

Aaditya Thackeray calls for dismissal of govt



Mumbai, Mar 4 (UNI) Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray, while reacting to Maharashtra minister Dhananjay Munde's resignation on Tuesday over the Beed sarpanch murder case, said that the resignation of minister is not enough while the real need is to dismiss the Mahayuti government as the state of law and order has deteriorated.

"Nobody is able to monitor it. A revised chargesheet needs to be filed in the murder case and Dhananjay Munde should be made a co-accused," he added.

BJP MLA Suresh Dhas

who had raised voice against this said, "I have always raised the issue of Massajog murders. I was accused of speaking too much, but it is now proven that I was right...I met CM now and I thanked him. He was always positive on this issue."

Meanwhile, Beed MLA from the opposition NCP-SP party Sandeep Kshirsagar, while talking to media, said, "The action was taken only after the photos of murder of Santosh Deshmukh went viral. The atmosphere is tense, and demands are made to hang the killers immediately. The government should have acted much before."

Delhi DRM removed days after railway station stampede

New Delhi, Mar 4 (UNI) Over two weeks after the stampede at the New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi's Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Sukhwinder Singh was removed from his post on Tuesday.

The Railway Board in an order appointed Indian Railway Electric Engineering Service officer Pushpesh R Tripathi as the new Delhi DRM.

Sukhwinder Singh has not been given any fresh appointment and has been kept on the waiting list.

Tripathi is currently posted as Chief Electric Loco Engineer in Prayagraj in North Central Railway.

It is noteworthy that a two-member committee was constituted for a high-level inquiry into this accident that took place on February 15 at around 9.30 pm, in which 20 people were killed.

Earlier, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav assured strict and fair action based on the investigation report.

Minister Dhananjay Munde resigns

Mumbai, Mar 4 (UNI) : Amid the ongoing controversy over the Beed sarpanch murder case in Maharashtra, state Food and Civil Supplies Minister Dhananjay Munde resigned on Tuesday from Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis-led ministry.

"Munde has submitted his resignation to me. I have accepted his resignation and sent it to the Governor for further action," said Fadnavis. The Nationalist Congress Party-Ajit Pawar (NCP-AP) Minister Munde finally submitted his resignation after Valmik Karad, his close aide, was made an accused in the Beed Sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh murder case.

Since Karad's name surfaced in the murder case, leaders of the opposition had been persistently demanding Munde's resignation. The opposition had warned that if Munde did not resign on Tuesday they would disrupt the proceedings of the assembly, which started its budget session on Monday. Deshmukh, the



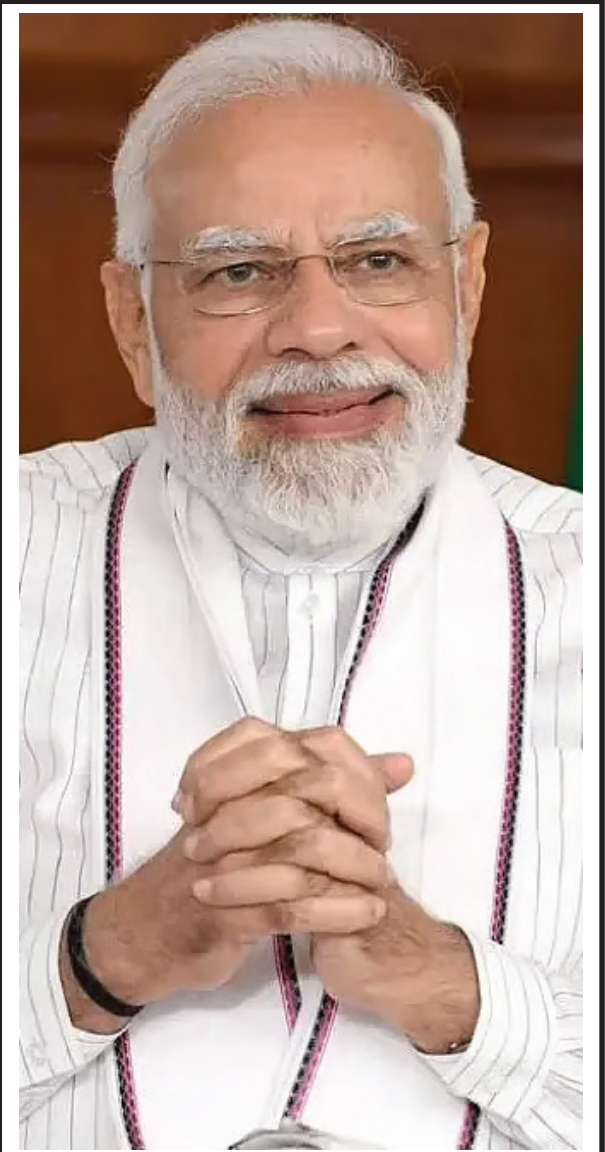
sarpanch of Massajog village, was kidnapped and murdered in December 2024. Seven accused have since been arrested in the case. One accused is still absconding. On February 27, the state Criminal Investigation Department submitted a chargesheet of about 1,200 pages in the Beed District Court, which includes Deshmukh's murder and two related cases. Three separate cases have been registered at the Kej police station in Beed - the murder of Sarpanch, an attempt to extort money from the Awada company and an attack on the company's security guard.

Cases have been registered against the accused under the Maharashtra Control of

Organised Crime Act (MCOCA).

Reacting to news of Dhananjay Munde's resignation, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray said that the resignation of minister is not enough while the real need is to dismiss the Mahayuti government as the state of law and order has deteriorated.

"Nobody is able to monitor it. A revised chargesheet needs to be filed in the murder case and Dhananjay Munde should be made a co-accused," he added. BJP MLA Suresh Dhas, who had raised his voice against this, said, "I have always raised the issue of Massajog murders. I was accused of speaking too much, but it is now proven that I was right...I met CM now and I thanked him. He was always positive on this issue." Meanwhile, Beed MLA from the opposition NCP-SP party Sandeep Kshirsagar told reporters that "The action was taken only after the photos of murder of Santosh Deshmukh went viral."



PM Modi meets Princess Astri

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Princess Astrid of Belgium today and said he looks forward to the new bilateral partnership unlocking limitless opportunities in trade, technology, defence and agriculture. In a post on X, the PM said: "Pleased to meet HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium. Deeply appreciate her initiative to lead a 300-member Economic Mission to India. Look forward to unlocking limitless opportunities for our people through new partnerships in trade, technology, defence, agriculture, life sciences, innovation, skilling and academic exchanges."

(See on page 2)

'BJP's double engine' govts are proving to be curse for ...



The Congress on Tuesday alleged that under the 'BJP's double-engine governments', incidents of crimes against women have surged, while concrete action remains lacking. Addressing a press conference here, All India Mahila Congress President Alka Lamba said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's promises of protecting daughters are proving to be mere rhetoric.

(See on page 4)

PM Modi inaugurates Vantara wildlife conservation park, feeds lion cubs, giraffe

Jamnagar/New Delhi, March 4 (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi today inaugurated Vantara, a unique wildlife conservation, rescue and rehabilitation initiative in Jamnagar, Gujarat, set up by Anant Ambani.

Accompanied by Anant Ambani, the son of Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani, the PM was seen feeding lion cubs, feeding rescued giraffe, watching crocodiles swim in the water, all the while as Anant Ambani explained the conservation park and its features to him. In separate posts on X, the PM wrote: "Inaugurated Vantara, a unique wildlife conservation, rescue and rehabilitation initiative, which provides a safe haven for animals while promoting ecological sustainability and wildlife welfare. I commend Anant Ambani and his entire team for this very compassionate effort."

"An effort like Vantara is truly commendable, a vibrant example of our centuries old ethos of protecting those we share our planet with. Here are some glimpses..."

"At Vantara, I saw an elephant which was the victim of an acid attack. The elephant was being treated with utmost care. There were other elephants too, which were blinded and that too ironically by their Mahout. Another elephant was hit by a speeding truck. This

underscores an important question - how can people be so careless and cruel? Let us put an end to such irresponsibility and focus on kindness towards animals."

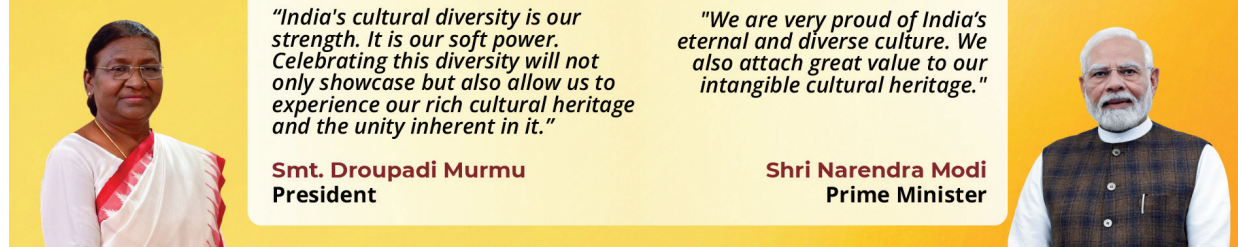
"There were other instances too. A lioness was hit by a vehicle with severe spinal injuries. She was getting proper care. A leopard cub abandoned by her family got a new lease of life, with proper nutritional care. I compliment the team at Vantara for the care given to several such animals."

Vantara, located in Jamnagar, is a state-of-the-art animal rescue, conservation, and rehabilitation center established by Reliance Industries and Reliance Foundation.

Spanning an impressive 3,500 acres within the Reliance Jamnagar Refinery Complex, this sanctuary serves as a hub for wildlife care and preservation.

At the wildlife hospital in Vantara, PM Modi observed advanced veterinary facilities including MRI, CT scan, and ICU, as well as specialized departments such as wildlife anaesthesia, cardiology, nephrology, endoscopy, dentistry and internal medicine.

During his visit, the Prime Minister interacted with several cubs of Asiatic lions, including a white lion, a rare clouded leopard and a caracal, and fed them milk and food.



"India's cultural diversity is our strength. It is our soft power. Celebrating this diversity will not only showcase but also allow us to experience our rich cultural heritage and the unity inherent in it."

"We are very proud of India's eternal and diverse culture. We also attach great value to our intangible cultural heritage."

Smt. Droupadi Murmu President

Shri Narendra Modi Prime Minister

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Steve Smith reveals why Australia headed to Dubai



To escape the "strict" security bubble in Pakistan, Australian captain Steve Smith decided to head to Dubai early that has allowed the players to loosen up and "chill" ahead of the Champions Trophy semi-final clash with India.

(See on page 7)

Guyanese PM Mark Phillips discusses cooperation in



Visiting Guyanese Prime Minister Mark Phillips held a meeting with Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi today during which they discussed mutual collaboration in the renewable energy sector.

(See on page 8)

STANDARD POST

21 Indian startups raise over \$105 million in funding this week

About 21 Indian startups collectively raised approximately \$105.87 million this week, with securing funding across different stages.

Among them, three startups raised funds at the growth stage, while 16 early-stage startups attracted investments.

In the previous week, nearly 22 startups raised around \$184.4 million. On average, in the last eight weeks, startup funding has stood at approximately \$317.35 million per week, with around 28 deals taking place weekly.

In the growth-stage funding, B2B cross-border e-commerce startup Geniemode led the chart by raising \$50 million in a Series C round backed by Multiples Alternate Asset Management.

MOC Cancer Care & Research Centre secured \$18 million in a Series B round led by Elevation Capital, while a fintech unicorn raised \$12 million in debt from AK Capital Finance.

At the early stage, 16 startups collectively raised \$25.87 million. The largest early-stage funding went to Quick Clean, a professional linen management solutions provider, which secured \$5.7 million in a Series A round.

Other early-stage startups that attracted funding included content platform FanTV, EV ecosystem platform Vidyut, fintech startup Lorien Finance, and cross-border payments platform HiWiPay.

Startups like quick commerce player KiranaPro and gaming startup 1312 Interactive also raised funds but did not disclose the amount.

Bengaluru emerged as the top city for startup funding, with nine deals taking place, followed by Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, and other cities.

Among sectors, fintech led the funding race with four deals, followed by e-commerce, healthtech, spacetechnology, and gaming startups, which secured two deals each.

The week also saw key mergers and acquisitions. Veranda Learning acquired stakes in BB Virtuals and Navkar Digital to strengthen its commerce education segment. Flipkart's UPI app, Super.money, acquired fintech startup BharatX to expand its credit offerings.

Restoring the Sacred Shores: The Massive Cleanup Effort After Maha Kumbh 2025

From Devotion to Action: Ensuring a Cleaner and Greener Prayagraj



(By Ravi Kumar Boppana)

The Maha Kumbh 2025 in Prayagraj was an extraordinary spectacle of faith and devotion, bringing together an unprecedented 66.30 crore devotees to the sacred confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and the mythical Saraswati. Over 45 days, this grand spiritual gathering not only reinforced the deep cultural and religious heritage of India but also showcased an exceptional commitment to cleanliness and environmental responsibility.

Setting a new benchmark in mass sanitation, the event earned a place in the Guinness World Records for the largest Ganga Cleaning Drive and Mass Cleaning Initiative. A record-breaking 329 and 19,000 individuals, respectively, participated in these efforts, demonstrating the power of collective action. Recognizing the dedication of the sanitation workers who worked tirelessly throughout the event, the Chief Minister announced

a salary hike of ₹16,000, effective from April 2025, along with a ₹10,000 bonus as a token of appreciation.

As the festival concluded, a new challenge emerged—the restoration of the city and the pristine condition of the Kumbh area. Given the scale of the event, cleaning the Maha Kumbh site required an equally

massive effort. To address this, the state government swiftly launched a 15-day intensive cleanliness drive aimed at restoring the Kumbh Mela area to its original purity. Thousands of sanitation workers, supported by dedicated volunteers, took on the enormous task of cleaning the riverbanks, roads, and temporary settlements.



While the grand

Maha Kumbh may be over, but its message of cleanliness and reverence for our environment must continue. It is our collective duty to ensure that our rivers remain pure and free from pollution. The successful execution of the Maha Kumbh 2025 would not have been possible without the unwavering efforts of sanitation

workers, security personnel, and local authorities. Acknowledging their hard work, the state government honored these 'karmayogis' who played a crucial role in keeping the Kumbh area clean. Over 15,000 sanitation workers and 2,000 'Ganga Seva Doots' worked day and night to ensure the cleanliness of

the holy rivers and fairgrounds, reinforcing the commitment to a Swachh Kumbh. The cleanup drive extended beyond waste collection. It involved a systematic approach to waste disposal, the dismantling of temporary structures, and the restoration of the area's ecological balance. Special efforts were made

to remove over 1.5 lakh portable toilets, transport collected waste to the Baswar plant in Naini for proper disposal, and systematically dismantle temporary pipelines and streetlights to return the site to its original state. Makeshift settlements, including tents and pandals set up for sages and pilgrims, were carefully removed,

allowing the natural beauty of the region to resurface. Even as the last devotees departed from the sacred city, the state government ensured that the spiritual essence of the Maha Kumbh reached those who could not attend in person. In a remarkable initiative, fire services and emergency departments were tasked

with transporting the holy water from the Triveni Sangam to all 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh. Over five lakh liters of consecrated water were distributed, allowing devotees across the state to experience the blessings of the Maha Kumbh from their homes.

This initiative also extended to prisons, where more than 90,000 inmates were given the opportunity to bathe in the sacred water—an unprecedented gesture in the history of the Kumbh. This effort exemplified the spirit of inclusivity, ensuring that faith transcended barriers and reached every individual, regardless of their circumstances.

The Maha Kumbh 2025 was not just a spiritual gathering but a testament to human resilience, responsibility, and the collective spirit of maintaining a cleaner and more sustainable environment. As devotees carry with them the memories of their sacred journey, the city of Prayagraj stands rejuvenated, ready to embrace the next chapter in its timeless history.

(The author is a senior journalist and information analyst consultant, who previously served as the Chief Public Relations Officer to Hon'ble governor at the Andhra Pradesh Raj Bhavan and media liaison officer to Hon'ble speaker at the AP Legislative Assembly.)

Safety Seminar organized at Technical Training Center of BLW under 54th National Safety Week

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, March 4: On the occasion of the inauguration of the 54th National Safety Week-2025 programme being celebrated from 04 to 10 March at Banaras Locomotive Workshop, Varanasi, a safety seminar "Safety and Health - Essential for Developed India" was organized at the Technical Training Center on 04 March. The Chief Guest of the program, General Manager Mr. Naresh Pal Singh was welcomed by Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer Mr. Vivek Sheel by presenting a plant and putting a badge. On this occasion, Chief Guest, General Manager Mr. Naresh Pal Singh, in his lecture on the subject of safety, emphasized on ensuring 100 percent compliance of safety standards at the workplace, giving priority to safety and security.

Sharing his experiences with the aim of further strengthening safety, he said that safety is everyone's responsibility as well as one's own responsibility. In the program, the Chief Guest administered the safety



oath to the people present. In the program, Chief Safety Officer Mr. S.B. Patel presented the details of the safety related works done throughout the year in BLW through a Power Point presentation. On this occasion, Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer Mr. Vivek Sheel guided the employees by giving a lecture on safety.

On the occasion of the inauguration of the Safety Awareness Week being celebrated at Banaras Locomotive Workshop, Varanasi, the artists of BLW Bharat Scouts and Guides, presented an impressive street play "Bar-Bar Batana Hai" under the direction of Mr. Amlsh Srivastava. The

artists depicted the small mistakes made during daily work in the workshop and the carelessness on the road very well. In this street play, Amit Kumar Srivastava, Ayushi Pandey, Aritra Rai, Nancy Singh, Shaurya Kumar, Anjali Dubey, Bhaskar Mishra, Jansi Singh, Anuj Singh and Mahima Kumari won the hearts of the audience with their excellent acting. The presentation manager was Mr. Sunil Kumar. The General Manager awarded a cash prize for the best performance of this realistic street play. "The program was conducted in a good manner and the vote of thanks was given by Safety Officer Mr. Anoop Singh

Vats. On this occasion, Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer Mr. Vivek Sheel, Principal Chief Personnel Officer Mr. Janardan Singh, Principal Chief Engineer Mr. Vinod Kumar Shukla, Principal Financial Advisor Mr. Muktesh Mittal, Principal Chief Medical Officer Mr. Devesh Kumar, Principal Chief Security Commissioner Mr. Nurul Hoda, Deputy General Manager Mr. Anuj Katiyar, Public Relations Officer and other officers and employees as well as Joint Secretary of Employees Council Mr. Shrikant Yadav and members Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Mr. Amit Kumar, Mr. Amit Yadav and Mr. Manish Singh etc. were present."

'BJP's double engine' govts are proving to be curse for daughters: alleges Congress

New Delhi, Mar 4 (UNI) The Congress on Tuesday alleged that under the 'BJP's double-engine governments', incidents of crimes against women have surged, while concrete action remains lacking.

Addressing a press conference here, All India Mahila Congress President Alka Lamba said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's promises of protecting daughters are proving to be mere rhetoric, raising questions about the government's commitment to women's security.

"BJP's 'double engine' governments in the country are proving to be a curse for daughters. Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, wherever you look, many heinous crimes have been committed against daughters and the police is remaining a mute spectator in these cases," she alleged.

A case of molestation of the daughter of a Union Minister and her friends has come to light in Maharashtra. After the FIR, it was revealed that the molester was a former BJP councilor, Lamba said. She said he has been seen in photographs with the Chief Minister of Maharashtra and other senior BJP leaders. If the Union Minister himself is denied justice, he may have to step down from his position and join the fight for his daughter's cause, along with many others facing similar struggles. The All India Mahila Congress President said that on March 8, the International Women's Day will be celebrated, but what about the crimes being committed against daughters?

"In Pune, a 19-year-old girl was gang-raped at knifepoint, and a video of the incident was recorded, yet no action was taken. Meanwhile, Gujarat has witnessed 17,000 cases of crimes against women over the past nine years, with nearly 200 girls approaching the police every month in search of justice, she alleged.

In Gujarat, a BJP MLA was booked for the rape of a Dalit woman following the High Court's directive. This incident highlights how the police appear to side with the perpetrators rather than supporting the victims, Alka Lamba said. She further claimed that crimes against women are rampant in BJP-ruled states and that many of these incidents have connections to BJP members.

Relationships



How pets cool off in Summer

heat.

Doggie ice cream? It's paw-sible!

Dogs need to have cold treats in summer as they get heated up really fast. These have to be all-natural and are just meant to cool them down. Says dog food maker Yadika Sharma, "Dogs can't have sugar, but you can sometimes give them an ice cube to play around with, just make sure the cube is of a size that they

The next time your dog looks at you, panting and with his tongue out, he's not asking for a pat on the head, he might be suffering a sunstroke. That's one of the key symptoms of the heat-based illness, say experts. "We get an increasing number of complaints about pets suffering from sunstroke," says veterinarian Dr Persis Ghiara.

"Pugs and boxers are more affected as they are more hyper. The more excitable a dog is, the more he is running around, pulling things, the more susceptible he is to the heat," she adds. Another huge reason for this is when pet owners go shopping and leave their pets in a car without the window rolled down, says vet Sunita

Spa-cial remedies

Dogs need skin care in summer just like humans do. Says animal care professional Gauri Keskar, "Dogs get rashes, hotspots etc and what helps the most is if you trim 50% of their hair. This makes them cooler and more comfortable. The other important thing is to give them anti-tick and flea baths. You also have soothing aroma baths — like cucumber-watermelon, mild olive and strawberry-apple. And to soothe the skin, there are

- Hose him with cool shower or let him stand in a tub of water.

- Put a cold compress on his head to lower the body temperature.

- Rush him to the vet who will administer an intravenous to hydrate him as well as (sometimes) an anti-histamine, so the animal does not go into shock. Some quick solutions Dr Ghiara presents a few easy tips to help pets to battle the hot season...

1. If you have an air-conditioner at home,

From jumping into the pool, to getting some spa 'TLC' and licking on doggie ice-creams, animals are finding their own way to beat the heat



Patel. "I have had two to three cases like this already. Now, temperatures are touching 40 degrees and to leave dogs or even animals like cows, tied up outside in that heat, is hazardous for them." With the mercury set to rise even further, make sure you know how to help your pet cooled down the right way. There's a lot one can do, from exotic treatments at the spa, to simple techniques and even foods that can help them battle the

won't choke on. You can also make frozen yoghurt made with plain, low-fat yoghurt, in say, fresh strawberry and carrot chip. In addition, try making sorbets with just fresh fruit and ice and minus any dairy products and sugar. We've made ones with crushed watermelon and honey as well as banana, pineapple and even mango. These are set in an ice tray or made into bone and paw shapes; dogs love them."

meal or aloe-based (which is cooling) shampoos," she says.

Heat stroke symptoms in dogs

- Excessive panting, lethargy
- Suffocation
- Temperatures rising above 105 to 106 degrees farhenheit

What to do immediately:

- Put your dog in the bath tub.

keep it on for a few hours a day.

2. Dogs must have adequate water to drink. Keep a bowl filled with water in the room at all times. Your dog will sense the requirement of how much to drink and you can refill it accordingly. You may also add some ice to the bowl so the water is cooler.

3. Make sure the animal gets enough shade.

If you keep the dog in the verandah, make sure there is an enclosure or covered porch space.

4. Let your dog take a dip in the pool if you have one. But pet pools are expensive and rare, so instead have a portable pool at home for it. You could give the dog a hand shower once a day, if say, the dog has been out for a long while. But my advice is that it is preferable to take it out for a walk before 7 or 8 am and after 6 in the evening.

Heat stroke in cats Cats cannot tolerate rising heat. Their breathing starts to become shallow and it can escalate into heatstroke. Cats pant or sweat through their foot pads so as to get rid of this excess heat. It is important to help a cat cool down or else the temperature can result in organ damage or even death.

Watch out for these signs:

- Restlessness and panting
- Sweaty paw pads
- Higher rectal temperature
- Redness of the tongue and mouth
- Vomiting

What to do immediately:

Says Dr Dipti Valavalkar, "It's important to keep cats out of the direct sunlight as much as possible. But in case the cat does suffer from heatstroke, keep it in an airconditioned or cooler environment. Put a wet cloth on it. You must also rush the animal to the vet who will see what is wrong, monitor the cat and administer the right medications to it."

Heard of paw booties?

As the hot tar road and pavement can hurt the dog's paws, you can get your pet dog booties. "These are good but they only protect the paws and cannot prevent heatstroke. Also, dogs may not be acceptable to wearing them," warns Dr Ghiara.

Innovative ways to make family time count

Here are ways to ensure that you bond better with your folks

Take classes together

Join yoga or aerobics classes offered for parents and kids together. If your little one is too young to participate, look for classes that help you burn calories with your baby by incorporating him into your yoga moves or just take them along with you for an evening walk, or jump into the pool for a swim and bond.

Holiday time

Getting away from the city, automatically, helps you switch off from the daily grind. Family holidays are great occasion for each member of the family to get relaxed. Only a peaceful environment can help them to forget the tensions and rejuvenate the mind and body to lead life actively and happily.

Happy eaters

Get the kids to accompany you to the market and let them pick their own fruits and vegetables. Involve them in the food preparation. This way, they are more likely to enjoy their meals and try new things. This would prevent you from stressing on what the little one's eating habits. Likewise, what toddlers munch on during snack time will have a lasting effect on their health down

the road. The period from birth to two years is a critical window for the promotion of optimal growth.

No desserts as rewards

The easiest way for parents to get their little ones to eat fruits and veggies is by bribing them with a candy post meal. However, this bribe can cost their health in the long run because it builds a greater aversion to foods like peas, bitter gourd and long gourd. Often, parents offer a food once, and if the child doesn't eat it, they never reintroduce it. The

key is to introduce (children) to new foods.

Family dinners

A 2000 survey found that the nine to 14-year-olds who ate dinner with their families frequently consumed more fruits and vegetables and less cola and fried foods. Their diets also had higher amounts of many nutrients, like calcium, iron, and fibre. While on the table, serve your child small portions. A study has also found that when children served themselves food, the portions were appropriate for their age, whereas when adults served them double portions, the children ate 25 per cent more. Kids who frequently eat with their families are less likely to get depressed or develop an eating disorder.

Be there fully

It doesn't help if you are just there physically at home, and mentally still occupied with your job. So, set aside a specific time when you check your mails and return calls, instead of doing so throughout the day. Once home from work, also tape a note to the telephone that says 'No!' to remind you not to spread yourself too thin.

Revive date plans

Happy parents make happy kids. So, it won't hurt to revive the dating game. Catch a film or head out for a cup of coffee, while your kids are asleep. Working out together is also a fun way of spending time with your partner.

Redo your room

Too often, family rooms are the centre of laziness in a home. Change things around. Get the room painted in brighter colours or replace the comfy sofa with a bean bag. Clear up the clutter to breathe in new energy into the room.

Make chores fun

Instead of assigning each family member a chore to do alone, turn chores into a game you can do together. Race to see how fast you can get the house cleaned, and then try to beat your old time the next week. Play music while you are doing laundry and enlist the kids to sing and dance while helping to fold and put clothes away.

Top 10 annoying office habits!

Overbearing, obsessively rude, noisy, and opinionated - there are so many things that can be found annoying in that one person in office. So, what actually are some of the 'universally' bad behaviours for office work? Here's a look at the top 10 annoying office habits...



1. **Office drummers** - There are lesser annoying office habits than the person who has to tap out a rhythm while waiting for their brain to submerge into the work they're assigned.

2. **Foghorn phone voice** - The breed of office worker who raises their tone several decibels as soon as they pick up the phone.

3. **Pod pong** - Well, these are those people who marinate themselves in perfumes overnight.

4. **Key smashers** - All offices have at least one person who appears to think that to make the little symbols on their keyboard appear on the screen, they need to exert the force of an atomic bomb through the ends of their digits.

5. **Paid for nothing** - In this case, an employee gets paid for standing out in the sunshine chatting to wheezy and addicted mates while the fresh-lunged members of the workforce are indoors putting their mind to work.

6. **Snot funny** - What is it with people, who riddled with pleurisy, the bubonic plague or cancer of the entire body, still

think it's a good idea to come in to work? The world really won't stop if that report doesn't get finished and the boss more likely regards you as a mug than a martyr. Your work mates, of course, will shower you with love for ruining their plans for the weekend and keeping their kids out of school.

7. **Lucifer's lunch** - Egg and mayonnaise sandwiches, tuna fishcakes, blue cheese with crackers, breakfast burritos with extra onion and chips with salt and vinegar - all food items which should be banned from the workplace, thanks to their smell.

8. **Ringtone hell** - This section includes all those people who play bits of their favourite heavy metal music collection from a speaker on their desk, via their mobile phone.

9. **Space invaders** - You distinctly remember hearing the boss bring your new work mate over to his or her work area and say, "This is your desk". The boss did not follow that up with the words, "but feel free to use your colleague's desk for overspill if there's not enough room for your inane gossip magazines and pictures of your 17 children".

10. **Eau de underarm** - There are fewer things more noxious than a damp-shirted male who, after working up a sweat running for the bus, is left to "mature" over a keyboard for eight hours.



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ECoR, DRM Lali Bohra and Jyotsna Bohra interact with Boxers at the Indian Railway Boxing Men's Coaching camp



(Standard Post Bureau)
Visakhapatnam, Mar 4 : The Indian Railway Boxing Men's Coaching Camp, being held at the East Coast Railway Sports Association in Waltair, received a special visit from the Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of Waltair Division, East Coast Railway, Shri Lalit Bohra, and President of the East Coast Railway Women's Welfare Organisation, Waltair Smt. Jyotsna Bohra, today. The two dignitaries interacted with the boxing players who are undergoing intensive training as part of the ongoing coaching camp, which will conclude

of the facilities provided to the boxers, the training program in place, and the necessary support offered to the athletes. Both the dignitaries along with Sports officer Shri Praveen Bhati toured the venue and closely interacted with the players to understand their needs, feedback, and any additional requirements that could help improve their training experience.

Bohra expressed his admiration for the athletes'

Railway is committed to promoting sports and will continue to provide all necessary facilities to nurture talent. The session also witnessed the inauguration of a boxing bout, where DRM Shri Lalit Bohra and Smt. Jyotsna Bohra took the opportunity to motivate the players and emphasize the importance of hard work, discipline, and perseverance in achieving success in the sport. General Secretary of



on 23rd March 2025.

During the visit, DRM Mr Lalit Bohra and Smt. Jyotsna Bohra were given a comprehensive overview

dedication and the efforts being made to ensure a high level of coaching and support. He assured the players that the East Coast

ECoRSA Waltair and Railway Boxing Coach Shri Reddy Srinivas and other sports personalities were there during the DRM visit.

Indian cricketer Shubman Gill is brand ambassador for MRF Tyres

Chennai, Mar 4 (UNI) : MRF Limited, which is who is amongst the top global tyre manufacturer, on Tuesday announced Indian Vice-captain Shubman Gill as its Brand Ambassador.

A company release here said MRF Limited, welcomed Shubman Gill, the Indian Team's Vice

Captain in the ICC Champions Cup as their Brand Ambassador.

Shubman Gill, who was recently announced as the No 1 ranked ODI batter in the ICC Men's

Player rankings, joins a group of elite cricketers who have been associated with the MRF name.

Shubman Gill's association was announced by MRF as a partnership that will extend across all future cricket tournaments.

This association is in addition to the ongoing relationship with India's star batsman Virat Kohli. Mr K M Mammen Chairman and Managing Director announcing this said "We are delighted to welcome Shubman to the MRF Family for a relationship that will endure like other cricketing greats who have been associated with our Organisation. Shubman plays a brand of cricket which is elegant and impactful, the leadership

skills he is displaying are inspiring in all formats of cricket."

"MRF is a brand synonymous with cricket's growth in India and stands for Quality, Performance and Excellence. A young cricketer like me has grown up watching cricketers create magic with the MRF bat. So, it's an absolute pleasure to be part of such a legacy. I believe MRF stands for resilience and grit on and off the field. My endeavour through this partnership would be to continue striving for innings that help India stay on the top always," said Shubman Gill.

Andy Murray to coach Djokovic

London, Mar 4 (UNI) : Andy Murray will reprise his coaching role with Novak Djokovic at the upcoming Indian Wells tournament and stay with the 24-time major champion for the Miami Open.

Djokovic (37) plans to compete at both ATP Masters events - played back-to-back and known as the 'Sunshine Double' - for the first time since 2019.

Murray's team said the 37-year-old Scot flew out to the United States on Monday, according to a BBC report.

The Indian Wells main draw starts later

this week, with the Miami Open following on March 19. Djokovic's last competitive outing was a first-round defeat by Italy's Matteo Berrettini at the Qatar Open on 18 February, when Murray was not present.

Djokovic began working with his long-time rival, who retired from playing in August, on a trial basis at January's Australian Open.

Djokovic reached the Melbourne semi-finals but was forced to retire from his match against Germany's Alexander Zverev with a hamstring injury.

J&K CM launches website for Khelo India Winter Games

Jammu, Mar 4 (UNI) : Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday launched the official website for Khelo India Winter Games 2025 (kwig2025.com) here at the Civil Secretariat.

The launch event was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, Ministers Javed Ahmad Rana and Satish Sharma, and Gulmarg MLA Farooq Ahmad Shah. Also present were Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the CM Dheeraj Gupta, Commissioner Secretary GAD and Information M



Raju, Secretary Law, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Secretary J&K Sports Council and other officials, both in person

and virtually. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah extended his best wishes to the organizers and

inquired about the arrangements and finalization of dates for the event.

In her presentation,

Kohli compares CT semifinal knock to Pak game

Dubai, Mar 4 (UNI) Star Indian batsman Virat Kohli drew parallels between his composed innings in the Champions Trophy semifinal against Australia and his performance against Pakistan, emphasising the importance of partnerships and strike rotation in challenging conditions.

"It was pretty similar to the other day against Pakistan as well. For me, it is about understanding the basics and preparing my game accordingly—just rotating strike because, on this pitch, partnerships are the most important thing," Kohli said after his match-winning 84.

The former India captain highlighted his strategy of pacing the innings efficiently. "My only effort that day and today was to string in enough partnerships. The time that I got out, the plan was to get 20 more and try and finish it off in a couple of overs. Usually, that's the template I follow, but sometimes you can't execute what you want to."

Reflecting on the aspects of his knock that pleased him the most, Kohli pointed to his timing and composure at the crease. "I wasn't feeling desperate and felt happy knocking ones around. When, as a batsman, you start taking pride in taking singles into the gaps, that is when you know you are playing good cricket and are in for a big partnership."

The seasoned campaigner reiterated that his ability to rotate strike and stay composed played a crucial role in his both innings against Australia and Pakistan. "That was the most pleasing factor for me," he concluded.

India captain Rohit denies Dubai base gives his team edge over Australia

Dubai, Mar 4 (UNI) India captain Rohit Sharma has dismissed suggestions that his team has had an unfair advantage by being allowed to play all their Champions Trophy matches in Dubai.

India have spent the Champions Trophy in Dubai, whereas Australia have just flown in from Pakistan, but skipper Rohit Sharma says, 'this is not our home', according to a Cricket Australia report.

India refused to tour Pakistan for the tournament because of the strained

Odisha to develop Grassroots Sports Ecosystem : Suraj

Bhubaneswar, Mar 4 (UNI) : Master plan for the construction of block-level stadiums will be taken up for the development of the grassroots sports ecosystem in Odisha, Sports Minister Suryabanshi Suraj said.

A review meeting of the Sports and Youth Services Department held under the chairmanship of the Sports Minister here on Monday decided to focus on the master plan for construction of stadiums at the block level

in the state. The state government had already allocated Rs 4,124 crore for the construction of block-level stadiums across Odisha.

The initiative aims to nurture sporting talent in every village and block, ensuring a strong foundation for the state's sports ecosystem. Our primary focus is to enhance grassroots sports, nurture talent and provide quality training to the sportspersons, Sports Minister Suraj emphasized. To promote

grassroots-level sports, he said the CM Trophy competition has been introduced.

The Minister said Odisha's athletes have also performed well in this year's National Games and the state secured a position among the top 15 states in the country in National Games.

In addition to infrastructural development, Suraj directed the department officials to expedite all the projects and ensure their timely execution.

Steve Smith reveals why Australia headed to Dubai early that could prove Champions Trophy masterstroke

Dubai, Mar 4 (UNI) : To escape the "strict" security bubble in Pakistan, Australian captain Steve Smith decided to head to Dubai early that has allowed the players to loosen up and "chill" ahead of the Champions Trophy semi-final clash with India.

The Australians moved to Dubai across the weekend without knowing who their semi-final opponent would be, risking another flight back to Pakistan amidst an already hectic schedule, according to a News.com.au report.

But captain Smith said the need for some freedom helped steer them to the location where their opponents have played and trained for the entire tournament, an advantage that has sparked significant criticism.

Smith wasn't even asked about the Indian advantage in a pre-match press conference with little other than Indian media in

attendance but said team officials had "guessed right" and the extra days in Dubai, including a long conversation with the groundsman at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, could prove critical in exceeding early expectations and making another final.

"We guessed right in the end, ideal to be here and have a couple of days preparation. Had we stayed and waited for last night's result, we would have had to have flown here today and play tomorrow, not get a chance to train on the surface or get used to the conditions that we have at the academy," Smith said.

"And if we had to go back, we would have just got on the same plane back as New Zealand and had a day there before playing, so it made sense to us.

"We had a little reset and a chance to have a couple of days here outside of a pretty strict sort of

bubble. I suppose, in Pakistan with the security and stuff. It's been nice to just have a couple of days chill here, a bit of training. A couple of guys have played some golf and wandered around and done some stuff like that.

"We're well prepared for tomorrow now and looking forward to it."

Smith didn't give any selection secrets on who will replace injured Matt Short at the top of the order, with the potential for another spinner to come in.

The wicket for the semi-final is a used one and "certainly looks a dry surface", according to Smith, which will make combating India's spinners, and the use of his own slow bowlers, crucial.

"I think for us the game's probably won and lost how we play this spin, particularly in the middle overs, the way we get through there. It's going to be a challenge," he said.

differently.

"There are four or five surfaces that are being used and every surface has a different nature," the opener said ahead of Tuesday's semi-final against Australia.

"The pitches look the same, but when you play on it, it has played in a different way. So, you can't go thinking 'we played like this yesterday, and today we'll play like this'.

"We don't know which pitch is going to be played in the semi-final. But whatever happens, we have to adapt and see what is happening.

"This is not our home, this is Dubai. We don't play so many matches here. This is new for us too."

Nevertheless, that India's four-pronged spin unit claimed nine of the 10 New Zealand wickets on

Sunday while successfully defending 9-249 reflected the turn on offer in Dubai.

Varun Chakravarthy, India's fourth spinner, claimed 5-42 in his Champions Trophy debut leaving skipper Rohit with "a good headache".

Australia replaced injured opener Matthew Short with spin bowling all-rounder Cooper Connolly, but the onus will be on Adam Zampa to lead a spin attack that also features Glenn Maxwell and part-timers Marnus Labuschagne and Travis Head.

"I don't think I'm bowling quite at my best but I like to think the beauty about me, when I'm not quite at my best and not feeling that great out there, is my ability to still contribute and take those big wickets," Zampa said.

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