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**8 workers trapped in SLBC** 

tunnel as its roof collapses

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**HYDERABAD** 

Hyderabad, Feb 22

(UNI) At least eight

the Srisailam Left Bank

three others seriously

injured after its roof

the roof collapsed at

to escape, eight others

Officials from the

police have launched

#### Sunday, February 23, 2025

Pages: 8 Rs.1

representatives of the

SLBC works.

agency carrying out the

the incident, Reddy and

Rao enquired about the

condition of the injured

and directed officials to

ensure they receive the

best possible medical

treatment.They also

instructed officials to

Following the

Ministers' directives,

efforts and are making

believed to be trapped.

personnel have ensured

while firefighters and

the availability of oxygen,

rescue teams have actively

engaged in the operation.

Both the Ministers

remained at the spot and

continuously monitoring

the progress of the relief

measures.

every effort to safely

rescue the workers

Medical and health

intensify relief operations.

officials accelerated relief

Expressing shock over

# IN BRIEF

### Govt to fill over 14,000 Anganwadi teacher and helper vacancies

Hyderabad, Feb 22 (UNI) : The government on Saturday approved for a large-scale recruitment drive in the Women and Child Welfare Department, with plans to fill 6,399 Anganwadi teacher and 7,837 helper vacancies across the state.

Women and Child Welfare Minister Dr Danasari Anasuya Seethakka signed the file approving the recruitment process, marking for the first time such a largehiring for scale Anganwadi positions is being conducted in Telangana. The recruitment aims to enhance the efficiency of Anganwadi centers and strengthen child welfare initiatives.

Notifications for the vacancies will be issued by the respective district Collectors as soon as the election code for MLC polls ends.

The government's move to fill 14,236 positions is expected to significantly improve the functioning of Anganwadi centers and bolster services for women and children in the state, official sources said.

Former RBI Guv



Kashmir), Srinivasulu (UP), were present in the tunnel Manoj Rubena (UP), during the first shift when Sandeep (Jharkhand), Santosh (Jharkhand), and approximately 0830 hours. Jatka Hiran (Jharkhand), While 42 workers managed are among those trapped.

Three others who were trapped in the tunnel. sustained serious injuries have been rescued and irrigation department and taken to nearby Genco hospital for treatment. rescue operations to locate

and save the workers. Gurjeet Singh (Punjab), Sanneet Singh (Jammu &

site to assess the situation and oversee rescue efforts.

The SLBC tunnel project is crucial for providing irrigation and drinking water to Nalgonda district through a tunnel connecting the Srisailam backwaters.

Further investigation is underway to determine the cause of the roof collapse, official sources said.

along with his cabinet colleague Jupally Krishna Rao, held a review meeting on the incident with senior officials at J.P. Guest House in Domalapenta. The meeting was

attended by Irrigation Department Advisor Aditya Das Nath, IG Satyanarayana, Fire DG GV Narayana Rao, Nagarkurnool District Collector, and

### **Amit Shah criticises Rahul Gandhi**

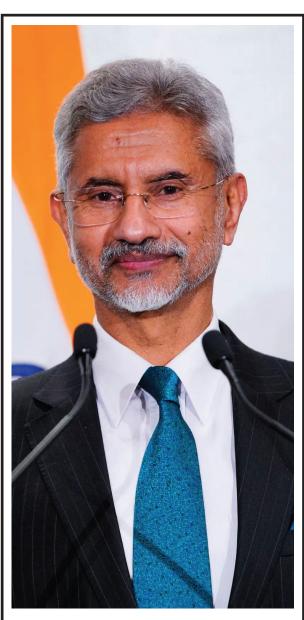
mockery of the central every household, Rahul scheme.

under the Pradhan Mantri 10 lakh people's accounts Awas Yojana in the presence at once on a single day. Mahayuti government in of Chief Minister Devendra This is Prime Minister Maharashtra, saying it has Fadnavis, Deputy Chief Narendra Modi's miracle," also done good works. "Big Ministers Ajit Pawar and taunted Shah. Eknath Shinde here, he said

Pune, Feb 22 (UNI) government had launched is being fulfilled.Providing a Union Home Minister Amit the Jan Dhan scheme that house, electricity and food Shah on Saturday made a provided a platform for grains to everyone in the frontal attack on Congress universal access to banking country is Prime Minister leader Rahul Gandhi, facilities with at least one Modi's concept accusing him of making a basic banking account for developed India, he said.

of

Not a single political government's Jan Dhan Baba had questioned the leader in the country has scheme and alleged that done the work of providing Speaking at a programme the money of people in houses and foodgrains to 60



### **Revelations about USAID are** concerning, govt looking ....

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar today said the revelations by the Trump administration about USAID giving \$21 million for "voter turnout in India" are "concerning" and added that the government is looking into it and the facts will come out. Answering questions at the Delhi University Literature Festival, the EAM said: "Some information has been put out there by the Trump administration, and obviously it is concerning. (See on page 2)

### Mexican president warns of harsh penalties for foreign spies



Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum warned Friday that any foreign national conducting securityrelated activities without authorisation will face severe

# KTR accuses CM Reddy of mismanaging finance and spreading false propaganda

Hvderabad, Feb 22 (UNI) BRS Working President KT Rama Rao (KTR) launched a sharp attack on Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, accusing him of mismanaging the state's finances and spreading false propaganda.Speaking at a press conference at Telangana held for distribution of such accounts has been lakh people in a decade, said Bhavan, here on Saturday, KTR defended the BRS regime's approval letters and the first siphoned off." But, today, the Home Minister while decade-long achievements under former CM K installment to 20 lakh houses money was deposited in addressing the gathering. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and challenged Revanth Reddy to an open debate in the Assembly on Telangana's economic progress.Citing the State Statistical Atlas Report, KTR argued that Telangana's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) grew from Rs 5 lakh crore in 2014 to Rs 15 lakh crore by 2023, making it one of the fastest-growing states. He also highlighted the rise in per capita income from Rs 1.24 lakh to Rs 3.12 lakh during the same period, surpassing the national average. He credited projects like Kaleshwaram and Mission Kakatiya for expanding paddy cultivation from 34 lakh acres in 2014 to  $1.18\,\mathrm{crore}\,\mathrm{acres}\,\mathrm{in}$ 2023. In the IT sector, he noted that exports surged from Rs 57,000 crore to Rs 2.41 lakh crore, creating over 10 lakh jobs under KCR's leadership.KTR criticised the Congress government for failing to fulfill its electoral promises, including loan waivers and increased pensions, even after 15 months in power.He also accused the government of mismanaging the Rythu Bandhu scheme and creating an artificial water crisis by emptying the Medigadda barrage. Additionally, he alleged that Revanth Reddy had avoided questioning Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Telangana's rightful share of Krishna river water, suggesting that he feared political consequences. Hinting at a possible secret understanding between the BJP and Congress, KTR questioned why the central government had not acted against alleged corruption in Telangana. He also accused BJP leaders of shielding Revanth Reddy from scrutiny despite several complaints against his administration.Issuing a direct challenge, KTR called on Revanth Reddy to debate Telangana's financial status in the Assembly. "If Revanth Reddy has the courage, let's discuss the facts. The people deserve the truth about Telangana's financial health," he stated. He warned the Congress government against misleading the public, asserting that BRS would not remain silent if Telangana's progress was undermined.

State Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy, along with Uttam Kumar Reddy senior officials, visited the

### Shaktikanta **Das appointed** as Principal Secretary-2 to PM Modi

New Delhi, Feb 22 (UNI) : Former Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das has been appointed as the Principal Secretary-2 to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a government notification said on Saturday

The appointments committee of the Cabinet said "Mr Das appointment will be co-terminus with effect from the day he assumed the office".

PK Mishra has been the Principal Secretary to the PM since September 11,2019.

Shaktikanta Das served as the RBI Governor for six years, including the three-year extension he was granted during his tenure. He is a former IAS officer of the 1980-batch Tamil Nadu cadre and had taken over the role of the RBI Governor in December 2018.

Additionally, the tenure of the government think tank NITI Aayog's CEO BVR Subrahmanyam has been extended by a year, beginning February 24, 2025, the government notification stated.

Shah praised the works are going on in many

He said that the dream of areas," he added. CM Fadnavis that when the BJP citizens of owning a house also spoke on occasion.

### Take precautionary measures to prevent drinking water shortage: Minister

(Standard Post Bureau) Danasari Anasuya during the summer.

scheme with its ENC electricity department to reservoirs to avoid shortages. Kripakar Reddy and other ensure an uninterrupted shortages so far. They alert. The Minister directed official statement said.

informed her that any issues officials to submit daily Hyderabad, Feb 22: Rural arising in villages are being reports on drinking water Water Supply Minister Dr promptly addressed. supply to district authorities Regular reviews with district and to immediately resolve Seethakka on Saturday officials are being held every any technical issues that emphasised the importance morning at 8 AM to monitor may arise. She also of taking precautionary and resolve concerns emphasized the need for measures to prevent efficiently. See thakka alternative arrangements in drinking water shortage instructed officials to case of unexpected problems regularly check water and underscored the She conducted a review storage levels in reservoirs importance of maintaining of Mission Bhagiratha and coordinate with the adequate water reserves in

Seethakka further stated senior officials at Secretariat power supply. She also that the government is here.During the meeting, the stressed the need for proper considering allocating a officials provided an update maintenance of pump house special fund to district on the current status of motors to prevent collectors if necessary to water supply under the operational failures and address drinking water scheme, assuring the urged Mission Bhagiratha needs and ensure an Minister that there have staff, from ENC to village uninterrupted supply been no major drinking water level, to remain on high throughout the summer, an penalties and immediate imprisonment.

(See on page 5)

### India thrash Ireland 4-0 in FIH **Pro League**



India delivered an emphatic performance to secure a 4-0 victory over Ireland in the ongoing FIH Hockey Pro League 2024-25 (Men) at the Kalinga Hockey Stadium here on Saturday. (See on page 7)

### CM hands over cheque worth Rs 1 cr to the family of Shaheed ....



Condoling the death of Punjab police constable Harshveer Singh who attained martyrdom in line of duty a few days back, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Saturday handed over cheque worth Rs one crore to the family of martyr as a mark of respect for his supreme sacrifice for country. **(See on page 8)** 

### M monitors rescue operations at SLBC tunnel

#### (Standard Post Bureau) Minister A Revanth Reddy is closely monitoring the efforts and ensure the safe The District Collector, full government support. rescue operations at the evacuation of those trapped. Superintendent of Police, SLBC Tunnel in Nagar Kurnool district, where a instructions, Ministers N overseeing the operations on their way to the site to updates on the situation, an section of the roof collapsed Uttam Kumar Reddy and on the ground. Revanth assist in the operations. The official statement from Chief

Following

eight workers. The Chief with senior police and immediate near Domalapenta, trapping Jupally Krishna Rao, along Reddy has also ordered Chief Minister has Minister's Office here said.

Specialized rescue teams his and other authorities are from the SDRF and NDRF are directed to provide real-time

medical instructed all departments to Hyderabad, Feb 22: Chief Minister has directed irrigation officials, have assistance for the injured and remain on high alert and take officials to expedite rescue rushed to the accident site. assured the affected families of necessary precautions during the rescue process.

Officials have been



Earthmovers demolish illegal encroachments along a road during an anti-encroachment drive by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC), in Ahmedabad, Gujarat on Saturday.

# **Paper leaks bigger scam than Commonwealth Games: educator**

Mumbai, Feb 22 (UNI) Paper leaks during examinations in India could be a bigger scam than the Commonwealth Games, said Faizal Khan popularly, popularly known as Khan Sir, a renowned educator and founder of Khan Global Studies, during a summit here on Saturday.

In his keynote address on 'The 21st Century Indian - Learning to Survive' on the growing issue of paper leaks during ABP Network's Ideas of India 2025, he pointed to flaws in the

education system particularly in medical college fees, stating, "Government colleges charge minimal fees, making education accessible. But private institutions demand such high fees that students prefer buying leaked exam papers instead of spending lakhs on tuition. Education is so expensive in India that students are flying abroad." He called for a

transparent and streamlined examination system.He also highlighted the limitation

of individual efforts, saying, "One person alone cannot change a nation of 140 crores. Change must begin within us."He reiterated that his fight is not against politics but about addressing real issues by actually ensuring that students are prepared not just for exams, but for life itself."Every student must learn a skill, regardless of their course, to build a stable future," he highlighted the need for practical education,

systemic reforms and skill development to prepare

the youth for real-world challenges.

education must go beyond academics, urging students to focus on employability.

"We should acquire a new skill every year - be it driving or anything useful. The right skill set makes a person employable," he said. Highlighting the shortcomings of edtech companies, he added, "These platforms offer features, but education needs both teachers and features."

### European Commission **President Ursula** von der Leyen to visit India Feb 27-28

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New Delhi, Feb 22 (UNI) European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen will be on an official visit to India on February 27-28, at the invitation of PM Narendra Modi.

will She be accompanied by the European Union College of Commissioners.

This will be President Ursula von der Leyen's third visit to India. She has earlier visited India for a bilateral official visit in April 2022, and to attend the G20 Leaders' Summit in September 2023.

Prime Minister Modi and President Ursula von der Leyen have also met regularly on the sidelines of multilateral meetings, a statement said.

This will be the first ever visit of the EU College of Commissioners together to India, and among the first such visits since the start of the mandate of the current European Commission in December 2024 after the European parliamentary elections held in June 2024.

During the visit, Prime Minister Modi will hold delegation level talks with President Ursula von der Leyen. The second ministerial meeting of the India-EU Trade and Technology Council and bilateral ministerial meetings between the European Commissioners and their Indian counterparts will also be

### Major fire in Mumbai building

held during the visit.

Mumbai, Feb 22 (UNI) A massive fire broke out in

# Sunil Bharti Mittal receives UK govt's KBE honorary knighthood

London/New Delhi, Feb 22 (UNI) : Sunil Bharti Mittal, founder and chairman of Bharti Enterprises, today received the insignia of the Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (KBE).

He was presented the medal at a special investiture ceremony in the presence of friends and family at the British High Commissioner's residence in New Delhi, a press statement from the High Commission said.

"The ceremony follows the announcement in 2024 that The King has been graciously pleased to confer Mr Mittal the Honorary Knighthood for services to UK-India business relations." with Mr Mittal and congratulate him once

Lindy Cameron, British

#### High Commissioner to again." India, said: "Mr Mittal is a great friend of the UK – with significant investments, including BT, Gleneagles, Norlake Hospitality, and OneWeb.

"Mr. Mittal's leadership has made a lasting impact the UK-India partnership, including through his work with the India-UK CEO Forum. Most recently, he led a senior Indian business delegation to the UK to meet with Prime Minister Starmer, the Foreign Secretary, the Chancellor, and other Cabinet Ministers to identify opportunities for accelerating economic growth across both nations. I look forward to continuing to work closely

Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman and Founder,

Bharti Enterprises, said: "As India and the United Kingdom continue to chart remarkable scale in our bilateral relations, I acknowledge this recognition both as a privilege and a responsibility. I remain committed to working with stakeholders in our nations towards advancing India -UK business relations.

Mittal was recognised in the Honorary British awards for foreign nationals that The King approved during 2024.

The KBE is among the highest honours awarded by The UK King to foreign nationals for preeminent contributions in various fields.

faith activities"."Now suggestions are

being made out of America, that there are

activities that are in bad faith; so it surely

warrants a look. If there is something to it,

the country should know who are the

people involved in the bad faith activities,"

Matters', the EAM said there is a chapter

in it about such kind of issues. In apparent

reference to American billionaire

philanthropist George Soros and his Open

Society Foundation that is referred to as

part of the "Deep State", the EAM said:

"There are a bunch of guys in the world

who are not elected, they are self-selected,

and they believe that they should decide

what is good, what is bad, what are the

norms, and rules; and for the past 25-30

years they had a huge domination, not just

**Pico lyer** 

economic, but across countries...

Referring to his book 'Why Bharat

# **Revelations about USAID are** concerning, govt looking into it: EAM

he added.

different vehicles were

injured. As soon as the

information about the

accident was received, the

police rushed to the spot.

The injured were sent to the

rural hospital of Chandwad.

After primary treatment,

some were taken to private

hospitals in Malegaon and

elsewhere.Due to the

accident, traffic on both

sides of the highway was

injured person was

admitted to Malegaon and

Chandwad hospitals.After

two hours, the traffic on

both sides was released step

by step, the sources said.

Eyewitnesses

New Delhi, Feb 22 (UNI) External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar today said the revelations by the Trump administration about USAID giving \$21 million for "voter turnout in India" are "concerning" and added that the government is looking into it and the facts will come out.

Answering questions at the Delhi University Literature Festival, the EAM said: "Some information has been put out there by the Trump administration, and obviously it is concerning.

"It would suggest that there are activities which have a certain objective -to push a certain narrative or a viewpoint. As a government we are looking into it... my sense is the facts will come out."

He said the US Agency for International Development (USAID) was allowed in India "in good faith, to do good

# 1 killed, 20 injured in Nashik accident

Nashik, Feb 22 (UNI): A Deore (46, Malegaon), died 46-year-old woman died on the spot in this accident.

elucidates on importance of stillness in

**Bezwada Wilson highlights problem** of manual scavenging have not fully transformed water pollution and

Mumbai, Feb 22 (UNI) Bezwada Wilson, Ramon Magsaysay Awardee and national convener of Safai Karmachari Andolan, on Saturday highlighted the problem of manual

"Women in villages

a single city. India still

lacks a proper sanitation

system. We cannot allow

humans to clean human

excreta."

uniting villages."When asked if films mirror society and can they bring change, Bhatkal responded, "Movies can create awareness, but real

them as garbage pits. We must minimise waste to reduce water pollution since we lack the infrastructure to manage it once it is out. Superstition can be both an obstacle

Khan further said that

scavenging due to its lifethreatening nature of work and advocated the need of a proper sanitation system.

Speaking in a session titled 'The Humanitarian Touch - Creating a Kinder Universe' at ABP Network's Ideas of India 2025 event, Wilson stated that, "Manual scavenging is toxic and lifethreatening. Just building toilets is not enough, how can we leave people to clean our waste? Even after independence, we

still manually clean fecal matter from toilets and septic tanks. Twelve people have already died since the beginning of 2025 because of this," he added.

Satyajit Bhatkal, chief executive officer of Paani Foundation, said, "We created Satyamev Jayate to drive change, not for views. Over 24 episodes, we made an impact, which led us to focus on water conservation. When the show ended, we dedicated ourselves to tackling

change needs government action and public participation. We are all polluters. Our job is not just to clean up-it is to stop polluting in the first place."Ramveer Tanwar, PondMan,

environmentalist and Brand Ambassador of GNN, said, "Village ponds, once clean and essential, are now polluted beyond use. We used to swim in them—today, they are dumping grounds. If this continues, future generations will only see

and an advantage. Many sadhus dump offerings into ponds, polluting them. But if we turn beliefs into a force for good-by creating stories that inspire action—we can unite people to clean and restore these water bodies. 'Kooda ghar tak rahe, jitna kam ho utna behtar'." On government support, Tanwar added, "Things are changing.

The fact that we are

growing."

having this discussion

shows that awareness is

a six-storey residential building at Marine Lines in South Mumbai on Saturday, officials said. However, there were no

casualties in this incident.

According to sources in the Fire Brigade, the fire broke out at 1226 pm in a flat of about 2,000 square feet at Marine Chambers and it was confined to electric wiring and electric installations, in which wooden furniture, important documents, false ceiling, rubber tube of household gas cylinder, mattresses, sofa set, other household articles, etc., were destroyed. People who were

stranded on upper floors due to smoke were safely rescued by firemen through the staircase. The fire was eventually extinguished at 1411 pm, sources added.

### Minister meets **MNS** president

Mumbai, Feb 22 (UNI): Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's close cabinet colleague, Uday Samant, met Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray here on Saturday.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Samant clarified that this was a goodwill meeting and there was no reason to draw political implications from it.In fact, this meeting is considered important in view of upcoming municipal elections in the state.

and 20 others were injured in an accident on the Mumbai-Agra National Highway in Chandwad taluka, Mumbai.

The accident occurred at Rahud ghat involved seven to eight vehicles on the Mumbai-Agra National Highway in Chandwad on Friday at around 10 pm. Rahud Ghat is located between Chandwad and Malegaon on the highway. According to police, the brakes of a goods vehicle failed on the downhill road of the Rahud ghat. This goods vehicle overturned three vehicles and crashed multiple vehicles.

Chandwad Tehsildar Mandar Kulkarni informed that the accident took place at the ghat on Friday. The impact of the speeding goods vehicle was so strong that other vehicles were literally crushed to pieces.The deceased woman, identified as Usha

### Couple, their son die in road accident in Sangli

Sangli, Feb 22 (UNI) A couple and their son were killed on the spot in a road accident after a speeding car rammed their motorcycle at Bhose village in Miraj tehsil of the district on Saturday. According to sources in Miraj Rural Police, the couple, residents of Dharashiv who were working as labourers at a sugar factory in the district, was on way to Dharashiv with their son on a motorcycle at end of sugarcane crushing season.

Near Bhose village on Ratnagiri-Nagpur highway, a speeding car hit their motorcycle, who fell down on the road and died on the spot due to grievous injury.

The deceased have been identified as Suresh Shinde, his wife Sanjana and their son Dnyaneshwar.

#### human lives While 20 others from

Mumbai, Feb 22 (UNI): Elaborating on importance of stillness in human lives, Pico Iyer, celebrated Indian author, journalist and travel writer, said that humanity's last frontier is really its first frontier which is what kind of invisible clarity and calm can humans find to make peace with AI (artificial intelligence) and other accelerating technologies.

disturbed for two hours. Speaking at fourth edition of ABP Network's are estimating that the accident Ideas of India 2025 in city, occurred due to the brake he highlighted, "This is an failure of the goods vehicle idea of India, and it is also on the slope of the ghat. an idea from India, because The goods vehicle, for millennia it is India including the Eco and Swift which has been telling the cars, suffered major rest of the world how much damage.Police called the we gain by sitting still." crane and ambulance. The While recounting his

life in a Catholic hermitage after his family home in California was burned down in a fire incident, he said, "The very night I lost everything when my house burned down, I realised I still had the most important things. I also realised I do not need 90 percent of things I accumulated; I can live more minimally. "Responding to the impact of AI in modern lives, the writer said, "My sense is that as long as we can keep surprising ourselves, we will be ahead of AI."Referring to observations from His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Pico Iyer remarked, "We can use the most modern technologies by bringing to them the most ancient principles and values."

# Indian Army contingent departs for Japan to participate in exercise Dharma Guardian

New Delhi, Feb 22 (UNI) The Indian Army contingent departed on Saturday to participate in the 6th edition of India-Japan joint military exercise Dharma Guardian.

The exercise is scheduled to be conducted in the East Fuji Manoeuvre Training area of Japan from February 24 to March 9, a Defence Ministry statement said.

Exercise Dharma Guardian is an annual event conducted alternatively in India and Japan. The last edition was conducted in Rajasthan in February-March 2024.

The Indian contingent comprising 120 personnel will be represented mainly by troops from a battalion tactical drills, joint of the Madras Regiment along with troops from other arms and services.

Defence Force (JGSDF) contingent, also comprising similar strength, will be represented by the 34th Infantry Regiment.

The aim of the exercise is to enhance interoperability between the two forces while undertaking joint urban warfare and counterterrorism operations under UN mandate. The exercise will focus on a high degree of physical fitness, joint planning, and joint tactical drills.

Aspects to be rehearsed will include

The Japan Ground Self

exercises, and disaster response strategies,

India and Japan.

designed to enhance operational capabilities, refine combat skills, and strengthen interoperability for

effective joint operations. Building on the momentum of the Chief of the Army Staff's successful visit to

Japan from October 14 to 17 2024, Exercise Dharma Guardian will further strengthen the bilateral defence cooperation between

he exercise underscores the shared commitment of India and Japan towards regional security, peace and

stability, while advancing their common vision of a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific.

Exercise Dharma Guardian reinforces the India-Japan relationship as a cornerstone of regional cooperation, fostering strong militaryto-military ties and promoting cultural understanding.

A testament to the enduring bond of friendship, trust, and cultural linkages between India and Japan, the exercise sets the stage for meaningful professional engagement, highlighting the unwavering commitment of both nations to broader defence cooperation.

# **Govt skips Krishna River Management Board meeting**

Hyderabad, Feb 22 (UNI): : Government skipped the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) Meeting organised by Telangana Irrigation Minister Capt. Uttam Kumar Reddy here on Saturday to resolve the ongoing Krishna River water dispute between the two Telugu states.

Recently, during the National Irrigation Ministers' Conference held in Rajasthan, Telangana Irrigation Minister took the initiative and met Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil and Secretary Debashree Mukherjee. Based on Minister

Uttam's request, the central government directed KRMB to convene a meeting to resolve the dispute.As part of this, KRMB organized a special meeting in Hyderabad and invited officials from both Telugu states

participate.

Telangana Irrigation Chief Secretary Rahul Bojja, along with E.N.C. Anil Kumar and Nalgonda District C.E. Ajay Kumar, who attended the meeting, presented comprehensive details regarding the illegal use of Krishna waters by Andhra

Pradesh. They urged KRMB to take steps to control Andhra Pradesh's excessive water usage. However, despite the

need for discussions with both states to resolve the dispute, the Andhra Pradesh government did not attend the meeting.

Meanwhile, Rahul Bojja demanded that KRMB must stop Andhra Pradesh from illegally diverting water.During the meeting, he formally complained to KRMB Chairman Atul Jain Andhra regarding to Pradesh's actions.

He insisted that the immediate transfer of water State from Srisailam and Nagarjuna Sagar, in violation of regulations, should be stopped.

According to KRMB records, the Andhra Pradesh government has been utilizing water beyond its allocated rights.

He questioned Andhra Pradesh's unilateral draw of water from joint reservoirs, stating they have no such rights.

Additionally, he detailed Telangana's drinking and irrigation water requirement of 107 TMC by the end of May this year to the Chairman.

He emphasized the need to save the Rabi crops sown in 13 lakh acres of the Krishna basin and meet the drinking water needs of nearly two crore people across Hyderabad and the districts of Nalgonda, Mahbubnagar, and

Khammam.He pointed out that Andhra Pradesh has already utilized 650 TMC of water, while Telangana has only used 225 TMC.

As per the agreement made between the two states post-bifurcation in 2014-15, the water-sharing ratio was set at 66:34. However, Andhra Pradesh is now violating this agreement, using water at a 75:25 ratio.He reiterated that Telangana had already submitted detailed information regarding its drinking and irrigation needs and demanded the immediate release of 116 TMC of water. This includes 24 TMC for MGKLIS, 58 TMC for NSLC, and 34 TMC for AMRP, required by the end of June.

Rahul Bojja requested that orders be issued immediately to release the available 72 TMC of water for Telangana's use.

# **CM**, **Revanth** orders immediate aid for burn victim Saleema

Hyderabad, Feb 22 (UNI): Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has directed officials to extend

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immediate medical assistance to Saleema, a resident of Gundlasingaram village in Nutankal mandal of Suryapet district, who has been confined to bed due to severe burn injuries.

In response to a newspaper article highlighting her plight, the CM also ordered the provision of a disability pension and housing support for her family. The Chief Minister

instructed officials to ensure that Saleema receives appropriate medical care without delay.

Additionally, he mandated that she be granted a house under the Indiramma housing scheme and be provided with food, as she is

unable to cook due to her condition.

Following the CM's orders, OSD Vemula Srinivasulu contacted the Survapet district collector to coordinate the necessary assistance. Saleema, whose nerves have been severely damaged by burn injuries, remains bedridden and relies on the care of her ten-year-old daughter, Rizwana. Despite her young age, Rizwana balances her education while also looking after her mother's needs.The Telangana government's intervention aims to provide crucial support for Saleema and her daughter, ensuring they receive the necessary aid to improve their living conditions and secure their future, according to an official statement.

# Students recover after mild food-related illness

Hyderabad, Feb 22 (UNI) In the backdrop of recent food poisoning incident reported at its campus, NMIMS Hyderabad, a Deemed to be University, situated at Jadcherla, outskirts of the city, on Saturday confirmed that 29 students were admitted to the hospital for observation after experiencing mild symptoms of food-related illness.

Of the total admitted in the hospital, half of the students were discharged on Friday morning while the remaining students were discharged today, the University said in a release here..Comprehensive medical tests were conducted, all of which returned negative results for any serious infection. Doctors confirmed that this was a case of mild food-related illness.On the said day, around 1000 students consumed the mess food. While a small fraction of students experienced discomfort, immediate medical attention was provided under the guidance of expert doctors.

Students were first attended to in the library to ensure hydration and timely care, following which they were shifted to the hospital as a precautionary measure to provide them with the best possible treatment.

The administration will continue to closely monitor the situation and reinforce all necessary measures to ensure the well-being of our students remains our topmost priority.

NMIMS Hyderabad Campus Administration spokesperson said, "We have been continuously updating parents about the situation to ensure complete transparency. Our top priority remains the health and wellbeing of our students, and we are taking all necessary steps to strengthen food safety protocols to prevent such incidents in the future. NMIMS will investigate this incident in depth, as only 27 students from one discipline were affected, yet before the internal administration could take necessary action, local individuals were made aware, and the matter was widely circulated."

#### **ICRISAT** train officials from 14 Nations to combat land degradation **TGSRTC deploys 3,000 special** Pradesh.The tour included (Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, Feb 22 (UNI) Strengthening southsouth collaboration in the global fight against land degradation and climate change, a three-week International Training on Landscape Resource Conservation concluded at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) here.

The program brought together 24 participants from 14 countries-Ghana, Tajikistan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Morocco, Ethiopia, Cambodia, Liberia, Mali, Chad, Sri Lanka, Lesotho, Iran, and the Philippines—to tackle critical challenges such as land restoration, carbon neutrality, and smallholder farming sustainability, the Institute said in a release here on Friday. Organised by ICRISAT under the aegis of the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Program of the Government of India and supported by ICRISAT's Dryland Academy, the program provided a platform for sharing global best practices.Addressing participants, ICRISAT Director General-Interim Dr Stanford Blade highlighted



the importance of two-way knowledge exchange and Resilient Farm and Food encouraged continued Systems, ICRISAT, said, "When you return to your collaboration beyond the workshop.

countries, consider how "This training is not just you can apply these an academic exercise; it insights to benefit your embodies the spirit of communities. We deeply South-South collaboration. appreciate the support of I urge you to stay your governments and connected and build on institutions in sponsoring your participation." this resource base to drive meaningful change," Dr At the inaugural Blade emphasised. session, Dr Ramesh Singh, He also acknowledged Principal Scientist & Cluster Lead-ICRISAT the support of the Ministry of External Affairs, Development Centre, Government of India, for provided an overview of facilitating the program. the course, Speaking at the ICRISAT's Global program, Dr ML Jat, Deputy Research Program General-Directors, Dr Sean Mayes Director and Dr Victor Afari-Sefa, Research (Acting) and

emphasised the role of collaborative research in addressing global challenges.

The training covered key themes such as research advancements. landscape hydrology, land resource inventory, natural resource management (NRM) structures, digital tools for landscape management, water budgeting, climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable farming practices, and nutrient management. Participants also engaged in hands-on while learning through an ICRISAT field visit and a one-week exposure visit to landscape intervention sites in Jhansi, Uttar

the World Heritage Irrigation Structure - Sukma Dukma Dam – and visits to ICAR institutes IGFRI and CAFRI, which specialise in grassland and fodder research, as well as agroforestry.ICRISAT's laboratories are outstanding, and the work being done by the scientists is impressive," said Dr Somayeh Naseri, Head of the Forest Rangeland Department at the Semnan Agriculture and Natural Resources Research & Education Centre, Iran."India is experiencing climate change impacts similar to those in Cambodia. The country has

advanced technology and has achieved notable Srisailam, 714 to The knowledge I've gained here can be applied to both research and policy in 270 buses will be Cambodia," said Chumnan Ith, Officer at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.The program facilitated knowledge exchange in landscape conservation, sustainable farming, and carbon neutrality, fostering a network of professionals committed to addressing land degradation and strengthening smallholder resilience.

# buses for Maha Shivaratri devotees

Hyderabad, Feb 22 (UNI) The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) has made extensive arrangements to ensure hassle-free transport for devotees travelling to Shaiva Kshetras on the occasion of Maha Shivaratri.

To accommodate the large number of pilgrims, TGSRTC will operate 3,000 special buses from various parts of the state to 43 Shaiva temples between February 24 and

For key pilgrimage destinations, TGSRTC has allocated 800 buses to

provide comfort to instructed officials to passengers, TGSRTC has arrange more buses based set up shamianas, chairs, on the demand from drinking water, and a devotees. We urge public address system at pilgrims to utilize these keyboarding points. special services for a safe As per the state and convenient journey to

government's guidelines, the temples." TGSRTC has revised Following the state ticket prices for the government's directive, special buses, increasing women availing of the fares by up to 50 percent Mahalaxmi free bus for services running transport facility can between February 24 and travel without charge in 27. Regular bus services Palle Velugu, Express, City will continue with Ordinary, and Metro Express buses on Maha For Edupayala-bound Shivaratri special routes. special buses, the revised Women passengers are fares will be in effect from February 26 to 28. To

advised to obtain zero tickets during their journey. For added

Vemulawada, and 444 to Edupayala. Additionally,

deployed for Keesaragutta, 171 for Vela, 80 for Kaleshwaram, and 51 for Komuravelli.

Special buses will also be available for Alampur, Umamaheswaram, Palakurthi, Ramappa, and other temple towns. In Hyderabad, special buses will operate from MGBS, JBS, CBS, IS Sadan, KPHB, and BHEL to the Srisailam shrine. To

boards will be placed at the front of the special service buses. Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar has reviewed the operational plan with senior RTC officials and directed

assist passengers, display

standard fares.

them to ensure a smooth travel experience for devotees visiting Shaiva temples. TGSRTC MD VC Sajjanar, stated, "This year, we are deploying 809 additional buses

compared to last year's

Maha Shivaratri. We have

convenience, reservations are available for buses traveling from Hyderabad to Srisailam and Vemulawada, and tickets can be booked through the official website www.tgsrtcbus.in. For further inquiries regarding the Maha Shivaratri special bus services, passengers can contact the TGSRTC call center at 040-69440000 or 040-23450033, according to an official statement on Saturday.

#### MLC election a battle between betrayal and Justice: Band Sanjay

Karimnagar, Feb 22 (UNI) : Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Saturday described the upcoming MLC election in the state as a battle between betrayal and deception versus struggle and justice.

He urged graduates and teachers to punish the Congress government for its alleged deceit in implementing the six guarantees.

The Union Minister declared that if BJP candidates win, they will launch protests against the Congress government within a week.

Addressing a meeting of Karimnagar Parliamentary Constituency in-charges, Sanjay emphasised that his ministerial position was secondary rather than

serving the people.

He recalled his active participation in protests on behalf of Group 1 candidates even while serving as a Minister. Criticizing Congress, he accused the party of betraying the Backward Classes (BCs) by including Muslims in the BC list and suddenly claiming to

champion BC causes. Kumar praised BJP workers for their dedication, stating that it was their responsibility to ensure the

party's victory. Predicting major political shifts following the MLC election result, he asserted that the

BJP is the only party with the moral right to seek votes.

The Union Minister claimed that all surveys showed BJP candidate Anji Reddy in the lead, with Congress and Independent

candidates competing for

second place. Accusing Congress of insincerity in its newfound advocacy for BCs, he highlighted that the BJP has always stood for their welfare, pointing out that Prime Minister Narendra Modi belongs to the BC community.

Bandi reminded voters that the BJP had previously pledged to make a BC leader the Chief Minister of Telangana. In contrast, he questioned Congress's commitment, alleging that they had betrayed BCs by altering reservation lists.

Kumar also mocked the Congress and BRS, stating that BRS lacked candidates and withdrew from the race, while Congress had to bring in external candidates. He alleged that Congress was distributing Rs 7,000 to Rs 10,000 per

but vote expressed confidence that intellectuals would not sell their votes, recalling his victory in the MP elections despite similar tactics by Congress and BRS.

Sanjay accused the Congress government of planning massive extortion through the Land Regularisation Scheme (LRS), alleging they intended to collect Rs 1 lakh to Rs 10 lakh per application, amounting to Rs 50,000 crore, to cover mounting state debts.

He criticised Congress for reversing earlier policies that allocated LRS funds to local municipal development and instead directing all revenue to the state treasury. Kumar reminded voters that Congress had promised free LRS during elections but was now contradicting

its pledge.

The Minister questioned which party had consistently fought for employees, teachers, and the unemployed, reminding attendees of his sacrifices, including imprisonment and injuries from police lathis. He reiterated that his priority was the people's welfare declared and his willingness to take to the streets if needed.

Calling the MLC election a matter of respect ("Izzat Ka Sawal"), Bandi urged BJP workers to

ensure a landslide victory and to leverage social media for campaign outreach.

Meanwhile, Union Minister and Telangana BJP President G Kishan Reddy exuded confidence that the BJP will win all the three MLC seats in the

election to be held on February 27.

Speaking at a press conference at the BJP district office in Nizamabad on Saturday, he stated that party leaders, activists, and district committees are actively reaching out to voters for support.

Criticising the Congress government, Reddy questioned the delay in fulfilling election promises, including unemployment benefits, financial aid to women, and farmer assistance.

The Union Minister challenged the ruling party to implement its guarantees before calling for public discussions. He urged teachers, intellectuals, and unemployed youth to back the BJP for better governance and job opportunities.

The Telangana BJP

Dated : 17-02-2025 The undersigned, on behalf of the President accused both the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work BRS and Congress of Name of the Work Approx. Value

undermining the ppointment of Project supervision Services Agend Legislative Council's role, PSSA) for Providing Projec stating that a BJP victory is Supervision Services at various crucial to raising public issues. He highlighted the formation of the Turmeric Board under BJP leadership and reiterated the party's commitment to supporting

farmers.

Construction sites / Sections in the urisdiction of various Deputy Chief Enigneers in Bengaluru Cant and Mysuru area. (Tender Ref. No PSSA-BNC-MYS) Last date for submission of bids Upto 15:00 Hrs on 31-03-2025 For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

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#### CENTRAL RAILWAY **MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT** E-TENDER NOTICE NO. NIT/01/25/09 **DATED 20 FEBRUARY, 2025**

For and on behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Materials Manager, Central Railway invites e-tenders for supply of the following items

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity	T.O.D
1.	36245021	Copper catenary wire 323 sq mm (0.5 sq inch) as per Central Rly spec D -89	5.8 Kms.	12-MAR-25
2.	50255004	Supply of 6 Quad Cable, 1.4 mm dia	100 Kms.	17-MAR-25
3.	27253194	Set of Spring Pad	93 sets	18-MAR-25
<b>NOTE</b> : All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderers are requested to submit their bids on-line through the IREPS website at <b>https://www.ireps.gov.in</b> . For more details regarding the above mentioned tenders and other supply tenders please visit IREPS website.				
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# **STANDARD POST**

# **Rahul Gandhi's** Mayawati critique a calculated strategy for UP chessboard

It was quite interesting to see how BSP chief Mayawati trashed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in one hard-hitting statement, advising him not to point fingers at others but to look into his own self.

Mayawati has always been upfront and ready to whack anyone she finds questioning her political position. After all, she is the patron of Bahujan Samaj politics in the country and knows how to go about it.

The BSP chief has not been as aggressive in election campaigning as the others, especially, the BJP, Congress or Samajwadi Party yet she has her style of making her presence felt. Her party has not been doing well for the past several elections, whether the Lok Sabha or the state Assembly polls, and in particular, Uttar Pradesh.

Her party's lack of aggression has, no doubt, been baffling. The results have been discouraging since 2012 creating the feeling that she may have lost the plot. In 2007, the party had a majority in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly, winning 206 out of 403 seats. In the 2012 Assembly elections, it won only 80 seats, and in 2017, it fell to just 19. However, the worst was in the 2022 elections when the party won only one seat. At the national level, the BSP won 21 Lok Sabha seats in 2009 but failed to get any in 2014. After its alliance with the Samajwadi Party in 2019, it won 10 seats. And in the 2024, Lok Sabha election, it failed to secure a single seat after going solo.

BSP's dismal performance in the elections has left her followers perplexed. Her electoral base has gradually shifted to other parties.

It is this shifted vote base that Rahul Gandhi appears to be targeting. What he said in his address to Dalit youths in Rae Bareli, where he was visiting a few days ago, was a clear-cut message to the community. His words were carefully worded to impress the Dalits, especially the youths, to stir the thought that Mayawati was not serious about electoral fights.

The Congress leader posed questions to a group of Dalit students: "Behenji aaj kal chunaav theek se kyun nahi lad rahi (Why is Mayawati not fighting polls properly these days)"... "Hum chahte the Behenji BJP ke virodh main hamare saath lade magar Mayawati ji kisi na kisi karan nahi ladi. Hume toh kaafi dukh laga kyunki agar teeno party ek ho jaati toh BJP chunav kabhi nahi jeetti (We wanted Behenji to fight with us against BJP... Mayawati ji did not fight for some reason or the other. I felt very sad because if the three parties (including Samajwadi Party) had united, BJP would never have won the election)". Mayawati reacted sharply, saying that Congress was the B-team of BJP and had a casteist attitude towards her party. In a post on her X handle in Hindi (loosely translated as): "In the states where Congress is strong or where it has governments, there is animosity and casteist attitude towards BSP and its followers, but in a state like UP where Congress is weak, there is deceptive talk of alliance with BSP, if this is not the double standard of that party then what is it?' Her dismissal of Rahul Gandhi's statement was swift and intense but there is no denying the fact that BSP's successive setbacks have created a vacuum in Dalit politics.

# **Rise of Robotic-Assisted GI Surgery in Healthcare**

precision. reduced (Standard Post Bureau) postoperative pain, and In recent years, roboticquicker recovery times. In assisted surgery has been 2020, approximately 1.24 making significant strides million robotic-assisted in India, particularly in the surgeries were performed field of gastrointestinal (GI) worldwide. surgery. With the rising burden of GI diseases,

emerging

offering

minimally

Robotic Surgery

as

In India, the adoption of robotic surgery in GI including colorectal cancer, procedures is also on the gastric cancer, and complex rise. The increasing hepatobiliary conditions, availability of advanced robotic technology is medical technologies and а the growing expertise of transformative force, surgeons in robotic precision, systems are contributing to invasive this trend. Patients in India procedures, and faster are becoming more aware of recovery times for patients. the benefits of minimally Growing Adoption of invasive procedures, leading to a higher demand The adoption of for robotic-assisted robotic-assisted surgery in surgeries. As healthcare gastrointestinal (GI) infrastructure continues to procedures has seen a improve, it is anticipated significant rise globally. that the adoption of robotic Between 2012 and 2022, the surgery in GI procedures utilization of robotic will further expand. surgery in general surgical

Advantages of Robotic procedures increased from GI Surgery 1.8% to 17%. This growth The benefits of robotic-

is driven by the assisted GI surgery extend advantages of robotic systems, such as enhanced beyond just precision.



Dr. Neeraj Chaudhary, Director - Robotic and Laparoscopic, GI-HPB Surgery and Oncology, Yatharth Hospital, Greater Noida

Traditional open surgeries often require large incisions, leading to prolonged recovery periods and an increased risk of infections. In contrast, robotic surgery enables minimally invasive procedures, significantly reducing postoperative

pain and scarring. Patients experience lower risks of complications and infections, allowing for a smoother recovery process. Additionally, the advanced precision of robotic systems ensures improved outcomes in complex procedures,

particularly in cancer also exploring ways to surgeries. The ability to perform delicate movements with enhanced visualization aids in better tumor removal and precise lymph node dissection. As a result, patients benefit from faster discharge, quicker return to daily activities, and overall improved surgical success rates.

Expanding Accessibility Beyond

Metro Cities While robotic GI surgery is gaining momentum in urban India, challenges remain in expanding this technology to tier-2 and tier-3 cities. High initial costs and the need for trained specialists have limited its widespread availability. However, efforts are being made to make robotic surgery more accessible through training programs, collaborations, and costeffective robotic systems. Government and private healthcare providers are minimal discomfort.

segment of the population. Additionally, as more surgeons receive specialized robotic training, the reach of this advanced surgical technique is expected to grow significantly in the coming years. Future of Robotic GI Surgery The future of roboticassisted GI surgery looks promising, with advancements such as AIintegrated robotic systems,

procedures, making them

affordable for a larger

robotic

telesurgery, and indigenous robotic platforms on the horizon. As the technology becomes more costeffective and widely available, more hospitals are expected to integrate robotic surgery into their practice, ensuring that patients receive worldclass treatment with

# Not Just an Ambulance... A Lifesaver for Newborns! **SP Vikrant Patil Inaugurates Neonatal ICU Ambulance**



necessary medical care while being even transferred. He commended the doctors, staff, and management of KIMS Cuddles for introducing such a vital service.

Advanced Life Support for Newborns

been introduced in Rayalaseema.

KIMS Hospital Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Sunil Sepuri, shared that KIMS Hospital in Kurnool consistently introduces advanced medical facilities to serve the people better.

As part of this initiative,

they have launched this

cutting-edge neonatal

ambulance, which will be a

boon for the people of

Rayalaseema. He assured

that parents of critically ill

newborns will no longer

have to worry about

transportation difficulties.

Dr. Sunil further explained

that preterm babies often

face severe health

# PM Modi to visit MP, **Bihar and Assam** from Feb 23 to 25

New Delhi, Feb 22 (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Assam from February 23 to 25 and participate in various programs in these states and lay foundation stones and inaugurate several projects.

On Sunday, he will travel to Chhatarpur District in Madhya Pradesh and will lay the foundation stone of Bageshwar Dham Medical and Science Research Institute in Garha village of Chhatarpur district.

Ensuring better healthcare services for people from all walks of life, the Cancer hospital, worth over Rs 200 crore will offer free treatment to underprivileged cancer patients and will be equipped with state-of-the-art machines and have specialist doctors, an official statement said on Saturday. On 24th February, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the Global Investors Summit 2025 in Bhopal. Serving as an important platform to establish Madhya Pradesh as a global investment hub, the GIS will include departmental summits; specialized sessions on pharma and medical devices, transport and logistics, industry, skill development, tourism and MSMEs among others. It will also include international sessions like the Global South countries conference, Latin America and Caribbean session and special sessions for key partner countries. Three major industrial exhibitions will be held during the Summit. The Auto Show will showcase the state's automotive capabilities and future mobility solutions. The Textile and Fashion Expo will highlight the state's expertise in both traditional and modern textile manufacturing. The "One District-One Product" (ODOP) Village will showcase the state's unique craftsmanship and cultural heritage. Representatives from over 60 countries, officials from various international organizations, over 300 prominent Industry leaders from India and policymakers among others will participate in the Summit. Thereafter, Modi will travel to Bhagalpur in Bihar and release the 19th installment of PM Kisan scheme. Over 9.7 crore farmers across the country will receive direct financial benefits amounting to more than Rs 21,500 crore. The PM will inaugurate the Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Breeds in Motihari, built under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission. Its major objectives include introduction of cutting edge IVF technology, production of elite animals of indigenous breeds for further propagation, and training of farmers and professionals in modern reproductive technology.He will also inaugurate the Milk Product Plant in Barauni that aims to create an organized market for three lakh milk producers. In line with his commitment to boost connectivity and infrastructure, Modi will also dedicate to the nation the doubling of Warisaliganj -Nawada - Tilaiya rail section worth over Rs 526 crore and Ismailpur - Rafiganj Road Over Bridge. On 25th February, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the Advantage Assam 2.0 Investment and Infrastructure Summit 2025 in Guwahati. He will attend the Jhumoir Binandini (Mega Jhumoir) 2025, a spectacular cultural extravaganza with 8,000 performers participating in the Jhumoir dance, a folk dance of Assam Tea Tribe and Adivasi Communities. The Mega Jhumoir event symbolises 200 years of the tea industry, and also 200 years of industrialisation in Assam.

And, several new faces and various parties are trying to create a bloc out of them.

In the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. BSP failed, but Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Azad clinched victory in Uttar Pradesh's Nagina Lok Sabha seat in 2024, securing over 51 per cent of the vote share.

This win has indicated that there is space for the Dalit-centric electoral politics and if Mayawati is lacking for some reasons, there are others ready to dive in.

So, when Rahul Gandhi made the comments on Mayawati and BSP, the target was clear – the over 21 per cent Dalit population in Uttar Pradesh. The Congress, which has made the Muslim community the main plank in its electoral battle against the BJP, is now seeking the Dalit community ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh.

Rahul Gandhi strategically started the campaign by creating clear-cut doubts among the Dalits and other Backward Classes about the "intentions" of Mayawati in not contesting against the BJP.

With this, the Congress leader hopes to bring the grand old party's traditional SC vote bank back to it. At the same time, this is also a subtle message to Akhilesh Yadav's SP that the Congress doors are open to other tie-ups also.

While Gandhi may have started his political move to woo Dalits, Mayawati has cautioned the community against what she claims is a biased and discriminatory attitude of the grand old party.

She has said that whenever the BSP has contested elections in UP and other states in alliance with Congress, her party's base vote has been transferred to them but the same has not been reciprocated.

(Standard Post Bureau)

District SP Vikrant Patil emphasized that in cases where critically ill newborns need to be transferred to a larger hospital, the lack of proper ambulance facilities has been a major challenge. However, with the launch of an advanced neonatal ambulance by KIMS Cuddles, this issue is now addressed. He inaugurated the state-ofthe-art neonatal ambulance services at KIMS Cuddles Hospital in Kurnool on Friday.

Speaking on the occasion, SP Patil stated that this special ambulance, the first of its kind in Rayalaseema, will allow the

Speaking at the event, Consultant Neonatologist Dr. H.A. Naveed explained that some newborns face severe health complications at birth. In such cases, regardless of how remote the location is, this ambulance can ensure their safe transport while providing critical medical care. He highlighted that the ambulance is equipped with a high-tech incubator,



safe transport of critically noted that previously, only portable ill newborns from any equipped ambulances were remote location. Equipped with an

available for adults, but this is the first time such incubator and advanced medical facilities, it ensures comprehensive neonatal that newborns receive the transport services have

available, parents can rest assured about their baby's ventilatorsafety.

The service will also benefit for pregnant women and children in need of emergency medical care.

#### Haryana operated 595 buses to Prayagraj

Chandigarh, Feb 22 (UNI) Haryana Transport Minister decided to introduce bus services due to increasing number Anil Vij said that to facilitate devotees attending the Mahakumbh in Prayagraj, the state Transport department had operated a total of 595 buses from all districts till February 21, with all buses running to full capacity.

The Transport department has recorded an average receipt of Rs 43.85 per kilometer under this arrangement. Vij mentioned that the Transport department had

of devotees travelling to the Mahakumbh. As a result, the operation of buses was initiated, he said. He highlighted that each bus had an occupancy rate of around 80-85 percent, and the Transport department was earning an average of Rs 43.85 per kilometre. The introduction of bus services from Haryana has greatly benefited devotees travelling to and from the Mahakumbh.

#### Iraqi forces destroy 25 IS sites

Baghdad, Feb 22 (UNI) The Iraqi military said on Friday that its forces had destroyed 25 sites used by Islamic State (IS) militants in a mountainous area in northern Iraq.

Forces from Iraq's Counter-Terrorism Service carried out an operation in the Makhmour area, some 100 km southeast of Nineveh's provincial capital, Mosul, and destroyed 18 IS hideouts and seven tunnels, according to a statement from the Security Media Cell, a media outlet affiliated with the Iraqi Joint Operations Command.The forces also found human remains, as well as explosive devices, ammunition, two drones, a motorcycle, and other logistical materials, the statement said, without giving further details about the human remains. While Iraq declared victory over the IS in 2017, remnants of the group continue to carry out attacks against security forces and civilians in urban areas, deserts, and remote regions.

#### Court rules against suspension of nuclear plant operations in southwestern Japan

Tokyo, Feb 22 (UNI) : A Japanese court on Friday rejected a request of thousands of residents to suspend operations of two reactors at a nuclear power plant in Kagoshima prefecture in southwestern Japan, local media reported.

The Sendai nuclear power plant, operated by Kyushu Electric Power Co., is located near a number of active volcanoes and an active fault but the Kagoshima District Court said there was no specific risk of a severe accident caused by a natural disaster, Kyodo News reported.

In the lawsuit, plaintiffs totalling around 3,000 claimed a catastrophic volcanic eruption or an earthquake could hit No. 1 and No. 2 reactors at the power complex, currently online.

The plaintiffs were set to appeal the ruling to a higher court, according to their lawyers, the report said.

The court's decision came as the central government on Monday unveiled a new energy plan that said nuclear power will account for about 20 percent of Japan's total energy output in fiscal 2040, which requires the country to reboot nearly all of more than 30 reactors nationwide, despite safety concerns raised by the Fukushima nuclear crisis triggered by a massive earthquake and tsunami in 2011.

In 2014, No. 1 and No. 2 units at the Sendai complex, both around 40 years old, became the first in Japan to pass stricter safety regulations drawn up after the Fukushima nuclear disaster and restarted the following year.A series of lawsuits have been filed against the Sendai reactors. In 2019, the Fukuoka District Court dismissed a request by residents to nullify the regulator's permission for installing the reactors, while the Kagoshima District Court rejected an injunction request to halt the units in 2015, according to Kyodo News.

### U.S. company to launch another lunar mission to deliver NASA science

Los Angeles, Feb 22 (UNI) : U.S. company Intuitive Machines is set to launch its second lunar mission later this month to deliver NASA science to the lunar surface, NASA said on Friday.

### Lebanese president urges **U.S.** support for army, calls for Israeli

withdrawal Beirut, Feb 22 (UNI) Lebanese President Joseph Aoun on Friday called on the United States to continue supporting the Lebanese army with equipment and resources to help it carry out its national security duties, particularly in southern Lebanon.

During a meeting with a U.S. congressional delegation led by congressman Darrell Issa in Beirut, Aoun also urged Washington to pressure Israel to complete its withdrawal from five remaining points it still occupies in southern Lebanon, according to a statement released by

Lebanon's presidency.

(UNI): The body of Israeli Issa congratulated Aoun on his election and reaffirmed Washington's commitment to supporting Lebanon across various sectors, adding that he would work with the U.S. administration and meet congress to Lebanon's demand for a full Israeli pullout, said the statement.After the meeting, Issa told reporters that their discussions had covered both long-term and short-term challenges facing Lebanon, including strengthening governance, fostering economic recovery, and implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1701.

Regarding Israel's continued presence in five locations in southern Lebanon, Issa

acknowledged that while significant progress had been made, further steps were needed. He cited ongoing security challenges, including dismantling weapons stockpiles and underground tunnels, as obstacles require additional time. However, he expressed confidence that full compliance with Resolution 1701 would

handed over to the Israel Defence Forces, the body was transferred to the National Institute of Forensic Medicine based in Tel Aviv, where the on condition of

made.Bibas's remains were supposed to be returned to Israel on Thursday, along with the bodies of her two children and another hostage, 83-yearold Oded Lifshitz, as part of an arrangement under a three-phase ceasefire-However, forensic

identification was

hers. In the developments afterwards, a senior Hamas official, speaking

anonymity, explained that the mix-up occurred due to the chaos caused by Israeli airstrikes, which led to the misidentification of the remains."It was an unintentional mistake," he said.Earlier on Friday before the final delivery of the remains of Bibas, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel will seek revenge against Hamas over its failure to hand over Bibas's body.

"We will ensure that Hamas pays the full price for this cruel and evil violation of the

agreement," he said. The four dead Israeli

> hostages were among the about 250 hostages abducted to Gaza during a Hamas attack on southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023.

Hamas is expected to release six living hostages on Saturday in exchange for hundreds more Palestinians detained by Israel as part of the ceasefire deal.The release of the remaining living hostages in Gaza is expected to take place during the second phase of the ceasefire deal, which still needs to be negotiated.

### Hamas hands over body of Shiri Bibas to **ICRC:** Sr official

Gaza, Feb 22 (UNI) Al-Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of Hamas, handed over the body of Shiri Bibas, an Israeli hostage, to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on Friday, according to a senior Hamas official, after Israeli authorities determined that a body returned by Hamas on Thursday was not her.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, explained that the mix-up occurred due to the chaos caused by Israeli airstrikes, which led to the misidentification of remains.

"It was an unintentional mistake, as the body of Shiri was mixed with others due to Israeli attacks on the area where it was located," he said.On Thursday, al-Qassam transferred the remains of four Israeli hostages -- presumably Shiri Bibas, her two sons, Ariel and Kfir, as well as retired journalist Oded Lifshitz -- back to Israel through the ICRC. The four hostages were abducted to Gaza during a Hamas-led attack on southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023.hhowever, later on Thursday, after conducting forensic analysis on the four bodies, Israeli authorities announced that the body initially believed to be Shiri Bibas did not match her DNA.

### **Canadian Indian-origin ex-MP Ruby Dhalla** disgualified from Liberal Party leadership race

Ottawa/New Delhi, Feb 22 (UNI) Canada's Indianorigin former MP Ruby Dhalla has been disqualified by Prime Minister position. Her ouster

which Dhalla

party's decision as

"shocking and deeply

The Liberal Leadership

strongly denied.

disappointing".

committee, in a joint sitting with the Leadership Expense Committee, said that Dhalla "was in breach of 10 violations of the Justin National Leadership Rules, Trudeau's Liberal Party Leadership Vote Rules, and for running for the top the Leadership Expense order to "complete the

media reports."She termed the allegations against her as "fictitious" and "false", and the disqualification as an effort by the Liberal Party to keep her off the debate stage and ballot in coronation" for former Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney to become the party's leader.

considering it was "leaked to the media."

"I have just been informed by the Liberal Party of Canada that I have been disqualified from the leadership race. This decision is both shocking and deeply disappointing,

candidates - former central banker Mark Carney, exfinance minister Chrystia Freeland, former House leader Karina Gould and ex-MP Frank Baylis - face off in separate French and English debates on

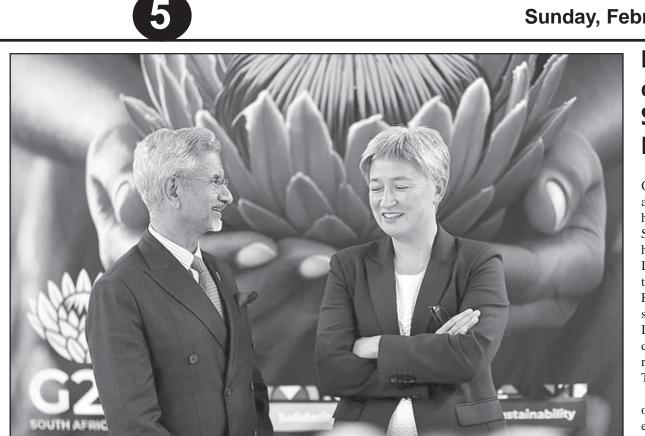
# External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong during a meeting, in Johannesburg, South Africa. **Body of hostage Shiri Bibas returned** Friday confirmed by Israel

hostage Shiri Bibas, which was handed over to Israel on Friday night by Hamas via the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Gaza, was confirmed by forensic analysis, Israel's stateowned Kan TV News and other leading media outlets reported on Saturday.After being

Jerusalem, Feb 22

hostage deal between Israel and Hamas, which took effect on Jan. 19. analysis showed the remains returned were not

Sunday, February 23, 2025



The mission, codenamed IM-2, will lift off on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida no earlier than Wednesday, Feb. 26.

After the launch, Intuitive Machines' lunar lander, Athena, will spend approximately one week in transit to the moon before landing on the lunar surface no earlier than Thursday, March 6.

The lander will carry NASA science investigations and technology demonstrations to further understanding of the moon's environment and help prepare for future human missions to the lunar surface, according to NASA.

Launching as a rideshare with the IM-2 delivery, NASA's Lunar Trailblazer spacecraft also will begin its journey to lunar orbit, where it will map the distribution of the different forms of water on the moon.

### **U.S.** close to signing minerals deal with Ukraine: Trump

Washington, Feb 22 (UNI) : U.S. President Donald Trump said Friday that Washington was nearing a deal requiring Kiev to hand over 50 percent of its rare earth minerals as the payoff of U.S. aid during Ukraine's conflict with Russia.

"We're signing an agreement, hopefully in the next fairly short period of time," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office when asked about a deal for Ukraine's minerals

In a video address, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said, "Ukrainian and U.S. teams are working on a draft agreement between our governments. This agreement can add value to our relations -- what matters most is getting the details right to ensure it truly works."

"I look forward to just results," the Ukrainian leader said.

Trump, whose administration bypassed Ukraine to hold direct talks with the Russian side in pursuit of ending the three-year conflict, has craved Ukraine's rare earth deposits, which are crucial raw materials for certain high-tech products.

He has also criticised the former Joe Biden administration for providing too much aid to Ukraine but getting nothing in return.

Speaking on Wednesday of the Trump administration's initial proposal demanding a share of Ukrainian minerals without committing to providing a security guarantee for Ukraine, Zelensky said, "That's not a serious conversation. I can't sell our state."

eventually be achieved. He reaffirmed that the U.S. and the United Nations will hold all parties accountable for compliance with the resolution.

Issa also expressed confidence that the U.S. military support for Lebanon would continue, such as additional military training and equipment from the U.S. and regional allies such as Jordan.

Vote Committee unanimously made the decision following "an extensive process and including review, interviews, questionnaires, and an opportunity for Dr. Dhalla to directly address

Rules.""The violations came amid questions include concerns about about campaign finances alleged violations of the and possible allegations Canada Elections Act, of foreign interference, certain other election has finance matters, nondisclosure of material facts, Dhalla described the and inaccurate financial

> reporting," they added. Dhalla told CTV News that she learnt of her disgualification from "watching the news," adding that as someone running for the leadership race and to be the next prime minister, "the party would have had the courtesy to inform me directly, instead of having

committees."The me learn about this from

# Turkiye issues weather warnings for 14 provinces

and five other

#### Ankara, Feb 22 (UNI) Heavy snowfall continues to affect many regions of Turkiye, prompting the

Turkish State Meteorological Service to issue orange-coded warnings on Friday for eight provinces and yellow-coded warnings

for six others. In Turkiye, an According to the latest orange-coded forecasts, snowfall is meteorological warning expected Friday in the indicates a dangerous coastal areas of the situation, while a central and eastern Black yellow-coded warning Sea, eastern and signals potential southeastern Anatolia, as danger. Authorities well as Istanbul and its have urged caution surrounding regions, the against potential service said in a disruptions in statement. The snowfall is transportation and icy predicted to continue on conditions.

Saturday. The provinces of Strong winds, reaching Yalova, Kocaeli, Sakarya, speeds of up to 60 Duzce, Zonguldak, kilometers per hour, are Kastamonu, Sinop, and expected to impact the Bartin have been placed Marmara region, the under an orange coastal Aegean, the inland warning, while Istanbul areas of the Mediterranean, and the provinces have received southern parts of central a yellow warning Anatolia, said the statement.

There is also a risk of avalanches in steep and sloped areas in eastern Anatolia and the interior parts of the eastern Black Sea region. Nationwide,

temperatures remain below seasonal norms and are expected to drop an additional two to four degrees Celsius, it said.

"I was the only outsider in the race that was speaking about progressive policies that I believe are the need of the hour in our country," Dhalla said. "It is very evident that the party did not like that, and they did not want me to bring those progressive policies to the debate stage in Montreal."

Following the announcement, she posted to social media saying the decision was "disappointing,"

### Landmine blast kills 1 in S. Afghanistan

Lashkar Gah, Afghanistan, Feb 22 (UNI) At least one person was killed as a landmine left over from past wars went off in Afghanistan's south Helmand province on Saturday, a local official said. The deadly accident took place on a road in Gereshk district early Saturday morning when the old landmine exploded on a tractor, killing the driver on the spot, provincial police spokesman Ezatullah Haqqani said.

Afghanistan is reportedly one of the most landmine-contaminated countries in the world, with dozens of people, mostly children, being killed and maimed every month.

Monday and Tuesday especially since it was leaked to the media," she

said in a post on X. During her campaign, she vowed to take on US President Donald Trump, saying as а businesswoman, she is best suited to negotiate with him.She also promised a "stronger military, stronger borders," and that Canada will "end involvement in foreign wars," if she becomes prime minister. The Liberals will choose their successor to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on March 9.The four remaining leadership

In January, another Indian-origin Canadian Liberal MP Chandra Arya was barred from running for the leadership. The party did not say why Arya was disqualified, but pointed to Liberal Party rules that say candidates can be banned owing to "public statements, past improper conduct, a lack of commitment to democracy, or other reputational or legal jeopardy."On January 6, Justin Trudeau announced he will resign as Liberal party leader and prime minister once a new one is chosen in a leadership race.

### Mexican president warns of harsh penalties for foreign spies

Mexico City, Feb 22 (UNI) Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum warned Friday that any foreign national conducting security-related activities without authorisation will face severe penalties and immediate imprisonment.

"Any foreigner engaging in activities outside the framework of collaboration, coordination and the National Security Law will receive the harshest possible penalty if detained," Sheinbaum said at a press conference.

"We are protecting Mexico," she said, reiterating that the U.S. designation of Mexican drug cartels as terrorist organisations should not serve as a "pretext for intervention in Mexico."

On Thursday, Sheinbaum introduced two constitutional reform proposals aimed at strengthening national security and sovereignty. The move came after the U.S. government added six Mexican drug cartels to its list of terrorist organisations, expanding its authority to target them.

The proposed reforms, which must be approved by Congress, would amend Articles 19 and 40 of the Constitution to prevent any form of foreign interference in Mexico and to impose the maximum penalty on any foreign national engaging in unlawful activities within the country.

<u>The</u>

perfect

figure,

<u>especially</u>

the perfect

derriere, is as

sought after

as water on

a hot day.

# Health

6

# Exercises for the erkect butt

With icons like Jennifer Lopez, Beyonce and Pippa ruling the roost with their perfectly shaped posteriors, every woman wants to shape up and fast. This brings us to the doorstep of our expert, International Master Trainer - Sophia Yasmin. We asked her what it takes to get that perfect toned butt, and here are her answers.

#### If you are working out at home. try out:

Single leg squat - First learn to balance yourself, then stretch out your arms parallel to the floor. Lift one of your legs and squat, stay down for a second and rise.

**Step ups -** Place your left leg on a step or a risen area for a second, and let your right leg be behind you. Then step down with your right leg followed by left.

**Hip extensions -** Place a table a little ahead of you, stand with you legs apart. With the support of the table bend forward at a 45 degree angle; then lift your legs behind you without bending it or your body. Hold it for a second, and bring your leg back down.

#### If you want to try an outdoor sport to improve your derriere, try out:

Cycling - When you push down the pedal you are exercising the gluteal maximus, it is the muscle that begins at the upper part of the butt at the pelvis and stretches to the thigh bone.

#### If you want to try yoga she has the answer, try out:

Pilates, especially side leg lift series and Shoulder Bridges.

There are other outdoor activities that will make you feel sexy from the outside and good from the inside, you can try out: Running and swimming.

#### Remember that spot targeting does not work.

Therefore, if you need to first lose weight in order to get a shapely butt, then you will need to attack that frontier with a balanced diet and optimal workout routine. The exercises and regimes listed above will work if you are within reach of your desired weight, and are including them in a well-rounded fitness programme. The ultimate solution to a flabby backside is always exercise along with a healthy lifestyle. Unfortunately, there are no short cuts.

**Markov Version** isn't a waste of time

quarrels and arguments may be able to break the cycle and look at things in a fresh perspective. Clinicians may be better able to offer new ways of looking at a clinical situation. Negotiators may be better at finding novel ways to settle disputes. Managers may be better able to think 'out of the box' and replace existing non-adaptive procedures with new and improved ones.

4. Makes you mentally tough Meditation can protect a person from the debilitating effects of some emotional events. In a study, US marines preparing for deployment spent two hours each week practising mindfulness meditation training for eight weeks. Compared with the marines who didn't meditate, those who did showed improved moods and working memory (allows for short-term retrieval and storage of information). The training seems to allow individuals to stay alert and in the moment without becoming emotional, equipping them with a mental armour.

# 6 ways you are not using Lemons

### In addition to enhancing the tangy taste to various delicacies, there are various other ways lemons can be used.

warm lemon water first thing in the a lemon, stuff it with sufficient amount of morning acts as the perfect body cleanser. cloves and there you go. Now you are all Specifically because lemon is a diuretic

Cleanse and boost your system: A cup of emely simple process. You just need half set to drive away the nagging mosquitoes.

Lemons, if mixed with rosemary and

vanilla makes for a great way to freshen

Lemons when added to cut apples and

avocados will keep it fresh, such that it



Think meditation is a waste of time? Here

are seven reasons why you are wrong Sitting in total silence, eyes closed, palms facing upward and mouthing Om, may seem a practice for sadhus. But this very mindful meditation technique can fit perfectly into the mundane lives of nineto-five working professionals. And you'll be more than enlightened. Here are seven benefits ti lure you to trying it.

#### 1. Reduces the pain

Certain studies suggest that the pain you experience in your body is suppressed rage. Meditation helps you cool down. Also, though your back or other body areas may be feeling the ache, part of that pain may actually be in your head. In fact, a study published in the Journal of Neuroscience suggested just 80 minutes of meditation training could cut pain perception nearly in half. In the study, volunteers were given a pain test before and after the meditation training; brain scans using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of pain-reception regions revealed significant changes before and after meditation, too.

Another study found that people who meditated regularly found pain less unpleasant. Apparently their brains were busy focusing on the present and anticipated the pain less, blunting its emotional impact.

2. Charges up your sex life That's right. A little mindfulness can go a long way in bed. A recent research suggested that mindful meditation training (in which a person learns how to bring thoughts into the present moment) can enhance a woman's sexual experience. Turns out, self-judgmental chatter often fills a woman's mind during sex, keeping her from the full sexual experience. In another study, college girls who meditated were quicker to become aroused when viewing erotic photos compared with non-meditating women. 3. Steer clear of mental blocks Whether you are trying to get out of a bout of depression or solve a dispute with a friend, doing the same thing in the same way doesn't always work. Meditation can help a person avoid mental traps that drag out problem solving. After just a few weeks of mindfulness training, volunteers were better at switching strategies for problem-solving than volunteers who

were not taught the technique. This difficulty of letting go of old, habitual and non-adaptive ways of

responding for the sake of better ones may underlie many of our everyday difficulties. A married couple that repeatedly gets into the same

#### 5. Helps you keep cool

Both novice and experienced mediators in the study practised compassion meditation (widely practised by Tibetan leaders), which involves focusing on loved ones and directing loving-kindness toward them, and then extending that goodwill to all beings indiscriminately. When participants heard emotional sounds, such as a distressed woman crying or a baby laughing, they showed more brain activity in brain regions linked to empathy while meditating than when not meditating.

6. Helps you focus City denizens tend to suffer from mild ADHD. And smart phones. laptops, wi-fi and the opportunity to essentially contact anyone at any time, compounds the problem of distraction. Then how does one stay focused? The Zen practice of 'thinking about not thinking' boosts your attention span by freeing the mind of distractions. A brain-scan study results showed that Zenmeditation training, in which a person stays alert and aware of their breathing and posture while dismissing wandering thoughts, led to different activity in a set of brain regions known as the default network, which is linked with spontaneous bursts of thought and wandering minds. Their brains were also quicker to return to this Zen mode after being distracted compared with those who had no meditation training.

7. Bulks up the brain A few Om chants may make you smarter, suggests research on the effects of meditation on the brain. A study found that long-term meditators (who practised various techniques, including Samatha, Vipassana, and Zen) have larger amounts of folding, of the brain's cortex than people who don't meditate. The extra folds may allow the meditators to process information faster than others.

Another study found that people who meditate also have stronger connections between brain regions and show less agerelated brain shrinkage. The bulking-up in white matter was seen throughout the brain, the researchers said.

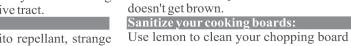
and flushes out toxins from the body. Not only that, lemons are also believed to boost your immune system.

#### **Digestive** aid:

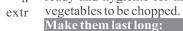
Lemon with water pushes the liver to produce bile acid, which is required for digestion. Moreover, they aid in moving toxins from the digestive tract.

#### Mosquito repellant:

Using it as a mosquito repellant, strange



to reduce the microbial count and make it isn't it, but is ready and hygienic for the next batch of а



Home freshener

up your home.

Keep apples fresh:

When you get your next batch of lemons, don't forget to store them in a glass container filled with water. It will stay fresh for a longer period of time.



### Why should you have soaked almonds

If you love eating almonds raw and hate the idea of soaking it overnight, then it's time to put in that little extra effort. It's not about taste anymore and more about picking the healthier option when choosing between soaked almonds and raw almonds.

#### Why soaked almonds are better?

Many are unaware that the brown peel of almonds contains tannin, which inhibits nutrient absorption. Once the almonds are soaked, the peel comes off easily, allowing the nuts to release nutrients. Soaked almonds also help with help in weight loss. They digestion. It releases the contain monounsaturated enzyme lipase, which is beneficial for fat digestion.

What's more? Almonds also



source of antioxidants too. It resists free radical damage and prevents ageing. Soaked almonds contain Vitamin B17 and folic acid that are vital for fighting cancer and reducing birth defects, another reason worth putting in a little effort.

So make a habit, soak the fats that curb your appetite almonds overnight and have and makes you feel full. your daily share of nutrition Soaked almonds are a good every morning.





### Odisha **Felicitates 38th National Games** Medalists with **Cash Awards**

Bhubaneswar, Feb 22 (UNI) : The Sports and Youth Services Department of the Odisha government on Saturday felicitated medalists from the state for their achievements at the 38th National Games.

The athletes were honored with cash awards and certificates at a felicitation ceremony organized at the Kalinga Stadium Tennis Centre.

Gold medalists received a cash award of Rs.6 lakh, silver medalists were awarded Rs.4 lakh, and bronze medalists received Rs.3 lakh.Odisha's Sports Minister, Suryabanshi Suraj, praised the athletes for their remarkable achievements, stating that the essence of sports lies in celebrating victories and using defeats as motivation to achieve greater success.

He emphasized that this achievement at the National Games would inspire many young athletes in Odisha and expressed confidence that the state's athletes would continue to bring glory by excelling in upcoming national and international competitions.

Odisha secured the 12th position among the top 15 states in the country at the 38th National Games.

Suraj reiterated the state government's commitment to the holistic development of sports and athletes, announcing plans to construct block-level stadiums across the state with a focus on nurturing grassroots-level sporting talent."The government will continue to provide all necessary support for the development of sports in Odisha," he added.

Medal-winning athletes expressed their gratitude for the government's support, stating that the felicitation ceremony would further motivate them to strive for excellence.



From left, India's Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana, Ravindra Jadeja and KL Rahul during a practice session ahead of a One Day International (ODI) cricket match of the ICC Champions Trophy between India and Pakistan, at Dubai International Cricket Stadium, in Dubai, UAE.

### J&K Women's U-23 Team accorded warm send-off

Jammu, Feb 22 (UNI): for a positive mindset of the The players and members players to face any team in of the support staff of the Under-23 Women's team play full 50 overs. representing J&K in the Women's One Day Support Staff for taking Tournament being held at Trivandrum conducted by the Kerala Cricket Association under the aegis of Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) were given a warm send-off at the Hostel Ground, JKCA Complex here.

The team was introduced to Brig. Anil Gupta, Member Administration, and thereafter a group photograph was taken.

the opening match. While speaking to the JKCA has decided to send players, Brig. Gupta impressed upon the need the team early to that it would perform well

Trivandrum keeping in mind the climate variations the tournament and also to between Jammu and Trivandrum.The team will He complimented the acclimatize and carry out pre-match practice at Trivandrum from February adequate care of the team and providing them with 24 to March 2 till the other sufficient practice during teams join up for the the last week in the camp tournament. held at JKCA complex.

Foziya Jan, a player with J&K team is placed in a humble background who the Elite Group B and the could not afford a personal other teams in the group are kit was presented full kit Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, along with a bat and cricket boots by the Association Mizoram, Goa, and on the occasion.

The tournament is Foziya is the product of starting from March 5 when Talent Hunt 2024 and is a J&K will play Jharkhand in promising batter.

The members of the Sub-Committee wished the The Sub-Committee team good luck and hoped

and bring laurels to the UT.

The team is led by Rudrakshi Chib and includes Ananya Sharma, Bawandeep Kaur, Chitra Singh, Madhu Devi, Lalita, Sehrish Tariq, Tahseena Nisar, Mariya Noorain, Arveen Riyaz, Foziya Jan, Sheena Saraf, Ronaq Jahan, Aditi Aryan and Maroof Anjum.Dr. Roopali Slathia, an ace Ex-Cricketer and a

renowned Coach, is Head Coach of team. The other Members of

the Support Staff include Jyoti Bala (Asst. Coach), Irshaad Hassan (Manager), Anuradha Sharma (Co-Manager), Satika Sharma (Trainer), Bisma Gulzar (Physiotherapist) and Mujtaba

In response, Delhi began their chase positively, with Jemimah Rodrigues (56 off 35) and

Shafali Verma (24 off 30) anchoring the innings. However, the loss of regular wickets derailed their momentum. Grace Harris delivered a gamechanging spell, including a hat-trick, restricting Delhi to 144 in 19.3 overs. The victory lifts UP off the bottom of the points table after two losses, while Delhi will need to reassess their fielding and middleorder stability ahead of

### **UP** Warriorz win as Chinelle, Harris shine Bengaluru, Feb 22

(UNI): A scintillating knock from Chinelle Henry and a match-winning hattrick by Grace Harris powered UP Warriorz Women to their maiden victory in the ongoing Women's Premier League (WPL), as they secured a commanding 33-run win over Delhi Capitals at the Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Saturday.

After being put in to bat, UP found themselves in a precarious position at 89/6. However, West Indian allrounder Chinelle turned the tide in their favour with a blistering 62 off just 23 balls, equalling the fastest fifty in WPL history in just 18 deliveries. Her innings, studded with eight sixes, powered UP to a competitive total of 177/9 in 20 overs. Despite extracting movement from the green-tinged surface, Delhi's bowlers struggled to capitalise on their early breakthroughs. Their fielding lapses proved costly, with Chinelle being dropped on 13, a mistake that proved pivotal in the outcome of the match.

India clinch 1-0 victory against **Germany in FIH Hockey Pro League** 

Bhubaneswar, Feb 22 (UNI): It was redemption for the Indian Women's Hockey Team as they defeated Germany 1-0 in the ongoing FIH Hockey Pro League 2024/25 (Women) clash at the Kalinga Stadium here on Saturday.

Deepika (12') was the sole goal scorer, ensuring India climbed to the seventh spot on the points table.

India started the first quarter with a disciplined defensive setup and a proactive high press, matching Germany's early dominance in possession with attacking intent. In the 12th minute, the hosts won a penalty corner, their best opportunity of the period.

Deepika made no mistake, driving her shot into the back of the net with precision to give India the lead. Moments later, Vaishnavi Phalke nearly set up Sunelita Toppo for a deft deflection, but the effort fell short.

The second quarter delivered end-to-end action, with India eager to build on their advantage. Germany found themselves pinned in their own half for the first five minutes, with forward Sophia Schwabe closely marked by the Indian defense. Deepika's sublime form continued as she sliced through German team with a silky run, weaving her way to the edge of the circle before threading a pass to Sharmila Devi in the 25th minute. However, Sharmila could only direct her shot into the pads of goalkeeper Finja Starck.

On the counter, Germany's Yara Mandel won the visitors a penalty corner in the 26th minute, but Indian Goalkeeper Savita Punia gloved away Lena Micheel's low driven shot to keep the scoreline at 1-0.

India remained on the prowl after halftime, immediately earning a penalty corner through Navneet Kaur in the 31st minute. Deepika stepped up once again, unleashing a powerful strike, but the German defense held firm to deny her a second goal.

India were firmly in control of the game, despite Germany holding the lion's share of possession in

the third quarter. A lack of urgency from Germany limited their shots on goal before Germany won two consecutive penalty corners in the 38th minute, but the scoreline remained unchanged.

India were steadfast in their defensive endeavours in the final quarter. An early penalty corner for Germany was derailed as Stine Kurz's strike was courageously closed down by Sunelita Toppo. In the 47th minute, Schwabe let go of a venomous shot from close, but Goalkeeper Bichu Devi dropped down to deny her, Lisa Nolte fired on the rebound, bur Devi's reflexes ensured a second save in quick succession. In the dying embers of the match, Germany moved forward cautiously, stringing a series of passes in search of a breakthrough but the equaliser evaded them as they could not pierce the Indian defence. India will be in action again when they take on Netherlands on February 25 at the Kalinga Stadium here.

### Wani (Video Analyst). East Bengal FC beat Punjab FC 3-1 and accumulate 3 crucial points

New Delhi, Feb 22 (UNI) from an equal number of : East Bengal FC maintained matches as the Red & Gold their newfound form with a Brigade. 3-1 thumping over Punjab With 3 games left to play, FC at the Jawaharlal Nehru both of them are eight Stadium here in the Indian points behind (32) than the Super League (ISL) match sixth-placed Mumbai City on Saturday evening. FC.East Bengal FC made **Dimitrios Diamantakos** some promising moves from had set the tone for the the left flank to start the visitors in the first half with game, while Punjab FC's backline were alert to the an early strike before the likes of Naorem Mahesh danger in the early Singh and Lalchungnunga exchanges. found the back of the net The Red and Gold early in the second half. Brigade optimised their Later, Punjab FC chance in the 15th minute opened their account when Diamantakos handed courtesy of a fantastic them the lead. The Greek strike from Ezequiel Vidal forward hammered a shot which unfortunately on goal from the left, more resulted in a consolation. in hope than conviction but East Bengal FC are now it went through Ravi Kumar's legs, who could unbeaten in their last three away games this campaign have arguably shown better as they kept their hopes for technique between the playoffs alive albeit sticks. mathematically. They are This was East Bengal FC's first strike in the 10th in the table with 24 points from 21 games now, opening 15 minutes this whereas Punjab FC have season, also the maiden dropped to the 11th place, goal in nine league games having the same points for Diamantakos. He last

Karnataka.

scored against Jamshedpur FC at home in a 1-0 win back in December.

Vishnu in space. His shot was blocked by Novoselec but it landed kindly for had Mahesh, who calmly

their next encounter. India beat Hong Kong 1-0 in

### USD 200,000 prized **Bengaluru Open** draw unveiled

Bengaluru, Feb 22 (UNI) : With a prize purse of \$200,000 at stake, the draw the DafaNews for Bengaluru Open 2025 has been officially announced on Saturday, setting the stage for an exciting week of tennis at the KSLTA Courts, Cubbon Park.

The ATP Challenger 125 event, scheduled from February 24 to March 2, will see top Indian players in crucial first-round clashes.

Indian wildcard Ramkumar Ramanathan will face seventh seed Shintaro Mochizuki in a highly anticipated opening-round clash. Rising star Manas Dhamne will take on a qualifier, while wildcard SD Prajwal Dev is set to meet Marek Gengel in a challenging encounter. Aryan Shah, who has made an impact in the qualifiers, will fight for a main draw spot against Kris Van Wyk.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru's own Rishi Reddy is set to battle Sasikumar Mukund for a place in the singles main draw.Top seed Victor Kopriva will commence his campaign against a qualifier, while second seed Tristan Schoolkate will take on Kumoyun Sultanov of Uzbekistan.

another opportunity to double the lead in the 44th minute when Raphael Messi Bouli found him with a low cross after beating his marker. However before the 31-year-old could get his shot away, Ivan Novoselec stole the ball from his path and averted the danger.

Diamantakos

Panagiotis Dilmperis made two attacking changes at the start of the second half. He introduced Luka Majcen and Nihal Sudeesh replacing Asmir Suljic and Asish Pradhan respectively.

However, Punjab FC were caught ball-watching in the 47th minute as Mahesh slotted the ball past Ravi in the goal to extend the lead for the visitors. It all started from a long throw for East Bengal FC where Messi Bouli shrugged off his marker

nestled it into the back of the net.

The Red and Gold Brigade found the third goal of the night in the 54th minute courtesy of a strike from Lalchungnunga. It all started from Mahesh's corner which was initially punched away by Ravi

but Punjab FC defenders were unable to clear their lines and in a pinball-like situation in the Lalchungnunga box. showed great awareness in finding the bottom corner with a thunderous strike. In the 61st minute.

Punjab FC almost scored Khaiminthang when Lhungdim found Majcen with a long pass and the Slovenian headed it towards goal.

Pink Ladies U2U Youth Cup

for chances. However,

out wide, thus giving

score.

corner.

India the opportunity to

Pooja outpaced her

marker on the right flank,

before sending a low

cross for Sibani, who

controlled the ball,

swivelled to a better

shooting position, and

placed it into the bottom

Hong Kong's best

chance came minutes after

the hour mark, when Wai

Ting Yuen cut in from the

right flank and drilled a

Ankara, Feb 21 (UNI): The India U20 women's national team registered their second consecutive win in the Pink Ladies U20 Youth Cup, beating Hong Kong 1-0 at the Emirhan Sport Centre in Manavgat, here on Saturday.

with the score at 0-0.

Winger Sibani Devi Nongmeikapam (53') scored the only goal of

The Young Tigresses had earlier defeated Jordan U20 2-1.

Though the Pink Ladies Youth Cup is for U20 teams, India's Saturday rivals, Hong Kong, were comprised of players above the cutoff age.

The Blue Tigresses began the match with a certain degree of control in the middle, as Cindy Remruatpuii Colney and Kajol D'Souza dictated the proceedings. The chances, however, were few and far between.

India's best chance of the half came in the 21st minute, when forward Lhingdeikim scampered into the Hong Kong box, cut past her marker, and pulled the trigger with her left foot. Her low shot was tipped on to the far post by Hong Kong goalkeeper Lee Yi Yan.

With less than 10

minutes of the first half cross across the face of the goal. However, her opportunity from a similar teammates reacted too position, as she cut left late, and the opportunity and produced a low shot went abegging. aimed at the bottom Neha could have given

India some breathing space with less than a quarter of an hour left, show a little more intent when she broke free down after the change of ends, the left, entered the box. as they kept possession and produced a powerful in the middle and looked shot at the bottom far corner, but that too, was that left them vulnerable saved.

> The Young Tigresses will face Russia in their last match of the Pink Ladies U20 Youth Cup. which will kick off at 5.30 pm IST, on February 25.

> India U20 Women: Moirangthem Monalisha Devi (GK), Shubhangi Singh, Alina Chingakham, Sahena TH, Toijam Thoibisana Chanu, Pooja, Kajol Dsouza (C), Lhingdeikim, Neha, Nongmeikapam Sibani Devi, Cindy Remruatpuii Colney.

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### India thrash Ireland 4-0 in FIH Pro League

Bhubaneswar, Feb 22 (UNI) India delivered an emphatic performance to secure a 4-0 victory over Ireland in the ongoing FIH Hockey Pro League 2024-25 (Men) at the Kalinga Hockey Stadium here on Saturday.

Nilam Sanjeep Xess (14'), Mandeep Singh (24'), Abhishek (28') and Shamsher Singh (34') found the net for the hosts, ensuring a dominant win in front of an enthusiastic home crowd.

Ireland began the match with strong possession, attempting to put early pressure on India. However, the Indian defence, marshalled by Jarmanpreet Singh and Manpreet Singh, stood firm. Ireland earned the first penalty corner (PC) of the match but failed to capitalise, allowing India to gain momentum. The breakthrough came in the 14th minute when Nilam Sanjeep Xess showcased individual brilliance to put India ahead.

Buoyed by the lead, India controlled proceedings in the second quarter, creating sustained pressure on the

Irish defence. Ireland sought to respond with quick transitions but found India's defensive unit resolute. In the 24th minute, India doubled their advantage through Mandeep Singh, who converted a PC. Four minutes later, Abhishek capitalised on a deflected attempt by Amit Rohidas to slot home India's third goal. At half-time, the hosts enjoyed a comfortable 3-0 lead.

India resumed with high intensity after the break, pressing Ireland deep into their own half. Their aggressive approach bore fruit in the 34th minute when Mandeep Singh set up Shamsher Singh for a clinical finish, extending the lead to 4-0. Despite sustained attacking intent from Mandeep, Abhishek, and Manpreet, India could not add to their tally.

The final quarter saw India maintain control, effectively neutralising Ireland's attempts to reduce the deficit. Although the hosts sought a fifth goal in the closing stages, the Irish defence held firm to prevent further damage.

and released a cross to

But Prabhsukhan Gill was alert to the danger and showed great reflexes to keep out the header.

left, Pooja had an corner. That too was saved. Hong Kong seemed to

The two teams went into the dressing rooms

the match, in the second half.

anywhere through the

w e b s i t e

www.mahadiscom.in as well

as through Mahavitaran's

mobile app. Consumers can

pay their electricity bills

through electronic means

such as credit/debit card,

net banking and UPI etc.

Also, electricity bills can be

paid through Bharat Bill

Payment System (BBPS).

All small-scale consumers

with bills exceeding Rs

5,000 can pay their bills

through RTGS/NEFT. A

discount of 0.25 percent of

# **Central Railway to run 28 Holi Special Trains between Mumbai** - Nagpur, Madgaon, Nanded and between Pune – Nagpur

hrs next day.

Ratnagiri,

and Thivim.

Vaibhavwadi

cum Guard's brake van.

#### (Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Feb 22 : Central Railway will run 28 Holi Special Trains between Mumbai - Nagpur / Madgaon / Nanded & between Pune - Nagpur to clear the extra rush of passengers during Holi festival. The details are as under:

#### 1. CSMT-NAGPUR-CSMT Bi-weekly special (8 trips)

Train no.02139 Biweekly special will leave CSMT on 09.03.2025 .11.03.2025, 16.03.2025 & 18.03.2025 (Sunday & Tuesday) at 00.20 hrs and will arrive Nagpur at 15.10 hrs same day.

Train no.02140 Biweekly special will leave Nagpur on 09.03.2025 ,11.03.2025, 16.03.2025 & 18.03.2025 (Sunday & Tuesday) at 20.00 hrs and will arrive CSMT at 13.30 hrs next day.

Composition: One First AC, One First AC cum AC-2 Tier, Two AC-2 Tier, 10 AC-3 Tier, 4 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second Class and 2 General Second Class cum Guard's brake van.

Halts: Dadar, Thane, Kalyan, Igatpuri, Nashik Road, Manmad, Jalgaon, Malkapur, Bhusaval, Shegaon, Akola, Murtizapur, Badnera, Dhamangaon and Wardha. 2. CSMT-Madgaon-

#### CSMT Weekly special (4 trips)

Train no.01151 Weekly special will leave CSMT on 06.03.2025 & 13.03.2025 (Thursday) at 00.20 hrs and will arrive Madgaon at 13.30 hrs same day.

#### Train no.01152 Weekly

Train no.01105 Weekly special will leave Madgaon on 06.03.2025 & 13.03.2025 (Thursday) at 14.15 hrs and will arrive CSMT at 03.45 21.00 hrs same day. Composition : One First

AC, One First AC cum AC-2 Tier, Two AC-2 Tier, 10 AC-3 Tier, 4 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second Class and 2 General Second Class hrs next day.

Halts: Dadar, Thane, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Khed, Chiplun, Sangameshwar Road, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Brake Van Road, Halts: Thane, Kalyan, Kankavali, Sindhudurg,

Kudal, Sawantwadi Road Road, Parli, , Gangakher,

Train no.01129 Weekly special will leave LTT on 13.03.2025 & 20.03.2025 (Thursday) at 22.15 hrs and will arrive Madgaon at 10.30 hrs next day.

3. LTT- Madgaon-LTT

Weekly special (4 trips)

Train no. 01130 Weekly special will leave Madgaon on 14.03.2025 & 21.03.2025 (Friday) at 14.30 hrs and will arrive LTT at 04.05 hrs next day.

Composition: One First AC, Two AC 2-Tier, Six AC 3-Tier, 8 Sleeper class. 1 Pantry car and 2 Generator Cars.

Halts: Thane, Panvel, Pen, Roha, Mangaon, Veer, Khed, Chiplun, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Nandgaon Road, Kankavali,

Sindhudurg, Kudal and Sawantwadi Road. 4. LTT – Hazur Sahib Nanded – LTT Weekly

### special (4 trips)

special will leave LTT on 12.03.2025 & 19.03.2025 (Wednesday) at 00.55 hrs and will arrive Nanded at

Train no. 01106 Weekly special will leave Nanded on 12.03.2025 & 19.03.2025 (Wednesday) at 22.30 hrs and will arrive LTT at 16.05 Composition: One First

AC, One AC 2-Tier, 5 AC-3-Tier, 8 Sleeper Class, 4 Second Seating, 1 Pantry, 1 Generator Van and 1 Second Class cum Guard's

Lonavala, Pune, Daund, Kurduwadi, Barsi Town, Osmanabad, Latur, Latur

Parbhani and Purna 5. Pune - Nagpur- Pune Weekly special (4 trips)

Train no.01469 Weekly special will leave Pune on 11.03.2025 & 18.03.2025 (Tuesday) at 15.50 hrs and will arrive Nagpur at 06.30 hrs next day.

Train no.01470 Weekly special will leave Nagpur on 12.03.2025 & 19.03.2025 (Wednesday) at 08.00 hrs and will arrive Pune at 23.30 hrs same day

Composition: Three AC 2 tier, 15 AC 3-Tier, 1 General Second Class cum Guard's cancelled between Boisar brake van & and 1 and Dahanu Road stations. Generator Van.

#### 6. Pune - Nagpur- Pune Weekly special (4 trips)

Train no.01467 special will leave Pune on 12.03.2025 & 19.03.2025 (Wednesday) at 15.50 hrs and will arrive Nagpur at 06.30 hrs next day.

# 24 lakh 38 thousand small voltage customers paid their electricity bills from home

### Growing trend towards online payment in Kalyan-Bhandup circle

(Standard Post Bureau)

8

Few trains

affected due to

block between

Vangaon and

**Dhanu Road** 

(Standard Post Bureau)

Block will be taken on

Sunday, 23rd February,

2025 for shifting/diversion/

height raising of Monopole

between Vangaon and

Dahanu Road stations of

Mumbai Central Division.

The one-hour block, from

09.50 hrs to 10.50 on 23rd

February, 2025 will be

undertaken on UP & Down

Main Lines, due to which a

few Western Railway trains

release issued by Chief

Public Relations Officer of

Western Railway, Mr Vineet

Abhishek, the details of the

trains which will be affected

on 23rd February, 2025 are

Partially Cancellation of

Churchgate - Dahanu Road

Local departing from

Churchgate at 07.42 hrs will

short terminate at Vangaon

and hence Train Nos.

93011& 93016 will remain

partially cancelled between

Vangaon and Dahanu Road

**Regulation of Trains:** 

Ahmedabad - Mumbai

Central Karnavati Express

will be regulated by 35

- Bandra Terminus Special

will be regulated by 01 hour.

2. Train No. 09653 Ajmer

Train No. 12934

Short Termination/

Train No. 93011

According to a press

will be affected.

as under:-

Trains:

1.

stations.

1.

minutes.

Mumbai, Feb 22 : A

stations

Kalyan/Bhandup, Feb 22:24 lakh 38 thousand small voltage customers in Kalvan and Bhandup circles of Mahavitaran have paid their electricity bills online till 20 February. In the previous month of January, 38 lakh 48 thousand customers had used digital means to pay their electricity bills. Due to this, these customers saved the trouble and time of standing in line in front of the bill payment center, and also got a quarter percent discount on the bill. Meanwhile, customers who pay three or more electricity bills online in a row between January and May 2025 have a great chance to win attractive prizes like smartphones,



the bill amount has also been given for online payment. Online payment of electricity bills is very secure and is subject to the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India's Payment and Settlement Act-2007. Pay your bill online and प्रतिमा केवळ प्रतिनिधित्वासाठी दर्शविल्या जातात महावितरण लकी डिजिटल ग्राहक योजना महावितरणच्या LT Live ग्राहकांसाठी लकी ड्रॉ योजना ऑनलाईन वीज देयक भरा आणि जिंका (तीन मासिक लकी ड्रॉ) PAY पथम बक्षीत दुसरे बक्षीस

2. Train No. 93013 Virar Dahanu Road Local departing from Virar at 09.30 hrs will short customers terminate at Boisar and

> 988 low voltage consumers paid their electricity bills worth Rs 456 crore 22 lakh online in January. While till

to take advantage of this scheme. hence Train Nos. 93013 & In Kalyan Circle, 20 lakh 93014 will remain partially

Circle, 18 lakh 47 thousand 151 low voltage consumers paid their electricity bills worth Rs 553 crore 41 lakh online in January. While till

February 20, 11 lakh 14 thousand 990 consumers paid their electricity bills worth Rs 329 crore 82 lakh online.

On behalf of Mahavitaran, electricity consumers are provided with the facility to pay their electricity bills of any amount online anytime and

Three lucky draws will be held online at each subdivision level of Mahavitaran, one each in the months of April, May and June 2025. In each lucky draw, five winners will be given prizes of smart phones and smartwatches.

३००० पेक्षा अधिक बक्षिसे

be 'Lucky'

# **One - Day Training programme on Human Traficking** and legal procedures for AHTU's (Anti Human Trafficking Units) of RPF and GRP of Telangana Region

(Standard Post Bureau)

ANTI HUMAN TRAFFICKIN TRAINING HTUs of RPF & GRP To enhance practical followed by the launch of of AHTUs in tackling cases Human trafficking awareness within railway premises. understanding, the training included interactive Q&A short film and a collective The event highlighted pledge sessions, real-life case reinforcing RPF Telangana Region's studies, role-playing commitment against trafficking. significant achievements in exercises, and hands-on The training focused on anti-human trafficking operations. In 2023, 305 frameworks, activities, equipping legal officers with critical skills trafficking vulnerabilities, children were rescued and for identification, and the role of RPF & GRP 137 traffickers were intervention, and rescue in rescue operations. arrested, while 2024 operations. The program, Expert-led sessions by Ms. recorded 310 rescues and Sree Harshitha and Sri conducted from 10:00 hrs to 174 arrests. These efforts, 15:45 hrs, provided Venkateshwarlu covered driven by coordinated participants with enhanced Standard Operating operation under initiative vigilance, strengthened Procedures (SOPs) for of Operation AAHT (Action multi-agency collaboration, handling missing children, against Human and proactive strategies to legal provisions related to Trafficking) have played a crucial role in dismantling effectively combat human trafficking, and the trafficking through railways operational responsibilities trafficking networks.

लकी ड्रॉ योजनेत सहभागी होण्यासाठी, ०१ जानेवारी २०२५ ते ३१ मे २०२५ दरम्यान सलग तीन महिने ऑनलाईन पध्दतीने वीज देयक भरा. February 20, 13 lakh 22 thousand 606 consumers have paid their electricity bills worth Rs 280 crore 30

lakh online. In Bhandup

smartwatches through lucky draw. Mahavitaran has appealed to all

# **Identity card for Divyangjan : SCR**

Hubballi Division launches Digital

#### (Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Feb 22 : Hubballi Division of South Western Railway Introduces online issuance of "Digital Identity Card" (ID) for Divyangjan (differently-abled persons). Persons with disabilities need not visit the railway offices and submit applications in person; they can apply and download the digital ID card once their application is approved through online. To access the portal and begin registration, passengers can visit http:/ /divyangjanid. indianrail.gov.in where a

detailed user manual is also available to assist with the process.

> Persons with visual For any grievances, users impairment with absence of sight, mentally challenged persons, persons with hearing and speech pgportal.gov.in impairment totally (both afflictions together in the person) same and orthopedically handicapped /paraplegic persons can apply for issuance or renewal of their photo ID cards to avail concessional rail tickets. Concessional reserved tickets can be booked at than 600KB in PDF/JPEG/ ticket counters or via JPG/PNG format). After IRCTC website.

Concessional unreserved credentials, the ID card will be signed by the tickets can be availed at ticket counters or using the competent authority UTS app on cell phones. digitally.

On completion of the may register their above process, an complaints at https:// automated message will be generated by the system Eligible applicants can and sent to the applicant submit their applications advising about the and upload the required readiness of the card.

documents; photo identity This will obviate the card, Date of birth proof, need of physical commute to Divisional Office and address proof, Disability certificate issued by also to reduce the processing Government doctor and time. passport size photo (All Applicants can also track their application status documents should be less and receive their smart card without visiting successful verification of railway offices.

Mumbai, Feb 22 : A One-Day Training Programme on Understanding Human Trafficking and Legal Procedures was organized at Hawa Mahal, Sanchalan Bhavan, Secunderabad by RPF, Secunderabad Division, South Central Railway, in coordination with Association for Voluntary Action (AVA). The event saw 105 participants, including law enforcement personnel from RPF & GRP, legal experts, and dignitaries, coming together to strengthen anti-human trafficking efforts.

The program was graced by Chief Guest Ms. Aroma Singh Thakur, IG-Cum Principal Chief Security Commissioner, SCR, Smt D C Banerjee, Sr Divisional Security Commissioner, RPF, Secunderabad along with Sri Venkateshwarlu (State Coordinator, AVA) and Ms. Sri Harshitha (Advocate, AVA) as key speakers. The event began with the inauguration of a special booklet on Key Points on Human Trafficking for RPF,

# CM hands over cheque worth Rs 1 cr to the family of Shaheed constable of SSF

Bhawanigarh, Feb 22 (UNI) Condoling the death of Punjab police constable Harshveer Singh who attained martyrdom in line of duty a few days back, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Saturday handed over cheque worth Rs one crore to the family of martyr as a mark of respect for his supreme sacrifice for country.

He said that Constable Harshveer Singh had attained martyrdom while performing his duty in Sadak Surkhya Force. He said that Rs one crore has been given as exgratia by state government whereas another payment of insurance cover worth Rs one crore had been made by the HDFC bank.

# Urdu in Delhi and Unani **Treatment**

#### (Standard Post Bureau)

New Delhi, Feb 22 : February Urdu Academy Delhi and Awani Ekta Welfare Association Organised Seminar on " Urdu in Delhi and Unani Treatment " at Mahmoodia Public School, Chauhan Bangad, In Which Chief Guest Professor Abdul Haq has Given Best Medical Service Award to Dr Altaf Ahmed Chairman Alfaiz Health and Life Care Foundation, in picture Dr Syed Ahmed Khan, Shah Jabin Qadri Advocate and Other Also Seen.

