New Zealand is a

destination

boating, white water rafting, bungee jumping and mountain biking are extremely popular here. If you happen to visit the town during the ski season, you will find that Queenstown is a major snow sport destination. Besides the sports that you can enjoy during the day, Queenstown also has a lively nightlife, as well as the reputation of being a food and wine hub of New Zealand. From 2010 onwards, Queenstown has also played host to the International Jazz Festival, with an assortment of musicians from around the world displaying their sublime skills.

Forts of Bhangarh, Rajasthan Mighty forts of Bhangarh arouse a strange sceptical feeling in the atmosphere and cause restlessness and anxiety among visitors on their tour to this fort. If rumours are to be taken seriously then people here have even went missing! These folklores have added immensely to the popularity of cheap flights to India with many wanting to check out the most haunted place in India. With an utmost enigma to be unfolded, Bhangarh Forts promise to thrill tourists who travel to this haunted destination.

#### Brij Raj Bhavan Heritage Hotel, Kota

The 178-year-old Brij Raj Bhavan Palace in Kota, Rajasthan, which was converted into a heritage hotel in the 1980s, has a resident ghost! The gentleman ghost of Major Burton is said to be harmless. Delhi Cantt, New Delhi

India's capital city of New Delhi has its own share of ghosts and ghost stories! Delhi is well connected with other parts of the country via road-links, rail networks and airways. Therefore travellers do not face many hassles in an effort to meet Delhi's

most famous ghost or more appropriately 'ghostess'! The area around Delhi Cantt is said to be haunted by a vengeful spirit of a lady, clad in white dress, who asks motorists for lift and then suddenly disappears!

#### Dumas Beach, Gujarat

The Dumas in Gujarat is a haunted cremation site where many locals have complained

to have heard weird voices. Especially at night people have heard strange whispers warning of the danger around the proximity of this beach. It is believed that this Hindu crematorium is lurking full with spirits of dead people!

#### Ramoji Film City, Hyderabad

A big ticket draw for ghost hunters and 'ghost lovers', Ramoji Film City is said to be haunted by notorious ghosts of dead soldiers. This film city is built on the war grounds of Nizams and if locals are to be believed then this place is haunted big time! **Rajeev Gandhi International airport** The rumour that has been doing rounds is

# Spookiest places in India

that Rajeev Gandhi International Airport located in Hyderabad is haunted by the spirits of those who were killed during the airport's construction. No wonder, anyone with even a mild interest in the paranormal can be seen haggling hard for cheap flights to India that land up in Hyderabad.

#### Taj Mahal Hotel, Mumbai

This top Indian hotel has welcomed almost every major global celebrity who has taken flights to India. But the luxurious environ and top of the line services do not devoid the hotel of its spookiness! The hotel is said to be



#### haunted by the ghost of its architect. Shaniwarwada Fort, Pune

A mighty fort built by the rulers of Peshwa Dynasty contains many bone-chilling stories within its walls. None is as heartbreaking as what happened hundreds of years back at this mighty fort. A prince, heir to the royal throne, was killed on his close relative's orders. It is said that visitors taking a trip to the fort after nightfall can still hear his cries for help.

#### The Savoy, Mussoorie

This holiday hotel dates back to 1902. It is said that the corridors of this hotel are haunted by the ghost of Lady Garnet Orme, who was found dead in mysterious circumstances.

#### Thursday, February 20, 2025

# Pakistan batter Fakhar Zaman picks up injury in Champions Trophy opener



Karachi, Feb 19 (UNI) A pall of gloom was casted on Pakistan's Champions Trophy title defence as reputed opener Fakhar Zaman pulled up injured on the second delivery of their first game against New Zealand.

Making a diving attempt while fielding in the deep, Zaman was seen in

was forced off the field.

"Fakhar Zaman is being assessed and examined for a muscular sprain and further updates will be provided in due course," the PCB said in a statement.

Zaman had been a prolific feature of the Pakistan squad when they won their first-ever discomfort and was tended Champions Trophy title in

to by the physio before he

South Africa.

2017, an ICC report said. The southpaw opener bashed a sensational hundred in the summit clash against India to inspire a 180-run win.

Pakistan's title defence at home had already been dealt when Saim Avub was ruled out of the tournament after he twisted his ankle during the Test series in

# **Bad moment for** Atletico captain Koke to suffer muscle injury

worst possible moment of the season.

The club informed on its website that Koke "ended the game last Saturday against RC Celta experiencing some discomforts," and adding that "the midfielder underwent some tests following the match, and the medical tests conducted by the medical staff confirmed that the captain has suffered an injury to right

leg.' Atletico explained that "undergo he will physiotherapy session and recovery work in the gym," although the club doesn't say when he will recover,

Madrid, Feb 19 (UNI): the Spanish sporting press Atletico Madrid has lost indicated the injury is "not club captain Koke to a unimportant," meaning muscle injury at almost the Koke could be out of action for several weeks.

The injury came a week before Atletico's visit to FC Barcelona in the first leg of its Copa del Rey semi-final tie and a fortnight ahead of the first leg of the knockout stage of the Champions League, where they could possibly face Bayern Munich or local rival, Real Madrid.

Atletico also has some vital games in La Liga coming up as it looks to make up its one-point deficit with FC Barcelona and Real Madrid, with a visit to an improving Valencia next Saturday and a home game against fourth place Athletic Club Bilbao in the following weekend.

rallying cry to youth Beijing, Feb 19 (UNI) : International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach expressed his expectations for the

during his visit to Beijing Sports University. Tuesday Bach emphasized the IOC's effort to bridge esports with traditional sports, highlighting the importance of maintaining Olympic values throughout this process.

He said the fact that esports has already become a phenomenon among youngsters has raised concerns, such as those over fair play and gender equality."From the very beginning there is a very clear red line what we would not engage with are the games which are not

aligned with the Olympic values. We need the young generation who knows how to communicate, and they must seize the opportunities younger generations and take the responsibilities.'

**IOC president Bach issues** 

Bach also expressed his concern on advancing Olympic education and underscored the need to foster global cooperation and mutual respect to bridge cultures and promote peace worldwide.

"I think solidarity is going beyond respect. It doesn't only mean I respect you, but also means I'm ready to help you and accept help from you."

Asked how artificial intelligence might transform the Olympic movement, Bach noted that the IOC is working to adapt and foster the integration of

Yuvraj Sandhu & Manu Gandas enjoy

two-shot advantage at halfway stage

AI and the Olympic movement, including initiatives like the "Olympic AI Agenda." Bach stressed that AI

will assist athletes in training more effectively by shaping "every fiber of your muscles", but it is crucial to maintain Olympic values amid technological advancements.

Bach reiterated solidarity, saying, "the gap between nations is already big, we have to close the gap. Every athlete can benefit from a personalized training program and wherever the coach is working can benefit from these programs. The young generation's challenge and the opportunity is to find the potential and always respect the dignity of the athlete. I wish you good luck."

were both placed tied 10th at two-under

70. The first two rounds of the event

consisted of nine holes each. After the

completion of 18 holes on Wednesday, the

cut was applied at even-par 72. Fifty-two

consist of 18 holes each. The tournament

rounds was 36. The par for the course in

on day two to rise one spot into the joint

lead. Overnight leader Manu Gandas

continued on top of the pack as joint

leader as a result of his two birdies and

will be played over a total of 54 holes.

the third and fourth rounds will be 72.

The third and fourth rounds will now

The par for the course in the first two

Yuvraj Sandhu produced two birdies

professionals made the cut.

one bogey on Wednesday.

# Bangladesh captain looking at Nahid Rana to challenge India

Bangladesh captain Najmul Hossain Shanto expects Nahid Rana and the rest of the pace bowling unit to be fit and raring to go against India on Thursday, their opening match of the Champions Trophy.

Facing the media in Dubai on Wednesday ahead of their opening match, Shanto had to quench the thirst of the reporters \_ both Bangladeshi and foreign - bowlers. We have got

# **New Zealand defeat** Pakistan by 60 runs

Karachi, Feb 19 (UNI): New Zealand continued their dominance over Pakistan, securing a comprehensive 60run victory in the Champions Trophy clash at the National Stadium on Wedesday.

The Black Caps posted an imposing 320/5 in 50 overs before restricting the hosts to 260 in 47.2 overs.

Dubai, Feb 19 (UNI): regarding pace sensation Nahid Rana and Takin Rana and Bangladesh's evolving fast-bowling unit. bowling, I think it helps the Shanto

feels team," the Bangladesh captain said, adding that Bangladesh have come a long way from being a spinthey still have a good spindominated attack in recent bowling unit to complement years, thanks to the the pacers. The 15-member emergence of a variety of Bangladesh squad features pacers, according to The five pacers and there are Daily Star report."We two travelling reserves with the team, just in case, always struggled with (against) pace but last in the form of Hasan couple of years we have Mahmud and Khaled got quite a few fast Ahmed. However, most of the focus on the bowling

front was on Rana, who can (Ahmed) – the way they are clock upwards of 140 kph, even reaching 150 kph at times.Shanto said that is good for the whole team's morale."Last few matches, he bowled really well and bowled fast. When we see him bowling like that, it motivates us and see how we can give the opposition team a challenge," said the captain.The Bangladesh skipper, meanwhile, said that the issues that had surfaced about Rana's

#### burn-out have been taken good care of.

be more focus on him. But he's doing his job quietly, training normally. I believe he will give his best if picked tomorrow.

quite a few matches on the trot in the BPL. But he has been taken good care off by the physio and trainer. So if he gets picked tomorrow, I believe he will be fresh," Shanto concluded.

# Freemans joins Punjab Kings as their official tools partner for IPL 2025

Ludhiana, Feb 19 (UNI) behalf of the entire Punjab : Freemans, the pioneer and Kings family, I welcome on largest manufacturer of board Freemans Tools as

Wednesday Yuvraj (32-34) and Manu (31-35), a former winner at Glade One, were placed atop the leaderboard with identical totals of six-under 66 as they carded secondround scores of 34 and 35 respectively.

> Saptak Talwar (34-34) of Greater Noida posted a second straight 34 to be placed third at four-under 68.

Defending champion Abhinav Lohan (36) and Ahmedabad's Varun Parikh (34)

# **India beat Germany 1-0 in FIH Hockey Pro League**

attempt before

Florian

favour.

scooped the loose ball over

the goal.Germany won the

match with 46 seconds left

in the quarter but Gonzalo

Peillat's drag-flick flew wide

quarter ended 1-0 in India's

Bhubaneswar, Feb 19 to put it into goal. had the better chances from

(UNI) : India won their Mandeep's effort was counter attacks as second match in the FIH saved by Alexander Stadler Shilanand Lakra, Nilam Hockey Pro League 2024-25 but the German goalkeeper Sanjeep Xess and Raj

Ahmedabad, Feb 19 (UNI) : Chandigarh's Yuvraj Sandhu, winner of the PGTI season-opener last week, and "There will obviously Manu Gandas of Gurugram enjoyed a twoshot advantage at the halfway stage at Gujarat Open 2025 being played at the Glade One Golf Resort & Club here on

"Obviously he played

Pakistan's chase faltered from the outset, with Fakhar Zaman (24) unavailable to bat initially due to injury. Babar Azam (64) and Saud Shakeel (6) opened the innings but struggled against the early swing. Shakeel departed cheaply, and Mohammad Rizwan's (3) innings was cut short by a stunning catch from Glenn Phillips at backward point.

Babar, playing cautiously, reached a half-century off 81 balls, while Fakhar, despite re-entering the fray, was unable to make a significant impact. Pakistan's sluggish start in the powerplay left them with a daunting asking rate, exacerbated by New Zealand's disciplined bowling. The spinners extracted double the turn compared to Pakistan's slow bowlers, tightening the screws further.

Tom Latham (118\*) and Will Young (107) were the architects of New Zealand's innings, guiding their team past 300 after early setbacks. Glenn Phillips provided late fireworks, accelerating the scoring in the final 10 overs, where New Zealand amassed 113 runs.

Pakistan's bowlers had kept things tight in the initial 40 overs but lost control at the death. Shaheen Afridi and Naseem Shah were particularly expensive in the slog overs, as New Zealand capitalised on the lack of variation. With this win, New Zealand extended their dominance over Pakistan, having now beaten them thrice in quick succession.

from behind to beat DPR Korea 2-1 in its final Group В match here on Wednesday.

U20 Asian

Saudi Arabia,

Iraq reach AFC

**U20 Asian Cup** 

Shenzhen (China), Feb

Cup

19 (UNI) : Saudi Arabia

secured a spot in the AFC

quarterfinals after coming

**quarterfinal** 

Han Jae Yong's goal gifted DPR Korea a lead in the 28th minute. Saudi Arabia staged a secondhalf show as Saad Haqawi grabbed the equalizer in the 51st minute before substitute Thamer Al Khaibri hit the winner in the 85th minute.

Suadi Arabia advanced to the final eight as group winner while Iraq, who finished a goalless draw with Jordan secured the second place.

Saudi Arabia will meet host China in the quarterfinal while Iraq will play Australia.

our partners for IPL 2025. measuring tools in the We look forward to having Indian subcontinent, is proud to announce its a great partnership with partnership with Punjab them that runs for a long Kings as their 'Official time and is accompanied Tools Partner' for the Indian with success and trust." Premier League (IPL) 2025. FMI Limited is the

collaboration This pioneer and the largest reflects Freemans' manufacturer of measuring commitment to supporting tools in the Indian subcontinent. Its product sporting excellence in the region while contributing to portfolio is marketed under Punjab Kings' preparations the brand Freemans and for the upcoming IPL includes an extensive season.Commenting on the selection of hand tools and partnership, Sahil Nayar, power tools.Founded in Executive Director at FMI Ludhiana, Punjab in 1950, Limited (Freemans), said, Freemans celebrates its "We are proud to be the 75th anniversary in the Official Tools Partner of manufacturing sector this Punjab Kings for the IPL year. The company also has 2025 season.

a history of successful Satish Menon, Punjab sports Kings CEO, said, "On across various disciplines.

season (Men) Wednesday after beating World Champions Germany 1-0 at the Kalinga Hockey Stadium here.

Gurjant Singh scored the only goal of the match as India climbed to seventh in the standings.

It was a good response from India after they had succumbed to a 4-1 loss to Germany on Tuesday.

The Indian defence, marshalled by Captain Harmanpreet Singh, put in a solid display to secure an important win.After a bright start, India took the lead four minutes into the match as Gurjant Singh scored in back-to-back matches.Rajinder Singh sent the ball into the circle hoping for Mandeep Singh

did not clear the loose ball Kumar Pal tested Stadler. away. An unmarked Gurjant India won three penalty dove in to sweep the ball corners in the final minute into the empty goal. but the German defence made sure they went into India deployed a halfcourt press as they looked the break trailing only by

to protect their lead and the solitary goal. Germany began the pounce on any German mistakes. Germany nearly third quarter with more got the equaliser as Thies urgency and it needed an Prinz showcased his instinctive save from Pathak to deny Prinz a goal incredible 3D skills to beat his markers. Krishan in the 32nd minute. Pathak Bahadur Pathak stood tall was called into action a and swatted away Prinz's couple of minutes later as he denied Peillat a penalty Sperling corner with a superb save

with his foot. India had a big chance first penalty corner of the to double their advantage towards the end of a cagey third quarter. However, Stadler pulled off an of the goal as the first incredible double save to deny Sukhjeet Singh and Vivek Sagar Prasad.

India resorted to sitting The Indian defence was deeper in their half and tested early in the fourth forcing the Germans to try quarter as Germany won a and find ways to penetrate penalty corner in the 46th the circle. Suraj Karkera, minute. Karkera didwelltosave who replaced Pathak in the Peillat's drag-flick. India won a Indian goal in the second penalty corner two minutes quarter, was rarely called later but Amit Rohidas sent into action.It was India who his drag-flick wide.

#### Printed, Published and Owned by Mohammed Shafi

**Printed at Haritha Printers** Plot No : 70, Opposite Petrol Pump, VUDA Colony, Gopalapatnam, Visakhapatnam-530 027.

Published from # 39-22-82/1/4, Near Vuda Quarters, Kalinga Nagar, Madhavadhara, Visakhapatnam - 530 007.

> Editor: Mohammed Shafi R.N.I.No. : APENG/2013/52180

Cell : 9849881368, Tel : 040 - 23232705 Email : standardpostvizag@gmail.com

### Gujarat 60 + men win a thrilling final for team title in National TT

Indore, Feb 19 (UNI): Gujarat's 60+ men's team showcased resilience and tactical brilliance to overcome a formidable West Bengal side 3-2 in a thrilling final at the UTT 31st Masters National Championships, held at the Abhay Prashal Indoor Hall here. The nearly threeand-a-half-hour showdown kept spectators on their seat edges last evening as teams fought tooth and nail for the coveted title.

The decisive moment came when Parag Shah delivered a stellar performance against Bengal's Debasis Saha in the final match.Parag dominated the first two closely contested games but faced a strong comeback from Debasis, who levelled the match at 2-2. With Gujarat's bench cheering him on, Parag altered his strategy, taking an aggressive approach to

surge ahead in the decider. Despite a late fightback from Debasis, Parag held his nerve to seal the victory, securing Gujarat's team gold.

However, Bengal took the lead with Vivek Kumar Arora defeating Parag 3-2 in the opening tie. Gujarat quickly responded as

Laxmanrao Thakre levelled the contest with a solid win over Debasis.

The crucial third rubber saw Sanjay Tayal edge out Abir Basak in a thrilling five-game battle, giving Gujarat a 2-1 lead. However, Bengal struck back as Arora comfortably defeated Laxmanrao, setting the stage for a

dramatic final clash, where Parag rose to the occasion to guide his team to victory.

The championships also saw a remarkable display of skill in the 75+ men's singles category, where Balbir Singh Virdi of Chandigarh clinched the

gold medal with a hardfought victory over Maharashtra's Satish B. Kulkarni. Virdi started strong, winning the first game with ease.

However, Satish, known for his defensive prowess, bounced back and nearly stole the second game before Virdi edged past him 14-12. The third game was equally intense, but Virdi maintained his composure to secure the title. Satish had to settle for silver despite a valiant effort.

The doubles events witnessed high-intensity battles as teams from Delhi, Madhya Pradesh,

and Karnataka claimed gold in their respective categories. In the 65+ women's doubles, Delhi's Indu Sharma and Sunita Mudgil produced a stunning comeback to defeat Maharashtra's Manisha Vishwas Bodas and Veena Dhanajay Joshi 3-1. Despite losing the opening game, the Delhi

sponsorships

duo regrouped and took control, winning the next three games convincingly. Meanwhile, hosts Madhya Pradesh had

plenty to cheer for as Rashmi Soni and Rubi Kuar staged an incredible fightback to defeat West Bengal's Mantu Murmu

and Karabi Maity in a pulsating five-game final. The MP pair, down 1-2, won a tight fourth game before decisively clinching the decider.

In the 80+ men's doubles, Delhi's veteran duo of B.N. Khazanchi and Anand Prakash displayed their vast experience to cruise past Karnataka's K. Satyanarayan and K.V. Krishnamurthy in straight games. The Delhi pair's superior coordination and tactical execution proved too strong for their southern counterparts, earning them the gold medal.

#### STANDARD POST, Visakhapatnam

# **Special Ticket chcking drives to ensure safe** travel of passengers during Mahakumbh : ECoR

(Standard Post Bureau) Visakhapatnam, Feb 19

: In a concerted effort to enhance safety, security and passenger amenities over the Division, special drives have been launched by Waltair Division from 12th February to 28th February-2025.

These special drives focused on areas include crowd management, enhanced safety measures, smooth train operations, and improved passenger amenities.

Divisional Railway Manager, Waltair, Shri Manoj Kumar Sahoo, emphasized the objectives of these initiatives and advised to ensure



comfortable travel of passengers and pilgrims, enhance safety measures across all stations and in trains and punctual running of trains. Special

efforts are being made to manage overcrowding issues, safety and security of passengers. To ensure effective

crowd management and

Honouring the Legacy of a Legendary Leader

smooth train operation, joint teams comprising Commercial Ticket Checking staff and Railway Protection Force have been formed for enabling smooth entry, queuing, conducting extensive checks at major stations.

These checks focus on preventing unauthorized entry into reserved and designated coaches for Divyangjan passengers and women travelers etc.

During this drive from 12th February to till date more than 9300 cases of ticketless travel, irregular travel, unbooked luggage etc were traced that resulted realizing a penalty of

about Rs 46 lakhs towards fare & penalty.

Passengers are advised to adhere to safe travel practices, carry valid tickets, stay vigilant regarding their belongings, report any unattended luggage to railway authorities, and cooperate with the railway staff for a better travel experience.

Appeal to passengers to maintain proper queues for convenient ticketing and to ease boarding/ alighting of trains and using digital payments with QR enabled facilities, not to carry inflammable articles and show proper ID proof on demand by the Ticket Checking Authority.

# General Manager, SCR, **Arun Kumar Jain, Conducts Inspection of Hyd Division**

(Standard Post Bureau) Hyderabad, Feb 19 Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager, South Central Railway undertook inspection of Hyderabad Division today i.e., 19th February, 2025. He was accompanied by Shri Lokesh Vishnoi, Divisional Railway Manager, Hyderabad Division and other senior officials from both the Headquarters and





### Central Railway Celebrates Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti

**GM, Central Railway, Dharam Veer Meena pays** 

(Standard Post Bureau) Mumbai, Feb 19: On the occasion of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti, Central Railway celebrated the enduring legacy of the visionary Maratha warrior, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, whose leadership, military genius, and contributions to the region's cultural and historical heritage continue to inspire generations.

Mr Dharam Veer Meena, General Manager, Central Railway paid rich tributes to the Great King on his birth anniversary. The CSMT heritage building echoed with shouts of "Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj ki Jay" as the General Manager garlanded the bust of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at the CSMT



This change reflected the heartfelt sentiments of the people of Maharashtra and recognized the monumental role of Shivaji Maharaj in shaping the region's identity. Later, on 7th April 2004, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This architectural marvel built in 1887, remains one of Mumbai's most recognizable landmarks. As a vital railway hub, it continues to serve millions of daily commuters and long-distance travellers. While the name has changed appropriately, the station's legacy as a central symbol of Mumbai's bustling railway network

endures."As we commemorate the birth anniversary of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, let us reflect on his legacy and the impact of his leadership. His values of courage, resilience, and a deep sense of duty to people continues to guide us as we forge ahead into the future, honouring his contributions to our rich history.

Division throughout the inspection. The General Manager carried out inspection fromMudkhedto Medchal and reviewed the safety aspects of tracks, signalling, newly installed electric traction systems, passenger amenities and further development plans.

He conducted a detailed inspection of Umri Railway station and reviewed the passenger amenities available. He also inspected the Station Master's office and examined the station records. Further, he inspected the maintenance of tracks and other safety equipment at the station. He interacted with the Track maintainers and enquired about their working conditions and safety practices being followed.

circulating area of the station. He also reviewed the progress of on-going station redevelopment works at Basar undertaken as part of the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) with a cost of Rs. 11.33 crore. He advised the officials to further speed up the works so as to complete the project as targeted. He also inspected Godavari Railway Bridge and examined the maintenance

> and safety aspects. Later, the General Manager conducted a detailed inspection of Nizamabad Railway station and reviewed the passenger amenities. He reviewed the redevelopment plans of

the Accident Relief Train at the station. The General Manager and senior officials participated in a tree plantation program towards promotion of greener environment at the station. Shri Arun Kumar Jain proceeded onto

Kamareddy Railway station, where he inspected the station premises and OSOP stall. He also reviewed the redevelopment works undertaken at Kamareddi station with a cost of Rs. 39.9 crores as part of ABSS. He examined the safety procedures and guidelines being followed while carrying out construction works. He also inspected Gate No. 238 in Kamareddy section and interacted with the Gateman and track maintainers. Later, the General Manager conducted a detailed inspection of Manoharabad Railway station and inspected the station master's office, circulating area and station façade.

heritage building.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Meena said "Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is one of the greatest national heroes of India. He laid the foundation of Hindavi Swaraj which was based on Justice, Morality and Benevolent, Generous and Secular King. Renaming this heritage terminus as Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, serves

Tolerance. He was truly a as a tribute to his relentless commitment to safeguarding his people, creating a just and progressive kingdom, and his indomitable spirit of

leadership." A significant milestone in this ongoing tribute came in March 1996, when the iconic Victoria Terminus (VT) was officially renamed in honour of the

legendary king as Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, later in 2017 the station was renamed as Chhatrapati Shivaii Maharaj Terminus (CSMT).

Mysuru-SMVT Bengaluru

Daily Passenger Special,

journey commencing on

February 24 & 27, 2025, will

be diverted to run via KSR

Banaswadi, and SMVT

journey commencing on

Bengaluru stations.

Lokmanya

Principal Head of Departments, Senior Officers and staff of Central Railway were also present during the occasion.

The General Manager inspected Basar Railway station, he reviewed the facilities and inspected the Station Master's Office, working of ATVM Machines, One Station One Products Stall (OSOP) and

which are being taken up with an expenditure of Rs. 53.3 crores.

Nizamabad Railway station

He also inspected the Running room and crew booking lobby at the station and enquired with the staff members regarding the facilities available. He also inspected

### Nitish announces development of industrial area in Dehri

Patna/ Rohtas, Feb 19 (UNI): Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar announced to develop the industrial area of Dehri in Rohtas district.

Kumar visited Rohtas on Wednesday during his ongoing Pragati Yatra, where while announcing to develop an industrial area in Dehri he said it would open new vistas for the people.In addition to this, he said keeping in mind the immense tourism potential of the local places, the government has decided to construct a tourism haat near Indrapuri dam.

district, the road networks

would be further improved,

bridge will be constructed

on river Kav at Vajidpur in

Sanjgauli block and on

as per requirement.

stand in Kochas would be expanded and a new bus stand would be constructed there.

The Chief Minister, while reviewing the ongoing schemes in the district said that several public representatives and other people have shared their viewpoints regarding development of the area. He said the development oriented demands of the people would be fulfilled.

Outlining the achievements of his government since he came to power in the state on November 24, 2005, Kumar overall progress of Rohtas reiterated that late Atal Bihari Vajpayee made him Chief Minister. His relations with the BJP were quite old and would continue in future also, he claimed.

Sone canal on Nokha Kumar said after coming nasriganj Road. Apart from to power his government this the existing roads, concentrated on bridges and other development of each and infrastructures would be every sector including widened and strengthened health education infrastructure and women He said the old bus empowerment.Emphasising

special priorities to law and order for establishing sushasan in the state, the police system was strengthened and was made well equipped following which the law and order condition improved and communal as well as social harmony was established, he mentioned.

Various schemes were launched including seven resolves mission part I and part II and agricultural road maps were initiated in the state, he said adding that his government was giving special emphasis on providing jobs and employment opportunities to the youth.He said the target set under seven resolves part II for providing 10 lakh government jobs has been enhanced to 12 lakh. As of now more than 9 lakh government jobs have been provided and the rest of the target will be achieved soon, he said. Till date employment opportunities have been

provided to 24 lakh people.

# **Changes in Train Service Patterns : SWR**

#### (Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Feb 19 : In view of safety measures and the ongoing Road Under Bridge works between Bengaluru East and Bengaluru Cantonment Stations, the following changes have been made to train services:

Partial Cancellation of Trains:

1. Train No. 16521 Bangarapet - KSR Bengaluru MEMU, journey commencing on February 24 & 27, 2025, will be partially cancelled between Baiyyappanahalli and KSR Bengaluru. It will shortterminate at Baiyyappanahalli.

2. Train No. 56520 Hosapete-KSR Bengaluru Daily Passenger, journey commencing on February 24 & 27, 2025, will be partially cancelled between Yesvantpur and KSR Bengaluru. It will shortterminate at Yesvantpur. 3. Train No. 17391 KSR

Bengaluru-SSS Hubballi Daily Express, journey commencing on February 25 & 28, 2025, will be partially cancelled between KSR Bengaluru and Yesvantpur. It will originate from Yesvantpur instead of KSR Bengaluru. 4. Train No. 07339 SSS

Hubballi-KSR Bengaluru Daily Express Special, journey commencing on February 23 & 26, 2025, will be partially cancelled between Yesvantpur and KSR Bengaluru. It will short-terminate Yesvantpur.

Daily Express Special,

Bengaluru.

**Diversion of Trains:** Bengaluru-Dr Krishnarajapuram, and

at

5. Train No. 07340 KSR Bengaluru-SSS Hubballi journey commencing on February 24 & 27, 2025, will be partially cancelled between KSR Bengaluru and Yesvantpur. The train will originate from

Yesvantpur instead of KSR stations.

1. Train No. 12658 KSR MGR Chennai Central Daily Central Daily Express, Superfast Express, journey journey commencing on February 24 & 27, 2025, will commencing on February 24 & 27, 2025, will be be diverted to run via KSR Bengaluru, Yesvantpur, diverted to run via KSR Bengaluru, Yesvantpur, Lottegollahalli, Banaswadi, Hebbal, Banaswadi, SMVT Baiyyappanahalli, and Bengaluru, Krishnarajapuram. 5. Train No. 06269

Bangarapet stations. 2. Train No. 16593 KSR Bengaluru-Nanded Daily Express, journey commencing on February 24 & 27, 2025, will be diverted to run via KSR Bengaluru, Yesvantpur, and Yelahanka stations.

3. Train No. 06270 SMVT Bengaluru-Mysuru Daily Passenger Special, journey commencing on February 24 & 27, 2025, will be diverted to run via SMVT Bengaluru,

Banaswadi, Yesvantpur, February 23 & 26, 2025, will and KSR Bengaluru be diverted to run via Gauribidanur, Yelahanka, 4. Train No. 16022 Lottegollahalli, Yesvantpur, Mysuru-Dr MGR Chennai Hebbal,

Banaswadi, Karmelaram, and Hosur. The train will skip its regular scheduled stoppages at Bengaluru Bengaluru East, KSR Cantonment, Bengaluru and Bengaluru Cantonment.

Rescheduling Trains:

Bengaluru-Dr. MGR Chennai Central Daily Express, journey Bengaluru, Yesvantpur, commencing on February 24 & 27, 2025, will be rescheduled by 45 minutes from KSR Bengaluru.

> Express, rescheduled by 75 minutes from KSR Bengaluru.

of 1. Train No. 12658 KSR He said that for the

The trains (12658, 16593, 06270, 16022, and 06269) will 2. Train No. 16593 KSR skip their regular scheduled Bengaluru-Nanded Daily stoppage at Bengaluru Cant. journey 6. Train No. 11013 commencing on February Tilak-24 & 27, 2025, will be Coimbatore Daily Express,