

## BULLS EYE

### Railway's 24 hour directive...

Indian Railways has been making a comeback for some time now. New trains have been launched. Among them, the fast train Vande Bharat is now becoming very popular. The coaches of these types of trains have been well improved. When passengers complain, they get an immediate response. Distances from many places are covered in less time. In short, the decision to run the railway network of our country in a modern way is welcome. In the last few years, the number of passenger trains on the railways has decreased significantly. The general public was at the forefront of traveling using these trains. Tickets for these passenger trains were available at very, very low prices. These trains used to stop at all stations. There was no reservation in them. Due to the closure of many popular trains of this type by the Railways, the railway stations in small villages have become very crowded. Due to the closure of many passenger trains across India, the facility that was available for traveling short distances. It is now almost closed. But the extent to which modern trains have been launched on different routes. It does not take an astrologer to tell you that this will inevitably lead to the closure of these trains. All information from train speed to food and beverage is now easily available. Till now, information about reserved tickets was announced four hours in advance. Till then, those whose tickets were on the waiting list. Those who were on the waiting list. Their anxiety was increasing tremendously. It was not possible to make any alternative arrangements in just four hours. Therefore, passengers had to travel like thieves by paying full price. Now, recently, there has been news that a decision has been made by the Railways. It has been decided that if there is no reservation, a heavy fine will be imposed. In all this chaos, the Railways has now decided to announce the reservation list 24 hours before the journey. This will make it easier for passengers to make alternative arrangements. They can immediately buy tickets for another train or make some other arrangements. This will provide relief to the passengers. Our Indian Railways is becoming passenger-oriented day by day. We should welcome the Railways' 24-hour decision. This will stop the rush of passengers and the crowd of passengers without railway reservations will also reduce. This is the advantage of it.

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## NSA Ajit Doval meets CM

### Several strategic issues discussed

Mumbai 11 June: Mumbai became a focal point of strategic discussions as National Security Advisor Ajit Doval met Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. Their meeting, held at the CM's official residence, underscores the continuing emphasis on national security affairs. The meeting is indicative of ongoing dialogues at high government levels, aiming to strengthen collaborative efforts towards maintaining national security and enhancing regional safety. The prevailing situation regarding several places of strategic significance from the point of view of national security in the state were



discussed on the occasion. The issue of heightened security to defence and reasearch and development establishments in the state was also discussed.

## Shiv Sena (UBT) mobilises tractor rally over broken farm promises

Mumbai, June 11 (UNI) The opposition Shiv Sena (UBT) staged a tractor rally in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar in Maharashtra on Wednesday to protest against the state's Mahayuti government's failure to fulfill key promises made to farmers, including a much-anticipated crop loan waiver. The rally formed part of the ongoing week-long agitation titled "Kya Hua Tera Vaada" (What happened to your promise), aimed at exposing the BJP-led administration's unkept assurances ahead of last year's assembly elections. The procession, led by Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council, Ambadas Danve, began at Kranti Chowk and culminated at the



Divisional Commissioner's office near Delhi Gate. Addressing the media, Danve highlighted that tehsil-wise tractor rallies were held across the region to demand accountability for unmet commitments such as the farm loan waiver, comprehensive crop insurance, remunerative crop prices, and increasing the Kisan Samman Nidhi to Rs 15,000 annually.

## Sensex rises by 77.65 points

Mumbai, June 11 (UNI) The BSE Sensex on Wednesday rose by 77.65 pts to 82,469.37 in early trade, tracking positive cues from Asian peers. The Nifty advanced by 19.10 pts at 25,123.305. Sensex registered intra-day highs and lows at 82,509.83 and 82,308.91, respectively. The Nifty registered a day's high at 25,136.20 and a low at 25,081.30 pts. The midcap advanced by 133.80 points, and the small cap rose by 230.56 points. Sectoral gainers were energy by 0.08 pc, Health care by 0.23 pc, Industrial by 0.09 pc, IT by 0.03 pc.

## Foolproof security in place for smooth conduct of Amarnath Yatra: LG Sinha

Srinagar 11 June: Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha today said that foolproof security arrangements are in place for smooth conduct of the annual Amarnath Yatra that will commence from July 3. Speaking with reporters after reviewing the arrangements for Amarnath Yatra in Baltal, LG Sinha, as per news agency UNI Amarnath Shrine Board and the Jammu and Kashmir administration have made improved facilities available for the pilgrims. He said that he would request all devotees to visit in large numbers for the holy yatra



and pray for progress of Jammu and Kashmir and the nation. "There is no need to worry about anything as administration and security forces, including Jammu and Kashmir police, Army, CRPF, CAPF, and other agencies have made foolproof security arrangements for smooth conduct of the yatra," he said.

## COSY SUNSET...



A couple enjoying sunset in the second capital on Wednesday amid pleasant weather where clouds are playing hide and seek with the sun.

## Cabinet approves Rs 6,405 cr rail projects in Jharkhand, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh

New Delhi, June 11 (UNI) The CCEA, chaired by PM approved two rail projects in Jharkhand, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh with total cost of Rs 6,405 crore. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the projects included the doubling of 133 km Koderma - Barkakana section and the doubling of 185 km Ballari - Chikjajur.

## Sri Lankan Army commander in India to boost defence ties

New Delhi, June 11 (UNI) Commander of the Sri Lanka Army Lieutenant General BKG M Lasantha Rodrigo arrived here on Wednesday on a four-day official visit aimed at enhancing bilateral military cooperation. This visit is set to enhance bilateral military cooperation and explore new avenues for collaboration, particularly in the areas of training and capability enhancement, a Defence Ministry statement said. It underscores the continued efforts of both nations to further strengthen and deepen their longstanding defence partnership. Lt Gen Rodrigo held a series of high-level meetings beginning with an in-depth interaction with Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani, Vice Chief of the Army Staff of the Indian Army.

चलो खामगांव चलो खामगांव मान्यवरांचे खामगांव नगरीत सहर्ष स्वागत

अजितदादा फॉर महाराष्ट्र

शाहू, फुले, आंबेडकर, महात्मा गांधी व मौलाना अबुल कलाम आझाद यांचे विचार घरा-घरात व मना-मनात रुजविण्यासाठी ! निवडणुकीत प्रत्येक स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थेवर राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस व मित्र पक्षाचा झेंडा फडकविण्यासाठी !

यत्र-तत्र -सर्वत्र राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस पक्ष नं 1 करण्यासाठी मंत्री मंडळातील १ मंत्री महोदयांचे खामगांव शहरात आगमन !

अजितदादा फॉर महाराष्ट्र

## भव्य संकल्प मेळावा व पक्ष प्रवेश सोहळा

महाराष्ट्र राज्याचे उपमुख्यमंत्री, वित्तमंत्री तथा राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस पक्षाचे राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष मा. ना. श्री. अजितदादा पवार साहेब यांचे विशेष उपस्थितीत जनतेच्या मनातील आमदार राणा दिलीपकुमार सानंदा यांच्यासह खामगांव विधानसभा मतदार संघातील तसेच बुलढाणा जिल्ह्यातील अनेक स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थेचे आजो-माजी पदाधिकारी, जन प्रतिनिधी व अनेक दिग्गज नेत्यांसह २५ हजार पेक्षा जास्त पदाधिकारी व कार्यकर्ते मा.ना.श्री. अजितदादा पवार यांचे कुशल नेतृत्वावर विश्वास ठेऊन राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस पक्षात प्रवेश घेणार आहेत. या प्रसंगी मुंबई येथील १०० कलावंतांचा संच असलेल्या 'मराठी पाऊल पडते पुढे' या सुप्रसिद्ध सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमाचे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे तसेच या कार्यक्रमास उपस्थितांना आकर्षक बक्षिणांचे वाटप करण्यात येणार आहे. तरी या भव्य संकल्प मेळावा व पक्षप्रवेश सोहळ्याच्या ऐतिहासिक कार्यक्रमाचे साक्षीदार होण्यासाठी खामगांव विधानसभा मतदार संघातील व बुलढाणा जिल्ह्यातील जनतेने व राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस प्रेमींनी या कार्यक्रमाला आपल्या वाहनांना राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस पक्षाचे झेंडे लावून वाजत-गाजत हजारांच्या संख्येने उपस्थित रहावे ही नम्र विनंती.

गुरुवार, दिनांक : १२ जून २०२५ \* वेळ : दुपारी ४.०० वा. \* स्थळ : डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर न.प. मैदान, खामगांव.

## अश्वमेध राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस पक्षाचा ! आम्ही सर्व अजित पर्व !

विनीत - सर्व पदाधिकारी, कार्यकर्ते राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस पार्टी, बुलढाणा जिल्हा

२५ रौप्यमहोत्सवी विश्वासाहर्ता !

एक चंदेरी अर्थ प्रवाह

ग्राहकांचा विश्वास सार्थ ठरविणारी ग्राहकांच्या स्वप्नांना 'अर्थ' देणारी राजलक्ष्मी मल्टीस्टेट नागरी सहकारी पतसंस्था लि. यवतमाळ आज दि. १२ जून २०२५ रोजी २५ वर्षे पूर्ण करून २६ व्या वर्षात पदार्पण करित आहे.

संस्थेच्या या प्रवासात सर्व सभासद, ग्राहक, सेवक व हितचिंतक यांनी संस्थेस दिलेल्या अनमोल सहयोगाबद्दल आम्ही अत्यंत...

आभारी आहोत.

संस्थापक श्री. अरविंद तायडे

अध्यक्ष, उपाध्यक्ष व संचालक मंडळ

राजलक्ष्मी

मल्टीस्टेट क्रेडीट को-ऑपरेटिव्ह सोसायटी लि. यवतमाळ  
Reg. No. MSCS/CR/544

मुख्यालय : राजलक्ष्मी हार्डट्स, संकट मोचन रोड, यवतमाळ - ४४५ ००९.  
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## Vidarbha Rang art expo mesmerises art lovers

**Nagpur 11 June:** Art lovers in the city were treated to a vibrant visual experience as 'VidarbhaRang 2025', an exhibition of paintings and photographs inspired by nature, was inaugurated on Monday evening at the Rangayan Gallery of Chitnavis Centre. Organised jointly by Nagpur Water Colour Society and Chitnavis Centre, the exhibition features works of seven Vidarbha artists, each bringing unique perspective on nature through watercolours and photography. Dr Vishwanath Sable, dean of Govt College of Fine Arts and Design, formally inaugurated the exhibition. Vilas Kale, trustee of Chitnavis Centre, was present. In his address, Dr Sable emphasised the need to build a deeper interest and sensitivity towards art in society. "This exhibition is special because it not only displays nature-based paintings but also features



photography. It reflects how artists strike a balance between passion and profession, and how such harmony enables them to produce meaningful work," he said. Vilas Kale fondly recalled veteran nature painter Bhanjibhai Patankar and shared an anecdote from his youth about missing the chance to accompany Patankar on a nature sketching expedition. He urged Nagpurians to visit the exhibition and take full advantage of the opportunity

to engage with local art. The exhibition showcases watercolour works by Dilip Bhalerao, Girish Tol, Jayant Ashtankar, Nitin Patil, Shirish Mulmule, and Vijay Ansingkar, along with nature-inspired photographs by Krishna Padhe. E

ach artist belongs to Nagpur or the wider Vidarbha region and comes from diverse professional backgrounds — from IT and advertising to govt service and engineering — united by their passion for art.

## Govt to assign a unique ID to every public infrastructure project in state

**Nagpur 11 June:** The Maharashtra govt will assign a unique identification number to every public infrastructure facility to optimize costs and prevent duplication of infrastructure projects. Wardha district has been chosen to pilot this initiative for select departments, with a statewide rollout scheduled to begin on October 1. According to the state planning department's latest Government Resolution (GR), the Unique Infrastructure Facility ID (UIFID) portal aims to streamline project management, enhance transparency, and eliminate resource wastage. Each infrastructure development project will be assigned a geo-tagged, 13-digit alphanumeric Unique ID at the time of administrative approval. This ID will incorporate the state code, year of sanction, scheme abbreviation, district code, asset type, and serial number. The government has mandated that no bill payments will be processed unless the

unique ID is mentioned on the invoice. The Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Centre (MRSAC) has been designated the nodal agency for developing and operating the portal. All public infrastructure assets — including electricity substations, hospitals, irrigation projects, and public toilets — will be geo-tagged and digitally mapped as points, lines, or polygons. MRSAC's advanced platform will monitor these projects across various development stages. The system is designed to prevent duplication by cross-verifying new project registrations with existing infrastructure based on geographical location and facility type.

Government officials and policymakers will receive automated alerts if similar facilities already exist nearby, allowing departments to reassess the need for new proposals. This mechanism is expected to curb the significant financial losses previously

caused by redundant projects across departments. The UIFID portal will provide comprehensive project data and support improved decision-making, equitable resource distribution, and enhanced governmental accountability. Departments will be able to generate real-time, customized reports for better planning & execution. The system is also set to improve inter-departmental coordination and align with central government initiatives such as PM Gati Shakti and Gram Manchitra. The government believes the platform will promote balanced fund allocation and equitable development, as the portal's dashboard will highlight both the presence and absence of infrastructure projects across districts.

Initially, the portal will cover rural development, urban development, public works, water conservation, water supply & sanitation, & water resources departments.

## Tragic twist: Leopard found dead, strangely snared in farm fence in Bhandara



**Bhandara 11 June:** A shocking discovery in Malkazari village, nestled within the Purkabodi-I Beat of Adyal Range in the Bhandara district, has left forest officials and locals baffled. A sub-adult leopard, estimated to be just 7-8 months old, was found dead, inexplicably entangled and hanging from a wire fence erected by a farmer to safeguard his agricultural land from wild animals. The grim scene unfolded in Madgi (West) Round, prompting an immediate response from the Forest Department upon receiving reports of the unusual incident. The young leopard's carcass was carefully removed from the

fencing, revealing the bizarre nature of its entanglement. A team of veterinarians, including Dr. Vitthal Hatwar, Dr. Suresh Nipane, and Dr. Sneha Meshram, conducted a post-mortem examination to determine the exact cause of death. In adherence to the guidelines set forth by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), the leopard's remains were cremated at the site.

The cremation was carried out under the supervision of NTCA representative Namdeo Meshram, along with Honorary Wildlife Warden Pankaj Deshmukh, Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) Sachin Nilakh, and Range Forest Officer (RFO) Vivek Yevatkar.

Several other forest officials, including Round Officer D S Rangari and Beat Guards, were also present during the procedure.

## 'Urban Naxal' a fictitious term coined by BJP: Sapkal

**Nagpur 11 June:** Maharashtra Congress president Harshwardhan Sapkal said the term "Urban Naxal" is one conjured up by BJP as part of its propaganda and added there is "no such thing as Urban Naxal". During last year's polls, chief minister Devendra Fadnis had alleged that Congress neta Rahul Gandhi is surrounded by Urban Naxals. Talking to reporters, Sapkal said, "Who is an Urban Naxal? Do they carry weapons like Maoists? The truth is no such thing exists. BJP conjures up such buzzwords only to gain electoral traction. The saffron party indulges in such things when it wants to divert attention from real issues." Fadnis' statement made last year on Gandhi and urban naxals created a national stir, with both national parties engaging in a prolonged verbal duel. Talking about the upcoming local body polls, Sapkal said BJP's "false promises" will come to haunt it. One such issue, Sapkal pointed out, is the Mahayuti's 'Ladki Bahin' scheme. He criticised the ruling alliance for failing to deliver on their promise of increasing the monthly financial aid for women from Rs 1,500 to Rs 2,100. "They started Rs 1,500 per month for women and promised a hike to Rs 2,100 if voted to power," Sapkal noted, adding the increased amount has yet to be implemented. He further alleged the govt is attempting to reduce the number of beneficiaries, with even the existing Rs 1,500 being



withdrawn in some cases. Sapkal warned this failure to fulfil promises could have significant repercussions for the BJP-led Mahayuti in upcoming elections, including local body polls and major elections in 2029. "Instead of Ladki Bahin, we now have angry bahins. Our sisters have been fooled by BJP-led Mahayuti," he remarked, highlighting the growing discontent among women who feel let down by the govt's unfulfilled promises. In addition to the Ladki Bahin scheme, Sapkal criticised the govt's handling of the agricultural sector, particularly in providing relief to farmers affected by unseasonal rains. "Many farmers are still facing financial distress. It is very sad," he said, emphasising the need for immediate action to support those who lost their crops and struggling to make ends meet. Sapkal said there is growing unrest in the public because of corruption in Mahayuti. "Many public projects are being announced without any logic. It seems infrastructure projects are more for the benefit of contractors rather than the people, who have now seen through this facade," said Sapkal.

## Over 600 e-rickshaws face police heat in a single day for traffic chaos in Nagpur



**Nagpur 11 June:** In a bold move to rein in traffic indiscipline, Nagpur Traffic Police launched a massive crackdown on Tuesday, targeting unruly e-rickshaw drivers who've become a daily menace on city roads, a prime target. Wrong-side drivers didn't escape either — 356 were fined for one of the most dangerous habits plaguing Nagpur's roads. These infractions have led to numerous accidents, prompting Commissioner of Police Dr. Ravinder Kumar Singal to label wrong-side driving as a serious public threat. ACP (Traffic) Madhuri Baviskar stated, "E-rickshaw drivers routinely flout traffic rules. This is just the beginning — regular crackdowns will follow." Nagpur Police has made it clear: Traffic indiscipline won't be tolerated. E-rickshaw drivers beware — the city's roads are no longer yours to disrupt.

public's patience wore thin, prompting the Traffic Department to swing into action with a citywide enforcement drive. E-rickshaw drivers, often seen weaving through lanes or halting mid-road, were a prime target. Wrong-side drivers didn't escape either — 356 were fined for one of the most dangerous habits plaguing Nagpur's roads. These infractions have led to numerous accidents, prompting Commissioner of Police Dr. Ravinder Kumar Singal to label wrong-side driving as a serious public threat. ACP (Traffic) Madhuri Baviskar stated, "E-rickshaw drivers routinely flout traffic rules. This is just the beginning — regular crackdowns will follow." Nagpur Police has made it clear: Traffic indiscipline won't be tolerated. E-rickshaw drivers beware — the city's roads are no longer yours to disrupt.

## Alarm: 3000 inmates & one doctor, This is Nagpur Central Prison!



**Nagpur 11 June:** A severe health crisis is unfolding at the Nagpur Central Prison, where the lives of over 3,000 inmates are reportedly at risk due to an acute shortage of medical staff. Despite having six sanctioned doctor positions, the prison has been operating for months with just one doctor managing the medical needs of its vast inmate population.

The Maharashtra State Minorities Commission has voiced grave concerns over this critical situation. Following a recent visit, the

commission has urgently directed the Health Department to immediately increase the number of doctors at the facility. The commission has also demanded a comprehensive report on the situation within seven days.

Commission Chairman Pyare Khan recently inspected the Nagpur Central Prison, where he met with incarcerated minority inmates, listened to their grievances, and assessed the available health facilities. His inspection revealed that the absence of adequate

medical staff in the jail hospital is preventing inmates from receiving timely treatment. It was also noted that the prison administration has repeatedly sent proposals for doctor recruitment, but no concrete action has been taken to date. Khan described the situation as "extremely serious," issuing a stern warning:

"If any inmate's life is lost due to the unavailability of a doctor in an emergency, the entire responsibility will lie with the concerned Health Department." Following Khan's directive, Sarang Kumar Patil, Secretary of the Minorities Commission, issued a letter to the Deputy Director of the Public Health Department, Nagpur Division. The letter instructs the department to increase the number of doctors and ensure the services of full-time medical professionals at the prison.

A directive to submit a detailed report on the matter within seven days was also included in the secretary's communication. The escalating health concerns at Nagpur Central Prison highlight a critical need for immediate intervention to safeguard the well-being of its inmates.

## Youth murdered over petty issue at Maroda

**Mul 11 June:** A youth was stabbed to death in a roundabout over a trivial monetary issue. The incident has created a stir in the taluka. This incident took place at 12 noon on Wednesday in Maroda, Mul Taluka. The deceased youth has been identified as Shantanu Muralidhar Yerme (22) resident of Maroda. The accused has been identified as Amit Anil Nikesar (32) resident of Maroda. Amit Nikesar owns a chicken shop in Maroda called Amit Chicken Centre and runs a sand business too. Shantanu Yerme was working as a servant for Amit. Since the revenue department was distributing sand to the Gharikul beneficiaries, Amit had supplied sand to the Gharikul beneficiaries. While Shantanu was collecting sand in the morning and giving the account to Amit, a minor verbal argument broke out between the two about a trivial financial issue. The argument soon turned into an ugly quarrel and Amit stabbed Shantanu on the stomach and chest with a knife from the chicken centre and as a result the latter was killed on the spot. Shantanu's father, who came to resolve the dispute, was also injured in the incident. After the incident, the suspect reached Mul police station and narrated the incident to the police personnel.

## Shashank Kulal and Sanvi Ghate are Nagpur district badminton champions

**Nagpur 11 June:** Shashank Kulal and Sanvi Ghate registered victories in contrasting fashion to emerge as the new men's and women's champions in the Baidyanath Nagpur district badminton championship which concluded at the Subhedar Hall on Tuesday. While both Shashank and Sanvi missed a chance to make a double delight after winning the men and women singles crown, five shuttlers, including Fizza Akbani, Vaishnavi Manglekar, Arnab Palshikar, Hridaan Singh, and Gaurav Rege, took home twin titles in various categories of the district championships. In the men's singles final, Shashank registered a hard-fought but straight games 21-17, 26-24 victory over Priyanshu Dubey. In contrast, Sanvi rallied from a game down to get the better of Shreeja Wankhede in an exciting women's singles summit clash 11-21, 21-13, 21-17. Earlier in the U-17 girls' singles semifinal, Sanvi suffered a heartbreak with a 15-21, 21-17, 12-21 defeat to eventual champion Vaishnavi Manglekar.



Madhavi Kashikar Hedaoo, Gurdeep Singh Arora, Neha Gosavi, tournament referee Aditya Galande, Gaurav Rege, took home twin titles in various categories of the district championships. In the men's singles final, Shashank registered a hard-fought but straight games 21-17, 26-24 victory over Priyanshu Dubey. In contrast, Sanvi rallied from a game down to get the better of Shreeja Wankhede in an exciting women's singles summit clash 11-21, 21-13, 21-17. Earlier in the U-17 girls' singles semifinal, Sanvi suffered a heartbreak with a 15-21, 21-17, 12-21 defeat to eventual champion Vaishnavi Manglekar.

**RESULTS (All Finals)**  
Men's Singles: Shashank Kulal bt Priyanshu Dubey 21-17, 26-24;  
Women's Singles: Sanvi Ghate bt Shreeja Wankhede 11-21, 21-13, 21-17;  
Men's Doubles: Gaurav Rege-Hriday Deshmukh bt Devesh Jena-Shashank Kulal 21-11, 21-12;  
Mixed Doubles: Gaurav Rege-Nikkita Joseph bt Dipanshu Shukla-Kripa Sajwan 21-12, 21-12;  
U-19 Boys Singles: Priyanshu Dubey bt Jeeva Pillai 18-21, 22-20, 21-12;  
Girls: Fizza Akbani bt 1-Shreeja Wankhede 21-13, 12-21, 21-15;  
U-17 Boys Singles: Arnab Palshikar bt Aarav Thakre 21-19, 21-11 Girls: Vaishnavi Manglekar bt Fizza Akbani

21-17, 24-22; U-17 Boys Doubles: Arnab Palshikar-Sairaj Nayse bt Nsihil Umate-Rubal Gedam 21-16, 21-13; Girls Doubles: Ditisha Somkuwar-Fizza Akbani bt Grishma Kaishalwar-Mughda Sawarkar 21-8, 21-7;

U-15 Boys Singles: Hridaan Singh bt Devansh Thakkar 21-14, 13-4 Retd; Girls: Vaishnavi Manglekar bt Yukt Shende 21-9, 21-17; U-15 Boys Doubles: 2-Hridaan Singh-Zeeshan Khan bt Kapish Kolhe-Shamit Mohta 21-8, 22-20;

U-13 Boys Singles: 1-Avnish Khiratkar bt Ojas Sajwan 21-14, 21-18; Girls: Anudhya Satpute bt 1-Dhriti Mehta 15-21, 21-18, 21-12; U-11 Boys Singles: Kartik Naidu bt Pradyumna Meshram 21-18, 21-14; Girls: Akshita Dorshatwar bt Anya Malhotra 16-21, 21-12, 21-6; U-9 Boys Singles: Vihan Bhise bt 1-Niyukt Mogare 21-13, 18-21, 21-14.

## Gadkari's public relations programme on June 15

**Nagpur 11 June:** Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari's public relations programme is being organised on Sunday, June 15, 2025. The programme will be held from 11 am to 1 pm at the Minister's public relations office in the vicinity of Jupiter School near Khamla square. The minister will accept the memoranda of citizens. He will meet citizens personally and interact with them. Citizens should put forth their problems, difficulties, demands or suggestions in writing (with necessary documents attached). It has also been appealed that they should give their written memoranda to the minister.

## Cabinet approves major liquor duty hike, greenlights AI controlled excise reforms

**Nagpur/Mumbai 11 June:** In a major policy decision aimed at increasing state revenue, the Maharashtra Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, approved a set of measures recommended by the State Excise Department during a meeting held today. One of the key decisions includes a substantial hike in liquor production duty, raising it by three times to 4.5 times the current rate. To explore ways of boosting excise revenue, the state government had earlier constituted a high-level committee of secretaries. This committee studied the best practices and policy frameworks being implemented in other states, focusing on liquor production policy, licensing, excise duties, and tax collection. The committee submitted a detailed report to the government with several recommendations, including the increase in production duty. Following the recommendations, the Cabinet has approved a restructured framework for



the Excise Department and sanctioned the creation of a centralized control room. This integrated control center will use AI-based systems to monitor and regulate distilleries, liquor manufacturing units, and wholesale vendors across the state. As part of the departmental restructuring, a new divisional office will be established in Mumbai city and suburbs. Additionally, new superintendent offices will be set up in six key districts: Mumbai Suburban, Thane, Pune, Nashik, Nagpur, and Ahilyanagar, to strengthen the department's administrative efficiency. These steps are expected to modernize the excise system and significantly enhance revenue collection for the state.

## Weather plays a game in Nagpur: Scorching heat by day, showers by night



**Nagpur 11 June:** The weather in Nagpur has taken a strange turn, with the city experiencing intense daytime heat followed by unexpected showers in the evening. This unusual pattern has prompted the Meteorological

Department to issue an alert for Nagpur and nearby regions. According to the department, light to moderate rainfall accompanied by thunderstorms is likely in isolated areas over the next few hours. Wind speeds may

reach up to 40 to 50 kmph, adding to the instability.

**Heatwave grips Vidarbha**  
Nagpur recorded a maximum temperature of 43.6°C on Tuesday — a sharp 3.9°C above normal.

Since the beginning of June, a severe heatwave has gripped the Vidarbha region, leaving citizens distressed by the extreme temperatures. The Met Department has urged residents to remain cautious, avoid stepping out unless necessary, and take preventive measures against heatstroke and gusty winds.

## Metropolis Healthcare strengthens presence in Vidarbha with launch of state-of-the-art diagnostic lab in Gondia



**Gondia 11 June:** Ameera Shah-led Metropolis Healthcare Limited, India's second-largest and most respected pathology laboratory chain, has further expanded its footprint in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra with the launch of an advanced diagnostic testing facility in Gondia district. As the first national diagnostics player to establish a laboratory in the area, the new facility spans approximately 1,000 sq. ft. and is capable of processing up to 6,000 samples per month. It offers a comprehensive suite of services—from routine pathology to advanced molecular diagnostics—designed to improve access to high-quality healthcare for the region's population. The laboratory was formally inaugurated by Mr. Bhoopendra Singh Rajawat, Chief Business Officer – West, Central & North India, Metropolis Healthcare Limited, in the presence of senior team members, including Mr. Rahul Kawankar, AVP & BU Head – Rest of Maharashtra; Dr. Smrita Sudke, Chief of Lab – Gondia; and Mr. Vikrant Pawar, Cluster Sales Manager. Commenting on the launch, Mr. Bhoopendra Singh Rajawat, Chief Business Officer (West, Central & North India), Metropolis Healthcare Limited, said: "We are proud

to mark our fifth diagnostic laboratory in the Vidarbha region, with Gondia joining our network in Nagpur, Amravati, Akola, and Chandrapur. With a legacy of over four decades in Maharashtra, Metropolis remains committed to enhancing healthcare access in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. Our focus is on delivering fast, accurate, and reliable diagnostic services powered by cutting-edge technology and scientific expertise. By working closely with local hospitals, clinicians, and public health stakeholders, we aim to contribute to better health outcomes across the region." Dr. Smrita Sudke, Chief of Laboratory, Pune & Rest of Maharashtra, Metropolis Healthcare Limited, commented: "With this new lab in Gondia, we are bringing Metropolis' scientific rigor and specialized diagnostics closer to the community. Our services span a wide spectrum—from wellness screening and chronic condition monitoring to complex areas such as Gastroenterology, Nephrology, Neurology, Oncology, Women & Child Health, and Infectious Diseases. Whether it's early detection, advanced disease management, or support for super-specialty care, we're focused on delivering precision diagnostics that empower both doctors and patients. Innovation, accuracy, and a patient-first mindset remain at the core of everything we do."







BUSINESS

No impact of rare earth curbs on production so far: Maruti



**Mumbai 11 June:** Maruti Suzuki India Chairman R C Bhargava on Monday said there is no impact on the company's production due to the shortage of rare earth magnets as of now. His comments come against the backdrop of restrictions imposed by the Chinese government since April 4 on the export of rare earth elements and related magnets. China has mandated special export licences for seven rare earth elements and related magnets. China controls over 90 per cent of global processing capacity for the magnets, used across sectors including automobiles, home appliances and clean energy. Production activity at the country's largest carmaker was going as planned, he said. When asked if the company sees a production crunch over the next few months due to the issue, he noted: "If the licenses come through and they are supposed to come through, there would not be a problem." The auto industry has sought government support in expediting approvals from the Chinese government.

IFL Enterprises Limited receives approval to raise Rs. 49.14 crore from Rights Issue; Right Issue Opens for Subscription from June 19

**Ahmedabad 11 June:** The Rs. 49.14 crore Rights Issue of IFL Enterprises Limited (BSE – 540377), engaged in the agri commodity business including import, export and trading of agri commodities, will open for subscription on June 19, 2025 and remain open till June 30, 2025. The Rights Issue is attractively priced at Rs. 1 per share, offering existing shareholders an opportunity to increase their equity in the company. Board of directors in the meeting held on June 9 2025 considered and approved the rights issue. Earlier, Board of directors of the company on 30th December, 2024 and Draft Letter of Offer dated 07th March, 2025 submitted for obtaining 'In Principle Approval' for proposed Right Issue of up to Rs. 50.00 Crores (Rupees Fifty Crores) and 'In Principle Approval' received from BSE Limited vide its letter bearing No. LOD/RIGHT/KS/FIP/213/2025-26 dated May 19th, 2025. Shareholders holding equity shares as on the Record Date – June 13, 2025, will be eligible to apply for the rights shares in the ratio of 60 Rights Equity Shares for every 91 fully paid-up equity shares held. The last date for On-Market Renunciation of REs is June 24, 2025. The Rights Issue comprises 49,14,76,620 fully paid-up Equity Shares of face value Rs. 1 each, aggregating to Rs. 49.14 crore. Proceeds from the issue will be used to strengthen the company's financial position and support general corporate purposes. This capital raise follows the company's strategic direction under newly appointed Managing Director Mr. Abhishek Pratapkumar Thakkar, aimed at enhancing operational efficiency and expanding service capabilities. For the financial year that ended March 2025, company achieved revenue from operations of Rs. 120.60 crore, over 13 fold rise as compared to the revenue of Rs. 8.24 crore in the FY 2023-24. Net profit also rose to Rs. 2.99 crores for the FY25 compared to Rs. 84.5 lakh in FY24, a 254% Y-o-Y growth. Company has reported consolidated net profit of Rs. 3.04 crore in Q4 FY25. Revenue from operations during Q4 FY25 reported rise multifold to Rs. 72.13 crore as against revenue of Rs. 1.98 crore in the Q4 FY24. In August 2024, company board approved bonus issue in the ratio of 1:150 (1 equity share as bonus for every 150 shares) held by the equity shareholders. Incorporated in the year 2009, IFL Enterprises Ltd currently deals in the agri commodity business including import, export of agriculture produce like fruits, vegetable, seeds, organic and herbal products, trading of agri commodity products including contract farming and warehousing. Company also deals in trading financial instruments like shares, stocks, and bonds.

World's largest container ship MSC IRINA makes historic debut at Vizhinjam International Seaport

**Ahmedabad 11 June:** The MSC IRINA, recognised as the world's largest container ship by TEU (Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit) capacity, docked at the Vizhinjam International Seaport on Monday morning and will be berthed till Tuesday. This monumental arrival marks a significant milestone for the seaport, which was dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 2. The MSC IRINA boasts an impressive capacity of 24,346 TEUs, making it a formidable player in global shipping. With a length of 399.9 metres and a width of 61.3 metres, the vessel is approximately four times longer than a standard FIFA-designated football field. Designed specifically to facilitate the transportation of large volumes of containers between Asia and Europe, the MSC IRINA is pivotal in enhancing trade routes and logistics efficiency. This vessel makes its maiden visit to a South Asian port, highlighting Vizhinjam's capabilities in handling Ultra-Large Container Vessels (ULCVs). The port has recently welcomed other icon-class vessels, including MSC Türkiye and MSC Michel Cappellini, further establishing its reputation as a key hub in maritime trade. The MSC IRINA was launched in March 2023 and embarked on its maiden voyage in April of the same year. It is engineered to stack containers up to 26 tiers high, offering unparalleled capacity in container stacking. Notably, the MSC IRINA surpasses its predecessor, OOCL Spain, by a margin of 150 TEUs. In alignment with contemporary environmental standards, the vessel is equipped with energy-saving features that contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions by up to 4%, significantly lowering its carbon footprint while maintaining operational efficiency. The docking of the MSC IRINA at Vizhinjam International Seaport not only underscores the port's strategic importance in global shipping but also represents a leap forward in sustainable maritime practices, setting a benchmark for future developments in the industry.

EDITORIAL

World Day Against Child Labour



**T**he World Day Against Child Labour is an International Labour Organization (ILO)-sanctioned holiday first launched in 2002 aiming to raise awareness and activism to prevent child labour. It was spurred by ratifications of ILO Convention No. 138 on the minimum age for employment and ILO Convention No. 182 on the worst forms of child labour. The World Day Against Child Labour, which is held every year on June 12, is intended to foster the worldwide movement against child labour.

The World Day Against Child Labour was first established in the year 2002 by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to draw constant attention to the issue of child labour and to revise and revisit our strategies to eliminate child labour. It has been 19 years since 2002, and the World Day Against Child Labour is observed on 12 June every year. The United Nations General Assembly while acknowledging the magnitude of child labour, unanimously adopted a resolution declaring 2021 as the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour and has asked the ILO to take the lead in its implementation. This day brings together governments, local authorities, civil society and international, workers and employers organizations to point out the child labour problem and define the guidelines to help child labourers. According to ILO's data, hundreds of millions of girls and boys worldwide are involved in work that deprives them of receiving adequate education, health, leisure and basic freedoms, violating this way their rights. Of these children, more than half are exposed to the worst forms of child labour. These worst forms of child labour include work in hazardous environments, slavery, or other forms of forced labour, illicit activities such as drug trafficking and prostitution, as well as involvement in armed conflict.

The Significance of the World Day Against Child Labour is to pay attention to the problem of child labour and to find ways to eradicate it. The day is used to spread awareness about the harmful mental and physical problems faced by children forced into child labour, all over the world.

ENTERTAINMENT

Sagar Parekh treats co-stars Aarya Babbar and Vijayendra Kumeria to homemade Litti Chokha on the sets of Jagriti – Ek Nayi Subah!



**Mumbai 11 June:** Every show thrives on the chemistry between its characters, whether it's built on heartfelt bonds or simmering conflicts. In Zee TV's Jagriti – Ek Nayi Subah, Sagar Parekh plays a key role alongside Aarya Babbar (Kalikant Thakur) and Vijayendra Kumeria (Suraj), and while the three portray a compelling family dynamic on-screen, their off-screen camaraderie is just as warm and authentic. Recently, Sagar surprised his co-stars and the crew with a thoughtful gesture that quickly became the highlight of the day. Bringing a taste of his roots to the set, he treated everyone to homemade Litti Chokha—a traditional delicacy from his hometown. Everyone couldn't stop raving about the rich, authentic flavors and the comforting, home-cooked feel of the dish. The cast and crew shared laughs and compliments over the meal, turning an ordinary shooting day into a memorable culinary treat. Sagar's thoughtful gesture not only filled their stomachs but also strengthened the off-screen bond they all share. Sagar Parekh said, "I had often spoken about Litti Chokha on set, and both Aarya sir and Vijayendra were eager to try it. They kept saying it was on their must-try list for a while now, so I felt this was the perfect opportunity to bring some homemade Litti Chokha—a special delicacy from my hometown—for everyone to enjoy, especially made by mom. Sharing a part of my culture with my co-stars and watching everyone savour the meal turned an ordinary shooting day into a truly heartwarming and memorable experience." While the cast bonded over the rich flavours of Litti Chokha on set, the on-screen drama is heating up as Jagriti (Rachana Mistry) is gearing up to take a bold stand against Kalikant and put an end to his wrongdoings, setting the stage for some intense twists ahead. To know more, tune in to Jagriti-Ek Nayi Subah, every day at 08:30 pm on Zee TV!

Bharti Singh calls Shabir Ahluwalia the 'Ajay Devgn of television'

**Mumbai 11 June:** The supremely entertaining Bharti Singh and Haarsh Limbachiya recently invited television's heartthrob Shabir Ahluwalia and the charming Ashi Singh as guests on the LOL podcast. Shabir and Ashi, who essay contrasting characters of Yug and Kairi in Sony SAB's Ufff... Yeh Love Hai Mushkil, shared fun behind-the-scenes anecdotes, spoke about their on-screen chemistry, and dived into what makes the show so special. Bharti went on to say that she felt Shabir is the Ajay Devgn of television as he doesn't smile much, has a serious demeanor, and performs intense scenes. She also asked Ashi if she was scared when she performed her first scene with Shabir. The light-hearted moment brought laughter in the studio, with Ashi Singh sharing how she initially felt intimidated working with such a seasoned actor but quickly grew comfortable thanks to Shabir's supportive and grounded nature. Tune in to watch Ufff... Yeh Love Hai Mushkil Monday to Saturday at 8 PM on Sony SAB.

No end to uncertainty in Bangladesh

**M**uhammad Yunus, the head of Bangladesh's interim government, has announced that the country will hold elections in the first half of April 2026. By making this announcement, the Nobel laureate and Grameen Bank founder has sought to silence critics and opponents who questioned how interim his administration really was and if he would ever let go of power. The questions arose because the interim administration, set up in the days after the ouster of the Sheikh Hasina government, has not only been inept at restoring a measure of order in the country even after 10 months but has also appeared to be taking important policy decisions impacting the country's foreign policy and security. The Bangladesh Army, too, questioned the decisions, publicly airing discontent at not being consulted on the move to establish a "humanitarian corridor" from Bangladesh to the Rakhine state in Myanmar, apparently at the prodding of the United Nations. The army had also pressed for an "early and inclusive" election. Yunus tried an age-old gambit adopted by leaders who believe in their own indispensability. He threatened to resign, and, predictably, was persuaded to stay on. The announcement of elections in April has hardly cleared the air of political uncertainty or suspicions about his intentions. For one, the Bangladesh National Party (BNP), the second largest political party in the country after the Awami League, has rejected the timeline, and reiterated its demand for elections before the end of this year. In this, it is on the same side as the army. In a volatile political atmosphere still charged with anger against the Hasina government, the BNP, harassed and suppressed for over a decade, is eyeing a big electoral comeback. Yunus' justification for his reluctance to hold polls earlier than next year is that when he took office, he promised to do three things: carry out constitutional, electoral and other institutional reforms through a process of national consensus; provide justice for those who were killed in police firing during the student protests that eventually led to Hasina's exit; and conduct elections. The argument is that making the much-needed corrections to



a broken political, governance and judicial structure would ensure that the elections did not reproduce the kind of one-party rule and authoritarian slide witnessed during Hasina's three terms. The view in sections of Bangladesh is that had these reforms been carried out before the 2008 elections, the country would have been spared the political chaos and bloodshed. Yunus set up six commissions to study each aspect and suggest changes. These commissions have duly submitted their reports. Now, a "national consensus commission" of political parties' representatives is trying to forge an all-round agreement on the reforms. It is no surprise that the consensus is proving to be elusive. The BNP, whose political instincts remain sharp despite a decade in the wilderness and its leader Khaleda Zia's long years in jail or home imprisonment, has said the holding of elections cannot be held ransom to the lack of consensus on the reforms. Aside from the BNP's own electoral calculations, the concern is that putting off the elections may worsen the chaotic conditions in the country, eventually making the holding of elections impossible. More pertinently, however, all the talk of reforms and consensus sounds hollow given that the Awami League has been banned, and thus cannot take part in the election. With Hasina and many leaders in her clique living in exile in Delhi, its cadres and supporters being targeted at home, and no effective second rung to speak of, the Awami League is in total disarray. Yunus may carry out all the reforms he wants, and may even take his time doing that. But any claim of corrections to Bangladesh's many problems will that remain hollow, and their purpose

defeated if the Awami League, hollowed out though it is, cannot take part in the elections. Banning the party and keeping it out of the elections can only widen the political and social faultlines. It is a sure path to the repetition of the many blunders committed by Hasina. Even the reforms themselves, ostensibly to be arrived at by a process of national consensus, would lack that very consensus as the Awami League is not a part of that process. Instead, what is apparent now is an attempt to airbrush the party of Bangladesh's liberation out of the nation's past, present and future. On the other hand is the resurrection of the Jamaat-e-Islami, which collaborated with the Pakistan Army in the atrocities committed in the months before the country's liberation. The Jamaat was stripped of its registration as a political party and disallowed from participating in the 2013 elections after the Bangladesh Supreme Court under Hasina's watch ruled that the party's constitution went against the secular principles of the national constitution. Last month, Jamaat leader ATMA Zaharul Islam, who was tried and convicted as a collaborator by the "International Criminal Court" set up by the Hasina government, was acquitted. While the trials of the Jamaat members were decreed at the time as partisan and dubious, and the judicial proceedings as a kangaroo court, the irony is hard to miss: an administration that says it wants to set Bangladesh on the right path is using the same court to try Hasina on charges of corruption and "crimes against humanity". Her trial, whose outcome is pre-determined, will take place in absentia. India is unlikely to accede to Bangladesh's demand for her extradition. The issue will worsen relations between the two countries. The Awami League's only hope now is that the Bangladesh Army will press for and secure its inclusion. Meanwhile, the Jamaat, a former ally of the BNP, is now confident it can make greater electoral inroads than before, on its own. It is also keen on elections but wants time.

Tenali and Laxman on a mission to solve the mystery of the shattering glass in Sony SAB's Tenali Rama

**Mumbai 11 June:** Sony SAB's Tenali Rama has impressed viewers with its interesting stories about the clever court poet, brilliantly portrayed by the gifted Krishna Bharadwaj. Tenali is joined by Laxman (Kunal Karan Kapoor) as they solve mysteries that unfold in Vijayanagar. In the upcoming episodes, a strange phenomenon takes over Vijayanagar as glass begins shattering mysteriously across the city. Rama investigates and traces the epicenter to the house of Acharya Bhaskar (Vinayak Bhawe), the absent-minded royal inventor. As Tenali delves deeper to uncover the whereabouts of the missing Acharya and the reason for the shattering glass, he is ambushed by a hidden intruder. There comes a point



when Tenali is about to be killed, Laxman (Kunal Karan Kapoor) arrives and overpowers the attacker, saving him. They realize Bhaskar's life is in grave danger. Rama and Laxman dig even deeper into the growing mystery, racing against time to protect Acharya Bhaskar and

uncover the mastermind behind the deadly conspiracy. But will they reach Bhaskar before it's too late? Krishna Bharadwaj, playing the role of Tenali in Tenali Rama, said, "This track is really exciting because it brings out Tenali's sharp wit and his natural instinct for solving mysteries, but what I

personally loved was exploring the dynamic between Tenali and Laxman. Audiences will get to see how their bond strengthens as they work together to save Acharya Bhaskar. It's a race against time, filled with tension, humour, and unexpected twists!" Kunal Karan Kapoor, playing the role of Laxman in Tenali Rama, said, "This is a turning point for Laxman because it's not just about action – it's about trust, quick thinking, and friendship. I really enjoy playing this part where Laxman gets to prove his loyalty and bravery. It's a thrilling journey, and I can't wait for the audience to see how he and Tenali make such a great team under pressure." Watch Tenali Rama, every Monday to Saturday at 10 PM, only on Sony SAB

Actors share their most heart warming father's day moments!

**Mumbai 11 June:** Father's Day is a heartfelt celebration of the love, sacrifices, and unwavering support that fathers provide. It is a day when children honour their dads with tokens of affection, cherished memories, and thoughtful gestures. This Father's Day, &TV actors take a nostalgic trip down memory lane, sharing touching stories that highlight the joy and pride of fatherhood. These include Yogesh Tripathi (Daroga Happu Singh, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan) and Rohitashv Gour (Manmohan Tiwari, Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai). Yogesh Tripathi, popularly known as Daroga Happu Singh, shares, "My two children are my world, and their presence fills my life with endless happiness. A few years ago, my son Dakshesh – my little Happu in the making – gave me the sweetest surprise. He dressed up exactly like me as Happu Singh, with slicked-back hair, the signature moustache, and even carried a tiny 'Nyochavar' pocket! Strutting around the living room with my accent and



confidently saying, 'Nyochchavar kar do!', he left us all in splits. I was laughing and tearing up at the same time. In that moment, I saw my biggest fan and my most adorable critic rolled into one.

That impersonation – innocent, loving, and full of spirit – remains one of the most heartwarming gifts I have ever received." Rohitashv Gour aka Manmohan Tiwari from

Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai shares, "Daughters just understand you – their love is deep, instinctive, and incredibly thoughtful. I am blessed with two such daughters, and they have always made Father's Day special. But last year stands out. My elder daughter, Giti, made a surprise trip back to Mumbai from the US, where she is pursuing her studies. Together with my younger one, Sanjiti, they planned a weekend escape to a peaceful hill station called Mahabaleshwar. They booked a cosy cottage, arranged my favourite meals, and ensured I could completely unwind. It was the break I did not know I needed. We even took a beautiful photo at a scenic spot – it is now framed and sits proudly on my wall. That gesture spoke volumes of their love, and I will always cherish it." Watch Happu Ki Ultan Paltan at 10:00 pm and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 pm, airing every Monday to Friday only on &TV!



## ZEE Invites India to celebrate 'Togetherness' with Aapka Apna ZEE

Mumbai 11 June: ZEE, one of India's most iconic and beloved media brands, reaching 854 million viewers across 208 million households, embarks on a new chapter with the unveiling of its new identity and brand ethos of Aapka Apna ZEE. Reinforcing its deep-rooted connection to India's cultural fabric, the network launches this heartfelt campaign that celebrates belonging, community, and everyday emotional truths. At the heart of the campaign lies a simple yet powerful sentiment: 'Saath aye se bahti banti hai'—celebrating the strength of togetherness and the shared moments that create impact and compound goodness, propel us forward, and overcome obstacles. Every shared moment sparks hope, builds support, and fuels collective strength, reminding us that together, we can rise above challenges. Bringing this thought to life is a multilingual campaign with a compelling series of brand films in seven languages, each shaped by the textures, voices, and emotional truths of the community it represents. Featuring local characters and stories that reflect everyday realities, the films are a cinematic tribute to the deep sense of connection, making viewers across the country feel truly seen, heard, and at home. Anchoring the narrative is the moving story of an army father, who has been called to duty just days before his daughter's wedding. The film beautifully captures the spirit of community and togetherness, where in his absence the entire mohalla steps in, as family would, together ensuring the celebration continues with warmth and joy, taking care of every detail. When he returns on the wedding day to the delight of his family, to find everything perfectly arranged, his wife, gently smiles and says, "Itna bada parivaar hai, aaram se ho gaya," leaving him deeply moved. Amplifying the emotion, adding a layer of familiarity and emotional

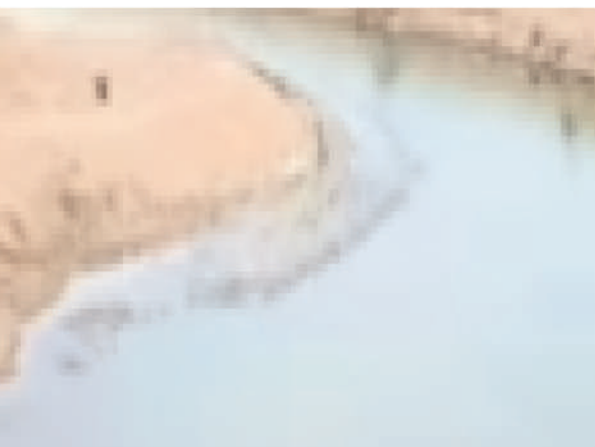


depth, ZEE's most loved characters step in not as celebrities, but as apne log - heartfelt participants in the celebration. Their presence deepens the spirit of community and belonging. Speaking about the campaign, Kartik Mahadev, Chief Marketing Officer, ZEE Entertainment Enterprises Ltd., said, "The campaign 'Aapka Apna ZEE' is a powerful multilingual brand film series that brings alive the essence of the many Indians that live in one country. It is a mirror to how India shows up for each other. Each of the seven films is deeply rooted in the cultural milieu of its region—capturing its rhythm, rituals, landscapes, and the authenticity of its people. From the rains becoming a character in Kerala, to a village in Telangana known for its legacy of army service, every story reflects the cultural richness and emotional truths of real India. This campaign is a reaffirmation of ZEE's role as a trusted companion in the daily lives of millions. Saath Hai Toh Baat Hai' is a sentiment that links to the heartbeat of millions of homes, where ZEE isn't just watched, but welcomed every day." To embody the heartfelt message of the brand film 'Saath Hai Toh Baat Hai', over twenty-five beloved characters from across ZEE's iconic shows came together in an unprecedented celebration of togetherness and storytelling. In cherished moments that blurred the lines between storytelling and lived emotion, characters including Devansh and Vasudha

(Vasudha), Angoori Bhabhi and Vibhuti Narayan Mishra (Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai), Shrivani and Subbu (Shrivani Subrahmanyam), Veera and Maran (Veera), Rudra & Ganga (Jayam), Jahanvi and Jayant (Lakshmi Niwas), and Durga and Swayambhu (Jagadhatri) and more came together as one big extended family. Their presence embodied the brand's message and turned the campaign into a cultural moment. Each brand film stands out by embracing its cultural roots through heartfelt storytelling and authentic visuals. In Kerala, rain-soaked streets and traditional nalukettu-style homes set the stage for a wedding organized by the community, evoking a deep sense of authenticity and belonging. The Bengali film captures the soul of a boron-dhora wedding, with rituals like uludhwani and dishes like shukto, unfolding like a page from a real family album. In Mandya, Karnataka, the Kannada film beautifully showcases Chappra, Rangoli, and the sacred Arshina Shastra, with locals coming together to help a mother prepare for her daughter's wedding. The Telugu narrative, set in a West Godavari village, features Thataka pandiram, Pelli butta, and the soul-stirring song Sandadi Sandadi, capturing the warmth and celebratory spirit of the region. The Marathi film highlights the vibrant halad chadavane ritual and the bride's symbolic Navari attire draped in dhoti style is steeped in tradition, reflecting strength. The Hindi film beautifully captures the

essence of a North Indian mohalla in Faridabad, where neighbours come together like family. The vibrant rooftops come alive with collective celebrations, filled with the beats of dholaks and folk songs, the joyous rhythms of sangeet, the sweetness of ladoos, and the sound of heartfelt laughter Link to the film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5vf12q1oYg> The campaign was unveiled during the airing of 23rd Zee Cine Awards 2025, with all seven films premiering simultaneously across Zee's TV channels and digital that allowed audiences to experience one idea through seven distinct voices at the same time. With 'Aapka Apna ZEE', the network emerges itself as a companion that reflects every home, every voice, and every lived emotion. A brand that belongs to its audience—because it speaks their language, shares their values, and grows with them. This is more than a new identity. This is Aapka Apna ZEE. & TV - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXP\\_yelCIJc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXP_yelCIJc) Zee Marathi - <https://youtu.be/anH229KtjY> Zee Kannada - <https://youtu.be/ArlTuvdx6f8> Zee Telugu - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hsJUXhT-PMo> Zee Kerala - <https://youtu.be/gMXOI14LTuY> Zee Bangla - <https://youtu.be/yR8O0QLmiMY> Zee Tamil - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIL3\\_iXy2s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIL3_iXy2s)

## More Pench water flowing into Kanhan River after NMC plea



Nagpur 11 June: The irrigation department on Monday increased the flow of water from the Pench reservoir into Kanhan River from the earlier 50 cumecs (cubic metre per sec) to 70 cumecs. The flow was enhanced following a formal request from the Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) in view of the dry spell and depleting water levels in the Kanhan River, which is the source of drinking water for nearly 40% of the city's population. Currently, NMC supplies around 750 million litres per day (MLD) water to the city, with 230 MLD sourced specifically from the Kanhan River to cater to residents in Ashi Nagar, Nehru Nagar and parts of Satranjipura zones. This summer, the city's water supply touched its highest-ever mark since the municipal corporation began managing the system. Despite the record distribution, civic officials admit that nearly 40% of the total supplied water falls under 'non-revenue water', meaning it is either lost through leakage, theft or remains unbilled due to faulty meters or illegal connections. This not only leads to significant financial losses but also puts additional stress on already

stretched water sources. For over one-and-a-half months now, the irrigation department has been consistently releasing water from the Pench reservoir, including the Navegaon Khairi dam, into the Kanhan River to sustain municipal water supply. However, a senior official from NMC's water works department pointed out that several farmers along the canal route are reportedly drawing water illegally, reducing the quantity of water that reaching the river. As per the state water resources department's daily storage report (as of June 10, 2025), the 16 dams in the Nagpur region collectively hold 1,102.94 million cubic metres (MCuM) of water, which is just 31.85% of the live storage capacity of 3,462.92 MCuM. On the same day last year, the live storage was 37.36%. Among the key reservoirs, Kamptee Khairi holds 112.14 MCuM water (78.98% of its capacity), while Totladoh — a major source — has 530.71 MCuM (52.19%). With the monsoon yet to arrive in Nagpur, the NMC urged the irrigation department to maintain at least 70 cumecs flow daily into the Kanhan River to avert a possible water crisis in the weeks ahead.

## Schools want timely Covid guidelines, if any, for reopening



Nagpur 11 June: With school academic session in Vidarbha set to commence in the last week of June, educational institutions hope the govt issues Covid-19 protocol guidelines and reopening procedures, if any, as early as possible. The increasing Covid cases nationwide and associated deaths have created an immediate need for explicit safety instructions for pupils and personnel. Managements are worried about practical difficulties in implementing safety measures if directives arrive shortly before schools resume. Practical requirements of creating a secure learning environment, including classroom reorganisation, proper sanitisation facilities and staff training on new protocols etc demand sufficient preparation time, say academics. Schools require advance notice to establish proper safeguards against potential virus outbreaks. Scribes spoke to a few senior school principals, but none of them had written or sought direction from the education department. "In cases like

this, it is best to wait for govt to make the first move. While we have apprehension that the authorities might issue last minute guidelines, problem is that if we write then certainly some strict measures might be implemented," a principal said. She added, safety guidelines are always welcome, but this time it is different. "We have seen how students lived in fear for couple of years and how it has destroyed so many of their abilities, like personal communication skills etc. We do not want to create panic by ourselves seeking Covid guidelines. Had the situation been serious, the govt would have taken proactive steps and issued guidelines," said the principal. However, the expected return of pupils raises questions about space management for social distancing. Without proper controls, areas like classrooms, corridors and shared spaces could become transmission points. Schools seek clarity on face covering requirements, vaccination policies, distancing rules and procedures for handling Covid cases on premises.

## One-act plays raise curtain on Darwhekar birth centenary celebrations



Nagpur 11 June: Celebrating the birth centenary of theatre legend Dr Purushottam Darwhekar, city's iconic theatre group Ranjan Kala Mandir — founded by Darwhekar himself — brought the stage alive with three thought-provoking and entertaining one-act plays on Sunday. Each play was a unique offering by a different writer-director duo, showcasing the creative spirit of Nagpur's theatre scene — something Darwhekar always championed. The event, held at the Scientific Society Hall, marked the beginning of a year-long celebration of Darwhekar's life and legacy. The evening began with Pathishi Krushna Hawa (We need Krishna to support us), an all-woman play written and directed by Anamasiddhi Kulkarni. Actors Anusadha Pande, Dr Anjali Bhandarkar, Archana Deshpande, Anjali Joshi and Medha Bhandarkar depicted stories of women's aspirations, struggles and emotional journeys, striking a chord with the audience. Next was 'Nothing to Say', a quiet yet powerful two-character drama penned by Prasad Dani and directed by Nachiket Mhaikar. Veteran actor Aniket Munshi and newcomer Antara Deshpande portrayed a complex father-daughter

relationship with subtlety and depth, leaving the audience moved. The final act, Choricha Mamala (A case of theft), brought the house down with laughter. Written by Saurabh Masram and directed by Swapnil Jatkar, this play featured Swapnil Jatkar, Abhishek Kane, Pradyumn Bayaskar, Rohit Ghangrekar, and Madhusmita Gahalot in a riotous tale of mistaken identities and misplaced blame. A production team led by Swapnil Jatkar and Usha Jain, with Hemant Jichkar, Shailesh Bhalme, Anuradha Pendse, Aniket Gondane, and Dr Bhagyashree Chitnis ensured proper coordination. Speaking at the event, senior director Sanjay Pendse, a veteran member of Ranjan Kala Mandir, said, "This celebration is just the beginning. Throughout the year, we will be organising similar events to honour Dr Darwhekar's immense contribution to theatre. He built a cultural foundation in this city, and it's our duty to keep it alive and thriving." "The performances by these young artists tonight were nothing short of inspiring," said Dr Bhagyashree Chitnis, part of the organising team. "If this is the energy and creativity we're seeing now, then Marathi theatre has a bright future," she said.

## NMC's upgraded hotmix plant functional



Nagpur 11 June: Even as the Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) recently commissioned its hotmix plant at Hingna after a long-overdue upgrade, the public works department (PWD) floated a tender for Rs24.73 lakh to asphalt a road in Shanti Niketan Colony in the Laxmi Nagar zone. The move sparked criticism, as the internal tar road is in a poor condition and residents were demanding immediate repairs, which the plant was expected to handle efficiently. Just a few weeks ago, a committee led by officiating chief engineer Manoj Talewar certified the new counter flow drum mix plant as fully functional. A comprehensive inspection on May 5, conducted by a six-member committee including officials from mechanical and hotmix departments, found all components such as the thermidrum unit, bitumen storage tanks, cold feeder and control cabin systems aligned with technical specifications. During the trial, the plant produced a batch of bituminous mix (BM), which was found satisfactory. Only a minor issue of noise from the thermidrum's chain drive was noted and rectified with lubrication. Additionally, samples were tested and calibrated by a third-party lab, confirming the quality output of the plant. With civic complaints rising and citizens demanding better infrastructure, NMC's decision to outsource a road project even after certifying its plant as operational raised serious concerns about administrative efficiency and public accountability. However, Talewar defended the tender

stating that "the plant has only recently become operational and is yet to run at full capacity." Ironically, the audit report signed by Talewar himself had confirmed the smooth functioning of the plant. The new plant, capable of producing 60-90 tonnes of asphalt per hour (up from the previous 30 tonnes), was projected to significantly reduce NMC's dependency on private contractors. Citing an example, an NMC official said that a 700-metre stretch at Manish Nagar was asphalted at a cost of Rs35 lakh by deploying services of the old hot-mix plant last year, while private firms would have quoted Rs1.5 crore for the same work. The 25-year-old unit was dismantled and the upgraded facility was completed ahead of its May deadline by installing a modern Light Diesel Oil (LDO)-based drum mix plant. It was seen as a major step toward achieving transparency, quality control, and cost-effectiveness in roadwork, especially considering that NMC spends over Rs95 crore annually on outsourcing road repairs, compared to Rs5 crore on in-house operations. A pre-monsoon survey by the hot mix department identified 497 potholes and 159 bad roads across the 10 zones, excluding roads managed by other agencies like the Nagpur Improvement Trust and the National Highways Authority of India. Subsequently, it sought details of bad roads from the zonal offices. None of the zones have so far submitted the lists of bad roads or potholes with locations, confirmed the official.

## Forest Dept Catches Flak From CM As Well As Mins



Nagpur 11 June: The forest department has been at the receiving end of ire from ministers and even opposition MLAs due to alleged bureaucratic delays in giving clearances for public projects and the increasing man-animal conflicts. On Friday, CM Devendra Fadnavis took the forest department to task during a meeting in Gadchiroli and warned officials that he won't accept unnecessary delays when it comes to development works. Legislators from the region, including Chandrapur, raised issues related to road projects getting stuck due to delays in forest clearance. Fadnavis is also the guardian minister of Gadchiroli and on Friday he chaired the District Planning Committee (DPC) meeting during his day-long visit to the remote area. During the meeting, which was attended by Milind Mhaikar, additional chief secretary (Forest), Fadnavis emphasised that the forest department should not create obstacles for routes outside the tiger corridor. He advised the department to adopt a people-oriented approach to enable Gadchiroli district to ramp up its infrastructure and boost growth. Fadnavis also took a stern view of bureaucratic delays and warned that "any form of

intimidation by forest officials will not be tolerated." CM categorically said action will be taken against those acting arbitrarily. Regarding road construction in forest areas, he instructed the forest department, public works department, national highways, and other concerned departments to work in coordination. Fadnavis directed officials from all departments that important road and bridge projects in the district be completed swiftly. While reviewing the land acquisition for the Wadsa-Gadchiroli railway project, Fadnavis took stock of the delays and instructed officials to set a timeline and complete the process urgently. Sources say this is the second time in less than 10 days that forest officials have been pulled up by the govt. A source said that a meeting held at Mantralaya last week saw forest minister Ganesh Naik cracking the whip on department officials for increasing man-animal conflict. The source added that cabinet minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule and MoS Ashish Jaiswal were also present in the meeting. Another legislator from Vidarbha, who was present in the meeting, is said to have raised the issue of fixing accountability in such cases.

## New Canvas: Walls that educate and engage



Nagpur 11 June: The Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) is painting a new picture, literally, of public education. With an aim to make its schools more appealing, vibrant and inspiring, the civic body launched a beautification initiative under which school walls are being transformed with colourful, educational and creative artworks. These "talking walls", as they are being fondly called, are sparking curiosity among students and earning appreciation from parents. As part of preparations for the upcoming 2025-26 academic session, NMC is targeting quality enhancement and holistic learning. With use of bright colours and educational murals, the "talking walls" aim to create a positive and immersive environment for students from the very first day. Five schools underwent major aesthetic revamps and now have walls lined with paintings of aircraft, science labs, mathematical formulas, planets, wildlife, cartoons, alphabets and more. The walls do more than just decorate — they now engage, educate, and excite. The transformation happened under the guidance of municipal commissioner and administrator Abhijeet Chaudhari, and the leadership of additional commissioner Vaishnavi B, along with education officer Sadhana Sayam. It was funded by Western Coalfields Limited's CSR initiative and implemented through the Jichkar Foundation under the 'Happy School Project'. In recent years, student enrolment in NMC schools has steadily declined. The 2023-24 academic year saw primary enrolment drop from 8,427 to

6,495, and secondary enrolment from 5,789 to 4,879. Over the past five years, enrolment decreased by 2-5% annually, with a sharper 10-20% decline in 2024-25. The trend led to the closure of nine schools, including Priyadarshini Primary and Sheshrao Wankhede Secondary schools. Despite infrastructure upgrades and cultural initiatives, parents prefer private English-medium schools. In response, NMC launched English-medium schools and the 'Navchetna' campaign to attract students and improve facilities. Vaishnavi B interacted with the parents to encourage admissions in NMC schools. With improved Class 10 and 12 board results last year, the perception of municipal schools is beginning to shift, slowly, but positively. Apart from the visual appeal, many classrooms have been cleaned and equipped with better seating arrangements. Playgrounds have been spruced up to ensure a wholesome learning environment. Also, several NMC schools are introducing digital smart classrooms and activity-based learning modules. The focus is shifting from rote learning to holistic development. Initiatives are being taken to include sports, art & craft, music and regular use of school libraries in the daily schedule. Teachers are being trained to make learning more engaging, and the improved infrastructure is motivating them to deliver high-quality education. The goal is to reduce dropout rates, build stronger connections between students and schools, and instil a love for learning in every child walking through the school gate.



## Parties ready for local self-government body polls

**MAREGAON/NAGPUR** POST: The local self-government body election programme, which has been awaited for some years, has gained momentum after the court's decision. Political parties are ready for the elections. The only thing that is attracting the attention of aspirants along with political parties is which reservation will be decided. The tenure of the Zilla Parishad, Panchayat Samiti and other local self-government bodies ended in 2022. Since then, local self-government body elections have not been held. Development works were hampered due to the absence of any member for the Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samiti. Therefore, there was a continuous demand to hold local self-government body elections immediately. The court recently decided to hold local self-government body elections by October.

Accordingly, many political parties have rushed to the polls. Some political leaders who have been waiting for three to three and a half years. The hopes of the workers have been revived. Now, at least, they have started preparing for a post to fall under their purview. However, it seems that fear is building in their minds. Reservation was taken out before the elections were announced. Now, with the reorganization of some constituencies and the expansion of some constituencies, the possibility of new reservations being taken out cannot be ruled out. Also, the question is that old reservations are being kept as they were without being taken out. Therefore, there is fear in the minds of political leaders as to which reservation will be taken out and whether their election preparations will be disrupted.

## Essay competition on behalf of BJP



**YAVATMAL/NAGPUR POST:** On behalf of the Bharatiya Janata Party, an essay competition was held on the occasion of the tercentenary birth anniversary of Punyashloka Ahalyadevi Holkar under the guidance of district leader and former minister Madan Yerawar and district president Prafullasingh Chauhan. Narendra Modi has completed 11 years as Prime Minister. On this occasion, the winners were honored with cash and certificates in the Sankalp Se Siddhi programme. Prafullasingh Chauhan, Tribal Development Minister Ashok Uike, former MLA Sanjeevreddy Bodkurwar, former district president Tarendra Borde, Raju Padgilwar, Rekha Kothekar, Nirmala Vinkare, Shantanu Shete, Vijay Kotecha, Dheeraj Sharma,

Dinkar Pavde etc. were present on this occasion. In the age group of 10 to 16, the first place was won by Swaraali Gajanan Meshram, the second place was won by Akshara Pradeep Kamble and the third place was won by Padharth Praveen Hood. In the 17 to 25 age group, Tanushka Sharad Meshram won the first place, Kirti Gajanan Salam won the second place and Shreya Shinde won the third place. In the open group, Mukti Khedkar won the first place, Mangala Bhojar won the second place and Sushil Vijay Malvi won the third place. On the occasion of the essay competition, an effort was made by the BJP to highlight the work of Ahalyadevi Holkar, said District Coordinator Shaila Mirzapure.

## Raisoni Chess: Top seeds share lead after 5 rounds



**Nagpur 11 June:** Top seed IM Kaustav Kundu of West Bengal, second seed Arun Kataria of Rajasthan, FM Kumar Gaurav of Bihar and Nagpur lad Sahajveer Singh Maras are leading the tables at the end of five rounds of 18th GH Raisoni Memorial International FIDE Classical Rating Chess Tournament currently in progress at GH Raisoni Institute of Information and Technology, Shradha Park, Wadi Hingna Link Road. The tournament is being organised by GHRaisoni Sports and

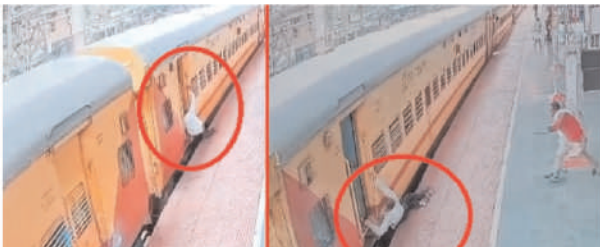
Cultural Kalpna Prakash Welfare Foundation. In the fifth round, on the top board, top seed IM Kundu, playing with black pieces beat Rajnikant Buxy of Chhattisgarh in 26 moves. On the second board, FM Kataria defeated city kid Kushagra Paliwal in 26 moves while Pralhad Moola of Telangana gave a tough fight to third seed Gaurav only to lose the game. City youngster Maras scored a win over AIM Jaiveer Patil from Mumbai to join the leaders. Shaunak Badole, Pratik

Tambi and Suha Dehsande are following the leaders on 4½ points each.

## Sloth Bear cub killed in Gorewada Zoo

**Nagpur 11 June:** A six-month-old male sloth bear tragically died on Tuesday morning at the Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park after sustaining fatal injuries during a violent altercation with other sloth bears inside the enclosure. Despite swift intervention by zoo staff and immediate veterinary treatment, the cub could not be saved. The incident marks the third fatal intra-species conflict involving wild animals at the zoo in the past three years, raising questions about enclosure safety and animal compatibility protocols. According to Shatnik Bhagwat, Director of Gorewada Zoo, "The injured sloth bear suffered deep wounds to the head and abdomen during the scuffle. Our staff monitors all captive animals 24x7 and intervenes in case of aggressive behaviour. In this instance too, we responded promptly, but the injuries proved fatal." While Gorewada Zoo is renowned for its advanced facilities for both wildlife conservation and tourism, it has previously made headlines for similar tragic incidents. In one case three years ago, a wild leopard breached the zoo premises and killed a captive female leopard before disappearing. In another, a sloth bear cub was killed by a male bear during what appeared to be rough play inside the enclosure just a few months ago. Bhagwat noted that such incidents are rare but deeply concerning. "We are currently reviewing our housing and monitoring protocols for sloth bears to ensure such unfortunate events are avoided in the future," he said. The incident has once again brought focus on the challenges of managing wild animal behaviour in captivity and the need for constant reassessment of zoo safety measures.

## Alert RPF Inspector saves passenger from near-fatal fall



**Nagpur/Gondia 11 June:** Demonstrating alertness and bravery, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) of SECR, Nagpur Division, under the leadership of Divisional Security Commissioner Deep Chandra Arya, continues to uphold its commitment not only to safeguarding railway property but also ensuring the safety of passengers. As part of the ongoing "Operation Jeevan Raksha" (Operation Life Protection) initiative aimed at saving lives on railway premises, Inspector Sameer Khalkho of the RPF's Crime Intelligence Branch, Gondia, was on duty at Rajnandgaon Railway Station on June 10, 2025, along with ASI R.S. Bagderia, conducting covert surveillance against criminal activity. At approximately 11:07 am, train number 07005 Cherlapalli-Raxaul Express arrived at Platform No. 1 of Rajnandgaon station and departed at 11:09 am after its scheduled halt. During departure, a passenger attempting to

board the moving train lost balance and fell, narrowly escaping a fatal accident. The man was seen hanging from the coach handle, being dragged dangerously close to the gap between the train and platform. Displaying remarkable presence of mind, Inspector Khalkho, who was on the platform, immediately sprang into action. Risking his own life, he rushed forward and pulled the passenger to safety just before he could slip under the moving train. The incident was captured on the station's CCTV cameras. The RPF has lauded Inspector Khalkho's act, praising his alertness, courage, and swift response, which prevented a major tragedy. The SECR Nagpur Division of RPF continues to run awareness drives under "Operation Jeevan Raksha" to educate passengers about the dangers of attempting to board or disembark moving trains. The RPF urges all passengers to follow safety guidelines, emphasizing: "Your life is precious. Do not attempt to board or jump off a moving train. Such actions can lead to serious injuries or death—not just for you, but also for those trying to save you." The RPF remains committed to passenger safety and assistance across the division.

## NMC's new, modern Town Hall takes shape as construction ramped up



**Nagpur 11 June:** Key decisions related to the city's development have historically been taken in the iconic Town Hall of the Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC). While the old Town Hall has now become part of history, the construction of a modern, state-of-the-art Town Hall is progressing rapidly. The outer structure of the new Town Hall is nearly complete. Despite earlier delays due to contractor changes and logistical hurdles, the pace of construction has now accelerated. Officials are optimistic that the new Mayor and Corporators will be able to function from this new facility upon completion. The project was allotted a total construction timeline of 24 months, out of which 7 months of substantial development have already been completed. The remaining 17 months are expected to see completion of all remaining works.

**Project overview:**  
• **Total Project Area: 6,808.08 square meters**  
• **Estimated Cost: Rs 125.75 crore**  
• **Structure: 4 floors with two additional basement levels for parking** According to information received, a Pune-based firm has been appointed as the Project Management Consultant, while Nagpur's Prafull Deshmukh & Co. has been awarded the construction contract. Director Prafull Deshmukh stated that the foundation and external framework are nearly finished, and interior works are set to commence shortly.

"We are confident that the project will be completed within the stipulated 17 months," he said.  
**Features of the new Town Hall:**  
• **Main Assembly Hall (2nd Floor):** A spacious hall will be built on the 1,621.28 sq.m second floor to accommodate 228 corporators, compared to just 150 in the old Town Hall. The hall will also have seating arrangements for 30 senior officials.  
• **Mayor's and Key Officials' Offices (3rd Floor):** The 1,610.4 sq.m third floor will house offices for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Municipal Commissioner, Leader of the Opposition, and other senior officials. Additionally, a public gallery with a capacity of 210 people will be constructed.  
• **Administrative and Support Areas (4th Floor):** The 1,658 sq.m fourth floor will include additional offices, a canteen, and access to the terrace.  
• **Basement Parking:** Two basement levels will be dedicated entirely to parking. Separate parking areas will be allocated for VIPs and general visitors. The new Town Hall aims to be a symbol of modern governance and infrastructural progress for Nagpur. With its expanded capacity and upgraded amenities, it will be better equipped to handle the city's growing administrative needs—especially as the number of elected representatives is expected to rise in future municipal elections.

## Shri Tekdi Mandir sends food supplies for Amarnath pilgrims

**Nagpur 11 June:** Upholding its annual tradition of service, the Shri Tekdi Road Hanuman Mandir Committee will dispatch a truckload of langar material to Baltal for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra. The consignment, comprising rice, dal, atta, besan, sugar, salt, and other

essential food items, will be sent on the night of June 11 from the mandir premises. Baltal, located 93km from Srinagar, serves as one of the primary base camps for pilgrims trekking to the revered Amarnath Cave shrine in Jammu and Kashmir. The committee operates a langar at this site

every year, serving thousands of yatis with free meals. This year, the Amarnath Yatra will be conducted from July 3 to August 9, spanning 38 days—a shorter duration than previous years. A special 'puja and prasadi ceremony' has been scheduled for the evening of June 11, follow-

ing which the grocery-laden truck will be flagged off around midnight. "We appeal to all devotees to participate in the puja and contribute towards the langar. Donors may deliver food materials directly to the mandir," said a key committee member while speaking to reporters.

## First Vidarbha-level OBC women's convention concludes in Chandrapur

**Chandrapur 11 June:** The first Vidarbha-level OBC women's convention was concluded on Wednesday (June 11) in the premises of Janata College in Chandrapur. Womenfolk from the OBC community from eleven districts of Vidarbha were present on the occasion. The women prepared a model code of conduct for the OBC community. Three major issues, namely ban on dowry, wedding ceremony regulations and efforts to reduce addiction, were discussed and resolutions were taken during the convention. The presiding dignitary of this convention was Dr. Pratibha Jivatode. Eminent women from eleven districts of Vidarbha participated in the convention. Adv. Jyoti Sundarkar from Amravati district, Sivganga Vagh from Buldhana district, Nilima Deotale from Yavatmal district, Anuradha Gonde (GST Inspector), Manju Karamore from Nagpur district, Swati Prakash Patil Markwar, Dr. Rita Raut, Vaishali Dalve from Bhandara district, Malini Jadhav from Washim-Pusad, Shubhangi Nakshine-Umbhakar from Nagpur district, Vidya Nimbarte from Gondia district, Jijabai Gohokar, Pratibha Dhengale from Gadchiroli district, Sayali Detha-Barde from Chandrapur district, Varsha Kolhe-Jwale and other dignitaries participated on the occasion. The introductory speech during the convention was made



by Vidarbha OBC leader Dr. Ashok Jivatode. In the introductory speech, Dr. Ashok Jivatode highlighted the problems being faced by women in the OBC community and laid emphasis on the need to convene an OBC women's convention. Dr. Pratibha Jivatode, the chairperson of the convention, finally gave a commentary and read out the resolutions. In the convention, all OBC women participants unanimously decided to completely stop giving or taking dowry in the OBC community. Apart from this avoiding unnecessary expenses during marriages, holding marriages in the presence of a maximum of 100/200 people, organising marriage ceremonies only at the pre determined time. Do not spend a lot of money on marriage by taking loans or selling farmlands. Avoid pre-wedding shoots and other unnecessary

expenses. To make marriages and birthdays simple and inexpensive, one should give priority to traditional musical instruments and folk artists in marriages. To reduce addiction in the society, women should implement addiction-detox programs, awareness classes, ban on addiction centres, awareness about the ill effects of addiction, boycott families that put elderly parents in old age homes. Discussions were held on empowering women and bringing forward social and political leadership among women in Vidarbha. Dr. Ashok Jivatode held an OBC women's convention for the first time at the Vidarbha level. A large number of OBC women from Vidarbha participated in this convention, and the objective of setting a model code of conduct for the OBC community was achieved through this convention.

## 'Hereditary Angioedema can be life threatening'

**Nagpur 11 June:** The Indian Academy of Pediatrics Allergy and Applied Immunology Chapter, in association with Takeda and Indegene, successfully organized a Hereditary Angioedema (HAE) Awareness and Diagnostic Camp as part of the Sunrise Patient Support Program on 28th May 2025 at KIMS-Cuddles Mother and child center Hospital Campus, 44-Parwana Bhavan, Kingsway, Nagpur-440001.

The camp aimed to raise awareness about Hereditary Angioedema (HAE)—a rare and potentially life-threatening genetic condition—and to provide early diagnosis, patient counseling, and medical support.

The event featured an insightful presentation by Dr. Rajkumar Kiratkar, President of IAP Allergy & Applied Immunology Maharashtra Branch, who detailed the clinical features, diagnostic methods, and management strategies for HAE, helping participants and healthcare professionals gain a deeper understanding of the condition.

As part of the patient support services, we also introduced:

- Treatment Support for HAE
- Reimbursement Navigation, including:

- ER – Employee Reimbursement
- SR – State Reimbursement
- ESIC – Employees' State Insurance Corporation
- RAN – Rastriya Arogya Nidhi
- Self-paid options
- Personal Health Insurance Reimbursement Guidance



• **Patient Monitoring Diary**, which enables patients to maintain their health records, track symptoms, and improve disease management.

The program was graced by eminent chief guests and speakers:

- Dr. Tushar Gawad, Unit Head of KIMS-Kingsway Nagpur, addressed the gathering and staff, offering valuable insights into the Sunrise Patient Support Program and highlighting the hospital's commitment to such initiatives.
- KIMS-Cuddles Mother and child center Hospital will continue to organize similar awareness campaigns in the coming days to strengthen early diagnosis and care for HAE.
- Dr. Anil Raut, Secretary of IAP Allergy & Applied Immunology Maharashtra Branch, spoke about the long-term vision of the program and Proposed a vote of thanks.
- Dr. Kuldeep Sukhadave, Director, Department of Neonatal - Pediatric Medicine & Surgery, emphasized the

critical role of social media platforms in spreading awareness and reaching more families in need of early intervention and support.

• Dr. Deepak Goel, Director, Senior Consultant Pediatric Surgeon & Chairman-elect, Society of Pediatric Urology of India wished the society at large to take this opportunity especially those suffered to have HAE

The event was well-received, with active participation from the hospital staff, local practitioners, and community members. In total, 15 patients were screened during the camp, out of which 5 were diagnosed with allergy-related conditions and were advised further clinical tests for detailed evaluation and follow-up care. This initiative marks a significant step in bridging the gap between rare disease awareness and clinical action, especially in regional centers like Nagpur. The collaborative efforts of medical experts, support programs like Sunrise, and institutions like KIMS-Cuddles Mother and child center Hospital are vital in changing the narrative for underdiagnosed conditions such as HAE. Go-through Message: "Awareness is the first step toward healing. Through collaborative efforts and continued education, we can ensure that no patient with rare diseases like HAE remains undiagnosed or untreated. The IAP, along with Takeda, Indegene, and KIMS-Cuddles Mother and child center Hospital, remains committed to expanding this mission across Maharashtra and beyond."



## Small bite, big threat: Nagpur braces for expected surge in vector-borne diseases

**Nagpur 11 June:** As the monsoon season continues its unpredictable dance, fresh data from the Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) reveals a concerning pattern mirroring last year's trends: Cases of vector-borne diseases like dengue, chikungunya, and malaria are poised for a significant surge starting this month, raising serious public health alarms across the city. Even before the full onset of the rains, Nagpur has already logged five dengue and three chikungunya cases in the first five months of 2025, according to monthly reports. May saw two dengue positives out of 17 suspected cases, signalling the early stirrings of the seasonal upsurge. Sources indicate that the first ten days of June alone have already yielded two new dengue cases. Last year, the explosion of chikungunya cases began in June, wreaking havoc throughout August and



September. While January and February 2025 each saw one chikungunya detection, followed by a lull from March, historical data suggests this calm is frequently shattered with the arrival of rainfall.

The standing water created by monsoon showers provides ideal breeding grounds for Aedes aegypti, the primary mosquito vector for both dengue and chikungunya. Though the period from January to May registered no positive malaria cases, the NMC's proactive surveillance is evident through the extensive screening of over one lakh blood samples.

However, past years indicate that malaria too tends to spike from mid-June

onwards, particularly in areas grappling with stagnant water and poor sanitation. Health experts caution that even a handful of early-season cases are sufficient to trigger widespread outbreaks if preventive measures are neglected. Nagpur's dense population combined with its susceptibility to heavy rainfall makes it particularly vulnerable to the rapid spread of mosquito-borne illnesses. In response, NMC health officials are urgently appealing to citizens to take immediate action: eliminate all sources of water stagnation, rigorously maintain personal and community hygiene, and promptly seek medical attention for any symptoms such as high fever, rashes, or joint pain.

The coming weeks are deemed critical, as the city faces the prospect of another sharp rise in infections if a proactive approach is not universally adopted.

## Big relief: Train ticket confirmation chart to be now available 24 hours before journey instead of 4 hours

**Nagpur 11 June:** In a significant change to its ticketing system, Indian Railways will now inform passengers about the confirmation status of their waitlisted tickets 24 hours before the journey, instead of the previous 4-hour window. Railways has upgraded its Passenger Reservation System (PRS) to enable this early confirmation update. This means waitlisted passengers will now know a day in advance whether their ticket is confirmed or not.

**What are the benefits?**

- **More time to plan alternate travel in case the ticket remains unconfirmed**

- **Avoid last-minute confusion and stress**

- **Reduces dependency on agents and touts**

**When will it begin?**

According to Railway Board sources, this new system will be implemented nationwide from July 1, 2025. Initially, it will roll out as a pilot



project in select railway zones. Passengers have welcomed the move, calling it a positive and passenger-friendly step. They say it will make travel planning easier and reduce last-minute anxiety. This scheme was initially launched as a pilot project on a single train in the Bikaner division on June 6. According to railway sources, the experiment has yielded positive results in the initial four days. This allows passengers to know in advance whether their tickets will be confirmed, enabling them to plan alternative travel arrangements if necessary.

**Passenger problems to**

**be resolved**

Currently, the chart is prepared at the last minute, causing problems for passengers and leaving the railways with insufficient time to add coaches or take other measures. Furthermore, an average of 21% of passengers cancel their bookings after ticket confirmation, and 4-5% do not travel at all. Preparing the chart a day in advance will allow the railways to better anticipate the actual number of passengers. Importantly, the existing process for Tatkal (instant) tickets will remain unchanged despite this new system.

## NDUHA to host U-19 seven-a-side hockey tournament in Sadar



**Nagpur 11 June:** The Nagpur District Unified Hockey (NDUHA) will organise a seven-a-side hockey tournament for Under-19 boys and girls on Sunday, at the Vidarbha Women's Hockey Association ground, popularly known as Tiger's Gap, in Sadar. Eco-friendly products According to the organisers, four boys' teams and four girls' teams have confirmed participation so far. The event aims to promote competitive sports at the grassroots level. Trophies will be presented to the winners

and runners-up, and individual prizes will be awarded to standout performers in both categories, as per a press release from NDUHA. Teams interested in participating have been requested to register by contacting Noel Joseph, Kanhaiya Fulsunge, or Millar Francis by Friday. Meanwhile, NDUHA's free hockey coaching camp, which commenced on May 20, is ongoing. The camp is open to boys and girls, and those interested can still enrol, informed Pramod Jain, Joint Secretary, NDUHA.

## NMC to open new food plaza near Kachipura after Khau Galli setback



**Nagpur 11 June:** A new food plaza is being developed near Kachipura Square by the Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC). However, the move has raised eyebrows, as the corporation's previous attempt—the 'Khau Galli' project launched in 2020—failed to take off. The upcoming venture now faces skepticism over its potential success. The 'Khau Galli' initiative—an otherwise promising concept aimed at offering a variety of street food near the scenic Gandhisagar

lake, adjacent to the Raman Science Centre—was marred by political tensions. A power struggle between the Maha Vikas Aghadi-led state government and the BJP-led Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) disrupted the project's momentum. Hopes were briefly revived when Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the Khau Galli with 32 stalls on January 9, 2020.

However, in a surprising turn, the food street was shut down the very next day and never reopened.

## Nagpur's ward map redrawn: How your vote may shift in 2025 elections

**Nagpur 11 June:** Nagpur is heading into its most crucial civic election in years, but not before a major shakeup—your municipal ward may no longer be the same. In a sweeping move ordered by the Maharashtra Government on June 10, the state has restructured ward boundaries across key cities, including Nagpur, under new rules set in the Maharashtra Municipal Corporations Act. This decision comes on the heels of a Supreme Court mandate for timely elections and significant legal amendments made between 2022 and 2024. Under the new system, each ward will elect four corporators, with minor exceptions allowing for three or five. But here's the catch—the restructuring is based on 2011 Census data, not the current voter population, which has stirred concern in Nagpur's booming suburbs like MIHAN and Besa. Ward boundaries have been digitally mapped using Google Earth tools (KML/KMZ), considering natural dividers like roads, rivers, and rail lines. Officials are barred from splitting housing societies or

chawls between wards to maintain community integrity. What's more—wards will now follow a strict numbering pattern, starting from the north and moving clockwise, to prevent voter and poll booth confusion. Citizens can review the draft maps once published and submit objections or suggestions, but the window to respond is short and often poorly advertised. Reservations for SC/ST seats are fixed based on 2011 population figures, raising fears of underrepresentation in growing zones. As Nagpur gears up for its municipal polls, one thing is clear—this redrawn map is more than just lines. It will decide who gets to raise your voice at the table.

**Highlights**

- **Four-Member Ward System Introduced:** Each ward will primarily elect four corporators, with limited exceptions of three or five, as per amendments in 2024 for better proportional representation.

- **Ward Boundaries Based on 2011 Census:** All ward demarcations are to be made using 2011 Census



population data, not current voter rolls, which may impact fast-growing areas like MIHAN and Besa.

- **\* Google Earth Mapping Mandated:** The restructuring must use digital tools like Google Earth (KML/KMZ files) to define ward boundaries with precision, ensuring no residential unit is split.

- **\* Public Participation Provisioned:** Citizens are allowed to submit objections or suggestions to the draft ward maps during a notified period, followed by official hearings and responses.

- **\* Clear Ward Numbering to Avoid Confusion:** Wards must be numbered sequentially from North to South (clockwise), and sub-sections labeled (e.g., 42A, 42B) to ensure clarity for voters and polling staff.

**Nagpur 11 June:** Despite repeated extensions and public awareness campaigns, vehicle owners in Nagpur are largely ignoring the mandate for High Security Registration Plate (HSRP) installation, presenting a significant challenge to the Maharashtra Transport Department. The Maharashtra Transport Department, which had extended the deadline from March 31 to April 30 and now June 30, is now facing an uphill task as the majority of pre-2019 registered vehicles remain non-compliant. Official figures paint a stark picture: Out of 21.32 lakh vehicles registered in Nagpur city and district before April 1, 2019, a mere 3.2 lakh (approximately 15%) have been fitted with HSRPs. While Nagpur Rural shows slightly better progress with 1.31 lakh appointments made and 76,000 installations completed out of 5.65 lakh registered vehicles, the overall compliance rate remains critically low. Within Nagpur city, the RTO has recorded 60,876



appointments, with 45,819 HSRP fittings finalized. Similarly, Nagpur East RTO has seen 52,239 appointments, resulting in only 38,860 installations. "Despite clear instructions and the availability of appointments, many vehicle owners are still ignoring the requirement," lamented an RTO official, expressing concern over the sluggish pace. In a decisive move to compel compliance, the Transport Department issued a stern directive on June 2. Effective June 16, vehicle owners without valid HSRPs will be denied essential RTO services, including ownership transfers, address changes, duplicate Registration Certificates (RCs), and No Objection Certificates (NOCs). However, those with pre-booked appointments will be

exempt from this service blockade. HSRPs, crafted from specialized aluminum and featuring tamper-proof holograms and laser-etched serial numbers, are designed to bolster vehicle security and enhance traceability. Yet, their widespread adoption is plagued by several hurdles. Many vehicle owners report difficulties with the online booking system, encounter lengthy queues at permit centres, and allege instances of illegal overcharging and improper installations by certain dealers, despite the department's clear guidelines. An RTO official emphasized that only plates issued by authorized vendors and duly updated on the VAHAN portal are considered valid. Non-compliance could lead to a fine of Rs 1,000 under Section 177 of the Motor Vehicles Act. Officials have warned that a stringent crackdown on violators is "imminent" after the June 16 deadline for service denial. The clock is ticking for Nagpur's vehicle owners to fall in line or face the consequences.

## Controversy erupts over additional security deposit for new power connections in Nagpur

**Nagpur 11 June:** A recent incident involving the Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL) has sparked concerns among consumers over the imposition of additional security deposits on new electricity connections in the city. Typically, MSEDCL collects an annual security deposit in April from existing power consumers based on their increased average electricity consumption. Consumers also receive interest on this deposit. However, a recent case involving a commercial consumer has raised eyebrows about the transparency of the process. The issue centers around Arun Singh, Director of an automobile training institute in Vaishali Nagar, who had applied for a new commercial

connection as part of his business expansion plans. After routine inspections, MSEDCL issued a payment demand of Rs 10,970, which included a security deposit of Rs 10,850—calculated based on the expected monthly electricity bill. Singh complied with the payment. However, within days, he received an additional notice from MSEDCL, demanding an extra Rs 3,000 as a further security deposit—even before the connection had been activated. This sudden request prompted Singh to question the fairness and legality of the charge, arguing that such deposits are generally levied after a year of usage, based on actual consumption. When approached, MSEDCL officials confirmed the imposition of the additional deposit, stating that there is a provision to collect security

deposits from new consumers as a precautionary measure. They argued that future usage is projected to increase, justifying the advance payment. Sources within the power utility, however, hinted at a broader issue. "This could be seen as part of MSEDCL's drive to boost revenue collection," said one source, requesting anonymity. Critics have termed the move as "unethical" and financially burdensome for new businesses already investing heavily in infrastructure and expansion.

Consumer rights advocates have called for greater clarity and consistency in MSEDCL's billing policies, especially for new commercial applicants, urging regulatory bodies to step in and review such practices.

## Coaching first, college later? Behind the scenes of class XI admissions

**Nagpur 11 June:** Coaching centres for competitive exams like NEET and JEE are growing rapidly, with some even affecting junior college admissions. Many of these centres run without permission or proper facilities. In some cases, they work together with junior colleges and admit thousands of students, even though they don't have enough resources. Students aiming for success in medical and engineering entrance exams often join coaching classes right after Class 10. These coaching centres usually guide them to junior colleges they are tied up with, helping ensure regular admissions to those colleges. Government rules limit class sizes to 60 students in rural areas and 80 in urban areas. However, many colleges linked to coaching centres break these rules by admitting 1,500 to 2,000 students per class—often without approved infrastructure or enough



teachers. Surprisingly, many of these students never even attend the college in person. The online admission process for Class 11 has started, but only 43,000 students have registered so far, leaving 55,000 seats still vacant. After several rounds of admission, the remaining seats are opened for general enrollment—a loophole that coaching centres take advantage of to get students into their partner colleges. For example, a college in Bhojapur (Kuih) runs out of a temporary shed with only two classrooms, serving students from KG to Class 12. Despite this, it claims 100% admissions for Class 11. Such cases raise serious

concerns about the lack of proper checks in the centralised admission process. According to a local daily report, while self-financed colleges with dubious affiliations thrive, government-aided junior colleges face severe shortages. Chetan Hingekar of the Vidarbha Junior College Association warns, "Aided colleges are shutting down due to dwindling enrollments." The government's indifference suggests a deliberate move to phase out grants, making education inaccessible to poorer students. "Sapan Nehrotia, divisional secretary of Shikshak Bharati, pointed out the lack of regulatory enforcement: 'Colleges must submit details of infrastructure, teacher strength, and approvals during registration. Yet, no action is taken against institutions admitting thousands without proper facilities.' The Central Admission Committee must enforce accountability."

## Unidentified man found hanging in toilet near Mayo Hospital OPD



**Nagpur 11 June:** A middle-aged unidentified man was found hanging inside a toilet adjacent to the OPD area near Mayo Hospital's casualty section on Tuesday, June 10 around 8:35 pm. The incident occurred under the jurisdiction of Tehsil Police Station. Upon discovery, the man—believed to be around

45 years old—was taken to doctors, who declared him dead. His identity is yet to be ascertained. According to police, the deceased has a dark complexion, round face, medium build, approximately 5 feet tall, with black eyes and short black hair. He also had a thin black-and-white beard and moustache. He was wearing a black full-sleeve shirt with white floral designs, black full pants, and undergarments of the Macho brand. Notably, there was an old scar on the right side of his abdomen and a fracture on his right hand. The incident was reported by hospital security guard Rishabh Suresh Pohkar (29), a resident of Lakadganj. Based on his statement, an accidental death case has been registered at Tehsil Police Station by Sub-Inspector Bhagat. Further investigation is underway.

## History sheeter detained under MPDA act by Beltarodi Police

**Nagpur 11 June:** In a major crackdown against repeat offenders, Beltarodi Police on Tuesday, June 10, detained a notorious criminal, Sunny Santaram Gaikwad (25), a resident of Kaikadi Nagar, under the stringent Maharashtra Prevention of Dangerous Activities (MPDA) Act. The action was executed following directives issued by the Nagpur Commissioner of Police, Dr Ravinder Kumar Singal, to take strict action against habitual offenders.

Gaikwad has multiple serious criminal cases registered against him, including charges related to grievous assault, robbery, unlawful possession and display of weapons in public places, use of firearms under



the Indian Arms Act, and physical assault using abusive language.

Despite previous

preventive actions, there was no change in his behaviour, and his criminal activities continued to instill fear in the

local community. Considering the rising threat posed by Gaikwad, a detailed proposal was submitted by Assistant Commissioner of Police Narendra Hiware (Ajni Division), Deputy Commissioner of Police Rashmita Rao (Zone-4), Additional Commissioner of Police (South Region), and other senior officers to the Commissioner of Police, Nagpur, recommending his detention under the MPDA Act.

Accepting the proposal, the Commissioner of Police passed an official order under Section 3 of the MPDA Act. Accordingly, on June 10, 2025, at 9:00 pm, the accused was taken into custody and lodged in Nagpur Central Jail.

## NADP makes history: India's first defence focused PGDM program achieves 100% placement success

**Nagpur 11 June:** The National Academy of Defence Production (NADP), a premier institute under the Ministry of Defence, has set a new benchmark in management education with its flagship Post Graduate Diploma in Management (Business Management) program achieving 100% placements and internships for its students. This milestone reinforces NADP's position as India's leading institution for developing defence and strategic sector leaders. The AICTE-approved, fully residential PGDM (BM) program, launched in 2023 with mentorship from IIM Indore, stands as India's first and only



defence-focused management program. It uniquely blends technical and strategic leadership training to create industry-ready professionals. Top recruiters from diverse sectors participated in the placement drive, including major players from Defence & Aerospace like L&T Defence and Tata Advanced Systems, consulting firms such as KPMG, banking institutions like Indian Bank, and public sector organizations

including Ordnance Factories and Munitions India Ltd. Students secured positions as Management Trainees, Cybersecurity Managers, Supply Chain Specialists, and Research Analysts, with many transitioning directly from internships to full-time roles. Dr. J. P. Dash, Chief General Manager at NADP, commented on this achievement: "This success reflects our program's strategic design and our students' caliber. We are

nurturing leaders who combine technical expertise with ethical grounding, aligning with India's Atmanirbhar Bharat vision." The academy has significantly expanded its industry-academia network through strategic partnerships with organizations like L&T, Mahindra & Mahindra, KPMG, and ITC Limited. Recent developments at NADP include the launch of a new cyber-secured website, partnerships with Eudoxia Research University (USA) for advanced research programs, collaboration with EduSkills Foundation for tech certifications, and an MoU with IICA to enhance CSR initiatives in Nagpur.



Maharashtra Govt Fast-Tracks Ward Formation in 10 Municipal Corporations After Supreme Court Order

**Nagpur/Mumbai 11 June:** The Maharashtra state government has issued significant orders on June 10 to expedite the election process for major category A, B, and C municipal corporations across the state. As per these directives, ward formation will immediately begin in 10 major municipal corporations including Pune, Nagpur, Thane, Nashik, Pimpri-Chinchwad, Kalyan-Dombivli, Navi Mumbai, Vasai-Virar, and Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar. This action comes in response to the Supreme Court's verdict dated May 6, 2025, directing that local body elections must be conducted within the next four months. Accordingly, the state administration has ramped up all pre-election procedures with urgency. Under the revised provisions of the Maharashtra Municipal Corporation Act, 1949 (amended in 2024), each ward will now elect a minimum of three and a maximum of five members, based on the population of the area as per the latest census data. The average population per ward will be calculated using the formula: (Total Population ÷ Total Number of Members) ×



Number of Members per Ward  
A ward's population may vary by up to ±10% from this average. If the deviation exceeds this limit, valid justification must be provided.  
Final Wards Must Have 3 or 5 Members  
As per the order issued in September 2022, each ward should ideally have four members. However, if this is not feasible, one ward may have three members and another five. Forming two wards with three members each is also permitted, provided geographic continuity and public convenience are maintained.  
Geographic Proximity a Priority  
The ward formation process will begin from the north and proceed southward. Boundaries will be drawn considering natural and infrastructural features like roads, rivers, and railway lines. Importantly, no single building should fall within multiple wards.  
Use of Digital Mapping for Transparency  
Preliminary ward maps will be prepared using Google Earth, clearly indicating calculation groups, populations, and geographic boundaries. These draft

maps will be submitted by the municipal commissioner to the State Election Commission for approval. Public objections and suggestions will be invited thereafter, and final ward boundaries will be announced after a hearing process.

Step-by-Step Ward Formation Process  
Draft ward structure prepared by the Municipal Commissioner and submitted to the State Election Commission  
Approval of the draft by the State Election Commissioner  
Publication of the draft by the Municipal Commissioner  
Public objections and suggestions invited by the designated officer  
Final proposal submitted to the Election Commission via the Commissioner  
Final approval of the structure by the Election Commission  
Official declaration of the final ward structure by the Municipal Commissioner  
This marks a major push by the Maharashtra government to ensure timely and transparent local elections in compliance with judicial orders.

Avaada Butibori plant is India's 1st to make 720Wp solar modules

**Nagpur 11 June:** Avaada Electro, which is building a solar power equipment plant at Butibori, has claimed to be the first to manufacture large-sized 720 Watt peak (Wp) TOPcon solar modules in the country. The plant at Butibori near Nagpur is expected to emerge as the country's largest solar modules and cells manufacturing facility. Avaada's projects in the state entail an investment of Rs13,000 crore, most of which is for the Butibori plant. The company has now begun manufacturing 720Wp modules at Butibori. It is currently importing the cells, which are a key component for making modules, from China. However, there are plans to operationalise the cell-making unit also by October. This will enable fully indigenous manufacturing of solar modules, doing away with dependence on China, said company officials. Even China started making 720Wp capacity modules less than a year ago. Avaada is expected to be second globally after China, said a source.



Avaada Electro had performed the groundbreaking ceremony for its Butibori plant last October. Modules are the equipment that generate solar power. They are made of numerous solar cells. So far, modules made in India have smaller 182x183mm M10 cells which can generate 595Wp solar power. Avaada has begun manufacturing modules made of 220x220mm G12 cells. The modules have the

capacity to generate as much as 720Wp power, explained a company official. The manufacturing of the first phase with a capacity of 1.5 gigawatts (GW) has started at Butibori. By July, the full capacity of making modules with a combined capacity of 7GW is expected to be reached. Modules made through the G12 cells can generate more solar power in less area due to the cell's size.

Solar module installations occupy a sizeable area, said the source. Similarly, the company has also commercially launched the 630Wp solar modules. The Butibori plant has also been included in the ministry of renewable energy's (MRE) approved list of models and manufacturers (ALMM). This will ensure Avaada's eligibility for taking part in the govt tenders. The Butibori unit has already started supplying solar panels for the state govt's Mukhya Mantri Saur Krishi Vahini Yojana -- the state govt project for supplying solar power to farmers.

According to company chairman Vineet Mittal with ALMM accreditation of the Butibori plant and the launch of 720Wp and 630Wp cells, the company hopes to achieve a major revolution in the sector.

With Butibori emerging as a prime destination for solar energy equipment makers, Avaada is the first to start production. Other companies like Jindal Group and Waaree Energies also have similar plans for Nagpur.

51cr allocated for automated driving test tracks in 3 RTOs

**Nagpur 11 June:** Nearly a decade after the Supreme Court ordered state govts to overhaul the system of issuing driving licences to curb road fatalities, Maharashtra has finally acted. The state on Tuesday sanctioned 51 crore for setting up Automated Driving Test Tracks (ADTTs) at three transport offices in Nagpur district -- RTO City, RTO Rural, and Deputy RTO (East). The funds, drawn from the Road Safety Fund, are part of a larger 202.99 crore allocation approved for 17 districts, revised down from the earlier 218.39 crore estimate. The approval comes under an administrative decision issued on June 10 by the state's home department following meetings chaired by the chief secretary in November 2024 and February 2025. The driving tracks aim to eliminate human discretion and corruption in driving licence tests by using sensors, surveillance, and AI-driven evaluation. Tenders for the construction will be floated by the state govt, and each office



will be responsible for timely execution. The move is long overdue. The Supreme Court's 2015 order called for strict action to improve road safety, including the setup of ADTTs and scientific testing of driving skills. Yet, implementation lagged for years amid bureaucratic inertia. This time, the funds come alongside a slew of road safety initiatives, which include 129.4 crore for 11 more ADTTs in other districts, 99.52

crore for six upgraded testing stations, 7 crore for body-worn cameras for transport officers, and over 8 crore for tablets to log accidents on iRAD/eDAR apps. With Maharashtra reporting some of the highest road accident deaths annually, transport experts say the real test will be in execution. Citizens now wait to see if this belated response translates into safer roads, or becomes another bureaucratic checkbox.

6,700 Electrocuted in last 5 years across Maharashtra

**Nagpur 11 June:** About four people and four animals were electrocuted every day in Maharashtra over the last five years, data from the chief electrical inspector's office revealed. As monsoon sets in and risks multiply around exposed electrical infrastructure, the statistics -- from 2019-20 to 2023-24 -- show 6,717 humans and 6,414 animals were electrocuted across the state, raising serious questions about electrical safety preparedness. According to statistics, 6,717 people were killed while 2,965 were injured or permanently disabled after suffering electrical shock between 2019-20 and 2023-24. The data also revealed that during the same period, 6,414 animals were electrocuted while

15,066 fire accidents were reported involving electrical infrastructure or equipment. The data also revealed that in 2019-20, 1,390 people died of electrocution before slightly surging to 1,398 in 2020-21, 1,266 in 2021-22, 1,279 in 2022-23, and 1,384 in 2023-24. The highest number of fatal electrical accidents involving animals were reported in 2019-20. Since then, the number of fatalities has seen a decreasing trend.

The electrical accidents are a major concern among Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd officials. In their recently concluded 20th anniversary celebration week, MSEDCL had the theme of 'Zero accidents in MSEDCL, zero accidents in Maharashtra'.

Kanhan's Suman becomes first deaf girl of Nagpur district to achieve D License in football coaching

**Nagpur 11 June:** "Being deaf is not a limitation—it's my strength," says 22-year-old Suman Jaiswal from Kanhan, a small town near Nagpur. Suman's determination led her to become one of the first deaf individuals to complete the All India Football Federation (AIFF) D Licence coaching course, establishing a significant milestone in Indian football. She is now the first deaf girl from Nagpur district to achieve the D Licence in coaching. Suman said, "I live in a rural area with my parents and two brothers. My family once believed my future should be limited to marriage. But everything changed the day I first kicked a football during a Sium Soccer event. It gave me a sense of freedom. Since then, I have travelled over 20 km every day to train." To become AIFF's D Licence holder coach, Suman joined other deaf coaches at the Mumbai campus of Reliance Corporate Park between June 2 and 7. The course was



organized jointly by the AIFF, Sium Soccer and Reliance Foundation. Shailesh Karkera, the coach educator said, "This was a unique and enriching experience. Verbal communication is key in coaching, but these coaches overcame every barrier with exceptional dedication and work ethic." Karkera added, "With tools from this course, they can follow the AIFF

coaching pathway—from grassroots to professional football." For Suman, this achievement is just the beginning. She said, "The course gave me confidence to lead, teach, and grow. Now I want to use these skills to train deaf players—especially girls who are told what they can't do. I want to lead by example and prove that football is for everyone."

Delhi HC Declares Appointment of Nagpur's Dr Jayant Deopujari as NCISM Chairperson Illegal

**Nagpur 11 June:** The Delhi high court declared the appointment of Nagpur's veteran Ayurveda practitioner Dr Jayant Deopujari as chairperson of the National Commission for Indian Systems of Medicine (NCISM) illegal. The court ruled that Dr Deopujari did not meet the statutory eligibility criteria laid down under the NCISM Act, 2020. The judgment was delivered on June 6 by a division bench led by Chief Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya and justice Tushar Rao Gedela in response to petitions filed by two former Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM) presidents, Dr Ved Prakash Tyagi and Dr Raghunandan Sharma. According to the NCISM Act, the chairperson of the commission must possess a postgraduate degree in any discipline of Indian Systems of Medicine from a recognised university and at least 20 years of experience, including 10 years in a leadership role in healthcare delivery, development, or education in Indian

Systems of Medicine. The court found that Dr Deopujari holds a BAMS degree (Bachelor's in Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery) and a PhD in Kayachikitsa, but no MD or equivalent postgraduate degree in Ayurveda. He directly pursued a PhD without undergoing a standard postgraduate course, which the court ruled does not qualify as a substitute for a postgraduate (MD) degree. His claimed 'leadership' experience, particularly his role in a private Ayurvedic pharmaceutical company (Shivayu Ayurved Ltd, Nagpur), did not align with the law's definition of leadership in healthcare delivery or education. The high court made it clear that a PhD, though a research qualification, cannot be equated with a postgraduate degree for the purpose of statutory eligibility. The bench noted that the role of the NCISM chairperson requires educational and administrative qualifications rooted in medical education, not merely private sector experience.

In strong words, the court observed, "Every degree awarded after graduation cannot be termed a postgraduate degree... the expression has acquired a specific technical meaning in India's higher education context." "The court also clarified that eligibility norms cannot be diluted, even if a search committee or selection body finds a candidate suitable. The verdict may have far-reaching implications for regulatory appointments in the AYUSH sector. It reinforces the importance of adhering to strict statutory qualifications in public appointments, especially in healthcare education. As of now, the NCISM and the Union ministry of AYUSH have not announced a replacement for Dr Deopujari or commented on whether they will challenge the decision. Dr Deopujari, a prominent figure from Nagpur in the field of Ayurveda, previously served as president of the now-defunct CCIM. His tenure as NCISM chairperson was challenged in 2021.

Private firms defy ban on road digging, restoration delays add to citizens woes

**Nagpur 11 June:** Despite Nagpur Municipal Corporation's (NMC) blanket ban on road digging after June 1, private firms continue to flout orders with impunity, worsening the already fragile condition of city roads just as the monsoon sets in. On Monday, scribes spotted workers from a private telecom company digging up the road near Katol Square—the same patch that was excavated last week for laying cables. The Mahalwari zone halted the work then, following a media report, but the firm resumed operations using heavy machinery in open defiance of municipal commissioner Abhijeet Chaudhari's directive. Other areas where these works are openly being carried out include Narendra Nagar, Manish Nagar, and areas near a high-end hotel on Wardha Road, as well as many internal areas in South and South-West Nagpur. The ongoing violations also reflect poorly on NMC's public works department, headed by officiating chief engineer Manoj Talewar, which is struggling to enforce the civic chief's diktat. The ban was issued specifically to prevent disruption and ensure smooth vehicular movement during the monsoon.

VED celebrates 30th anniversary, president Rina Sinha unveils 'Vidarbha 2030'

**Nagpur 11 June:** The Vidarbha Economic Development Council (VED) marked a significant milestone with the celebration of its 30th anniversary during its AGM held on Saturday. To commemorate this landmark event, VED Council, led by president Rina Sinha, vice-president Pankaj Mahajan, secretary-general Ashish Sharma, treasurer Varun Vijaywargi, and joint secretary Aliasger Wagh, met Union minister Nitin Gadkari to express gratitude for his support and blessings. During the AGM, Sinha expressed her gratitude to the esteemed trustees, Govind Daga and Vilas Kale for their trust and continued support. She also extended felicitations to key former office-bearers — past VP Dilip Kamdar, past presidents Devendra Parekh and Shivkumar Rao, and past secretary-general Rahul Uganlawar — for their active roles in shaping the organisation's vision and impact over the years. Founding members of VED — Govind Daga, Vilas Kale, and Dilip Kamdar — shared valuable insights and reflections on



the journey of the Council. President Sinha also unveiled her strategic vision titled 'Vidarbha 2030', aimed at driving sustainable and inclusive economic development across the region. She highlighted a series of future initiatives, including a high-level seminar on artificial intelligence, Project Kaushika and the upcoming 'Wagh Utsav', along with various other programmes designed to foster growth, innovation, and public engagement. "It is VED's constant endeavour to bring eminent

speakers, experts, and industry leaders to deliberate on actionable strategies for Vidarbha's development," said Sinha. She further emphasised the importance of expanding VED's membership base, encouraging like-minded individuals and institutions to join hands in building a prosperous Vidarbha. The event also featured the formal release of 'Progress Pulse', VED's official monthly publication dedicated to highlighting regional developments and Council initiatives. An

audio visual presentation curated by joint secretary Ali Asger Wagh covering the synopsis of entire year's activities was shared during the AGM. Treasurer Varun Vijaywargi presented the council's financial report. New members were inducted into the organisation and presented with commemorative mementoes as 'Proud Members of VED'. The AGM concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by secretary-general Ashish Sharma.