



Europe Funding War Against Itself With India-EU Deal: Trump's Close Aide

(Gns). US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, a key figure in the US President Donald Trump administration, has launched a scathing attack against EU free trade agreement with India, accusing Europe of hypocrisy and indirectly financing the Russia-Ukraine conflict through its trade ties with New Delhi.

The long-awaited India-European Union Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is set to be formalized today. While leaders in New Delhi and Brussels are hailing the pact as a "historic milestone," the announcement has been met with a stinging rebuke from the United States.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent criticized the EU-India Free Trade

Agreement, accusing Europe of indirectly financing the Russia-Ukraine conflict through trade with India, which refines and exports Russian oil. The deal was announced during a visit by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Antonio Costa to India, despite US tariffs on Indian goods related to Russian oil.

The friction stems from India's role as a major refiner of Russian crude. Since the onset of the Ukraine war, India has imported discounted Russian oil, refined it, and exported the products—such as diesel and jet fuel—to global markets, including Europe.

Speaking to ABC News, Bessent didn't mince words. He argued that the EU is

essentially undermining Western security by buying these refined products.

"The Russian oil goes into India, the refined products come out, and the

defend the Trump administration's aggressive trade stance. Washington has already slapped 25% tariffs on Indian goods specifically as a penalty for New Delhi's

to pressure Russia. Europe is exploiting loopholes.

Despite the shadow cast by Washington, the atmosphere in New Delhi is celebratory. The announcement coincides with the state visit of European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Antonio Costa, who attended India's

77th Republic Day celebrations as Chief Guests.

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India, EU Finalise Talks on 'Mother of All Deals', Pact to Be Signed Today

The deal, which has been under negotiation for a staggering 18 years, is

being called the "Mother of All Deals" by both Indian Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and President von der Leyen.

On the other hand, Bessent had recently stated that India has reduced purchasing Russian oil.

Speaking to Politico, he said, "Indian purchases by their refineries of Russian

oil have collapsed. So that is a success. The tariffs are still on, 25 per cent tariffs for Russian oil are still on. I would imagine there is a path to take them off," Bessent said.

According to a report in Reuters, India's oil imports from Russia fell to its lowest in two years.



Europeans buy the refined products. They are financing the war against themselves," Bessent remarked.

The Treasury Secretary used the opportunity to

77th Republic Day State-Level Celebration: A Moment of Pride For Vav-Tharad District

(Gns). Gandhinagar, 27 January 2026: The 77th Republic Day was celebrated with grandeur in Vav-Tharad district, a symbol of development, trust, and heritage.

Governor Shri Acharya Devvrat hoisted and saluted the national flag at the Malpur Parade Ground in Tharad. Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Shri Shankar Chaudhary graced the event, adding dignity and magnificence to the ceremony.

personnel from 22 contingents saluted the national flag, exemplifying their valour and dedication through the parade.

Honouring and Saluting the National Flag

with pride. Together, they pledged to carry forward Gujarat's developmental journey. The vibrant festivities and joyous celebrations added charm to this national occasion.

audience in awe.

The parade also featured a display of Chetak Commandos' bulletproof vehicles (Tableau), breathtaking motorcycle stunt shows, and remarkable performances by Gujarat's prestigious Dog Squad and Horse Squad, captivating the audience with their skills and precision. Additionally, the police department presented vibrant cultural programs infused with patriotic themes. Traditional dances representing various states added a heroic spirit to the event. Students from the school also presented creative performances on different themes. Witnessing the unparalleled discipline and precision of the parade, the Governor and the Chief Minister lauded the personnel for their outstanding performance and dedication.



Amidst an atmosphere brimming with patriotic spirit, the Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, the Speaker Shri Shankar Chaudhary, and public representatives, along with administrative officials, community leaders, distinguished guests, youth, women, children, and a large number of citizens, saluted the national flag

Accompanied by the melodious tunes of the police band, a disciplined parade and march-past were conducted by police personnel. The parade included contingents of Chetak Commandos, Marine Commandos, SRP personnel, male and female police platoons, SPC, Sainik School, NCC, and NNS cadets, leaving the

Telangana To Hold Municipal Elections on February 11 in 116 Municipalities, Vote Counting on Feb 13

(Gns). The Telangana State Election Commission has formally announced the schedule for municipal elections across the state, setting the stage for a major urban political exercise.

The Telangana State Election Commission announced municipal elections will be held on February 11, with vote counting on February 13, involving over 5.3 million voters across 116 municipalities and seven municipal corporations, covering a large portion of Telangana's urban local bodies. Candidates will be able to file their nomination papers between January 28 and January 31.

The announcement is expected to activate the full election machinery, with

political parties beginning their campaign preparations and election authorities moving into implementation mode ahead of

to ensure free and fair polling.

Election officials stated that the enforcement of the code will remain in place until the completion of the vote counting process. Administrative decisions, public announcements, and political activities will now be governed by the prescribed guidelines.

GHMC Excluded From Current Polls

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation will not be part of the municipal elections scheduled in February. While elections are being conducted for 116 municipalities and seven municipal corporations, GHMC has been excluded from the current schedule.



polling day.

With the release of the election notification, the Model Code of Conduct has come into force across Telangana. The code regulates the behaviour of political parties, candidates, and government officials during the election period

Ex-India Cricketer Arrested In Vadodara

(Gns). Former India cricketer Jacob Martin was arrested after an alleged drunk-driving crash in Vadodara. Police said Martin's luxury SUV hit three parked cars in the early hours of 28 January. No injuries were reported, but the cars suffered damage.

Officers at Akota Police Station registered a case under BNS provisions on rash and drunk driving. The complaint came from the owner of the damaged cars. Investigators seized Martin's MG Hector SUV as

part of the probe.

Former India cricketer Jacob Martin was arrested in Vadodara on January 28 after his SUV allegedly crashed into parked cars due to drunk driving; Akota Police registered a case under BNS provisions. The 53-year-old, also a former Baroda Ranji Trophy captain, faced a past human trafficking case in 2011; his MG Hector SUV was seized in the latest incident.

According to police, the collision happened near

Punit Nagar Society in the Akota locality. Martin was driving around 2.30 am

Ranji Trophy captain, had earlier faced legal trouble in 2011. Delhi Police arrested Martin that year over alleged human trafficking charges. The fresh drunk-driving case adds to the previous criminal case on Martin's record.

The 53-year-old, who represented India in 10 ODIs, was taken into custody hours after the crash. Police have not mentioned any injuries to Martin. Further action will follow once the investigation and legal procedures in Vadodara progress.



Is UGC Act 2026 The New Mandal Commission? Poet Kumar Vishwas Backs Protesters With Poem

(Gns). A sharp political and social confrontation has erupted from Uttar Pradesh to Delhi over the University Grants Commission's revised rules to address caste-based discrimination in higher education.

The new framework has triggered strong resentment among several upper-caste groups, who see the changes as one-sided and discriminatory. As protests gather momentum, poet and author Kumar Vishwas has publicly stepped into the debate, lending his voice to the opposition and drawing parallels with one of India's most divisive policy moments.

Kumar Vishwas raises

voice against revised UGC framework

anxiety and anger felt by sections of society.

supporters calling it a cultural expression of dissent and critics accusing him of politicising the issue.

Why the UGC amended the Act

The changes to the UGC Act stem from directions issued by the Supreme Court during hearings in the Rohith Vemula case. The court had asked the UGC to put in place stronger mechanisms to curb caste-based discrimination in higher educational institutions. Acting on this, the UGC introduced structural reforms, including the compulsory formation of an Equality Committee in all universities and colleges.



Kumar Vishwas took to X to openly oppose the revised UGC regulations, aligning himself with protesters questioning the intent and impact of the new rules. He shared a poem by late poet Ramesh Ranjan to underline the

"Chahe til lo ya taad lo raja, raai lo ya pahad lo raja, main abhaga 'savarn' hoon mera, rounya rounya ukhad lo raja," Kumar wrote, while also using the hashtag #UGC_RollBack.

His intervention has intensified the debate, with

Bangalore to Hyderabad in Just 5 Hours As New 6-Lane to Slash With NH-44 Highway Upgrade

(Gns). Getting from Bangalore to Hyderabad—two of South India's big economic and tech centers—could soon be a breeze, just a five-hour drive. They're seriously fixing up National Highway 44 to make it happen. The goal is simple: cut down travel time, make getting around easier, and get the region moving better.

Bangalore to Hyderabad in Just 5 Hours As New 6-Lane to Slash With NH-44 Highway Upgrade

National Highway 44, connecting Bangalore and Hyderabad, is being upgraded to a six-lane, limited-access highway, aiming to reduce the current 8–9 hour travel time to approximately five hours, thereby improving regional transportation and boosting economic activities.

The people in charge are working on turning NH-

44, which links Bangalore in Karnataka to Hyderabad in Telangana, into a six-lane highway with limited access.

They're going to widen the road, straighten out those sharp curves, and limit where you can get on and off to let traffic flow faster.

Right now, driving between the two cities eats up about eight or nine hours, depending on how bad traffic is. But once the highway's fixed up, you could be looking at a trip that's only around five hours. That'll change how people and stuff move around the area.

What's Getting Done

Here's what they're doing to the road:

Six lanes to keep local



smart spots to keep things moving.

Better safety stuff and a smoother road to handle faster speeds.

They're taking a page from the expressway playbook here in India, building this thing for the long haul, while keeping it safe and dependable.

More Than Just Saving Time

A quicker trip means a bunch of good stuff:

Easier for travelers: Less tiring and stressful for people who make the trip all the time or just now and then.

Good for the economy: Faster shipping and trade helps out business in the area.

More tourism and business: Getting to each city will be easier, bringing in more visitors and business trips.

The improved highway is going to help the whole transportation system in the region, working hand-in-hand with trains and planes in South India.

What's Next

The NH-44 fix-up is looking like one of the biggest road projects in South India. Once it's done, a five-hour drive between Bangalore and Hyderabad could just be the norm for everyone.



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Editorial

Underage Users

The proposal being examined in Andhra Pradesh to restrict children's access to social media reflects a growing unease shared by parents, educators, and policymakers alike. Concerns about screen addiction, harmful content and the psychological impact of algorithm-driven platforms are no longer confined to private households. They have entered the realm of public policy. At first glance, limiting social media use for children below a certain age appears both protective and intuitive. Young users often lack the cognitive maturity to interpret online content critically. Platforms optimised for engagement frequently amplify sensationalism, unrealistic imagery, and emotional extremes, creating environments that can distort self-perception and behaviour. However, translating concern into enforceable law is far more complicated. The internet does not operate through clearly marked entry points. Access is mediated through devices, shared accounts and easily altered personal information. Age verification mechanisms remain imperfect, especially in a country where digital access is widespread but unevenly regulated. For a state government such as Andhra Pradesh, the challenge is even sharper. Social media companies are governed by national frameworks, while digital infrastructure transcends state boundaries. Enforcement would depend on coordination with central authorities and private platforms, raising questions about legal jurisdiction and operational feasibility. Political urgency should not substitute for institutional clarity. Laws framed in haste often struggle in court and implementation alike. When digital rights, federal authority and children's welfare intersect, careful design matters more than dramatic announcements. There is also the risk of mistaking restriction for solution. Children today inhabit a digital ecosystem that shapes friendships, education, and identity formation. A sudden prohibition may not eliminate exposure but merely drive usage into less visible spaces, beyond parental or institutional oversight. India already possesses regulatory instruments addressing data protection, intermediary responsibility, and child safety online. The difficulty lies not in legislative absence but in implementation gaps. Many parents remain unfamiliar with existing safety tools, while schools often lack structured programmes on digital behaviour. A more effective approach would involve layered regulation rather than blanket bans. This could include mandatory child-safe default settings, limits on algorithmic amplification for minors, stricter controls on targeted advertising, and clear accountability when platforms fail to act on harmful content. Education must form the backbone of any long term solution. Digital literacy should be integrated into school curricula, teaching children how online incentives work, why misinformation spreads and how digital actions carry lasting consequences. Empowering young users builds resilience that legal prohibitions alone cannot. For Andhra Pradesh, which has long projected itself as a technology-driven state, the debate also carries symbolic weight. Policy choices must balance innovation with responsibility, signalling seriousness without resorting to gestures that may prove unenforceable. The impulse to protect children online is both legitimate and necessary.

Gujarat's Tableau, Aligned with the Theme "Swatantrata Ka Mantra: Vande Mataram", Showcases the Evolution of the Indian National Flag at the 77th Republic Day on Kartavya Path

Gujarat's Tableau, Aligned with the Theme "Swatantrata Ka Mantra: Vande Mataram", Showcases the Evolution of the Indian National Flag at the 77th Republic Day on Kartavya Path

CRPF Assistant Commandant Simran Bala led the CRPF men's contingent, bringing pride to Gujarat

At the 77th Republic Day celebrations, animals known as 'Silent Warriors' participates in the parade for the first time this year

New Delhi, 26 January 2026: "Vande Mataram" is a mantra that inspires swadeshi, self-reliance, and independence in every Indian. Marking the 150th anniversary of the song, Gujarat's tableau at the 77th Republic Day became a major attraction, showcasing the journey of the Indian National Flag, its evolution, and its rich history, in line with the theme.

Along with this, the tableau brought together the inspiring story of the flag inscribed with 'Vande Mataram' prepared by Madam Bhikaji Cama, born in Navsari, Gujarat, who ignited the flame of revolution from foreign soil with fellow Gujarati revolutionaries Shyamji Krishna Varma and Sardarsinhji Rana, the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi's swadeshi message through the charkha, and the spirit of today's 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' campaign.

At the forefront of the tableau, the valiant Madam Bhikaji Cama was depicted holding the self-created 'Vande Mataram'-inscribed flag, which she first unfurled on foreign soil in Paris in 1907. This flag was also presented at the 'Indian Socialist Conference' in Stuttgart, Berlin, Germany. Beneath the half-statue of Madam Cama waving the flag, the words 'Vande Mataram' were inscribed in various Indian

languages recognised in the Constitution.

The heart of the tableau, its background section, portrayed the journey of the making of the National Flag, its changing form, and its history, beginning from the year 1906. The revolutionaries first hoisted the flag with 'Vande Mataram' written on it while celebrating the boycotting of foreign goods and accepting Swadeshi in the Parsi Bagan of Kolkata. Subsequently, in 1907, Madam Bhikaji Cama, who unfurled the flag she had prepared in Paris. In 1917, as part of the Home Rule Movement, a new flag was unfurled by Annie Besant and Bal Gangadhar Tilak, while in 1921 at Vijayawada, young revolutionary Pingali Venkayya designed a new flag and presented it to Gandhiji. In 1931, a flag prepared by Pingali with certain modifications, featuring the charkha and three colours, was almost accepted. Finally, on July 22, 1947, the Constituent Assembly of India approved the tricolour with the Dharma Chakra at its centre. Alongside this journey of the National Flag, the tableau also depicted major movements of India's freedom struggle.

In the final segment of the tableau, a sculpture of Mahatma Gandhi, who called for freedom through the experiment of Swadeshi using the charkha, was depicted along with a large Dharma Chakra. These powerful values of Swadeshi, self-reliance, and freedom are being continuously nurtured today through the commendable efforts of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Remembering the brave sons who sacrificed their lives for the freedom struggle, artists performing to

the rhythm of 'Kasumbi No Rang', composed by renowned Gujarati poet Jhaverchand Meghani, fondly known as the 'National Poet', infused the tableau with enthusiasm and patriotic fervour.

The creation of this tableau, presented by the Information Department of the Government of Gujarat, was guided by Information and Broadcasting Secretary Dr. Vikrant Pandey, Information Commissioner Shri Kishor Bachani, and Additional Director Shri Arvind Patel, with contributions from Joint Director of Information Dr. Sanjay Kachot and Deputy Director of Information Smt.

Bhavna Vasava.

This year, a total of 30 tableaux were displayed at the Republic Day parade, comprising 17 states and Union Territories and 13



tableaux from various departments of the Central Government. Nearly 2,500 artists participated in the cultural performances on Kartavya Path. Around 10,000 special guests from across the country were invited.

The parade began with

a solemn tribute at the 'National War Memorial', where the Prime Minister paid homage to the martyred soldiers. This was followed by the formal commencement of the ceremony with the arrival of the President at the saluting dais, the singing of the National Anthem, and a 21-gun salute. At the 77th Republic Day celebrations, two senior leaders of the European Union, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen and President of the European Council Antonio Costa, were present as Chief Guests.

At the 77th Republic Day celebrations, animals known as 'Silent Warriors' participated in the parade for the first time this year. These included Mongolian Bactrian camels, mules deployed in the Siachen

Glacier, birds of prey, and military dog squads, all of which marched past the saluting dais.

Along with displays by various wings of the armed forces, the CRPF men's team was led for the first time this year by 26-year-old Assistant Commandant Simran Bala. Simran, who pursued higher education in Gujarat, earned her graduation degree from the Government Women's College in Gandhinagar and cleared the examination to become an Assistant Commandant in the CRPF. Additionally, the European Union contingent also participated in the parade. For the first time this year, the Indian Army showcased the Battle Array format in the parade, which included traditional marching contingents and service displays.

On Day Arijit Singh Quits Playback, Salman Khan Calls Past Rift a 'Misunderstanding'

(Gns).

Arijit Singh choosing to retire from playback singing has landed on a day loaded with history. The decision comes as Salman Khan finally settles long-standing rumours about a rift, calling it a misunderstanding, while their latest collaboration for Battle of Galwan plays across playlists and social media.

Speaking on Bigg Boss 19's Weekend Ka Vaar, Salman rewrote the old story in front of a primetime audience. Addressing the gossip directly, Salman said, "Arijit aur main bahut achhe dost hai... woh misunderstanding mere side se hui thi. Uske baad usne gaane bhi kiye mere liye. Tiger 3 mein kiya usne, aage Galwan..."

Arijit Singh announced his retirement from playback singing, coinciding with Salman Khan clarifying their past misunderstanding on Bigg Boss 19; they have since collaborated on several projects, including the song "Maatrubhoomi" in the upcoming film "Battle of Galwan," and Arijit will continue creating music independently.

The first spark of tension traces back to the 2014 Star Guild Awards, when Arijit walked on stage half-asleep after nonstop

shows. Host Salman joked, "So gaye the? (Were you sleeping?)" Caught off guard yet smiling, Arijit replied, "Aap logon ne sula diya yaar (You guys made

Please don't remove the song I sang for Sultan. Let me retire with that song in my library." The post vanished later, but screenshots had already circulated.

film Battle of Galwan, where Arijit sings the patriotic number Maatrubhoomi. The song has been promoted as a strong emotional anthem focused on sacrifice and national pride.

Recent collaborations between Arijit Singh and Salman Khan can be mapped through their shared film music.

Film Year
Song by Arijit Singh
Tiger 3
2023

Undisclosed track mentioned by Salman Khan
Battle of Galwan
2026

Maatrubhoomi
Amid this patch-up story, Arijit's retirement announcement hit fans hard, especially younger listeners who grew up with Tum Hi Ho and countless heartbreak tracks. Many online users even questioned if the retirement post was real, with comments alleging possible hacking and one user calling it the "worst post seen of 2026".

The singer has clarified that playback work will stop, not music itself. Arijit plans to step away from film recording schedules yet continue creating songs, likely through independent releases, live gigs, and other formats. For Bollywood, however, this still marks the end of a phase where Arijit's voice dominated albums across genres.



me fall asleep)," which many later claimed did not go down well.

What looked like light banter soon became raw fuel for whispers in the industry. Over time, stories spread that Arijit had upset Salman, and that songs recorded by Arijit were quietly replaced in projects linked to Salman. The film Sultan and its love track Jag Ghoomeya turned into the prime example people repeatedly cited.

By 2016, the tension spilled online when Arijit posted a long, emotional note addressed to Salman, asking for another chance. The message read: "I never insulted you... I tried so many times to apologize.

Arijit Singh Salman Khan retirement, Bigg Boss 19 and Battle of Galwan

Salman's fresh statement now directly counters the narrative built since that deleted post. By saying the misunderstanding started on Salman's side, not Arijit's, the host framed the matter as closed. The acknowledgement also explained why Arijit's voice has been heard again in recent Salman-led releases without any visible hesitation.

Arijit has lent vocals to multiple projects for Salman after the supposed fallout, including a track in Tiger 3. Salman's Bigg Boss shout-out to "Galwan" pointed towards the new

"Supercalifragilisticfantabulously Amazing": Sunil Gavaskar on India's Dominant T20I Win

(Gns).

Sunil Gavaskar was left almost lost for words after Team India crushed New Zealand in the 3rd T20I, chasing 154 in only 10 overs. Half-centuries from Abhishek Sharma and Suryakumar Yadav powered the chase, prompting Sunil Gavaskar's now viral description of the display as "supercalifragilisticfantabulously, wonderfully amazing".

The scale of India's win underlined how well the team was functioning just weeks before the T20 World Cup 2026. The clinical performance with bat and ball suggested a settled unit. It also offered strong signs for selectors and fans looking ahead to the global tournament scheduled for next month.

Sunil Gavaskar praised Team India's dominant performance against New Zealand in the 3rd T20I, highlighting Abhishek Sharma's impressive form and India's strong prospects for the upcoming T20 World Cup 2026. The former captain noted the

team's clinical performance and the challenges it poses to opponents.

Sunil Gavaskar, speaking on the post-match show on JioHotstar, stressed that the story was not only about big hitting. "Look at everything, not just the batting," Gavaskar said at the post-match show on

group. He felt rival captains would be running through many scenarios in team meetings. "What do we do against this side? How do we stop this side? This is a side to beat. This is a side that will take some beating."

Abhishek accelerated to a 14-ball fifty, falling just



JioHotstar. "Their bowling, their catching, their outfielding - they were a champion side." The former captain praised how every department clicked together.

According to Gavaskar, opponents across formats now face a major planning puzzle against this Indian

Gavaskar added that Yuvraj would welcome such an achievement despite losing his own record. "Who knows, maybe one day he'll go past it," Gavaskar said. "And if that happens, the happiest person will be Yuvraj." "There is a little tinge when your record is taken, but who has taken it? An Indian. That's what matters."

Performances across the series against New Zealand strengthened India's tag as favourites for the upcoming T20 World Cup. Gavaskar still warned that not every game would be so one-sided. "It won't always be this easy," he said. "But this is a side that will take some beating."

Four Days of Loyalty: Pitbull Guards Deceased Owner in Freezing Himachal Weather

(Gns).

A story from Bharmour in Himachal Pradesh's Chamba district has moved villagers and rescue workers alike. A pit bull stayed beside the frozen body of owner Piyush for four days in deep snow, without food, shelter or rest, while temperatures dropped sharply.

The incident took place near the Bharmani temple, a high-altitude area known for sudden weather shifts. Dense snowfall and icy winds made the stretch dangerous, yet the pet dog remained at the same spot, close to the body, throughout the extreme cold.

In the Bharmour area of Himachal Pradesh's Chamba district, a pit bull remained with its owner Piyush's frozen body for

four days near the Bharmani temple, enduring harsh weather and protecting the body after the owner reportedly died in a snow-related accident.

Earlier, relatives identified as Bikshit Rana and Piyush had gone missing while reportedly shooting videos near the temple. Both were later found dead, trapped under heavy snow after the weather turned severe, leaving families and locals in deep shock.

Rescue teams, along with villagers, could only reach the location four days later due to the hostile conditions. Piyush's body lay under packed snow, but

rescuers immediately noticed the pit bull sitting guard. The dog had not left the side of the body since the reported time of the



accident.

For those four days, the animal did not eat, despite the cold and swirling snow. Locals believe the pet also protected the body from wild animals in the area, braving storms that made

even brief outdoor movement difficult for people living nearby.

When officials tried to lift the body, the pit bull reacted defensively and appeared ready to attack. It seemed to treat the rescuers as a threat. After patient handling, soft voices and repeated reassurance, the dog calmed down and finally allowed the team to continue their work.

The story has left many people emotional across Himachal Pradesh and beyond. The sight of the Himachal Pradesh pet dog refusing to abandon Piyush's body, despite hunger and bitter weather, has been seen as a stark display of loyalty and attachment that continued even after death.

RCB Fans Get Ready To Cheer! RCB To Play Home Matches At Bengaluru's M. Chinnaswamy Stadium: Sources

(Gns).

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) is all set to return to M. Chinnaswamy Stadium for home IPL matches, according to sources. RCB authorities have agreed to all terms set by Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA). The piece of news has surely come as relief for RCB fans, although RCB's official announcement is still awaited, which will be done after RCB and KSCA officials will meet the Karnataka state government representatives.

Fans of the defending champions are likely to see RCB play again in Bengaluru, with the stadium seen as central to the team's identity. The development offers a morale boost as the new IPL season draws closer and plan-

ning gathers pace. Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) is expected to host home IPL matches at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, with an official announcement pending after a meeting between



RCB, Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA), and state government representatives; this follows safety reviews after a previous stampede and considered alternative venues like Navi Mumbai and Raipur.

Earlier on January 21,

Karnataka State Cricket Association president Venkatesh Prasad told reporters that the state government had approved IPL matches at Chinnaswamy Stadium. Prasad mentioned that certain safety

pede at Chinnaswamy Stadium last year, which triggered debates around safety arrangements and crowd control. That incident pushed authorities and organisers to review procedures, leading to stricter norms for IPL matches and closer coordination between KSCA, RCB and government departments.

RCB home matches at Chinnaswamy Stadium and IPL venue options. Before the latest approval, RCB had examined other cities, including Navi Mumbai and Raipur, as backup home grounds. These options gained importance after the stampede, when doubts over Bengaluru's readiness increased and officials weighed the benefits of shifting matches away from Chinnaswamy Stadium.

The renewed clearance comes after a tragic stampede

Your one vote can make Gujarat's tableau a winner once again!

Cast your vote generously for Gujarat's tableau and make it a winner for the fourth consecutive time...

On 26 January 2026, Republic Day, as every

year, a grand and colourful parade was organised on "Kartavya Path" in New Delhi. Along with the display of the nation's military and cultural splendour,

tableaux from various states were also showcased.

Friends, do not miss the opportunity to make the tableau presented by

Gujarat on 26 January on the theme: "Swatantrata Ka Mantra: Vande Mataram" a winner this year as well, just like last year, by casting your valuable vote using the link provided here!

Please share this link widely with your friends, acquaintances, youth, community members, and office colleagues, and request them to vote as well, thereby extending their support in making Gujarat's tableau a winner.

With Republic Day greetings and thanks.

How you can vote:
Click on the link given below:

•Contribute to the Poll on MyGov. More details at [https://www.mygov.in/node/365980/]

•Then, view the list of state tableaux, where Gujarat is listed as 02 (second), and tick it.

WESTERN RAILWAY EXTENDS TRIPS OF THREE PAIRS OF SPECIAL TRAINS

Mumbai, For the convenience of passengers and to clear extra rush of passengers, Western Railway has extended the trips of 03 pairs of special trains. According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, details of the trains is as under:

1. Train No. 09622/09621 Bandra Terminus - Ajmer (Weekly) Special
Train No. 09622 Bandra Terminus - Ajmer Special has been extended up to 23rd February, 2026. Similarly,

Train No. 09621 Ajmer - Bandra Terminus Special has been extended up to 22nd February, 2026.

2. Train No. 04828/04827 Bandra Terminus - Bhagat Ki Kothi (Weekly) Special

Train No. 04828 Bandra Terminus - Bhagat Ki Kothi Special has been extended up to 01st March, 2026. Similarly, Train No. 04827 Bhagat Ki Kothi - Bandra Terminus Special has been extended up to 28th February, 2026.

3. Train No. 04728/04727 Valsad - Hisar (Weekly) Special

Train No. 04828 Valsad - Hisar Special has been extended up to 26th February, 2026. Similarly, Train No. 04727 Hisar - Valsad Special has been extended up to 25th February, 2026

The booking for extended trips of Train No. 09622, 04828 and 04728 will open from 28.01.2026 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.

GM/WR UNFURLED THE NATIONAL FLAG ON THE OCCASION OF 77th REPUBLIC DAY

Mumbai, The 77th Republic Day of our nation was celebrated over Western Railway by unfurling the National Flag by Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta, General Manager of Western Railway at Mahalaxmi Sports Ground, Mumbai. GM also inspected the ceremonial parade and took salute of the March Past. Shri Gupta addressed the gathering by extending his greetings to the Railwaymen and their families. At the start of the function, GM Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta was welcomed by Shri Ajoy Sadany, IG cum Principal Chief Security Commissioner of Western Railway. Smt. Neeta Gupta, President of Western Railway's Women Welfare Organization, Shri Pradeep Kumar, Additional General Manager (AGM) of Western Railway, Principal Heads of Departments alongwith other senior railway officers were also present.



In the 1st photo, Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta, General Manager of Western Railway is saluting the National Flag. In the 2nd photo, Shri Gupta is addressing the gathering and in the last pic, GM is seen inspecting the ceremonial parade during the Republic Day celebrations at Mahalaxmi Sports Ground, Mumbai on 26th January, 2026.

According to a Press Release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, in his Republic Day Message, General Manager Shri Gupta briefed the gathering about the recent achievements & milestones accomplished by Western Railway. GM commended the entire

WR Team for receiving the highest number of the prestigious Efficiency Shields for outstanding performance in the year 2025. Shri Gupta, while concluding his address exhorted the employees to strive harder with renewed zeal and dedication to attain the goal for Viksit Bharat.

Shri Vineet stated that on this auspicious occasion, Smt. Neeta Gupta - President of Western Railway Women's Welfare Organization (WRWVO) donated Stainless Steel Insulation Kettles for the use of patients at Jagjivan Ram Hospital (JRH) of Western Railway, which was handed to Dr. Atul Sharma, Principal Chief Medical Director, Western Railway.

The function was followed by a Dog Squad Show by RPF and cultural programmes with several patriotic songs & dance performance on this occasion.

Mathura Refinery celebrated 77th Republic Day with pomp and show

Mathura, Mathura Refinery celebrated the 77th Republic Day with great enthusiasm and patriotism. The program organized at the Millennium Stadium of Refinery Nagar was started by Mukul Aggarwal, Executive Director and Refinery Head, Mathura Refinery by hoisting the tricolor and all the present officers, employees, family members and school children sang the national anthem together. Congratulating the senior officers of the Refinery, officials of Employees Union and Officers Association, Commandant CISF, Principals of Kendriya Vidyalaya and Delhi Public School, Long Service Award winners, CISF jawans and the gathering of school children on

this important occasion, Executive Director and Refinery Head, Mathura Refinery Shri Aggarwal said that 26th January is a very special day for all Indians because on this day we became a republic and adopted our Constitution. He said that in such a long journey, we have followed our Constitution and have created our unique identity in all fields. On this occasion, Shri Aggarwal also shared the achievements of IOC and Mathura Refinery and appreciated the efforts of all the employees in taking the corpora-

tion to greater heights. On this occasion, he also honored the village heads and head representatives from nearby villages and contingents of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Delhi Public School, CISF and DGR Guards marched past and dance performances by school students and CISF filled the atmosphere with nationalist fervor. The security demo was very well performed by CISF personnel. Also, tableaux were presented by the departments of Delhi Public School, Kendriya Vidyalaya and Refinery which was appreciated by everyone. Employees who have completed 25 and 30 years of long service with the corporation were also honored by the Executive Director and Refinery Head. Purnan Prakash, MLA, Baldev also participated in the Republic Day celebrations of the refinery and praised the efforts of the refinery



Mukul Aggarwal, Executive Director and Refinery Head, during the salute parade at the refinery on the 77th Republic Day.

expressed their gratitude towards the refinery. Expressed gratitude for the continued cooperation. During the Republic Day celebrations,

District Magistrate hoisted the flag at the Collectorate on the occasion of 77th Republic Day

77th Republic Day was celebrated with great pomp and show in the district in an atmosphere of reverence, joy and patriotism.

Mathura, District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh hoisted the flag at the Collectorate on the occasion of 77th Republic Day. After the flag hoisting, the District Magistrate administered the oath on the Preamble of the Constitution to all the officers and employees of the Collectorate. The District Magistrate paid respectful tribute to the statue of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi Ji and Honorable former

Prime Minister Shri Chaudhary Charan Singh Ji installed in the Collectorate premises by garlanding

the occasion of 77th Republic Day, District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh extended

persons, officers and employees on the Republic Day. On this occasion, Additional District Magistrate Finance and Revenue Dr. Pankaj Kumar Verma, Additional District Magistrate Administration Amresh Kumar, Additional District Magistrate Judicial Surendra Kumar, Additional District Magistrate Namami Gange Rajesh Kumar, City Magistrate Rakesh Kumar, Deputy Collector Deepika Mehar, Usha Singh, Adesh Kumar, Chandra Bhushan, District Information Officer Prashant Kumar Suchari and other officers and employees of the Collectorate were present.



District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh administering the oath of the Constitution and offering flowers. In the program organized at the Collectorate Auditorium on

hearty congratulations and best wishes to all the people of the district, media

77th Republic Day: Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel Announces Major Initiative for State Municipalities

Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel's important decision to allot government land free of cost to municipalities for 11 types of basic infrastructure facilities

Municipalities will no longer have to pay 25 to 50 percent of the market value or jantri rates to obtain government land for development works
Reduction in financial burden on 152 municipalities across the state will accelerate citizen-centric development projects

Gandhinagar, 26 January 2026: Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel has taken a significant people-centric decision to allot government land free of cost to municipalities for public welfare projects in towns and cities across the state.

To ensure greater transparency in urban adminis-

tration and the timely delivery of basic amenities to citizens, municipalities will now be easily allotted land free of cost for developing

required to acquire government land for development works.

Additionally, the land allotment process will also



11 types of essential infrastructure facilities.

As a result of this people-centric decision by Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, around 152 municipalities in the state will be relieved from paying 25 to 50 percent of the market value or jantri rates that were earlier

become simpler and more streamlined.

Under the Chief Minister's decision to provide government land free of cost to municipalities for public utility and welfare projects, a citizen-centric approach has been adopted to ensure easy access to essential civic facilities

such as Nagar Seva Sadan, fire stations, sewage treatment plants, water treatment plants, underground sewerage, drainage pumping stations, water supply projects, solid and liquid waste management plants, stormwater drainage works, anganwadis, town halls, community halls, and convention centres.

As a result of this decision by Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, the financial burden on 152 municipalities will be reduced, enabling faster implementation of development projects and giving fresh momentum to urban development.

Citizens will also benefit from quicker access to essential services such as water supply, sewerage, education, and healthcare.

Nipah Virus Outbreak: Why Airports Across Asia Have Restarted Covid-Like Screening?

(Gns). Major airports across Asia are stepping up health checks after fresh Nipah virus cases were confirmed in India. Screening has been reintroduced in a way similar to Covid-era checks, with particular focus on travellers linked to West Bengal, where multiple infections have been reported among healthcare workers.

Authorities in countries such as Thailand, Nepal and Taiwan are on alert and have increased monitoring of passengers. Flyers coming from affected areas are being screened for fever and other possible Nipah symptoms, as governments try to stop any cross-border spread at an early stage.

Major airports in Asia

are reintroducing health checks, similar to COVID-era protocols, due to the Nipah virus outbreak in India's West Bengal, focusing on travelers from affected areas. Thailand, Nepal, and Taiwan have increased

veillance is taking place at key international hubs, including Suvarnabhumi, Don Mueang and Phuket airports. Health teams are checking arriving passengers from West Bengal for raised temperature and visible illness. Officials are also handing out health advisory cards to inform travellers about the virus and what to do if they feel unwell.



passenger monitoring, including fever and symptom checks, while West Bengal has quarantined nearly 100 people after confirming multiple cases among healthcare workers.

In Thailand, extra sur-

Country / Region
Airports / Focus
Key Nipah Virus Outbreak Measures
India (West Bengal)
Local hospitals, district facilities
Case detection, quarantine of contacts, staff testing

Thailand
Suvarnabhumi, Don Mueang, Phuket
Fever screening, symptom checks, advisory cards

Nepal, Taiwan
Major international airports

Heightened surveillance of arrivals from India
Nipah Virus Outbreak cases, quarantine and transmission risk

Nearly 100 people have been placed under quarantine in West Bengal after the virus was detected in a hospital. A doctor, a nurse and another staff member tested positive during screening. These infections followed two earlier Nipah cases among healthcare workers from the same district, prompting tighter controls on hospital staff and visitors.

Dalmia Bharat Foundation Strengthens Rural Livelihoods and Digital Empowerment on Republic

Lucknow, January 27, 2026: Dalmia Bharat Foundation (DBF), the corporate social responsibility (CSR) arm of Dalmia Bharat Ltd, marked Republic Day 2026 with impactful community interventions at Nigohi and Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh, reinforcing its commitment to sustainable livelihoods and inclusive development.

At the Dalmia Bharat Sugar plant premises in Nigohi, the DBF team inaugurated nine microenterprises under its flagship Gram Parivartan Program, aimed at enhancing economic self-reliance among rural households. The newly inaugurated microenterprises include: 7 E-rickshaws, a cosmetic shop and a vegetable grocery shop. The event was attended by Sh. Kuldeep Kumar, Plant Head; Mr.

Aditya Mohan Gupta, HR Head and Mr. Ashish Bansal, Cane Head, along with officials from the DBF Nigohi team. These liveli-

village, Hardoi district. As part of the Republic Day celebrations, 45 students were awarded digital literacy certificates at Pramilia



hood interventions are expected to enable beneficiaries to earn ₹1,00,000-₹1,50,000 annually, ensuring stable income, improved financial security and long-term livelihood sustainability.

In parallel, DBF continued its focus on digital inclusion through the WOW Bus Program in Gangapur

Gangapur; Mr. Vijay Shankar Upadhyay, HR Head; Mr. Ramgopal Dwivedi, Pradhan, Gangapur; and Mr. Manoj Kumar, Headmaster.

Commenting on the initiative, Mr. Ashok Gupta, CEO, Dalmia Bharat Foundation, said: "At Dalmia Bharat, our focus is on creating sustainable and inclusive development pathways for communities. Through initiatives like the WOW Bus digital literacy initiative and the Gram Parivartan Program, we aim to strengthen livelihoods, enhance financial security, and equip rural youth with essential skills for a rapidly evolving world. We remain committed to empowering communities to become self-reliant and future ready."

PNB celebrates 77th Republic Day

27 January 2026: Punjab National Bank (PNB), nation's leading public sector bank, celebrated the 77th Republic Day with great fervour and patriotic spirit at its headquarters in New Delhi. The celebrations commenced with the unfurling of the National Flag by PNB MD&CEO Shri Ashok Chandra in the presence of Executive Directors, the Chief Vigilance Officer, Chief General Managers, General Managers, and senior officials of the Bank.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Ashok Chandra, MD&CEO, PNB, said: "On this Republic Day, we remember the sacrifices of our freedom fighters, the vision of the architects of our Constitution, and the courage of our armed forces who safeguard the nation in the toughest con-

ditions. Over the last 76 years, India's journey—from independence to becoming the world's fourth-largest economy—reflects remarkable economic and social progress, with financial inclusion playing a pivotal role. Transformative initiatives such as the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, PM

Mudra, PM SVANidhi and PM Vishwakarma have brought millions, especially women and first-time borrowers, into the formal banking system. At PNB, with a strong nationwide presence of over 10,000 branches and the dedication of more than one lakh

employees, we take pride in contributing meaningfully to this national mission. While our performance is reflected in a net profit of ₹5,100 crore and a business size of ₹2.9 million crore, our larger commitment is to build a culture anchored in integrity, honesty, transparency, customer-centricity, and excellence. To emerge as a truly powerful bank, quality must define our work and values must define our character—flowing from the top and guiding the entire organisation. We remain committed to strengthening inclusive growth by fostering responsible banking, aligned with India's vision of

becoming a developed nation by 2047."

As part of its Republic Day initiatives, PNB, in collaboration with PNB PRE-RNA, an association comprising senior women officials of the Bank and the wives of senior bank officials, undertook several community outreach programmes to support the underserved communities. The Bank extended financial assistance to the National Association for the Blind (Delhi) to support early intervention and inclusive education programmes such as CHIRAG and JYOTI. PNB also extended financial assistance towards basic infrastructure and essential facilities, including classrooms, water taps, and digital access, at MCD Primary School Nawada Main II (West Zone).

India-EU Trade Deal FAQs: Which Items Will See Zero Duty or Big Price Drop?

(Gns). The India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA), signed at the 16th India-EU Summit, is expected to reshape trade between the two regions and make many goods and services more affordable for consumers and businesses. Here's what you need to know after the India and the European Union (EU) have signed a FTA:

India-EU FTA FAQ: The India-EU Free Trade Agreement, signed at the 16th India-EU Summit, will reduce tariffs on goods like European wines, spirits, cars and Indian textiles, leather goods, and pharmaceuticals, while also impacting services and small businesses, once it is ratified by both parties.

European wines, spirits, and beer face high import duties today-up to 150% on some products. After the FTA:

Premium wines: Duty drops from 150% to 20%

Spirits: Duty falls from 150% to 40%

Beer: Duty reduces from 110% to 50%

European cars will also become cheaper. Premium vehicles from BMW, Mercedes, and Porsche currently attract a 110% import duty, but under the deal, tariffs will fall to 10% for selected high-end cars, with a quota of 2.5 lakh vehicles per year.

Industrial machinery and electrical equipment from Europe, currently facing duties of up to 44%, will largely be duty-free. Similarly, aircraft, medical and surgical equipment, plastics, chemicals, iron and steel, and pharmaceuticals will see most duties eliminated.

India-EU Trade: Which Indian products will benefit in Europe?

Indian goods exported to the EU, valued at around

₹6.8 lakh crore in 2025, will get easier access with while sensitive items like beef, sugar, and rice



reduced or zero tariffs on over 90% of products. Key beneficiaries include:

Textiles and leather goods (EU currently charges 10%)

Pharmaceuticals (currently 11%)

Chemicals (up to 22% duty)

With lower tariffs, Indian products will be more competitive in European markets, helping boost sales, production, and jobs.

Also Read
India-EU Trade Deal Sealed: Why The 'Mother of All Deals' Is A Strategic Jolt For US And Donald Trump

India-EU Trade Deal Sealed: Why The 'Mother of All Deals' Is A Strategic Jolt For US And Donald Trump

India-EU FTA: How will this impact farmers?

EU tariffs on agricultural goods exported from Europe to India will fall significantly:

Olive oil and vegetable oils: Duty drops from 45% to 0%

Kiwis and pears: 33% drops to 10% (in quota)

Wine: From 150% to 20-30%

Beer: From 110% to 50%

Sausages and processed meats: From 110% to 50%

This opens a large market for European farmers

promotes climate protection, fair labour practices, and women's economic empowerment.

The benefits, including lower tariffs, improved market access, and cheaper goods, will start rolling out once both India and the EU ratify the agreement and implement the tariff reductions. Many changes, especially for high-duty items, could be visible within a few years.

India-EU FTA: How will EU industry benefit?

Product 2024 Exports (EUR) Current Tariffs Future Tariffs

Machinery & electrical equipment	16.3 B	Up to 44%	0% for almost all
Aircraft & spacecraft	6.4 B	Up to 11%	0% for almost all
Optical, medical & surgical equipment	3.4 B	Up to 27.5%	0% for 90%
Plastics	2.2 B	Up to 16.5%	0% for almost all
Pearls, precious stones & metals	2.1 B	Up to 22.5%	0% for 20%
Chemicals	3.2 B	Up to 22%	0% for almost all
Motor vehicles	1.6 B	110%	10% (quota of 250,000)
Iron & steel	1.5 B	Up to 22%	0% for almost all
Pharmaceuticals	1.1 B	11%	0% for almost all

India-EU FTA: What about services and small businesses?

EU companies will get preferential access to India's financial, IT, maritime, and other services sectors. Small businesses in both regions will benefit from simpler rules, predictable regulations, and easier trade procedures.

How will consumers notice the change?

Indian buyers can expect European products like wines, spirits, cars, and industrial equipment to become noticeably cheaper. Similarly, European consumers will see Indian textiles, leather, pharmaceuticals, and processed foods become more affordable.

What about sustainability and safety?

All imports must comply with strict EU and Indian health and safety standards. The agreement also

promotes climate protection, fair labour practices, and women's economic empowerment.

The benefits, including lower tariffs, improved market access, and cheaper goods, will start rolling out once both India and the EU ratify the agreement and implement the tariff reductions. Many changes, especially for high-duty items, could be visible within a few years.

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India-EU FTA: How will EU farmers benefit?

Product Current Tariff Future Tariff

Wine 150% 20-30%

Spirits Up to 150% 40%

Beer 110% 50%

Olive oil & vegetable oils Up to 45% 0%

Kiwis & pears 33% 10% in-quota

Fruit juices & non-alcoholic beer Up to 55% 0%

Jana Nayagan Release Delay: What Madras HC's Latest Order Means for Vijay's Film

(Gns). The latest order of the Madras High Court has put Jana Nayagan, Vijay's much-anticipated film, back into legal limbo, raising fresh questions about when the movie will finally hit theatres. For fans eagerly waiting to see what is being billed as the actor's final film before entering full-time politics, the decision comes as another unexpected twist in an already dramatic journey.

What Did the High Court Decide?

A Division Bench of the Madras High Court has set aside an earlier single-judge order that directed the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) to immediately grant a 'UA' certificate to Jana Nayagan. The court ruled that the sin-

gle judge should not have examined the merits of the complaints against the film



due to a complaint regarding the portrayal of defense forces and religious sentiments.

Madras High Court's recent order has postponed the release of Vijay's film, Jana Nayagan, setting aside an earlier directive for a 'UA' certificate and stalling its release beyond

the planned Pongal release. The court sent the case back for a fresh hearing

Does This Mean Jana Nayagan Is Banned? No. The order does not ban the film or reject its certification outright. It only means that the earlier direction to grant censor clearance is no longer valid. The certification process is still ongoing, and the legal challenge will now be heard again by the single judge.

What Happens to the Film's Censor Certificate? As of now, Jana Nayagan does not have a final censor certificate. While the Examining Committee had earlier recommended a 'UA 16+' certificate after suggesting certain cuts-which the producers claim were fully implemented-the subsequent referral to a Revising Committee has stalled the process.

Xi Jinping's Most Trusted Ally Accused of Leaking Nuclear Secrets to US, Taking Bribes: Report

(Gns). Things are getting shaky at the top in China, it looks like one of President Xi Jinping's go-to guys in the military is now being looked into. General Zhang Youxia, who's been a long-time ally of Xi' and a big shot in the military, is in trouble. The Wall Street Journal says he might have leaked secrets about China's nuclear weapons to the U.S.

This investigation into Zhang makes the Central Military Commission (CMC), which controls the army, look unstable. Only two of the seven seats are filled right now due to some people getting booted out or investigated. This makes the commission the weakest it's been since Xi took charge of the army.

General Zhang Youxia, a key military figure and ally of President Xi Jinping, is reportedly under investigation for allegedly leaking secrets about China's nuclear weapons and other violations, potentially destabilizing the Central Military Commission. The investigation is part of a larger crackdown on corruption and concerns about military loyalty under Xi's leadership.

The official word is that Zhang, 75, and another officer, Liu Zhenli, 61, are suspected of serious discipline and law violations. In China, that usually means

corruption or abusing power, but they don't give out many details. Both guys have important spots in the CMC, which runs the military's important purchasing department. They also claimed he created groups within the military to get more power for himself. These accusations are similar to other cases where people were removed, which experts think is about political loyalty and controlling power, not just corruption.

Zhang Youxia has been seen as a super important general who came up with Xi Jinping and had a lot of say in the armed forces. He's the highest-ranking military official to be targeted in this crackdown so far.



Ather 2025 insights reveal how software is shaping riding behaviour in Indian cities

Lucknow, 27 Jan 2026 : Indian electric two-wheeler riders are increasingly relying on connected technology during daily commutes, with city-level riding behaviour revealing how software is shaping real-world mobility, according to Ather Energy's 2025 Year-End Riding Insights.

The insights are based on aggregated data from over five lakh connected Ather scooters across India, which capture patterns in riding behaviour, safety interventions, and commuter habits. The data shows that Bengaluru riders engage in panic braking nearly four times more often than riders in Mumbai, highlighting higher traffic unpredictability and frequent stop-start conditions in the city.

"Two wheelers remain

India's most widely used personal mobility option, but there is currently very



limited real-time visibility into how people actually ride every day," said Ravneet Phokela, Chief Business Officer at Ather Energy. "Our year-end insights show that software is becoming an active part of commuting, helping riders to respond better to road conditions, monitor

riding behaviour, and improve safety."

Phokela added that adoption of connected features remains consistently high. "In the second quarter of FY25, 88 per cent of our customers opted to purchase AtherStack™ Pro, our connected software suite. This shows that riders are actively choosing technology that enhances their daily commuting experience rather than treating software as an add-on," he said.

The data also highlights engagement beyond navigation and safety. During the Women's World Cup final, more than 31,000 riders accessed live match scores directly on their scooter dashboards, reflecting how connected electric two-wheelers are evolving into interactive platforms integrated into everyday life.

Announcements of Vande Mataram-Vande Mataram echoed in KMU on the 77th Republic Day.

Chancellor Kishan Choudhary and others hoisting the flag On Republic Day, a call was made in KMU to remove drug addiction and increase yoga. India is a country of religion, gives the message of unity even in diversity: Kishan Choudhary

Mathura. On the 77th Republic Day in KM University, the entire campus was seen in patriotic colors with the slogan 'Vande Mataram, Vande Mataram, Vande Mataram, Vande Mataram'. KMU called for Nasha Hatao Yoga Badhao for all the young generations. The chief guest of the program, University Chancellor and District Panchayat Kishan Choudhary said that today is the day to remember all the patriots who made the

Constitution, all the freedom fighters and the patriots who contributed in any form for the country. Mother India, as a mother, forgives the mistakes of people of



all religions, India is a country with unity in diversity. India is a country of religion. Addressing the students, he said that knowledge is gained only by honoring and respecting the Guru, education can be bought but not knowledge. Guru is second after God.

The program started with the flag hoisting and national anthem by the chief guest, University Chancellor Kishan Choudhary. After which

colorful cultural presentations were organized by the students of the university. The zeal, enthusiasm and confidence of the students filled the entire atmosphere with patriotism. Vice Chancellor of the University, Dr. NC Prajapati said that

Republic Day reminds us of our rights as well as duties. We all have to be committed to the country for the Developed India campaign. Describing the achievements of the university, he praised the efficient leadership of the Chancellor.

Registrar of the University, Dr. Purnan Singh, while welcoming the chief guest, special guests and the visitors of the universities, gave the message of being aware of the Constitution, democracy and national interest. He said that today's students are tomorrow's responsible citizens of India, who have to play a positive role in the progress of the country. Head of Department of Veterinary College, Dr. Explaining the difference

UGC NET Final Answer Key 2025 Expected Soon @ ugcnet.nta.nic.in

(Gns). Candidates who wrote the University Grants Commission - National Eligibility Test December 2025 cycle are now waiting for the UGC NET Final Answer Key 2025, which the National Testing Agency is expected to release soon on the official portal, <https://ugcnet.nta.nic.in/>.

The UGC NET Final Answer Key 2025 will decide the evaluation of the December 2025 session, as NTA will prepare and announce the result only after applying the revised answers. The key will be treated as final once the expert review of challenges is complete.

The National Testing Agency (NTA) is expected to release the UGC NET Final Answer Key for the December 2025 cycle on <https://ugcnet.nta.nic.in/>, following the exam held from December 31, 2025, to January 7, 2026; the

final key will be used for result processing after expert review of objections, determining eligibility for Junior Research Fellowship and Assistant Professorship.

After the UGC NET Final Answer Key 2025 is uploaded, candidates need to visit <https://ugcnet.nta.nic.in/> and open the link labelled "Final Answer Key for UGC-NET December-2025." Then enter the application number, date of birth and security code to view, download and print the document.

NTA has clarified that no candidate will receive separate information about whether any challenge was accepted or rejected. After reviewing all objections, the expert panel will freeze the responses, and this finalised UGC NET Final Answer Key 2025 will be used for result processing only.

The UGC NET

December 2025 examination took place in computer-based test mode for 85 subjects on December 31, 2025, and then on January 2, January 3, January 5, January 6 and January 7, 2026, at centres across the country.

For this cycle, the provisional answer key released on January 14 allowed candidates to check responses before results. The window to challenge the provisional UGC NET key closed on January 17, and these objections are now being assessed for preparing the UGC NET Final Answer Key 2025.

Event	Date
UGC NET exam dates	December 31, 2025; January 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 2026
Provisional answer key release	January 14
Last date for objections	January 17

Candidates facing issues while checking the UGC NET Final Answer Key 2025 or related infor-

mation can reach NTA through the helpline number 011 - 40759000 or send an email to , and are advised to keep visiting <https://ugcnet.nta.nic.in/> for official updates.

Award of Junior Research Fellowship, eligibility for Assistant Professorship and admission to Ph.D will depend on aggregate marks in both Part-I and Part-II papers of UGC-NET. Those qualifying under the 'appointment as Assistant Professor and admission to Ph.D.' category can teach and join Ph.D, but are not entitled to JRF.

Candidates who clear the test under the 'admission to Ph.D. only' category will be considered for Ph.D admission alone, and will not be eligible for JRF or for appointment as Assistant Professor, making the UGC NET Final Answer Key 2025 crucial for all categories of aspirants.

Five girls abscond from Vrindavan Girls Protection Home

Mathura. Five girls escaped from the Government Girls Protection Home in Vrindavan on Monday night. A senior police officer gave this information on Tuesday. The officer said that two girls reached their home, while the search for the remaining three is going on. The officer said that as soon as the information about the girls' disappearance was received, the Senior Superintendent of Police and other officers reached the spot and took information about the matter. The official said that all these girls are in the age

group of 14 to 17 years, who were sent to the Girls Protection Home for various reasons in pending cases in the court.

On Tuesday, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Shlok Kumar said that according to the information given by Gayatri Verma, Superintendent of Girls Protection Home, between 1 and 1.30 am last night, these girls ran away with blankets over their heads, this is visible in the CCTV footage. He told

that the incident came to light in the morning. He said that on the basis of the



complaint of the Social Welfare Officer, a case has been registered and the

search is going on. He said that information has been received about two girls that they have reached their respective homes in Mahavan and Naujheel, but efforts are being made to recover the remaining three girls. The Superintendent of Police said that the remaining three girls are residents of Agra and Aligarh districts. He told that three separate teams have been sent for this and they too will be recovered soon. He said that after investigation of this matter, strict action will be taken against whoever is found guilty.