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PM Modi Speaks to Israel PM Netanyahu on Terrorism, Gaza Conflict

(Gns). Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a telephone conversation with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on 10 December 2025, during which the two leaders discussed strengthening security cooperation, regional stability, and developments related to the conflict in Gaza.

According to the official readout, the leaders reviewed progress in the India-Israel Strategic Partnership and noted sustained growth in cooperation across sectors including defence, technology and innovation. Both agreed that bilateral engagement should continue at its current momentum to deliver tangible benefits

to citizens in both countries. On December 10, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Israeli Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu discussed strengthening security cooperation, regional stability, developments related to the Gaza conflict, and the India-Israel Strategic Partnership.

A significant portion of the call focused on the situation in Gaza and the wider Middle East. Prime Minister Modi reiterated India's long-standing position in support

of a fair, durable and lasting peace in the region. He also expressed support for the early implementation of

Both leaders reaffirmed their shared commitment to a zero-tolerance approach towards terrorism, stress-

counter-terrorism cooperation remains a central pillar of the growing partnership between New Delhi and Tel Aviv.

The conversation reflected ongoing high-level political engagement between the two countries, with both sides agreeing to

maintain close coordination on strategic, security and regional issues. Officials said the exchange underscored the importance both

leaders attach to the evolving India-Israel relationship in a volatile global and regional environment.



the Gaza Peace Plan as part of broader international efforts aimed at restoring stability.

ing that all forms of violent extremism must be condemned without qualification. They underlined that

Amit Shah Defends Voter Roll Revision, Says Nehru And Indira Gandhi Did Vote Chori

(Gns). Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday mounted a strong defence of the Election Commission's ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, rejecting Opposition allegations of voter suppression and accusing the Congress of a long history of electoral manipulation, which he described as "vote chori".

Speaking during a Lok Sabha debate on electoral reforms, Shah said the current cleanup of voter lists was being carried out independently by the Election Commission and not at the direction of the government. He accused Opposition parties of spreading "one-

sided falsehoods" to weaken public confidence in the poll panel, particularly among young and first-time voters.

During a Lok Sabha debate on electoral reforms, Union Home Minister Amit Shah defended the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, rejecting Opposition allegations of voter suppression and accusing the Congress of electoral manipulation, while also addressing concerns about the process and citing historical instances. Shah emphasized that the revision, which aims to delete

deceased voters and remove duplicate entries, is being conducted independently by the Election



Commission. According to Shah, some Opposition leaders were anxious about the removal of illegal immigrants, duplicate entries and ineligible names from the rolls. He said fear of voter deletion was being used as a political tool to

create mistrust about the reform exercise.

Shah framed his argument around what he called three historical episodes to support his claim that alleged electoral malpractice did not originate with the BJP. He referred to the post-Independence leadership process involving Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Patel, the political developments following the 1975 Allahabad High Court verdict against Indira Gandhi, and a civil court dispute regarding Sonia Gandhi's voter registration.

Congress MP K.C. Venugopal objected to the allegations and challenged Shah to substantiate his claims.

Green Gujarat, Viksit Gujarat: Plantation across 1.04 lakh Hectares of Forest Area in the Last Three Years

Significant Increase in Green Cover Under Samajik Vanikaran Yojana: Departmental Plantation On 10,213 Hectares Outside Forest Areas In The Last Three Years

* Budget allocation of ₹3,140 Crore to the Forest and Environment Department
* Distribution of 158 lakh bamboo saplings to local tribal communities in the last three years

* Gujarat Leads in MISHTI Scheme Implementation with Mangrove Plantation Across 34,242 Hectares

Gandhinagar, 10 December 2025: On 12 December, Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel completes three years of Good Governance. Under his leadership, the state government continues to drive

the vision of 'Green Gujarat, Viksit Gujarat'. Over the past three years, Gujarat has undertaken extensive plantation and reforestation

environment and improve green cover. A notable achievement is the plantation of 1,04,270 hectares of forest land by the Forest

Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes) scheme, Gujarat has planted mangroves across 34,242 hectares, strengthening the



efforts to expand green cover, keeping environmental protection a top priority. This approach to sustainable development aligns with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat@2047. During the three years, Gujarat has taken several key steps to protect the

Department. Gujarat is also a leading state in implementing the Central Government's MISHTI scheme.

Under MISHTI, Mangrove plantation across 34,242 hectares in Gujarat

Under MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for

grove ecosystem in coastal states. Its key objectives include promoting mangrove plantation, scientific mapping of mangrove areas, nursery development, hydrology and geographical assessment, public awareness, training, research and the promotion of eco-tourism.

Uttar Pradesh Rolls Out Statewide Sports Infrastructure Boost

By Oneindia Staff Time Updated: Wednesday, December 10, 2025, 13:20 [IST]

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Uttar Pradesh has started a major push to change sports from policy files into real projects. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has ordered that there will be no compromise on sports at any level. The aim is to take organised sports from big cities to small towns and villages across the state.

Addressing the winners of the 69th National School Games, Yogi Adityanath linked sports to national strength. Yogi Adityanath said that healthy youth form

the base of a strong India, and sports are the starting



point. Young athletes in the Under-17 and Under-19 groups were urged to target medals at the 2030 Commonwealth Games.

Uttar Pradesh, under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, is significantly expanding sports infra-

structure across all 75 districts, including full stadiums and mini stadiums, with financial support for sports equipment in colleges and schools; this aims to enhance the state's standing in Indian sports and nurture athletes for 2030 competitions, including the

Commonwealth Games, and a sports university is under development in Meerut.

Switch To Shorts UP sports development infrastructure push

On Yogi Adityanath's directions, work on new

facilities has started together in all 75 districts. The state is building full stadiums at district centres and mini stadiums at every block. Officials describe this as a fast-track project expected to change access to sports in rural pockets.

The government has already cleared about ₹5 crore each for mini stadiums in government colleges in 18 districts. For the first time, this physical expansion is tied to direct financial support for basic sports equipment. Separate grants have been earmarked for colleges, junior high schools and basic schools to buy training material.

President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graces as Chief Guest the Human Rights Day function of NHRC, India

Says, universal human rights are inalienable and they form the bedrock of a just, equitable and compassionate society

Protecting rights and dignity a shared duty; calls for ensuring human rights for all in the spirit of Antyodaya

Describes the NHRC, SHRCs along with the judiciary and civil society as alert sentinels of the country's Constitutional conscience

Launches NHRC Mobile App for enabling easy complaint filing, real-time tracking and access to various IEC resources

NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V.

Ramasubramanian calls for using the Human Rights Day celebration as an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to the cause of protecting and promoting

(Gns).

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India organised a function today at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi to celebrate Human Rights Day in commemoration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on this day in 1948 by the United Nations. The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu addressed as Chief Guest in the presence of NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Members, Justice (Dr) Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani, Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal, UN Resident Coordinator In-charge, Ms Areti Sianni, Chairpersons and Members of State Human Rights Commissions, members of judiciary, senior government functionaries, diplo-

mats, human rights defenders, representatives of NGO, civil society, academia among other national and international dignitaries were present.

The President of India said the Human Rights Day

divorced from development. Also, India has always adhered to the timeless truth: 'There is no peace without justice and there is no justice without peace.'

She said that the National Human Rights

such conferences can prove crucial in ensuring women's safety and empowerment.

She said that the NHRC gives expression to certain ideals of the State and the society. The Government of India has been translating such expressions into action on a scale never seen before. Over the last decade, we have witnessed our Nation move ahead with a different approach from entitlement to empowerment and from charity to rights. The Government has been working to ensure that every day essential services like clean water, electricity, cooking gas, healthcare, banking services, education and improved sanitation become available to all. This uplifts every household and secures dignity.

The President said that recently, the Government has notified the implementation of a major reform through the four Labour Codes related to wages, industrial relations, social security and occupational safety, health and working conditions. This transformative change lays the foundation for a future-ready workforce and more resilient industries.

Smt. Murmu called upon every citizen to recognise that human rights are not the sole responsibility of governments, the NHRC, civil society organisations and such other institutions. She said that protecting the rights and dignity of our fellow citizens is a shared duty. This duty rests with all of us as members of a compassionate and responsible society.

Smt. Murmu said that women's empowerment and their welfare are key pillars of human rights. She was happy to note that NHRC has organised a conference on women's safety in public places and workplaces. She stated that the conclusions drawn from



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Editorial

Uneasy Truce

The recent diplomatic flurry ~ marked by talks in Moscow between US envoys and Russia, followed by a three-day session in Florida between US and Ukrainian negotiators ~ was meant to build momentum toward peace. Instead, it has laid bare a fundamental truth: you cannot negotiate peace while bombs keep falling, and you cannot negotiate an outcome when one side has already declared its unwillingness to compromise. On paper, the Miami discussions suggested a path forward. Ukrainian and American officials emerged saying they had discussed “security arrangements” and frameworks for reconstruction ~ a serious signal that Kyiv is willing to plan for a future beyond bullets and burned cities. Indeed, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy affirmed his commitment to continued talks. But just as these exchanges concluded, Russia struck again ~ launching drone and missile attacks that hit rail hubs, energy infrastructure, and civilian-lifelines across several regions. At that very moment, the other side of the conversation was broadcasting a very different message: For Russia, peace is not the point ~ dominance is. In a blunt, public interview ahead of his visit to India, the Russian President Vladimir Putin declared that his country intends to seize full control of the eastern region commonly called Donbas ~ “either by force, or when Ukrainian troops leave.” That is not an opening for compromise.

It is an ultimatum. This is the heart of the problem with the current negotiating process: it treats a war ~ one of aggression and occupation ~ as though it were a dispute over legal points on a map. It assumes parity, consent, and a shared interest in stability. But Russia, by its own words and by its own bombs, has shown it neither recognises parity nor seeks a stable mutual peace. What it seeks is victory. Yet the discourse remains framed as if Russia, Ukraine, and mediating powers sit at a round-table with equal weight. That framing is dangerous: it gives legitimacy to demands born out of force, not consent. A “peace plan” that presupposes territorial concessions is not a plan; it is a settlement imposed under duress. True peace cannot begin with a ceasefire held together solely by hope and diplomacy. It requires mutual cessation of violence, credible guarantees, and verifiable withdrawal from occupied zones, not promises of good behaviour. Attempts to talk while Russia ramps up attacks do more than delay justice: they give war criminals the veneer of diplomacy.

If the international community and Kyiv proceed with negotiations, they must condition talks on actions, not words. They must demand an immediate and sustained halt to all offensive operations. They must insist on irreversible, observable de-escalation before any discussion of security architecture, reconstruction, or territorial status. Anything less will be a dangerous illusion. The war would pause but the threat would remain. And history tells us: such truces breed future conflict, not lasting peace.

The Aravalli range, among the oldest surviving landforms

The Aravalli range, among the oldest surviving landforms on this planet, meanders through Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat. What is visible today is merely the weathered skeleton of a vast Proterozoic mountain system that emerged nearly 1.8 billion years ago. Over millennia, the range has been sculpted by natural forces; in recent decades, far more brutally, by human intervention. Mining, deforestation and unplanned development have stripped the hills of their ecological resilience and fragmented what was once an expansive, interconnected landscape.

The remnants now stand as the last living vestiges of a unique natural heritage. It is now shrunken, degraded and perilously close to disappearance. Strikingly, close to 90 per cent of the hill terrain is no longer officially recognised as part of the Aravallis, leaving a fragile ecosystem exposed to accelerated loss and erasure. This fear is grounded in the new scientific uniform definition of the Aravalli ecosystem, recognized by the Supreme Court, which redefines the Aravalli as any landform with an elevation of at least 100 metres above local relief. This redefinition, being proposed as a measure of standardisation, risks undermining India's oldest geological heritage and one of its last ecological safeguards. There are arguments in favour of the standardisation of definitions of what constitutes the Aravalli, but nature has no advocate of its own. cannot plead its own case; this is why we must. The Aravalli landscape has drawn the Supreme Court's attention multiple times, as illegal mining across its four states has forced repeated judicial intervention, particularly in Rajasthan. In 2018, the Supreme Court cited the Forest Survey of India's finding that 31 of 128 Aravalli hills had vanished in about 50 years, largely due to illegal mining. A 2025 status report from the green tribunal further reveals that, over the last five years, authorities have registered at least 3199 FIRs and recovered a cumulative penalty of Rs. 245.28 crore in the Aravalli region of Rajasthan. In 2025, a citizen-led report on Haryana's Aravalli was submitted to the Environment Ministry, listing over 60 geo-tagged sites.

Mining in the Gurugram-Faridabad-Nuh belt has been banned since 2009. Gujarat's Aravalli, especially Banaskantha, faces river-sand and mineral mining pressures with degraded landscapes slated for restoration under the Aravalli Green Wall project. In Delhi, the Ridge was notified under Section 4 of the Indian Forest Act years ago, but the final Section 20 notification with boundaries and full protection remains pending. Following pressure from the National Green Tribunal, Delhi is now set to notify the southern ridge for the first time.

If past violations and ecological damage are not startling enough, the 2021 Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas raises alarms about a broader national crisis. The report estimates that 97.85 million hectares, nearly 29.7 per cent of India's total area are undergoing land degradation. Analysis shows that Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Delhi, Gujarat and Goa have more than 50 per cent of their land affected by desertification or degradation. The Aravalli Green Wall project, an ambitious plan to create a 1,400 km-long, 5 km-wide green buffer along the range, identifies the Aravalli belt as a priority zone for restoration to combat desertification. In this context, excluding hills below 100 metres from protection is not a minor technicality but a direct threat to the Aravalli ecosystem's remaining functional areas, as shown by extensive eco-hydrological research. Studies demonstrate that microtopography and modest hillslopes significantly influence soil moisture retention, infiltration path ways and groundwater recharge, especially in arid and semi-arid regions.

These rolling hills also affect wind patterns and dust transport; local terrain in roughness, including vegetated hillocks, reduces erosion intensity and downwind dust loads. When covered with trees or shrubs, their ecological function further increases. It is no surprise that Delhi has not yet been desertified yet; without the Ridge acting as a barrier, dust from the western part of India would have transformed Delhi NCR into a desert. A single legal interpretation has not driven the decline of the Aravallis; it reflects long-standing human greed and regulatory failure across all four Aravalli states, which have benefited at the ecosystem's expense. The current interpretations may inadvertently narrow the definition in ways that could be seen as favouring past land-use patterns. Surveys by the FSI, the Central Empowered Committee, non-profits and environmental litigation records have documented the costs of chronic state inaction in the Aravalli landscape. Decades of Supreme Court intervention for a landscape disappearing from India's map should be reminder enough.

Even the Ministry promotes a Green Wall restoration for the Aravallis, yet a new scientific definition is being recognised within legal frameworks. This is a fundamental contradiction that needs to be harmonised. Allowing historical failures to shape future consensus in India's environmental regulations sets a dangerous precedent, as these frameworks rarely do justice to the country's ecological realities. Every part of the Aravalli hill system deserves to be retained and conserved, leaving no stretch behind. This is not only because they act as the natural lungs of North India or form a defining geomorphological feature of Delhi, but because they are living entities. We can plan cities, rebuild roads and bridges, and automate human workforces, but we cannot build a mountain range that predates civilisation itself. Even if the Aravalli range must be legally defined, the decision should be guided by scientific evidence and informed by policymakers, researchers, environmentalists, legal experts, mining operators, protection bodies and citizens. In any case, the criteria should prioritise ecological value rather than height or extractive feasibility. If parts of the range are redefined out of protection, what will stop humans from targeting other fragile mountain systems next?

India's favourite comedians Kapil Sharma &Krushna Abhishek reunite on COLORS' 'Laughter Chfs Entertainment Unlimited'

LR Indian television gets its biggest nostalgia jolt of the decade as COLORS pulls off the reunion fans had stopped expecting. Kapil Sharma and Krushna Abhishek, the duo that redefined an entire era of Indian comedy, share the screen once again - they're detonating pure chaos on 'Laughter Chfs Entertainment Unlimited'.

It's a landmark moment with Kapil Sharma returning to the channel after 11 years, this time as a special guest promoting his upcoming movie. But the second he walks onto the set of Laughter Chfs Entertainment Unlimited, the kitchen undergoes a seismic shift. Krushna Abhishek, households across India collapse in laughter. The two reignited the mischief already a riotous constant on the show, instantly senses the brewing storm and decides to stoke it further. He makes his grand entrance dressed as a woman, as a nod to the characters that once made and magic that were synonymous with them. What follows is a comedy carnival! Kapil's cooking skills (or the spectacular lack thereof become prime-time entertainment. Standing right beside him is Krushna,

Visa roadblocks

(Gns). The latest move by Washington to tighten screening for H-1B visa applicants marks a sharp turn in the way the United States is redefining its anxieties about immigration, technology, and free expression. What was once a visa category judged largely on skills and employer demand is now being pulled into America's domestic culture wars, with foreign workers unexpectedly positioned at the centre of a debate that was never really about them. The recently issued directive instructing consular officers to examine applicants' résumés and online profiles for any association with content moderation, misinformation control, fact-checking or online safety is more than a bureaucratic change.

It is an ideological filter dressed as a security measure. By framing such work as potential "censorship," the administration is blurring the line between legitimate enforcement of platform rules and political suppression. For thousands of Indian tech workers, many of whom occupy precisely these roles in social media, fintech and digital compliance, the implications are immediate and unsettling. These functions are now a standard part of the digital economy. Companies cannot operate without teams that enforce platform policies, counter fraud, remove harmful content or comply with regulatory demands. To turn this into evidence of ideological misconduct places applicants in an impossible position: they can be penalised for performing the very jobs global companies require, simply because those tasks intersect with America's shifting definitions of free speech. The policy also raises fundamental questions about consistency. If the concern is suppression of protected expression in the US, it is unclear how consular officers ~ already under intense workload pressure ~ are expected to judge complex decisions made in distant corporate settings or automated moderation systems.

The risk of subjective interpretation is high, and the consequences for applicants could be severe. A single keyword on a LinkedIn page may end up weighing more heavily than years of skill-building, education, and professional credibility. For India, the stakes are not merely individual but structural. The H-1B programme remains a critical bridge between Indian talent and global innovation ecosystems. Any politicisation of this channel affects not only workers but also the Indian IT and startup sectors, which rely on cross-border mobility to maintain competitiveness.

If the process becomes unpredictable, companies may think again about sending employees to the US or hiring for sensitive roles that would later be weaponised against them in visa screenings. The broader trend is unmistakable: immigration policy is being repurposed to enforce cultural positions on speech, accountability, and platform governance. By folding these debates into visa decisions, Washington risks undermining the economic rationale of the H-1B system itself. Skilled mobility works when decisions are made on competence, not conjecture. Turning visa vetting into an ideological loyalty test serves neither American innovation nor its relationships with countries like India that have long supplied the talent the US economy relies on.

NURTURING SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE IS THE CULTURE OF RESEARCH ITSELF

(Gns). Perhaps the most important factor in nurturing scientific excellence is the culture of research itself. In India, scientists are often encouraged to pursue safe, incremental projects that guarantee results and funding. This discourages risk-taking and innovation. Nobel-worthy research usually involves bold ideas that challenge existing paradigms. It may take years to bear fruit and often faces initial scepticism. To foster such work, India must create grant schemes that support high-risk, high-reward projects.

Scientists should be given the freedom to explore unconventional ideas without fear of failure. Bureaucratic hurdles must be minimized, and research management should be streamlined to allow scientists to focus on discovery. Just like spotting talent in sports early helps children become champions, recognizing a child's interest in research and innovation is key to shaping future Nobel Prize winners. When children show curiosity, ask questions, and enjoy solving problems, it is a sign of a scientific mind. Encouraging this from a young age ~ through experiments, reading, and creative thinking ~ builds a strong foundation. With the right support, these children can grow into scientists who make big discoveries.

The Nobel Prize often goes to those who have spent years exploring ideas, so nurturing talent early is important for creating future leaders in science and innovation. Another critical issue is brain drain. Many of India's brightest scientists leave the country for better opportunities abroad. In 2024, more than six lakh people emigrated from India to countries like the US, UK, Canada, Australia, and UAE. A significant portion were highly educated professionals ~ including scientists, doctors, and engineers. Further, India has only 260 scientists per million people, ranking 81st globally. In contrast, countries like the United States and the United Kingdom have over 4,000 scientists per million. This gap is not just about numbers ~ it reflects the lack of infrastructure, funding, and career prospects for researchers in India. Talented scientists often find it difficult to secure grants, set up labs, or pursue independent research.

To retain talent, India must offer competitive salaries, research autonomy, and clear career paths. Recognition and reward systems also need reforms. The newly launched Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar is a step in the right direction, aiming to honour excellence in science and innovation. However, its credibility depends on transparent selection processes and independence from political influence. Awards should be based on scientific merit, citation impact, and peer recognition. Showcasing Indian scientists who are already making waves globally ~ such as those listed in Stanford's top 2 per cent of cited researchers ~ can inspire others and build a culture of excellence. A total of 5,352 Indian scientists featured in the 2024 edition out of 223,252 scientists worldwide with China having the highest number of 10,687 ~ twice that of India ~ across all disciplines from physics and medicine to engineering and social sciences.

So, India has the intellectual capacity and scientific talent to produce Nobel Prize-worthy research, provided we continue to nurture innovation, invest in R&D, and support researchers with robust infrastructure and international collaboration. Science communication is another area that deserves attention. Many Indian discoveries go unnoticed because they are not effectively communicated to the public or the global scientific community. Scientists must be trained to present their work in accessible formats, engage with media, and participate in public lectures. Translating complex research into simple narratives can help build public support and attract young minds to science. Despite these challenges, there are signs of progress.

Initiatives like the Research Development and Innovation scheme aim to bridge the gap between laboratory research and commercial viability by using public procurement to create demand for indigenous technologies. Digital platforms like LabStack are also being developed to streamline R&D processes and improve collaboration across institutions. However, these efforts need to be scaled up and supported by a broader policy framework that prioritizes original research, industry partnerships, and global engagement. Over the past five years, Nobel Prizes in science and medicine have honoured discoveries that deeply reshaped our understanding of nature and health.

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WESTERN RAILWAY TO RUN A SUPERFAST SPECIAL TRAIN BETWEEN BANDRA TERMINUS – AJMER

Mumbai, For the convenience of passengers and to clear extra rush of passengers for the Urs Festival at Ajmer, Western Railway will run special train on special fare between Bandra Terminus – Ajmer station.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer, Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the details of this train is as

under:

Train No. 09063/09064 Bandra Terminus – Ajmer Superfast Special [02 Trips]

Train No. 09063 Bandra Terminus – Ajmer Special will depart from Bandra Terminus on Wednesday, 24th December, 2025 at 12:15 hrs and will reach Ajmer at 06:15 hrs, the next day. Similarly, Train No. 09064 Ajmer – Bandra Terminus Special will depart from

Ajmer on Thursday, 25th December, 2025 at 11:40 hrs and will arrive Bandra Terminus at 04:20 hrs, the next day.

Enroute, this train will halt at Borivali, Palghar, Vapi, Valsad, Surat, Bharuch, Vadodara, Anand, Nadiad, Sabarmati, Mahesana, Palanpur, Abu Road, Pindwara, Falna, Rani, Marwar, Sojat Road and Beawar stations in both directions.

This train comprises of AC - 2 Tier, AC - 3 Tier, Sleeper Class and General Second Class Coaches.

The booking for Train No. 09063 will open from 12th December, 2025 at all PRS counters & on IRCTC website. For detailed information regarding timings of halts and composition, passengers may please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in.

WR TO RUN THREE PAIRS OF SPECIAL TRAINS

Mumbai, For the convenience of passengers and with a view to meet the travel demand, Western Railway will run three pairs of special trains on special fare between Bandra Terminus - Hazrat Nizamuddin, Vadodara - Kottayam and Sabarmati – New Delhi stations.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the details of these trains are as under:

1. Train No. 04005/04006 Bandra Terminus – Hazrat Nizamuddin Superfast Special [02 Trips]

Train No. 04005 Bandra Terminus – Hazrat Nizamuddin Special will depart from Bandra Terminus on Friday, 12th December, 2025 at 14:40 hrs and reach Hazrat Nizamuddin at 11:10 hrs,

the next day. Similarly, Train No. 04006 Hazrat Nizamuddin – Bandra Terminus special will depart from Hazrat Nizamuddin on Thursday, 11th December, 2025 at 13:35 hrs and arrive Bandra Terminus at 11:00 hrs, the next day.

Enroute this train will halt at Borivali, Surat, Vadodara, Ratlam and Kota stations in both directions.

This train comprises of First AC, AC- 2 Tier and AC – 3 Tier Coaches

2. Train No. 09124/09123 Vadodara – Kottayam Weekly Special [08 Trips]

Train No. 09124 Vadodara – Kottayam Special will depart from Vadodara every Saturday at 09:05 hrs and will reach Kottayam at 19:00 hrs, the next day. This train will run from 20th December, 2025 to 10th January, 2026. Similarly, Train No. 09123 Kottayam – Vadodara

Special will depart from Kottayam every Sunday at 21:00 hrs and will reach Vadodara at 06:00 hrs on Tuesday. This train will run from 21st December, 2025 to 11th January, 2026.

Enroute this train will halt at Surat, Vapi, Vasai Road, Bhiwandi Road, Panvel, Roha, Khed, Chiplun, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Rajapur Road, Kankavli, Kudal, Sawantwadi Road, Thivim, Karmali, Madgaon, Karwar, Kumta, Murdeshwar, Bhatkal, Mookambika Road Byndoor, Kundapura, Udipi, Surathkal, Mangaluru Jn., Kasaragod, Kannur, Thalassery, Kozhikode, Tirur, Shoranur, Thrissur, Aluva and Ernakulam Town stations in both directions.

The train will comprise First AC, AC-2 Tier, AC-3 Tier, Sleeper Class and General Second Class Coaches.

3. Train No. 04033 Sabarmati – New Delhi Special [01 Trip]

Train No. 04033 Sabarmati – New Delhi Special will depart from Sabarmati on Thursday, 11th December, 2025 at 19:00 hrs and will reach New Delhi at 13:40 hrs, the next day.

Enroute this train will halt at Palanpur, Abu Road, Falna, Marwar, Beawar, Ajmer, Kishangarh, Jaipur, Alwar and Rewari stations.

This train comprises of First AC, AC- 2 Tier and AC – 3 Tier Coaches

The booking for Train Nos. 04005 & 04033 is open and for Train No. 09124 will open from 12.12.2025 at all PRS counters & on IRCTC website. For detailed information regarding timings of halts and composition, passengers may please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in.

Gujarat MPs Unite for a TB-Mukt Bharat: Union Health Minister Calls for Stronger Grassroots Action

Shri J.P. Nadda Mobilises Gujarat's Parliamentary Leadership to Fast-Track TB Elimination

"India Leads Global Fight Against TB"; Gujarat MPs Pledge Accelerated Constituency-Level Action

Union Health Minister Charts Gujarat's Roadmap for a TB-Free Future

Ni-kshay Mitra Network to Expand as Gujarat MPs Commit to Stronger TB Outreach

MPs from both the Houses, representing Gujarat.

programme ownership— holds the potential to

on-ground implementation bottlenecks



Addressing the parliamentarians, Shri Nadda highlighted India's remarkable progress in the fight against tuberculosis under the leadership and guidance of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. He noted that the country has achieved an approximate 21% reduction in TB incidence between 2015 and 2024, along with a treatment success rate of nearly 90%, surpassing global averages as reflected in recent WHO assessments.

The Union Minister underscored that Gujarat—owing to its strong health systems, rapid adoption of innovations, and robust

emerge as a leading State in implementing the next-generation TB elimination strategies.

Calling upon MPs to anchor constituency-level interventions, Shri Nadda outlined a set of specific parliamentary stewardship actions. These included:

Regular constituency scorecard reviews of TB indicators

Convergence with State departments to strengthen implementation

Institutionalisation of TB reviews through District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meetings

Time-bound resolution of

Shri Nadda urged the MPs to integrate TB awareness with ongoing Jan Sampark initiatives, local media outreach, and public events to counter stigma and motivate people to seek early testing and treatment. The Minister further encouraged organisation of constituency-level Ni-kshay Shivirs and expansion of the Ni-kshay Mitra network to ensure sustained community support, including nutrition, counselling, and welfare-linkage for individuals undergoing TB treatment.

Union Health Secretary Smt. Punya Salila Srivastava briefed MPs on emerging policy directions such as community-centred screening, enhanced tech-enabled surveillance, and the critical importance of nutritional support. Additional Secretary and Mission Director, National Health Mission, Smt. Aradhana Patnaik, presented progress updates under the TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan and highlighted the pivotal role of strengthened parliamentary engagement in accelerating the State's contribution to a TB-free India.

Convergence with State departments to strengthen implementation

Institutionalisation of TB reviews through District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meetings

Time-bound resolution of

Wheelchairs Available at 5,868 Railway Stations Across Country to Assist Divyangjan and Senior Citizens

196 Battery Operated Vehicles Available at 79 Major Railway Stations, Prioritising Divyangjans, Senior Citizens, Sick Passengers, and Pregnant Women

Concessional Online Ticket Booking Extended to Divyangjan and Patients with Certain Illnesses; One Escort Also Eligible for Same Concession

Posted On: 10 DEC 2025 4:57PM by PIB Delhi

Wheelchairs are provided by Railways and are given to attendants of the Divyangjan, Senior Citizens etc free of cost to escort them from and to the trains. However, whenever attendants are not available, licensed porters (Sahayaks) can be hired on pre-fixed nominal rate to escort the Divyangjan etc. Information in this regard is

displayed at prominent places in railway station premises. At present, wheelchairs are available at 5868 stations over Indian Railways.

Other initiatives taken towards providing improved facilities for elderly, disabled and sick passengers include the following:

(i) In the computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS) there is a provision to allot lower berths to Senior Citizens, Female passengers of 45 years and above automatically, even if no choice is given, subject to availability of accommodation at the time of booking.

(ii) A combined quota of six to seven lower berths per coach in Sleeper class, four to five lower berths per

coach each in Air Conditioned 3 tier (3AC) and three to four lower berths per coach in Air Conditioned 2 tier (2AC)



classes (depending on the number of coaches of that class in the train) has been earmarked for senior citizens, female passengers 45 years of age and above and pregnant women.

(iii) Instructions have been issued for earmarking a minimum of 07 seats for senior citizens in 1st and last 2nd class general compartment for entire period

of local train services on suburban sections of all Zonal Railways.

(iv) After departure of the train, if there are vacant lower berths available in the train and if any person with disability booked on the authority of handicapped concession or a senior citizen or a pregnant woman, who has been allotted upper/middle berth, approaches for allotment of vacant lower berths, the on board Ticket Checking Staff has been authorized to allot the vacant lower berth to them making necessary entries in the chart.

(v) The following reservation quota for Divyangjan has been earmarked in all Mail/Express trains including Rajdhani/Shatabdi type trains irrespective of the availability of concessional facilities to Divyangjan:-

Strengthening of PACSs in Telangana

(Gns).

(a): Telangana has not been a part of the Computerisation of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS) of Govt. of India so far, however, as per information received from the State, 830 PACS are covered under the Computerisation of PACS scheme/project of the Telangana State.

(b): As per information received from the State, non-Credit business turnover (Paddy Procurement in PACS is 14.45 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMTs) and Value of Business is Rs. 13,974 Cr. Sale of Fertilizer and Seed Distribution in PACS is 13.25 Lakh Metric Tonnes and value of business is Rs.29,390.37 Crore.

Ground Level Disbursement through PACS during 2023-2025 is Rs. 14,651 Cr.

(c): Yes. Audit for every

ducted by the Chief Auditor as per the information received from the State.

(d): As per the information received from the State,



financial year is being conducted by the Departmental Auditors of the State and frequent reviews are also being con-

the Telangana State Cooperative Apex Bank (TGCAB) is the nodal agency for computerization of PACS of the State proj-

ect. Total project cost incurred for computerisation of PACS was Rs.43,36,49,066/- in State Project. For establishment of Data Center/Data Recovery (DC/DR) and network connectivity for integrating the PACS software, Govt. of Telangana have released an amount of Rs. 2,46,88,000/- during the year 2018-19 and NABARD has also released a grant of Rs. 500.00 lakhs, as stimulus grant / assistance for the Computerization of PACS in the State. Cooperative Training Institute (CTI) of TGCAB has played an active role by imparting regular training to the PACS staff by conducting special sessions to train the PACS staff for technology adoption.

Awareness, Infrastructure and Enforcement Support

DoT is promoting digital safety and preventing telecom-related fraud through widespread awareness campaigns under Sanchar Saathi

Sanchar Mitras, who are student volunteers, have been engaged to educate citizens about digital safety, fraud prevention, and the use of the Sanchar Saathi portal and app

(Gns).

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has notified the Telecommunications (Telecom Cyber Security) Amendment Rules, 2025 on 22nd October 2025.

The provisions for reverification and disconnection of numbers existed prior to these rules and were governed by licensing conditions and instructions issued thereof. DoT has developed a citizen centric initiative Sanchar Saathi

which provides facilities including suspected fraud reporting, block your lost/stolen mobile handset, check mobile connections in your name & report unauthorized ones and check genuineness of mobile

Based on report of citizens as 'Not My Number', 1.44 crore mobile connections have been disconnected after failing reverification. Further, DoT through its ASTR tool detects mobile connections that were acquired through forged documents and has disconnected more than 86 lakhs such connections after they failed reverification.

DoT is promoting digital safety and preventing tele-

com-related fraud through widespread awareness campaigns under Sanchar Saathi. Its outreach includes multilingual news articles and ads, digital screens and hoardings in public spaces, TV and radio



messages, local-level activities by DoT field units, SMS campaigns with Telecom Service Providers, and extensive social media content such as explainer videos and infographics. Sanchar Mitras, who are student volunteers, have been engaged to educate

citizens about digital safety, fraud prevention, and the use of the Sanchar Saathi portal and app. Their involvement helps deepen awareness at the grass-roots level, especially through communication in local languages.

DoT is undertaking necessary coordination with the relevant stakeholders for the implementation of the Rules. The Telecommunications (Telecom Cyber Security) Amendment Rules, 2025 are in force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette i.e. 22nd October 2025.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Communications and Rural Development Dr. Pemmasani Chandra Sekhar in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha today.

Aligning Skill Development with Industry Requirements

(Gns).

Under the Government of India Skill India Mission (SIM), the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centers under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) scheme, National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), to all the sections of the society across the country. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready, equipped with industry relevant skills.

To ensure the skills imparted through various scheme of MSDE are aligned with the industry requirements and technological advancements, the following specific steps have been taken:

(i) National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) has been set up as an overarching regulator establishing regulations and standards to ensure quality in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) space.

Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs Shri Durgadas Uikey informed that out of the 111 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) sanctioned in the State of Odisha

(Gns).

Replying to an unstarred question today in Rajya Sabha the Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs Shri Durgadas Uikey informed that out of the 111 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) sanctioned in the State of Odisha, 47 EMRSs are functional and 64 are at different stages of construction.

Main reasons for the delay in the construction of EMRSs are non-availability of encumbrance-free land, lack of proper approach roads, topography chal-

(ii) The Awarding Bodies recognised by NCVET are expected to develop the qualifications as per the industry demand and map them with the identified occupations as

implementing Flexi MoU Scheme and Dual System of Training (DST) which are meant to provide training to ITI students in industrial environment as per their requirements.



per the National Classification of Occupations, 2015 and obtain industry validations.

(iii) NCVET has approved 8693 qualifications as per the industry requirements, out of which 2266 qualifications are valid and active, and 6427 qualifications are archived for being not relevant.

(iv) 36 Sector Skill Councils (SSCs), led by industry leaders in the respective sectors, have been set up which identify the skill development needs of respective sectors as well as to determine skill competency standards.

(v) Directorate General of Training (DGT) under the aegis of MSDE is

(vi) Under PMKVY, the new age/future skills job-roles have been specially aligned with Industry 4.0 requirements in areas like AI/ML, Robotics, Mechatronics, Drone Technology, etc. for upcoming market demand and industry requirements.

(vii) DGT has introduced new age /future skills courses in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs) under CTS to provide training in emerging areas such as 5G Network Technician, Artificial Intelligence Programming assistant, Cyber Security Assistant, Drone Technician etc.

(viii) DGT has signed

MoU with IT Tech companies like IBM, CISCO, Microsoft, Amazon Web Services (AWS), Auto Desk and Future Skill Rights Network, to ensure industry linkages for the institutes at the state and regional levels. These partnerships facilitate the provision of technical and professional skills training in modern technologies.

(ix) MSDE has launched Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) a unified platform that integrates skilling, education, employment, and entrepreneurship ecosystems to provide a life-long array of services to key stakeholders. Details of the trained candidates are available on SIDH portal for connecting with potential employers. Through SIDH, candidates can have access to jobs and apprenticeship opportunities.

Under PMKVY, real-time labour market information guides curriculum updates through the Labour Market Information System (LMIS), continuous industry consultations by Sector Skill Councils, and employer feedback collected after placements. These inputs help update Qualification Packs and National Occupational Standards to match emerging job roles and sector demand.



staff on deputation as well as on outsourcing basis so that academic activities are not hampered.

To ensure quality education and holistic development of tribal students, various facilities have been provided in these schools like Smart Classrooms and Modern Libraries, Science and computer labs, residential facilities for students and staff, facilities for extracurricular activities like sports, art and music, regular health check-up and vocational training. Regular training programs and workshops for Principals as well as teachers are also conducted to enhance their capability.

Efficiency and Quality of Dak Services in Rural Areas

Mail Network Optimization Project (MNOP) and Parcel Network Optimization Project (PNOP) have played an important role in enhancing postal performance, including in rural areas

Establishment of Nodal Delivery Centres (NDCs) has brought substantial improvements in parcel delivery speed, reduced cost of operation and increased customer satisfaction (Gns).

To improve the efficiency and quality of dak services in rural areas, the Department of Posts has rolled out the Digital Rural Enterprise Application for Mobiles (DREAM) mobile application across all Branch Post Offices. The application facilitates the booking and delivery of postal articles through handheld devices, enables real-time tracking, expedites service delivery, and enhances accountability

particularly in rural and remote regions.

Further, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been introduced and monitored to track and evaluate the performance of postal articles across the country including rural areas, ensuring better oversight, timely delivery, and continuous improvement in service quality.

The Mail Network Optimization Project (MNOP) and Parcel Network Optimization Project (PNOP) have played an important role in enhancing postal performance, including in rural areas. Under MNOP, the mail network has been rationalized, which has improved the speed of delivery across the country including rural regions. The initiative has also strengthened

visibility of postal articles for customers.

Similarly, the Parcel Network Optimization Project (PNOP) has contributed to improved service delivery in rural areas through infrastructure upgradation, streamlined parcel processing, and reduction in operational inefficiencies. Standardized equipment, network rationalization, and improved transportation systems have enhanced the reliability and accessibility of parcel services. These developments have supported greater rural participation in e-commerce and ensured timely, efficient, and cost-effective parcel services to rural customers, contributing to overall rural development and economic growth.

All Branch Post Offices, numbering over 1.39 lakh,

have been equipped with digital devices to enable doorstep service delivery. These devices facilitate the provision of financial, citizen-centric, and postal services at the doorstep of customers, thereby enhancing accessibility and service outreach in rural areas.

The Department of Posts provides e-banking facilities to Post Office Savings Account holders. These include digital opening of Small Savings Scheme Accounts, online fund transfer, interest certificate generation and related services. The ePassbook feature enables online balance enquiry and mini statement for selected POSB schemes. Further, eKYC has been introduced in Departmental Post Offices for biometric-based opening of POSB accounts, deposits, withdrawals and other related transactions.



UP vidhan sabha winter session likely to be stormy

Lucknow Dec 10

The winter session of the Uttar Pradesh legislature, beginning December 19, is likely to be a stormy one with the opposition parties expected to corner the government specially on the SIR issue while the government is expected to bring a supplementary budget for 2025-2026.

During the session which is expected to be a short one, the state government is also likely to carry out legislative business and table ordinances that may have been promulgated during the intervening period since the monsoon session.

The approval for convening the winter session was taken by the UP cabinet by circulation.

According to a BJP functionary, preparations are

underway for the winter session specially in the face of opposition parties' anti-government stance.

Presently, the ministers and legislators are involved with the ongoing Special Intensive Revision in all 403 constituencies of the state assembly. Discussions on this issue may also be held during the session, he said.

The opposition parties have already launched a multi-pronged attack in the Lok Sabha during the ongoing session over electoral reforms, expressing serious apprehensions against the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The opposition parties have also sought a change in the selection panel for

the appointment of Election Commissioners.

Akhilesh Yadav, leader of the main opposition Samajwadi Party has already aired his reservations and alerted his cadres to remain vigilant for safeguarding voting rights during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Uttar Pradesh.

In a Hindi post on X recently, Yadav congratulated every 'PDA prahari' — a reference to party workers drawn from Picchde (backward classes), Dalits and minorities — for what he termed their "democratic duty" of working day and night to protect each vote.

The former UP chief minister said the Samajwadi Party would

honour them with "commendation certificates" and document their contribution as part of history. This stance of the Samajwadi Party is likely to be witnessed also in the UP assembly as his party has a sizeable presence in the house.

With the state assembly polls expected to be held in early 2027, the Yogi Adityanath government would be concentrating on completing the ongoing development projects by 2026 end and may consider allocating additional funds for it.

Uttar Pradesh legislature's monsoon session was held from August 11 to 14. Earlier, the budget session commenced on February 18 and was adjourned sine die on March 5.

Students spoke loudly in the elocation competitions at Sanskriti University.

Mathura. School of Education of Sanskriti University organized a speech competition among various schools of the university on the topic "Developed India/2047". Students from various schools participated enthusiastically in the competition, in which students gave speeches in Hindi, English and Sanskrit. These competitions are aimed at developing students' skills in expressing their vision for a developed India, presenting their ideas on a public platform, motivating the young generation to think critically and creatively about national progress, and inculcating healthy competition. The program was organized. The program started with the welcome speech of Ms. Riya Vardhan

Saxena. He gave a brief introduction of the competition and its objectives. The participants presented their perspectives on India's development, highlighting areas such as education, technology, economy, environment and social harmony. Trupti (B.A. Psychology), Shiva (B.A. B.Ed.), Krish (B.A. B.Ed.) were declared

winner in the speech competition held in English. In the Hindi elocation competition, Aashika (B.A. Psychology), Saurabh (BMS), Agraj (B.A. B.Ed.) and in the Sanskrit elocation competition, Khushi (BMS), Vijay (BMS), Abhinav (BMS) were declared winners. All the 9 winning students will represent their school in the

inter-state competition to be held in Gorakhpur. Judge Ms Pooja Sehgal evaluated the participants on the basis of content, clarity, confidence and overall presentation. The students displayed excellent speaking skills, creativity and knowledge, reflecting their vision for a progressive India by 2047. The event created an environment of intellectual engagement and inspiration, encouraging all participants to think deeply about the future of India. The winners were given participation certificates and prizes, and the efforts of all participants were appreciated. The coordinators of the program were Ms. Riya Vardhan Saxena and Devanshu Singh.



Students presenting their viewpoint on developed India in the speech competition organized at Sanskriti University.

Lenovo Unveils Its New AI-Driven Consumer Portfolio in Lucknow

With Yoga, Legion, and New Tablets, the Company Showcased Smart Devices That Meet the Needs of Creators and Gamers

Lucknow. Global technology leader Lenovo showcased its new AI-powered consumer device portfolio in Lucknow. The showcase featured premium AI PCs, immersive tablets, and next-generation gaming systems. Through this initiative, the company further reinforced its commitment to making advanced and AI technology more accessible to consumers in Uttar Pradesh. The highlight of the event was the Yoga Slim 7i Aura Edition—an AI PC developed by Lenovo in collaboration with Intel. This device combines premium design with on-device AI technology that automatically adjusts performance based on user needs. It delivers a seam-

less and smart experience for professionals, creators, students, and multitaskers, adapting to changing digital needs.



The new Legion Gen 10 lineup—including the Legion Pro 7i, Pro 5i, 7i, and 5i—is designed for both gamers and creators. They feature Intel Core Ultra 9 275HX processors and up to NVIDIA GeForce RTX 5090 24GB graphics. Lenovo's LA A3+ and A1 AI chips optimize the system in real-time, ensuring high frame rates, low latency, and a smooth gaming experience. Expanding its gaming ecosystem, Lenovo also

showcased the OQ Gen 10 series, specifically designed with new and emerging gamers in mind. The latest processors from Intel and AMD, NVIDIA RTX graphics, AI-enabled gaming features, and robust thermal design make them a reliable choice for users entering the gaming world. Lenovo further strengthened its tablet portfolio with the Idea Tab Pro and Yoga Tab Plus. This series is designed for users who require powerful, yet lightweight and portable devices. The IdeaTab Pro is equipped with a MediaTek Dimensity 8300 processor, which delivers fast multitask-

ing, AI-enabled productivity, and seamless connectivity across devices. The Yoga Tab Plus—Lenovo's most advanced Android tablet—features Lenovo AI Now technology, a powerful audio-video experience, and its signature kick-stand design, making it a versatile choice for learning, work, and entertainment.

Raghavendra Araviti, Sales Head, Consumer Business, North and East, Lenovo India, said, "Our new AI-powered portfolio has been developed to elevate users' device experiences—whether they are creators, students, or gamers—to a new level. Showcasing these innovations in Lucknow reflects our regional expansion and commitment to making smart technology accessible to more consumers in Uttar Pradesh."

Indian Army's technical exercise took place in the refinery

Mathura. The Engineers Regiment (R&P) of the Indian Army is conducting an extensive and advanced technical exercise at the Mathura Refinery of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) between 8 to 13 December 2025. The main objective of this joint exercise is to give the Army personnel first-hand exposure to the operation, security and emergency management mechanisms of the country's critical energy infrastructure.

During the exercise, Army officers and soldiers are making an in-depth study of the major process units of the refinery/crude distillation unit, hydrogen generation unit, energy conservation system, tank farm area and pipeline input/output facilities.



Army officers and soldiers along with key personnel of the refinery.

Detailed technical presentations, field visits and hands-on sessions led by experts are being conducted, giving Soldiers a deeper understanding of crude oil processing, energy management and risk control processes. Technical Services, Production, Pipeline and Fire & Safety

departments of IOCL Mathura Refinery are providing continuous support to the contingent participating in the exercise. Officials are sharing detailed information about the refinery's advanced security systems, emergency response protocols and operating procedures. The Regiment of

Engineers (R&P) is one of the select units of the Indian Army with special expertise in operations, maintenance and crisis management related to the energy and petroleum sector. The regiment plays a vital role in maintaining the continuity of the petroleum supply chain during wartime situations or national disasters. Such regular joint exercises between IOCL and the Indian Army are considered extremely important in security of energy infrastructure, technical coordination, mutual cooperation and strengthening disaster management capability. Experts say that in the changing global energy scenario, such joint preparedness has become imperative for the country's strategic interests

Joint mock drill of NDRF and Railways completed at Mathura Junction

Mathura. A joint mock drill was organized by the 8th National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Ghaziabad and Railways under the guidance of Divisional Railway Manager Agra Gagan Goyal at Mathura Junction of Agra Division. In this joint mock drill, the police administration, fire and medical departments of Mathura district along with railway operations, electrical, mechanical, engineering, medical, civil defense, scouts and guides, ART/Agra, ARMV/Agra worked together. The objective of the joint mock drill is to minimize the loss of life and property by working quickly with the Railway Disaster Management Team, NDRF

and District Administration in an emergency situation to save as many lives as possible. In this joint mock

administration, medical department and fire department were present. Let it be known that NDRF pro-



Scene of mock drill at Mathura Junction

drill, Additional Divisional Railway Manager/Infra, Pranav Kumar, Senior Divisional Safety Officer, Aftab Ahmed, Deputy Commandant/NDRF, Ravindra Kumar; Officers and employees of district administration, police

protects people and life and property during various natural and man-made disasters. NDRF organizes, trains and equips specialized teams and provides quick and efficient response to disaster-stricken areas. This special force

works in floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, cyclones, chemical accidents and other emergency situations and helps the state and district authorities. Public Relations Officer Ms. Prashasti Srivastava said that local resources and quick action play an important role in emergency situations. As soon as the information was received from the Railways, the teams of the concerned department of the Railways and the district administration became active. This kind of preparation makes us efficient. Such exercises are done in circles. More than 150 officers and employees of Railways, NDRF and Civil Administration participated in this joint mock drill

Municipal Commissioner launched a campaign to remove compaction encroachment, the team collected a fine of Rs 17 thousand

Mathura. Municipal Corporation Mathura-Vrindavan conducted a campaign to remove compaction encroachment in the city under the leadership of Municipal Commissioner Jag Pravesh, in the presence of Additional Municipal Commissioner Saurav Singh and with the help of the police force. This campaign was run on major routes from Govardhan Chauraha to Mandi Chauraha, Mandi Chauraha to Narsingh Vihar and Narsingh Vihar to Govardhan Chauraha, so that the traffic could be made smooth. During the campaign, stalls, carts, kiosks, benches, cots, chairs, tables, tarpaulins, temporary sheds, promo-



Municipal Commissioner giving review and instructions of Jag Pravesh Abhiyan

tional materials and other obstructive items installed illegally on public roads and footpaths were removed and seized. As part of the action, a fine of Rs 17,000 was also collected from those violating the rules. Municipal Commissioner Jag Pravesh, while appealing to the general public and businessmen during the campaign, said that it is

the collective responsibility of all of us to keep the roads and footpaths of the city free from encroachment. Shopkeepers should keep their goods only within their limited area and should not create any kind of obstruction on public roads, so that the traffic system remains smooth and the pedestrians do not face inconvenience. He

clarified that strict action will be taken if encroachments are found in future. During the encroachment campaign, the enforcement team of CO City, CO Refinery, Police Force and Municipal Corporation were present. This campaign will be continued by the Municipal Corporation in future also.

PARLIAMENT QUESTION: TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERRED AGREEMENT

(Gns).

As on date, NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) has signed 70 Technology Transfer Agreements to transfer technologies developed at ISRO to Industry. Technology transfer by ISRO to Non-Governmental Entities (NGEs)/ Private industries are undertaken through Technology Transfer Agreements (TTAs) and Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs). These agreements contain explicit confidentiality clauses to protect commercially sensitive information. However, NSIL has furnished the names and details of the Indian Industries to which technologies developed by ISRO have been transferred, pursuant to requests under the RTI Act. Certain information is also

publicly accessible on the official websites of ISRO/ M/s.

RTI Act, 2005. In accordance with the provisions

technology transfer requests are reviewed by a Technology Transfer Committee. These measures ensure that all technology transfers are conducted in a transparent, fair and accountable manner.

NSIL, as a public authority under the Right to Information Act, 2005 is committed to transparency and disclosure of information as mandated by law. The necessary details pertaining to Technology Transfer is being periodically updated in website. However, certain information requested, namely terms and payments, copies of agreements, is considered commercially sensitive and/ or strategic. Accordingly this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 8(1)(d) of the RTI Act, 2005.



DoS viz., U R Rao Satellite Centre, Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) and NSIL, while some details are disseminated through media publications also. It is to mention that IN-SPACe is the facilitator whereas NSIL is the actual licensor.

NSIL is committed to transparency and adherence to the principles of Suo-moto disclosure under

of Section 4 of the Act, information relating to technology transfer to Non-Governmental Entities (NGEs) and private sector entities including guidelines, technologies available for transfer etc., are available on the website of NSIL.

NSIL had independent oversight mechanism to ensure fairness and transparency in technology transfers, including those governed by NDAs. All