

Pune Times Mirror

MAX 26 | MIN 23 | HUMIDITY 89%



FORECAST Overcast | SUNRISE 06:24 | SUNSET 18:27

Sensex 84,914 | Nifty 25,940 | Gold 76,360 | Silver 92,900 | Dollar 83.61 | Euro 93.22 | GBP 111.87

feedback@punemirror.com

facebook.com/thepunemirror

twitter.com/thepunemirror

instagram.com/thepunemirror

TO ORDER YOUR COPY, CALL 9922990023



JEWELS WORTH ₹2.78 CR LOOTED WITH HELP OF PNB MANAGER PG3



'STATE SHIELDING SCHOOL MGMT' PG11



85-year-old sexually assaulted in Mhalunge

The accused, an electrician, went to the society for work and violated her

Rohit Athavale
feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

An 85-year-old woman was sexually assaulted by a 23-year-old man in an elite society in the Mhalunge area near Hinjawadi on Monday evening. The police have arrested the accused within an hour of the shocking incident.

The accused, Om Jayachand Puri, who resides in Sakhare Vasti, Hinjawadi, is a native of Dharashiv. The 57-year-old daughter of the victim filed a complaint in Hinjawadi police station.

According to the police, around 6.30 p.m. on Monday, the victim was walking in front of her flat on the fifth floor of the society. The accused, an electrician, had come to the society for some work. When he saw the old lady walking alone, he grabbed her, dragged her to an open space between the sixth and seventh-floor staircase, and sexually assaulted her. The accused also beat up the woman. While being assaulted, the old woman tried to resist and screamed. The accused ran away.

The woman went back home and narrated the incident to her family members. They immediately rushed to Hinjawadi police station. The police immediately started an investigation checking the CCTV cameras of the society. The accused was identified and arrested.

The accused was under the influence of alcohol when he was arrested. Police are investigating whether the accused committed this act under the influence of alcohol.

Vishal Gaikwad, DCP (Zone 2), Pimpri Chinchwad Police, said, "After the complainant came to the police station, realising the seriousness of the incident, the police started the process of filing a case and went to the concerned society to get information and arrested the accused. Meanwhile, the security guards need to know to which flat the worker is going and for how long he will be present in the society."



SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON SPPU CAMPUS SPARKS OUTRAGE

GUTKHA ON STUDY TABLE

Students stage protest prompting closure of shop; incident comes days after the alleged discovery of cannabis in boys' hostel

Yashpal Sonkamble
yashpal@punemirror.com

TWEET @YashPune_Mirror

Vigilant students of Savitribai Phule Pune University on Monday night found gutkha and other tobacco products being sold openly in a grocery shop adjacent to the girls' hostel. This development prompted the university administration to force the outlet down its shutters but not before students' organisations protested late into the night.

This incident comes just a few days after the alleged discovery of 750 grams of cannabis in the boys' hostel on the campus, which was quietly suppressed by the SPPU office with no consequences for the student concerned or the security guard.

With the university administration failing to file a police complaint in the matter and not initiating action against the people involved, vigilant students took it upon themselves to dig deep.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 >>



“ On Monday, a grocery shop near the girls' hostel operated under the university's supervision was openly selling tobacco products. We alerted the university administration, which promptly terminated the vendor's contract.

— Yogesh Bendre, president of Yuva Sena, SPPU



POLITICAL POWER PLAY IN PARVATI

As elections approach, candidates from various parties vie for nomination intensifying struggle within both MVA and Mahayuti

Laxman More
feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

Once a Congress stronghold, the Parvati constituency has become a hotbed of political activity as parties prepare for the upcoming legislative assembly elections.

While the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has dominated the seat for the past 15 years, is now facing internal strife over candidate selection, the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) alliance – comprising the Shiv Sena (UBT), NCP (SP), and Congress – has been grappling with its own power struggles.

The tussle within the MVA for the seat is more intense, with each party vying for the ticket. In contrast, the Mahayuti alliance seems to be less enthusiastic about the Parvati seat.

“As a constituent party of the Mahayuti, we have not asked for the Parvati seat. However, voter dissatisfaction, including among BJP supporters, necessitates a candidate change due to anti-incumbency sentiment against the current MLA. We will support the candidate selected by grand alliance and strive for their victory,” said NCP (AP) leader Subhash Jagtap.

Meanwhile, the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) remains undecided on its candidate, despite several hopefuls eyeing the seat.

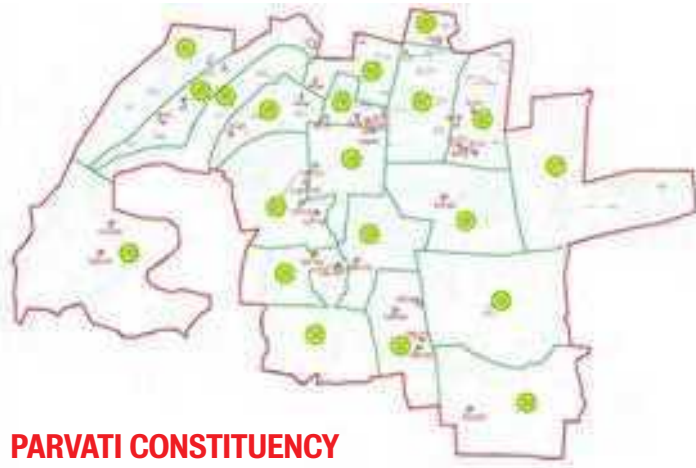
Home to slum dwellers, middle-class families, and business community, Parvati has become a battleground due to shifting voting patterns in Pune.

The inaugural election in the Parvati Vidhan Sabha constituency took place in 1978, with Subhash Sarvagod of the Janata Party emerging victorious. Since then, both the Congress and the BJP have alternately held the seat. Congress leaders Vasant Chavan, Sharad Ranpise, and Ramesh Bagwe have served as MLAs, while Dilip Kamble, Vishwas Gangurde, and Madhuri Misal have represented the BJP.

Since 1980, the Congress has won the seat four times and the BJP five times. Currently, BJP's Madhuri Misal holds the position of MLA, having been elected for the third time. In 2019, the contest was primarily between the BJP and the NCP.

In the 2017 municipal elections, out of the 27 corporators elected from the seven wards in the Parvati constituency, 23 were from the BJP, with the remaining positions taken by two NCP corporators and one each from Congress and Shiv Sena. The BJP had expected a strong majority from Parvati in the recently-held Lok Sabha elections, but a decline in voter turnout in some areas was noted.

The Parvati constituency was reserved for Scheduled Castes until 2004. It was opened for general candidates in 2009 after the reorganisation of assembly constituencies. The area has a diverse demographic, with a significant presence of middle-class societies, elite residential areas, and slums.



PARVATI CONSTITUENCY

MAIN CONTENDERS			
MLA Madhuri Misal	(BJP)		
Srinath Bhimale	(BJP)		
Ashwini Kadam	NCP (SP)		
Ulhas alias Aba Bagul	(Congress)		
Balasaheb Oswal	(Shiv Sena (UBT))		

2019 ELECTION RESULTS OVERVIEW			
Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Madhuri Misal	BJP	97,012	55.82%
Ashwini Kadam	NCP	60,245	34.67%
Total voting percentage			50.03%

VOTING PATTERN IN 2024 LOK SABHA ELECTIONS	
Total voting:	3,41,055
Polling done:	1,89,184
Voting percentage:	55.47%

Localities such as Sahakarnagar, Aranyeshwar, Bibwewadi, Maharshinagar, Mukundnagar, Swargate, Parvati, Sinhad Road, Manikbagh, Badgaon Budruk, Hingane Khurd, Gangadham Society, Salisbury Park, and Mitramandal Colony are considered middle and upper-middle class. Maharshinagar, Mukundnagar, Laxminagar-Parvati, Sahakarnagar, Dattawadi, Shivdarshan, and Parvati Darshan are part of the flood-affected areas.

Besides, slums like Upper Indiranagar, Upper-Supper, Gul Tekdi Industrial Estate, Dias Plot, Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Nagar in Market Yard, Premnagar, Taljai Vasahat, Anna Bhau Sathe Nagar in Aranyeshwar, Siddharth Vasahat, and Panmala are also included in this constituency.

This diverse population means both the MVA and the Mahayuti must secure support from various voter groups. The MVA has a strong base in the slums with core Congress voters and minorities, while the BJP is focusing on new voters, Hindutva organisation workers in the slums, government scheme beneficiaries, and the middle and business classes.

Tug-of-war within BJP

The Parvati constituency has been a BJP stronghold for 15 years, with key leaders like former PMC Leader of House Shrinath Bhimale and extending committee chairperson and MLA Sunil Kamble bolstering the party's influence. However, newer

leaders are now seeking representation. Sitting MLA Madhuri Misal, Bhimale, and Shilimkar have all staked claims for the BJP candidacy.

“In the past 20 years, I have served as a corporator. For the last 15 years, I have sought candidature of the legislative assembly based on merit. During my tenure as the leader of the house in PMC, I prioritised the city's interests. Key projects like the Market Yard flyover and the Katraj Metro progress at Swargate to ease congestion and water tanks for the common supply scheme were initiated. In my ward, we had the highest voter turnout in the Lok Sabha elections. I have assured the party leaders that if I contest this year, I will win,” said Bhimale.

Meanwhile, sitting legislator Madhuri Misal listed out her achievements. “For the past 15 years, we have secured this constituency as a BJP stronghold by uniting like-minded workers and focusing on public outreach while implementing government schemes. The Sinhad Road flyover is nearly complete, and alternative roadworks are finished. Key projects include Kalagram at PL Deshpande Garden, the new Sinhad Road Police Station, and the Shri Kshetra Parvati Devdevshwar Sansthan. We have also constructed boundary walls along the Ambil Odha and granted land ownership rights to 103 flood-affected societies. Additionally, the 500-bed ESIC hospital in Bibwewadi is underway. We have been actively following up on the metro projects. Other ongoing projects include the Swargate multi-hub, slum rehabilitation schemes in Janata Vasahat and Meenatai Thackeray Vasahat, approval for the Gangadham Chowk flyover, riverfront development at Shri Kshetra Vitthalwadi, and an elevated road from Vitthalwadi to the rear of Nanded City. Based on this extensive work, I am seeking the party's nomination,” she said.

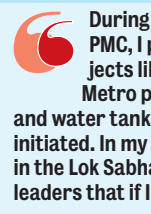
MVA's seat-sharing dilemma

Both Congress and NCP (SP) are vying for the Parvati constituency. While Ashwini Kadam, who ran for this seat on an NCP ticket in 2019, has begun preparations for another attempt, Congress leader and former deputy mayor Ulhas alias Aba Bagul



For the past 15 years, we have secured this constituency as a BJP stronghold by uniting like-minded workers and focusing on public outreach while implementing government schemes. The Sinhad Road flyover is nearly complete, and alternative roadworks are finished. Key projects include Kalagram at PL Deshpande Garden, the new Sinhad Road Police Station, and the Shri Kshetra Parvati Devdevshwar Sansthan. Based on this extensive work, I am seeking the party's nomination

— Madhuri Misal, MLA



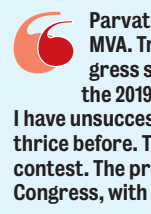
During my tenure as the leader of the house in PMC, I prioritised the city's interests. Key projects like the Market Yard flyover and the Katraj Metro progress at Swargate to ease congestion and water tanks for the common supply scheme were initiated. In my ward, we had the highest voter turnout in the Lok Sabha elections. I have assured the party leaders that if I contest this year, I will win

— Shrinath Bhimale, BJP



We have distributed leaflets door-to-door and formed booth committees. In 2019, I ran against the sitting MLA and, despite my defeat, continued serving the community. Through initiatives like the free Maha-e-Seva Kendra and medical services at Kadam Diagnostics, I've reached out to around one and a half lakh citizens. There is growing dissatisfaction with the sitting MLA and the BJP. I have formally sought the party's nomination while continuing my work, protests, and gatherings

— Ashwini Kadam, NCP (SP)



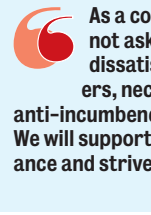
Parvati should be allocated to Congress in the MVA. Traditionally, this seat has been a Congress stronghold, but it was given to NCP during the 2019 negotiations in exchange for Kasba. I have unsuccessfully sought the party's nomination thrice before. This year, however, I am determined to contest. The present situation is favourable for the Congress, with the sitting MLA inactive

— Aba Bagul, Congress



The Shiv Sena (UBT) has strong support in Parvati, with many Hindutva workers aligned with Balasaheb Thackeray's ideology backing me. I've maintained unity within our ranks and consistently worked in the constituency. Therefore, I've decided to contest this election and believe I can win if allocated this seat.

— Balasaheb Oswal, Shiv Sena (UBT)



As a constituent party of the Mahayuti, we have not asked for the Parvati seat. However, voter dissatisfaction, including among BJP supporters, necessitates a candidate change due to anti-incumbency sentiment against the current MLA. We will support the candidate selected by grand alliance and strive for their victory.

— Subhash Jagtap, NCP (AP)

is also gearing up for the race.

“Parvati should be allocated to Congress in the MVA. Traditionally, this seat has been a Congress stronghold, but it was given to NCP during the 2019 negotiations in exchange for Kasba. I have unsuccessfully sought the party's nomination thrice before. This year, however, I am determined to contest. The present situation is favourable for the Congress, with the sitting MLA inactive,” asserted Bagul.

After withdrawing his candidacy in 2019 following discussions with senior leaders, Bagul, unhappy about not receiving a Lok Sabha ticket this year, is making a bid for the assembly seat. The uncertain position of both the Shiv Sena and the NCP (AP) has further complicated the contest.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Balasaheb Oswal said, “The party has strong

support in Parvati, with many Hindutva workers aligned with Balasaheb Thackeray's ideology backing me. I've maintained unity within our ranks and consistently worked in the constituency. I am keen to contest and believe I can win if the party is allocated this seat.”

“We have distributed leaflets door-to-door and formed booth committees. In 2019, I ran against the sitting MLA and, despite my defeat, continued serving the community. Through initiatives like the free Maha-e-Seva Kendra and medical services at Kadam Diagnostics, I've reached out to around one and a half lakh citizens. There is growing dissatisfaction with the sitting MLA and the BJP. I have formally sought the party's nomination while continuing my work, protests, and gatherings,” said Ashwini Kadam, NCP (SP).

Jewels worth ₹2.78 cr looted with help of PNB manager

Case registered at Cantonment police station; accused took away ornaments and handed them to jeweller

Laxman More
feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

Jewellery, cash, and crucial documents worth Rs 2.78 crore were looted from a locker at Punjab National Bank's Cantonment branch, with the bank manager reportedly involved in the crime. The embezzlement, which occurred between August 13, 2023 and September 6, 2024, took place at Aurora Towers in the Cantonment area.

A case has been registered by Lashkar police at the Cantonment police station, and further investigation is underway.

Bank Manager Naina Ajwani and Surender Shahani (73), along with jeweller Satish Punjabi, have been booked under sections 305, 314,



316(5), 317(2), 238, and 3(5) of the BNS. The complaint was lodged by Yash Keshavlal Kapoor (47), a resident of Empress Court, Sopan Baug.

Kapoor works as a Human

Resource Management Officer at Mother's Recipe and accused Shahani has a printing press business. According to the Cantonment police, Kapoor had a locker in

Punjab National Bank's Cantonment branch, located in Aurora Towers, where Shahani also has a locker. The plaintiff had opened his locker approximately two months ago, which contained gold, silver, diamond jewellery, and some cash totally worth Rs 2.78 crore.

On September 6, 2024, he visited the bank to inspect their locker and attempted to open it with his key, but failed. He then informed the bank officials, who assisted in opening the locker, only to find it empty. He was shocked to see the locker had been emptied.

After inquiring with the bank management, it was revealed that on August 13, 2024, Shahani and Punjabi looted the jewellery with the help of manager Ajwani. Shahani attempted three to four

times to open the locker with his key, despite knowing it did not belong to him. With the assistance of Ajwani and jeweller Punjabi, they stole gold, silver, and diamond jewellery worth Rs 2.65 crore, along with cash amounting to Rs 9.5 lakh receipts, and other important documents.

The accused took away the jewellery and handed it over to jeweller Satish Punjabi. The prosecution also stated that the stolen jewellery was melted and disposed of to eliminate any evidence. The plaintiff, Kapoor, lodged a complaint with the police. Based on this application, the police questioned all parties involved. Manager Ajwani admitted to opening the locker. Senior Inspector Girish Dighavkar confirmed that a case has been registered in this matter.

Report on floods yet to be made public

Civic activist stresses importance of uploading it on PMC's portal

Eeshwari Jedhe
eeshwari.jedhe@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

Civic activist Vivek Velankar has criticised the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) for its failure to publish a crucial report on the city's flood-affected areas, despite assurances from officials that it would be made public. Additional Municipal Commissioner Prithviraj BP had given a statement that the report would be available within a week of its submission, which was expected in early September. However, a month later, the document remains elusive to the public.

The flooding in Pune occurred on July 24 and 25, following heavy rains that particularly impacted areas such as Sinhagad Road. In response to the crisis, the PMC formed a four-member committee on August 1 to investigate the causes of the flooding and to create an emergency response plan. This committee visited various flood-affected areas as part of its mandate.

Vivek Velankar, a civic activist who has been actively following the issue, attempted to access the report directly from committee members but was informed that it would be submitted to the PMC office in the first week of September. Given the report's significance for public safety and urban planning, he stressed the importance of making it accessible on the PMC's official website.

"The people of Pune have a right to know the findings and recommen-



FILE PHOTO

dations of this committee. With the safety of our community at stake, it's unacceptable that such a critical report has not been shared with the public," said Velankar.

The flooding was exacerbated by the release of 35,000 cusecs of water from the Khadakwasla Dam, which officials reported was discharged after heavy rains in the dam's catchment area. This unexpected release occurred early in the morning and caught many residents off guard, leading to significant damage. Local residents, including those from Ekta Nagar, Vitthalwadi, Nimbaj Nagar, Warje, and parts of Shivane, expressed their frustration over the lack of prior warning, which they believe contributed to the extent of the flooding.

Over 100 homes along Sinhagad Road were inundated, with rainwater also affecting neighbourhoods such as Deccan, Warje, and Shivane. Many residents are now concerned about the future, fearing that without proper preventive measures, similar incidents could occur again.

The committee tasked with drafting the report includes several senior officials from PMC i.e. Sunanda Jagtap, Superintending Engineer of Water Resources Department; Sahebrao Dandge, Superintending Engineer of Road Department; Dinkar Gojari, Superintending Engineer of Drainage Department; and Executive Engineer Bipin Shinde. They were expected to outline key steps to mitigate the risk of future flooding, emphasising the need for a comprehensive emergency plan.

While the committee has been diligent in its work, the delay in publishing the report raises questions about the PMC's commitment to transparency and public safety. Local leaders and citizens alike are eager for accountability and concrete actions that address the vulnerabilities highlighted by the recent floods.

In the wake of this situation, residents are looking to the PMC for proactive measures. As the city prepares for future rainfall, the demand for the report becomes increasingly urgent.

Govt tweaks contractual teachers' hiring criteria

Only D.Ed. and B.Ed. unemployed candidates will be appointed

Yashpal Sonkamble
yashpal@punemirror.com

TWEET @YashPune_Mirror

In a recent development, the state government decided to appoint only D.Ed. and B.Ed. eligible unemployed candidates on a contract basis in schools with 10 or fewer students. This decision comes after there was strong criticism against the government's earlier decision to appoint retired and unemployed D.Ed. and B.Ed. teachers in schools with 20 or fewer than 20 percent of students on a contractual basis.

The benefits

According to the school education department, the appointment will be initially for one year and may be renewed annually for an extended period as per merit and suitability requirements. An amount of Rs. 15,000 per month will be paid for this. No other benefits will apply. The maximum and minimum age limit will be applicable for this appointment. The appointed contract teachers will get twelve leaves in total.

As this appointment will be on a contractual basis, appointees will not be entitled to any other benefits of regular service, or inclusion in any cadre of government.

An agreement has to be made with the primary education officer on behalf of the Zilla Parishad.

Sarika Gaikwad, a D.Ed. qualification job aspirant, said, "When there is a need for full-time teacher recruitment, it has been decided to

As this appointment will be on a contractual basis, appointees will not be entitled to any other benefits of regular service, or inclusion in any cadre of government. An agreement has to be made with the primary edu officer

recruit only on a contract basis. Re-hiring them after retirement is wrong. Lakhs of teachers are waiting for jobs. Finally, the state government realised the mistake and changed the decision. We welcome it." Yogesh Pawar, a B.Ed. qualification job aspirant, said, "The quality of education in the state has declined. Even when there is a need for teachers compared to the number of students, the state government is not recruiting full-time teachers. Contract teacher recruitment is being imposed. This will bring a disparity between full-time and contract teachers. Working for meagre salaries is burdening the teachers. Instead of hiring qualified people, the state government should implement this decision immediately."

In this regard, attempts were made to contact School Education Minister Deepak Kesarkar, Education Commissioner Suraj Mandhare for their response, but they could not be reached.

GUTKHA ON STUDY TABLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Siddhant Jambhulkar, a student representative, said, "The discovery of narcotics on the campus is a matter of grave concern. Such incidents jeopardise students' future and the integrity of the educational environment. The university's primary purpose is to impart education and foster personal development. However, these incidents undermine the well-being of students and could have long-lasting consequences."

Significantly, the central government issued orders to make educational institutions and campuses tobacco-free, just two days ago. On the other hand, the state government ban on the sale of tobacco products within 100 metres of educational institutions has been in place for some time.

Rahul Sasane, a PhD researcher and member of the University Students Struggle Committee, expressed concern over the lack of action following the alleged discovery of cannabis in the boys' hostel.

Sasane said: "The space adjacent to the girls' hostel has been rented out by the university administration for running a shop. Student activists belonging to the University Students Struggle Committee, National Students Union of India, and Yuva Sena, seized tobacco products from the shop and also discovered the presence of child labourers in it."

"Subsequently, they staged a protest against the shop owner that continued late into the night, ultimately resulting in former registrar Dr Vijay Khare and professor AS Kumbhar closing the shop."

Yogesh Bendre, president of Yuva Sena, SPPU, said, "On Monday, a

“The space adjacent to the girls' hostel has been rented out by the university administration for running a shop. Student activists seized tobacco products from the shop and discovered the presence of child labourers in it.”

— Rahul Sasane, Member, University Students Struggle Committee

grocery shop near the girls' hostel operated under the university's supervision was openly selling tobacco products. We alerted the university administration, which promptly terminated the vendor's contract. We demand that all faculty members on the university canteen committee be dismissed. The vice-chancellor should take immediate disciplinary action."

Akshay Kamble, coordinator, NSUI, said, "Narcotics were discovered in the university hostel, and it was expected that preventive measures would be taken by the administration. However, the recent open sale of tobacco and gutkha on campus demonstrates the administration's ineffective-

ness and indifference.

"Strict action should be taken against both the shopkeepers and the responsible staff members who allowed them to sell these products. Our protest was suspended late at night after we received

written assurances of action."

Pune Times Mirror tried contacting vice-chancellor Dr. Suresh Gosavi, pro vice-chancellor Dr. Parag Kalkar, and in-charge registrar Jyoti Bhakere, but they were unavailable for comment.

जिल्हाधिकारी व जिल्हा निवडणूक अधिकारी सातारा यांचे कार्यालय झेरोक्स मशीन झेरॉक्स प्रती व इतर अनुषंगिक बाबीचा पुरवठा करणे करिता फेर ई-निविदा सुचना

जिल्हाधिकारी कार्यालय सातारा
निवडणूक शाखा झेरॉक्स फेर ई-निविदा/कावि/ २०२४
दि. २४/०९/२०२४

सातारा जिल्ह्यातील होणाऱ्या आगामी विधानसभा सार्वत्रिक निवडणूक २०२४ कामकाजाकरिता, तसेच सदर निवडणुकांच्या पूर्व तयारीकरिता जिल्हा निवडणूक कार्यालय सातारा व जिल्ह्यातील सर्व विधानसभा मतदार संघ, मुख्यालय अथवा सक्षम प्राधिकारी आदेश देतील त्या ठिकाणी झेरॉक्स मशीन झेरॉक्स प्रती/बाईडींग करणे व इतर अनुषंगिक बाबीचा पुरवठा करणेकामी अनुभवी व योग्य अभिकर्त्यांकडून निविदा प्रणालीद्वारे विहित नमुन्यातील फेर ई-निविदा मागविण्यात येत आहे. सदर ई-निविदा <http://mahatenders.gov.in> या संकेतस्थळावर प्रसिध्द करण्यात येत आहे.

निविदेच्या कामाचा तपशील :-

सातारा जिल्ह्यातील होणाऱ्या आगामी विधानसभा सार्वत्रिक निवडणूक २०२४ कामकाजाकरिता, तसेच सदर निवडणुकांच्या पूर्व तयारीकरिता जिल्हा निवडणूक कार्यालय सातारा व जिल्ह्यातील सर्व विधानसभा मतदार संघ, मुख्यालय अथवा सक्षम प्राधिकारी आदेश देतील त्या ठिकाणी होरॉक्स मशीन / झेरॉक्स प्रती/बाईडींग करणे व इतर अनुषंगिक बाबीचा पुरवठा करणेकामी ई-निविदा...

सदर निविदेची कार्यक्रमा पत्रिका खालील प्रमाणे राहिल:-

निविदा अंदाजित रक्कम रुपये	४०,००,००० (रु. चाळीस लाख फक्त)
कोऱ्या ई निविदा फार्मची किंमत रक्कम रुपये (ऑनलाईन भरणा केलेली पावती जोडावी)	५,०००/- (रु. पाच हजार फक्त) (विना परतावा)
बयाणा EMD रक्कम रुपये (ऑनलाईन भरणा केलेली पावती जोडावी)	८५,०००/- (रु. पंच्याऐशी हजार फक्त)
सुरक्षा अनामत रक्कम रुपये (ई निविदा मंजूर झालेनंतर राष्ट्रीयकृत बँकेची बँक गॅरंटी)	१,२०,०००/- (रु. एक लाख वीस हजार फक्त)
ई निविदा ऑनलाईन स्वीकृतीचा दिनांक व वेळ	दि.२०/०९/२०२४ वेळ दुपारी ३.०० वाजता ते दि. २७/०९/२०२४ दुपारी. १.०० वाजेपर्यंत
निविदा पूर्व बैठक Pre- Tender Conference (PTC) दिनांक व वेळ	२४/०९/२०२४ वेळ सकाळी ११.००
ई निविदा लिफाफा क्र. १ (निविदा तांत्रिक लिफाफा) उघडण्याचा दिनांक व वेळ	३०/०९/२०२४ वेळ सकाळी ११.००
ई निविदा लिफाफा क्र. २ (व्यवसायीक/दराबाबतचा लिफाफा) उघडण्याचा दिनांक व वेळ	तांत्रिक निविदा उघडण्यात आल्यानंतर व्यवसायीक दराच्या लिफाफा उघडण्या बाबत http://mahatenders.gov.in या संकेतस्थळावर सुचित केले जाईल.
ई निविदा उघडण्याचे ठिकाण	उप जिल्हा निवडणूक अधिकारी जिल्हाधिकारी कार्यालय सातारा
निविदा करार कालावधी	आदेशाचे दिनांकपासून १ वर्षांपर्यंत
ई निविदा संपर्क अधिकारी.	उप जिल्हा निवडणूक अधिकारी जिल्हाधिकारी कार्यालय सातारा

- ज्या निविदाधारकांचे निविदा अर्ज <http://mahatenders.gov.in> या संकेतस्थळावर निर्धारित मुदतीत सादर केली जातील केवळ त्याच निविदाधारकांच्या निविदा विचारात घेण्यात येतील. सदर निविदेची वैधता १२० दिवसांकरिता राहिल. तसेच आवश्यकतेनुसार अतिरिक्त ६० दिवसांची मुदतवाढ देण्याचा अधिकार मा. जिल्हाधिकारी तथा जिल्हा निवडणूक अधिकारी यांना राहिल.
- प्राप्त झालेल्या निविदा कारणांशिवाय स्वीकारणे अथवा नाकारण्याचे अधिकार जिल्हाधिकारी तथा जिल्हा निवडणूक अधिकारी सातारा यांनी स्वतः राखून ठेवले आहे.
- सदरची निविदा काम प्राप्त करून देण्याची कोणतीही हमी देत नाही.
- निविदेत भाग घेणाऱ्या निविदाधारकांनी क्लास III डिजिटल सिग्नेचर व वर नमूद केलेल्या संकेतस्थळावर विहित नाव नोंदणी करून घेणे आवश्यक आहे.
- निविदाधारकां/अधिकृत प्रतिनिधीने निविदा पूर्व बैठकीला Pre- Tender Conference (PTC) पूर्व बैठकीला उपस्थित रहाणे आवश्यक आहे. निविदेबाबतची पूर्व बैठक वरील प्रमाणे निर्धारित दिवशी जिल्हाधिकारी कार्यालय सातारा निवडणूक शाखा, सातारा येथे राहिल.
- निविदाधारकांनी अथवा त्यांनी नामनिर्देशित केलेल्या प्रतिनिधीने निविदा उघडण्याचे वेळी जिल्हाधिकारी कार्यालय, सातारा येथे उपस्थित रहावे.
- सदर निविदेच्या अटी व शर्ती <http://mahatenders.gov.in> या संकेतस्थळावर उपलब्ध आहेत.

सही/-

जिल्हाधिकारी तथा
जिल्हा निवडणूक अधिकारी सातारा

क्रमांक : आरओसी-2024-25/क्र-5/C3248

Maharashtra Rural Road Development Association

Superintending Engineer, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana,
Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar Region, Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar
e-Tender Notice 24/2024-25 [7th call]

The Superintending Engineer, PMGSY, Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar Region, Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar on behalf of Government of Maharashtra invites the rate bids in electronic tendering system published on <http://mahatenders.gov.in> for construction & Ten year maintenance of RD-PAR-A097 civil road work under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Gangakhed, Palam, Purna, Block districts of PARBHANI. Date of Sale & Submission start from 24-09-2024 11.00 am to 27-09-2024 til 05.00 pm. Further notification & Clarification will be published on website.

(Sd/-)

Sd/-

(V. H. More)

(K. T. Wagh)

Superintending Engineer

Executive Engineer

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sada Yojana

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

Chh.Sambhajanagar Region, Chh.

MRRDA District: Parbhani

Sambhajanagar

क्रमांक : आरओसी-2024-25/क्र-5/C3258

Mirror Classified

PuneTimesMirror
TO PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT
IN THIS SECTION

Please call: 9699321042

PuneTimesMirror

Pune Times Mirror doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owners of Pune Times Mirror shall not be held legally responsible for any consequences, in the event of claims not being honoured by the Advertisers. Readers are advised to take informed decisions before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication.



पुणे महानगरपालिका, पुणे

निविदा प्रक्रिया कक्ष पाणीपुरवठा विभाग

निविदा जाहिरात - नविन कामे

विक्री कालावधी दिनांक : २४/०९/२०२४ ०२.३० दुपारी ते दिनांक ०१/१०/२०२४ दुपारी ०२.३० दुपारी पर्यंत

स्वीकृती दिनांक : २४/०९/२०२४ ०२.३० दुपारी ते दिनांक ०१/१०/२०२४ दुपारी ०२.३० दुपारी पर्यंत

जाहिरात क्रमांक : १/७२३ दि. २४/०९/२०२४

तांत्रिक निविदा उघडणे प्रक्रिया दिनांक : ०३/१०/२०२४ ३:०० दुपारी

निविदा क्रमांक	खात्याचे नाव	कामाचे नाव	निविदा संच किंमत रु.	अंदाजित पूर्व गणित रक्कम रु.	बयाणा रक्कम रु.	कामाची मुदत (महिने)	निविदा विषयक जबाबदार व्यक्तीचे नाव व दूरध्वनी क्रमांक
PMC/WATER SUPPLY/2024/45	पाणीपुरवठा	वारजे कर्वेनगर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालयाअंतर्गत येणाऱ्या प्रभागामधील जलवाहिन्यांची दुरुस्ती करणेसाठी खोदाई केलेला रस्ता पूर्ववत करणे.	रु. १३५९/-	रु. २५५६९७३/-	रु. २५५७०/-	१२	रोहन कापसे ७३५०९६७६८३

- सदर कामाबाबत निविदा अटी/शर्ती इ. बाबतचा सर्व तपशिल निविदा संचामध्ये नमूद केला असून सदर कामांचे निविदा संच www.mahatenders.gov.in या वेबसाईटवर पाहण्यासाठी उपलब्ध आहे. निविदा संचाची विक्री व स्वीकृती सदर वेबसाईटवरून फक्त ऑनलाईन पद्धतीने करण्यात येत असून सर्व निविदा दोन पाकीट पद्धतीने मागविण्यात येत आहेत.
- निविदा प्रक्रियाच्या शेवटच्या दिवशी निविदा संच प्राप्त न झाल्यास स्वीकृतीच्या शेवटच्या दिवशी ऑनलाईन सादरीकरण न झाल्यास याची सर्वस्व जबाबदारी डॅंडरदाराची राहिल.
- ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रक्रियेबाबतची संपूर्ण माहिती पाणीपुरवठा विभाग पुणे म.न.पा. येथे मिळेल. सही/-
- कार्यालयीन आदेश क्र. अतिमआ (वि)/३२, दि.२२.०४.२०१६ नुसार बयाणा रक्कम ECS / RTGS / NEFT सुविधेमार्फत स्वीकारण्यात येणार आहे. Tender Clerk SNTD WS सही/-

Tender Clerk SNTD WS

डॅंडर लिपिक

पाणीपुरवठा

पुणे महानगरपालिका

सही/-

कार्यकारी अभियंता क्र. २

एस.एन.डी.टी. पाणीपुरवठा विभाग

पुणे महानगरपालिका

महाराष्ट्र विधी सेवा प्राधिकरण, मुंबई मार्फत संपूर्ण महाराष्ट्र राज्यात दि. २८.०९.२०२४ रोजी राष्ट्रीय लोकअदालतीचे नियोजन केले आहे.

Company buys farmer's land using forged docs

Sells it to another firm; peasant reclaims 32-acre plot after almost 3 decades, moves Bombay HC after district collector rejects plea; court orders probe

Laxman More
feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

A case has been registered against the former manager of Crossland Research and Laboratories Limited for allegedly cheating a farmer by acquiring the latter's land using forged documents and selling it for commercial purposes instead of intended use of manufacturing drugs.

After obtaining 32 acres of land from a farmer for industrial purposes using a fake 'Sanad' (permission) purportedly issued by the District Collector's office, plans were made to establish a pharmaceutical company. However, instead of setting up the company, the land was sold to other firms. The industrial permission granted by the Collector's office had certain terms and conditions, including a rule that if the industrial project wasn't initiated within 15 years, the land would revert to the original owner.

The farmer, based on this rule, applied to the Collector's office to reclaim his land, but his application was rejected. He then approached the Maharashtra Land Revenue Tribunal. Meanwhile, the High Court also ordered an inquiry into the matter. During the police investigation, it was discovered that the land was acquired using a forged charter. Consequently, a case has been registered against the then manager of 'Crossland Research and Laboratories Limited' at Bund Garden police station.

A case has been registered against Prakash Keshavrao Doshi (65, resident of Lonand, Khandala,) following a complaint by Arjun Mohite (37), assistant police inspector, Bund



Garden police station. The police have filed charges under Sections 420, 465, 468, and 471 of the IPC. The incident took place at the Tehsildar office in Saswad on February 28, 1996.

Probe on HC's order

According to the police, the land in question belonged to farmer Bhalchandra Khaldkar of Mauje Kolevihi in Purandar taluka, covering survey numbers 621, 622, 624, and 759. Khaldkar had sold this land to 'Crossland Research and Laboratories Limited' for an industrial project. His son, Kamlakar Bhalchandra Khaldkar (71, resident of Sadashiv Peth), later filed a criminal petition in the Bombay High Court regarding the matter. In response, the High Court on July 25, 2024, directed the police to investigate the land deal and submit a report, which was subsequently carried out by Bund Garden police.

The case

In the year 1994, the company 'Crossland Research and Laboratories Limited' purchased this land from Bhalchandra Khaldkar, father of the applicant Kamlakar Khaldkar, for an industrial project. It was alleged that the necessary industrial use charter

was obtained while acquiring this land. This charter is necessary when agricultural land is industrialised. Over time, this company merged with Ranbaxy Laboratories. After that, the company Ranbaxy Laboratories sold this land to Nitin Bharat Gandhi, who is a partner in Adinath Agro Process Food Pvt Ltd on April 12, 2010. All these three companies had not started drug manufacturing industry even after 15 years without complying with the order of the Maharashtra government. Because of this, Kamlakar Khaldkar, as the original owner of the land, had applied against these companies to the Pune district collector under Section 63-1A to get the land back. However, the district collector rejected this demand to return the land on the grounds that Khaldkar filed a late appeal. Hence, Khaldkar filed an application with the Maharashtra Land Revenue Tribunal on December 7, 2019. At present, the case is pending before the judiciary.

In this case, a charter dated February 28, 1996 was presented by Nitin Gandhi on behalf of Adinath Agro Process Food Private Limited. The then Tehsildar of Purandar D. D. Lade and village Talathi Chandrakant Shivaram Landge and the then manager Prakash Doshi, who was the official signatory on behalf of 'Crossland Research and Laboratories Limited', had signatures and government stamps. Khaldkar claimed that the charter was fake and forged.

The statement of the accused was recorded during the police interrogation. At that time, he said that the 'charter' was signed by Talathi Chandrakant Landge, a village worker. Therefore, the police took a statement from Landge.

Landge informed the police that he was transferred before February 28, 1996, having been promoted and relocated to Kikadi in Bhore taluka on

January 30, 1996. He claimed that he did not sign any documents related to the case. Additionally, the Tehsildar office reported that there is no record of the said charter. However, an entry for it was found in the village sample 2 register maintained by the Kolvihi Talathi village worker.

At the time the 'Sanad' was issued, Tehsildar Lade and village Talathi Sable were in charge. During the period Sable passed away, and his son informed the police that the then Tehsildar Lade is now paralysed and unable to respond to inquiries. Information from the Collector's office clarified that tehsildars did not have the authority to issue 'Sanads' at that time, and this power rested with the Additional Collector.

In 1996, Crossland Laboratories submitted certain documents to the Town Planning Department at the Baramati office for construction permission. Gandhi informed the police that these documents included the disputed 'Sanad'. Upon correspondence with the Town Planning Department, the police confirmed that the company had indeed submitted this charter.

Although records of the 1996 charter were found, the police investigation revealed that the document needed to be officially prepared. The prosecution has stated that the Sanad was created fraudulently. All relevant documents and reports from the inquiry were submitted to the High Court on September 12, 2024. Following this, the High Court ordered the registration of a criminal case against Prakash Doshi, the then-manager of Crossland Research and Laboratories Limited. Accordingly, the police have filed the case.

Lives of expectant mothers at risk!

Citizens accuse PMC of negligence over lack of infrastructure upkeep at civic-run Siddharth Hospital



Somnath Salunke
feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

The deteriorating state of the Siddharth Hospital building in Vishrantwadi raises concerns about the safety of pregnant women seeking treatment there. Leaks caused by rainwater have rendered the building dangerous, with allegations that Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) officials are ignoring the threat to patients' lives.

The hospital, run by the PMC's health department, primarily serves underprivileged patients from nearby areas, including Shanti Nagar and various slums. With rising inflation and the high cost of private healthcare, the hospital is a lifeline for the poor, offering essential services at no cost. However, the neglect of the hospital's infrastructure has affected not only the patients but also the doctors, nurses, and staff working in these hazardous conditions.

Despite several complaints and applications submitted by hospital staff, officials have not addressed the safety issues.

With no space to store medicine boxes in the hospital, staff have resorted to keeping them in the stairwell. Patients, who should be finding comfort

in a hospital built with taxpayers' money, are instead confronted with chaotic conditions. Despite repeated applications from doctors to the municipal health department, senior officials have ignored the main issues and dismissed their concerns. The pressing question remains: To whom can citizens turn for justice? Will the health department only wake up when the hospital building collapses and a serious accident occurs?

Patients were left standing for hours as the city was lashed by heavy rains over the past three to four days. Rainwater accumulated on the terrace due to inadequate drainage, seeping into the hospital stairs. Tuesday, being the examination day for pregnant women, saw many from the area arriving for check-ups.

However, the rain-soaked stairs became slippery, posing a significant risk. The potential for serious injury if a pregnant woman falls cannot be ignored. While employees have been placing buckets to manage the leakage, the situation remains hazardous.

The dilapidated and unsafe hospital building clearly indicates that it is crucial for municipal health department officials to take responsibility and focus on improvements to prevent future accidents. Attempts to contact Maya Lohar, the senior medical officer, for a response were unsuccessful.



PMC, PCMC TO JOINTLY BUY BUSES

100 electric, as many CNG vehicles will be purchased for PMPML to provide sustainable transportation solutions

Eshwari Jedhe
eshwari.jedhe@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

In a move towards enhancing public transportation and improving air quality, the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) and the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) have announced plans to jointly purchase 100 electric and 100 CNG buses for the Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Ltd (PMPML). This initiative was revealed by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Mahesh Landge through a post on X (formerly Twitter) on Tuesday.

According to Landge, the financial arrangement for the purchase will see PMC covering 60 percent of the total cost, while PCMC will bear the remaining 40 percent. Specifically, the purchase includes 40 CNG buses that will be funded entirely by PCMC. The decision is part of a broader strategy to enhance air quality in Pimpri-Chinchwad under the National Clean Air Programme, which aims to combat pollution and promote cleaner alternatives in public transport.

"The blueprint for improving air quality in Pimpri-Chinchwad has been approved," Landge stated. "As a result,



PMC and PCMC will jointly acquire these buses for PMPML. In a recent meeting, PCMC commissioner and administrator Shekhar Singh approved the allocation of Rs 27.20 crore for this project."

The introduction of electric and CNG buses is a timely response to the growing concerns over air pollution in the Pune metropolitan area. With a population exceeding 3 million, the region has been grappling with deteriorating air quality, which poses serious health risks to its residents.

Meanwhile, the need for these new buses has been underscored by alarming statistics regarding the breakdowns of existing PMPML vehicles. Official data reveals that the number of breakdowns on Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad roads has surged from January to August this year. PMPML buses maintained a stable breakdown rate of around 500 to 600 incidents per month. However, leased buses have seen a dramatic increase in breakdowns, soaring from 1,372 in January to a staggering 2,713 by August.

In August alone, PMPML reported 561 breakdowns, averaging about 18 per day, while leased buses accounted for 2,152 breakdowns, or approximately 69 breakdowns per day. This spike in breakdowns highlights the urgent need for a more reliable fleet to ensure efficient public transport services.

Currently, the total PMPML fleet comprises 1,928 buses, of which 871 are operated by private contractors. The increasing number of breakdowns not only disrupts daily commutes but also undermines public confidence in the transport system. The introduction of new, more reliable electric and CNG buses is anticipated to alleviate some of these issues, providing a more dependable service for commuters.

The joint initiative by PMC and PCMC reflects a growing recognition of the importance of sustainable transport solutions in urban planning. As cities worldwide strive to combat climate change and reduce pollution, Pune's move to integrate electric and CNG buses into its public transport system positions it as a forward-thinking urban center.

Both municipal corporations have expressed their commitment to fostering a cleaner, greener environment for the citizens of Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad. By investing in eco-friendly buses, they aim to enhance the quality of life for residents while also addressing pressing environmental concerns.

Public Notice

NOTICE is hereby given that, Sweetly Sugandhlila Associates through its Partner Shri. Jayantilal Tarachand Oswal, has represented that they are the owners of lands (i) admeasuring 00 H 81.30 Arr. out of Survey Number 62/A/1/A totally admeasuring 01 H 1.30 Arr. (including potkharaba admeasuring 3 arr) and (ii) admeasuring 00 H 31 Arr. out of Survey Number 62/A/4/B totally admeasuring 00 H 62 Arr. both situated at Bavdhan Khurd, Registration Division & District Pune, Sub-Division & Taluka Haveli, and within the limits of Pune Municipal Corporation, and out of which 3856.09 sq.mtrs is reserved towards 24M D.P. Road & 894.57 sq.mtrs is reserved towards 60M D.P. Road as per sanctioned Development Plan of the City of Pune, herein after collectively referred to as the "said lands". The aforesaid owners have submitted a proposal to the Pune Municipal Corporation for obtaining Transferable Development Rights (T.D.R.) as against transferring/surrendering/conveying the said lands in favour of Pune Municipal Corporation.

The aforesaid owners have represented and assured us that the said lands are free from all encumbrances and/or defects in the title and no litigation is pending before any court of law in respect of the ownership of the said lands. They have further represented and assured us that they have exclusive rights in respect of the said lands and entitled to obtain Transferable Development Rights (T.D.R) in respect of the said lands.

Any person's having any claim or right in respect of the said lands by way of inheritance, share, sale, mortgage, lease, lien, license, gift, possession or encumbrances howsoever or any suit pending or otherwise is hereby required to intimate to the undersigned within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice, of such claim, if any, with all supporting documents, failing which the Pune Municipal Corporation shall proceed to issue Development Rights Certificate (D.R.C.), in the name of Sweetly Sugandhlila Associates through its Partner Shri. Jayantilal Tarachand Oswal, as against the said lands, as if there are no third-party claims/objections/disputes in respect of the said lands and thereafter no claims/objections/disputes will be entertained.

Sd/-
Pune : Adv. Nisha Chavan
Date : Chief Law Officer,
Law Department
Pune Municipal Corporation

जाहिरात क्र. १/७३५ दि. २४/०९/२४

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Public Works Department
Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Miraj.
Fort area, opp prant office, Miraj 416 410

E-Mail:- miraj.ee@mahapwd.com Phone No. (0233)2222665
PWDM/Tender/5919/2024 Date : 12/09/2024

E-Tender Notice No 40 Year 2024-25

Online Tender (e-tender) in "B-1" form for the following works is invited by the Executive Engineer, P.W. Division Miraj on Government of Maharashtra Electronic Tender Management System. Tender is available online on <https://mahatenders.gov.in> Executive Engineer Public Works Division, Miraj reserves the right to accept or reject any offer. Conditional tenders will not be accepted.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Amt Rs. in (Lakh)
1	Construction Of Road, Krishna Ghat, Bhakt Nivas In Nageswar Temple Area At Nagthane, Tal Palus District Sangli	375.73
2	Providing Road, Garden, Krishna Ghat, Bhakt Nivas And Other Facilities At Anandmurti Math Campus In Brahmnal, Tal - Palus, Dist.- Sangli.	286.68
3	Construction Of Road, Hall, Bhakt Niwas Parking In Bramanand Maharaj Math Area At Burungwadi, Tal - Palus, Dist.- Sangli.	132.82
4	Providing Road and other Facilities at Datta Mandir at Kundal Tal. Palus Dist. Sangli	71.45

E-Tender Schedule

1.	Period of download of Tenders	From : 24/09/2024 to 01/10/2024
2.	Pre Bid Meeting (Online) Sr. 1 to 2	From : 26/09/2024 time 12.00 hrs Office of the Chief Engineer Public Works Region, Pune (Online)
2.	Place, Time and Date of Bid Opening Date (if possible.)	Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Miraj Date: 03/10/2024 at 11.00 Hrs (Online) if possible.
3.	Submission of Hard Copy (Office Addresses) as on date 03/10/2024 at 11.00 am	Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Miraj Executive Engineer, Public Works (West) Division, Sangli Superintending Engineer, Public Works Circle, Kolhapur.

All information of e-tendering is available on the following website.

1. <https://mahapwd.com>

2. <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

(If there is any change in the instructions, the information will be communicated on the website)

The tender notice able to see on the Information Panel of the office

क्रमांक : आरओसी-2024-25/क्र-5/C3251

Sd/-
(K.P.Mirajkar)
Executive Engineer,
Public Works Division, Miraj

कार्यकारी अभियंता
सार्वजनिक बांधकाम (पश्चिम) विभाग,
सांगली यांचे कार्यालय

जा.क्र. लेखा/निविदा /३६/५१२८/२०२४ दुरध्वनी-०२३३-२३७५८९८, फॅक्स-०२३३-२३७३२३३
दिनांक :- १८.०९.२०२४ ई-मेल :- westsangli.ee@mahapwd.gov.in

ई निविदा सूचना क्र. - ३६ सन २०२४-२५

कार्यकारी अभियंता, सा. बां. (पश्चिम) विभाग, सांगली महाराष्ट्र शासनाच्या सार्वजनिक बांधकाम खात्याकडून नोंदणीकृत ठेकेदारांकडून खालील कामाकरिता ई-निविदा प्रणालीद्वारे (ऑनलाईन) निविदा मागवित आहेत. निविदा कागदपत्रे शासनाच्या संकेतस्थळावरून <http://mahatenders.gov.in> येथून डाऊनलोड करण्यात यावीत. तसेच निविदा स्विकारण्याचा अथवा नाकारण्याचा अधिकार कार्यकारी अभियंता, सा.बां. (पश्चिम) विभाग, सांगली यांनी राखून ठेवला आहे. अट असलेली निविदा स्विकारली जाणार नाही.

अ. क्र.	कामाचे नांव	किंमत (रु.लक्ष)	ठेकेदाराचा वर्ग	शेरा
१	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील शिराळा तालुक्यातील रामा क्र. १५९ ते पाडळीवाडी निगडी रस्ता ग्रामा क्र.२८ कि.मी.०/०० ते ४/०० मध्ये रूंदीकरणसह सुधारणा करणे व लहान पुलाचे बांधकाम करणे.	१९८.९२	--	चौथी मागणी
२	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील शिराळा तालुक्यातील रिळे येथील रिंगीच्या ओढ्यावर साकव बांधणे.	२९.९५	अ-अकुशल मजूर सोसायटी (जिल्हा सांगली)	
३	फार्णेवाडी (बो), ता. वाळवा येथे साखराळे ट्रेनेज रस्त्यावर सीडीवर्क बांधणे व रस्ता सुधारणा करणे.	१२.१४	ब-अकुशल मजूर सोसायटी (जिल्हा सांगली)	
४	१) सांगली जिल्ह्यातील आटपाडी तालुक्यातील विठलापूर येथील रस्ता काँक्रीटकरण आणि गटर बांधकाम करणे. २) आटपाडी तालुक्यातील राममळा येथील रस्ता बांधकाम करणे.	१२.८५	ब-अकुशल मजूर सोसायटी (जिल्हा सांगली)	
५	ऐतवडे खु. ता. वाळवा येथील चौगुले पाणदर रस्ता सुधारणा करणे.	२०.२३	ब-अकुशल मजूर सोसायटी (जिल्हा सांगली)	
६	शिराळा नगरपंचायत ता. शिराळा जि. सांगली येथील वॉर्ड क्र. ०३ मधील लकी मंगल कार्यालय मागील रस्ता सुधारणा करणे.	२०.०८	अ-अकुशल मजूर सोसायटी (जिल्हा सांगली)	दुसरी मागणी

ई-निविदा उपलब्ध कालावधी	दिनांक: २४.०९.२०२४ ते दिनांक :- ०१.१०.२०२४
निविदापूर्व बैठक	दिनांक:- २६.०९.२०२४ रोजी १२.०० वाजता (अ.क्र. १ कामासाठी) मा. अधीक्षक अभियंता, सा. बां. मंडळ, कोल्हापूर यांचे कार्यालयात (ऑनलाईन)
ई-निविदा उघडणे	दिनांक :- ०३.१०.२०२४ वेळ: १५.०० वाजता. ठिकाण :- मा. कार्यकारी अभियंता, सा.बां. (पश्चिम) विभाग, सांगली यांचे कार्यालयात

क्रमांक : आरओसी-2024-25/क्र-5/C3246

Sd/-
(क्रं. प्र. मिरजकर)
कार्यकारी अभियंता
सा. बां. (पश्चिम) विभाग, सांगली.



Rains likely to intensify in city

Met Dept issues orange alert for next two days; thunderstorms, lightning, gusty winds expected

Prince Chaudhuri
prince.chaudhuri@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

As Pune along with Maharashtra prepares to bid farewell to the monsoon season, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an orange alert for the city for the next two days in anticipation of intensified rainfall.

Following significant rainfall activity that commenced on Tuesday, the city can expect thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds due to a powerful weather system developing over the Bay of Bengal.

Anupam Kashyapi, former head of the weather and forecasting division at IMD Pune, said that the weather system has impacted several districts in Maharashtra, and is likely to bring thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds.

"Isolated areas within the districts of Sindhudurg, Ratnagiri, Kolhapur, Satara, Raigad, Pune, Beed, Aurangabad, Jalna, Nanded, and Jalgaon may experience thunderstorms with lightning and moderate rain, accompanied by wind gusts reaching 40-50 km/h. Residents are advised to take precautions when going outside and stay updated with local advisories," he said.



FILE PHOTO

Kashyapi said that an additional wave of thunderstorms is anticipated in various districts, including Mumbai and its neighboring areas of Palghar, Thane, Ahmednagar, Nashik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Solapur, Latur, Dharashiv, Parbhani, Sangli, and Hingoli. These storms are expected to bring gusty winds of 30-40 km/h along with the possibility of lightning.

He said that the westerly wind force is strengthening in the Arabian Sea. This has led the IMD to issue

alerts in Konkan and Central Maharashtra.

Kashyapi mentioned that Konkan would be under a red alert on Wednesday, which would down-

Weather alerts for Pune district

Sept 25 (Orange alert – warning, take action)	Sept 26 (Yellow alert – watch, be updated)	Sept 27 (Yellow alert – watch, be updated)	Sept 28 (Green Alert– No action)
Extremely heavy rainfall and thunderstorms, along with lightning and gusty winds, very likely in isolated areas	Heavy to very heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds very likely in isolated areas	Heavy rainfall is very likely in isolated places in the ghat areas, with light to moderate rain expected in the plains	Moderate rain is very likely

Kashyapi said that an additional wave of thunderstorms is anticipated in various districts, including Mumbai and its neighbouring areas

grade to orange on Thursday, with Central Maharashtra and Bhuj also on orange alert. He added that there would be no warnings or alerts for Maharashtra from Friday.

He added that the alert status for Pune district will be yellow on Thursday. Raigad will be under an orange alert on Wednesday and Nashik on Thursday. Moderate to intense spells of rainfall are expected across Maharashtra. He cautioned that people should not stand under trees or in open spaces, as lightning could be deadly.

Disaster response team to be set up for Pune Metropolitan Region

PMRDA tables ₹5.75 crore budget at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde in Mumbai

Pune Mirror Bureau
feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

In a welcome move, the state government approved the proposal of the Pune Metropolitan Region Development Authority (PMRDA) to set up a disaster response team in a meeting held in Mumbai.

The PMRDA meeting, which was stalled for several months, was finally held on Tuesday and was chaired by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. A budget of Rs 5.75 crore was tabled in the meeting. Other proposals that received the government's nod included the construction of new fire stations at 10 locations, drainage system at 11 locations, glass skywalks at Tiger and Lions Point at Lonavala, etc.

During the meeting, Shinde gave instructions that the PMRDA is responsible for planning the development process and the authority should maintain the identity of Pune city as a cultural city, and accordingly work for the development of the city.

The chief minister said that while preparing the prototype development plan, it should be prepared in such a way that a maximum number of citizens will benefit. Also, care should be taken to ensure that the



Bridge to be built at Hingangaon

A bridge will be constructed at Hingangaon on the Mula River within the PMRDA's jurisdiction. The length of the bridge will be 200 metres. The estimated cost of this project is going to be Rs 29 crore. This will provide a communication route to the villages of Shindewadi, Labadevasti, Raut Vasti, Sahajpurwadi, and Lonkarwadi in this taluka. Similarly, important highways of Pune -Nagar and Pune-Solapur are going to be connected. Also, a railway flyover will be constructed between Yavat and Rahu. An expenditure of Rs 96 crore is expected for this.

quality of construction of affordable houses, constructed through PMRDA, remains good. Strict action should be taken against those who

degrade the quality of the houses. Out of the total 4,886 ready houses, the remaining 1,620 houses should be ready soon. Also, the con-

STPs to be set up along all three rivers

STPs will be set up along the main rivers flowing through the district. This will include collecting polluted water from drains and laying sewage canals, water table removal, and solid waste management. Action will be taken in this regard in urban areas as well. The project to reduce the pollution of Indrayani, Mula-Mutha and Pavana rivers was stalled for the past several months.

struction of 6,000 houses in the second phase should be speeded up. He said that various facilities like parks and open spaces should be provided while constructing these residences.

Shinde gave suggestions that the convention centre in Pune should be planned to be of world-class, regularisation fees should be reduced to give relief to the citizens, and

maximum land should be regularised by providing special concessions till March 31, 2025, to pay these fees. The chief minister directed to take the help of experts while planning the development of Pune.

Those present in the meeting included Chief Secretary Sujata Saunik, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, O P Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Planning Department, Rajagopal Deora, Additional Chief Secretary to Chief Minister Vikas Kharge, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Brijesh Singh, Principal Secretary, Urban Development Department, Asim Gupta, PMRDA Commissioner Yogesh Mhase and others.



Catch
DR ROHAN
JAHAGIRDAR
Pune Times Mirror's
sexpert address
our readers' issues
in the daily column
Sexpert

If you have any queries please write to us at:
sexpert@punemirror.com

Builder lays power cable sans PCMC nod, faces action

Building permission dept seizes 60-metre electric wire; developer will be fined

Pune Mirror Bureau
 feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

In a blatant violation of rules, a builder from Pimple Nilakh unlawfully laid 60 metres of electric cable from the municipal dock without obtaining permission from the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation's (PCMC) D Ward office. Following the discovery, the building permission department seized the cable, and a fine will be imposed based on the unauthorised construction spread across 10,000 square metres.

Shavira Developers of Pimple Nilakh had not sought approval from the building permission department before installing the cable line.

A complaint in this regard was filed by the Aam Aadmi Party with PCMC's city engineer Makarand Nikam. Following the complaint, officials visited the site for inspection. During the visit, it was discovered that an unauthorised electric cable had been laid from the municipal dock. The

officials subsequently confiscated the cable. According to the PCMC's excavation policy, a case should be registered against the builder for the violation, as demanded by the complainants.

"The builder laid the electric cable from the municipal dock without obtaining any permission from the building permission department. The 60-metre electric cable has been seized by civic officials. Punitive action will also be taken against the builder," said Devanna Gattuwar, executive engineer, 'D' ward office of PCMC.



Uncollected waste in MIDC prompts protest

Entrepreneurs warn to dispose of waste on road if not collected

Pune Mirror Bureau
 feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

Entrepreneurs in the MIDC area staged a road protest over the ongoing issue of uncollected garbage. Led by Abhay Bhor, president of the Forum of Small Scale Industries Association, the protest saw demonstrators dumping and burning garbage on the streets.

The entrepreneurs warned that if the waste is not collected regularly in the future, they will continue to dispose of it on the roads. Bhor highlighted the gravity of the situation, stating that improper waste management is creating serious issues for local businesses.

"If we dump the waste on the road, we face action from the PCMC, but if we keep it within our premises, it jeopardises the health of our workers," said Bhor.

The accumulation of waste has tarnished the locality, with many local and foreign company representatives visiting. Workers in some areas are unable to sit outside for meals due to the unhygienic conditions

small waste collection vehicles to maintain cleanliness in the area. The accumulation of waste has tarnished the locality, with many local and foreign company representatives visiting. Workers in some areas are unable to sit outside for meals due to the unhygienic conditions.

The PCMC has appointed a brand ambassador for garbage management, but it seems that the MIDC area has been neglected. Entrepreneurs claim that government funds are being misused and warn that if the situation continues, they will be left with no option but to resort to intense protests and hunger strikes.

Among those present during the protest were entrepreneurs Jasbinder Singh, Milind Kale, Praveen Chavan, Krishna Valke, Sachin Bhagat, Rahul Garad, Nitin Shirke, Amol Swamy, Isaac Pathan, Durgabhor, and Jayashree Salunkhe, along with many workers.



Co-op housing society dissolved for violating rules

Chairman, secy among 13 members disqualified

Vikas Shinde
 feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

A co-operative housing society in Charholi, Vadmukhwadi, has been dissolved after allegations of rule violations surfaced. The associate deputy registrar passed an order cancelling the memberships of 13 individuals, including the society's chairman and secretary. Those disqualified have also been barred from contesting elections for a year.

The action was initiated after residents, including Shivaji Tapkir and Rahul Tapkir from Genesis Co-operative Housing Society, lodged complaints with the co-operative deputy registrar's office. The complaints highlighted the failure of the society's officers and members to convene the annual general meeting within the prescribed time, delay in conducting audits, failure to provide timely meeting notices to members, non-appointment of auditors, and neglect in presenting audit reports and defect correction reports at meetings.

"The officers of the society frequently failed to follow the rules and provisions of the Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act. The association deputy registrar has cancelled the membership of office-bearers as their violation of rules has

The association deputy registrar has cancelled the membership of office-bearers as their violation of rules has come to light. However, the society office-bearers have also raised complaints about illegal activities carried out in collusion with the builder.

— Rahul Tapkir, complainant resident

come to light. However, the society office-bearers have also raised complaints about illegal activities carried out in collusion with the builder," said Rahul Tapkir, a complainant.

As per the residents' complaint, the Assistant Deputy Registrar conducted a hearing. Following the hearing, under the Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act, the officers and members were accused of dereliction of duty. In her order, Associate Deputy Registrar Sheetal Patil cancelled their membership and disqualified them from being elected for one year.

CHAIRMAN DENIES RECEIVING ORDERS

Speaking on the issue, Suresh Ghodke, chairman of the Genesis Cooperative Housing Society, said, "We have not yet received the order to dissolve the society and cancel the office bearers' membership. Our society has more than 350 members. I have been the chairman of the society since 1982. Previously, the auditor was not appointed seven times by the cooperative deputy registrar's office. The former office-bearers of the society have embezzled lakhs of rupees, and this has been proven in the audit."

27 illegal constructions razed along the floodline of 3 rivers

Further action to be taken by PCMC's Anti-Encroachment Department

Pune Mirror Bureau
 feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

The Anti-Encroachment Department of Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) recently conducted a survey of unauthorised constructions along the floodline i.e. within the boundaries of three rivers i.e. Pavana, Mula and Indrayani. Among the constructions found in the survey, action was taken by the PCMC against unauthorised constructions on September 24.

Action has been taken against as many as 27 unauthorised commercial constructions by B, D, E ward offices of PCMC. It has been clarified by the Anti-Encroachment Department that henceforth, all unauthorised constructions will be demolished.

'Action' within the limits of these ward offices

Action has been taken against six unauthorised commercial constructions by the 'B' ward office of PCMC and an area of approximately 5,500 square feet has been cleared. Twenty MSF jawans were present during the operation. Along with that, two JCBs were used for the operation.

Action has been taken against 11 unauthorised brickwork and sheds by the 'D' ward office and approximately 16,000 sq ft area has been cleared. Ward officers, three encroachment superintendents, eight beat inspectors, 10 police personnel and 15 labourers were present. Two cranes and a tractor were used during the operation.

Action has been taken against 10 unauthorised constructions by the 'E' ward office and an area of approximately 16,400 sq. ft. has been cleared. For this purpose, four field officers, an encroachment superintendent, six beat inspectors, 30 police personnel and 15 labourers along with two cranes were used.



Traders struggle to secure plots in industrial township

The problem arises due to lack of co-ordination between PCMC and MIDC

Pankaj Khole
 feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

Pimpri Chinchwad, an industrial hub, is facing challenges in plot allocation for new entrepreneurs due to poor coordination between the municipality and the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC).

Currently, there are 3,800 plots available within MIDC limits, yet many aspiring business owners remain unaware of this opportunity. The lack of information about free plots is hindering new ventures in the city.

Entrepreneurs have expressed frustration, stating that both the MIDC and the civic administration appear indifferent to the issue. They are not receiving updates on the availability of unused plots, significantly affecting their ability to establish new businesses.

A total of 3,800 plots have been allotted in Pimpri, Chinchwad, and Bhosari. While many multinational companies have established operations on some of these plots, others remain vacant, and several companies have closed down.

Additionally, the MIDC and PCMC have numerous unused plots. The MIDC area comprises 22 blocks and spans 3,000 acres.

The unused plots were inspected by the MIDC administration five

PIC FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY



years ago, which noted that they remained vacant as the companies had not been established. Proceedings were to be initiated to reclaim these plots; however, this information did not reach the entrepreneurs.

The MIDC has allocated plots to the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation for various development projects. The civic body has set reservations on some plots, but entrepreneurs claim that many remain unutilised due to a lack of construction activity.

One and a half acres of land owned by the PCMC within the MIDC limits was allocated for a sewage treatment plant. However, this area was deemed insufficient, leading to a request for

an additional four acres.

In the past 17 years, 126 companies have shut shop in the city, with some relocating elsewhere. As a result, many plots have remained vacant for years due to these closures. Consequently, the owners of these plots have removed the industrial reservations and reclassified them for commercial and residential use.

Regional Officer of MIDC Sachin Barwakar could not be contacted. Prasad Gaikwad, Deputy Director Urban Planning Department, PCMC said, "There are various reservations on MIDC plots held by the civic body. Accordingly, construction has been completed on all these plots and there are no vacant plots."

AAP gifts dead fish to PCMC's chief engineer in protest

Some firms release effluents into Mula river; MPCB and civic body turn a blind eye

Pune Mirror Bureau
 feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) staged a protest against the release of chemical-laden water into the Mula river by gifting dead fish to Sanjay Kulkarni, the Chief Engineer of the Environment Department of the Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC).

The protest occurred after hundreds of dead fish were found near the Pimple Nilakh crematorium along the Mula river, allegedly due to water contamination caused by chemical waste. This incident mirrors a similar occurrence last year, when a large number of dead fish surfaced at Kejbai dam in the Pavana river basin.

AAP is demanding immediate action against those responsible for polluting the river, which flows through areas including Wakad, Kaspete Vasti, Vishalnagar, Pimple Nilakh, and Sangvi. The river, which serves as a crucial waterway for the city, is facing severe pollution, prompting concerns about the need for stricter environmental regulations.

Dead fish are frequently found in the river, yet complaints of pollu-



tion are being ignored by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) and the PCMC. Some chemical companies continue to discharge untreated effluents directly into the river, further worsening the contamination.

Over the past two days, more dead fish have surfaced in the river. This issue has been reported to both MPCB and the Environment Department of PCMC. In a symbolic protest, Chief Engineer Sanjay Kulkarni was presented with dead fish.

Meanwhile, Raviraj Kale has called for a third-party investigation into the sewage treatment plants along the three rivers flowing through the city.

Over 60 percent of 5G mobile towers in city remain illegal

These are erected on private land, open spaces, buildings, residential properties; Jio leads the count

Dilip Kurhade
feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

Nearly two years after the roll-out of 5G services in Pune, over 60 percent of the city's mobile towers remain unauthorised, with a significant number belonging to Jio, owned by Reliance Industries.

These towers have been erected on private land, open spaces, buildings, and residential properties, mostly in suburban areas, without necessary permissions.

Citizens have raised concerns over network disruptions, claiming the unregulated installation of these towers has affected Jio's 5G service. Many of these structures are found atop water tanks on buildings, but the Sky Sign Department of the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) has reportedly taken no action against these unauthorised setups.

Additionally, many areas lacked the required 7/12 documentation, resulting in the municipality denying permissions for legal tower installation.

In many cases, mobile companies have bypassed these restrictions by installing towers on residential water tanks, with the building owners receiving monthly rents between Rs 45,000 and Rs 60,000. The Maharashtra State Electricity



Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL) has also facilitated these installations by providing three-phase electricity connections.

Due to 5G, a new policy for setting up mobile towers across the city

will be introduced. This modern technology-based system can be installed anywhere, including on buildings, houses in residential areas, street lamp posts, parks, and open spaces. Additionally, all previ-

However, concerns about the potential health risks from 5G radiation have not been addressed by either the central or state government

ously unauthorised towers will be regularised upon payment of fees, according to official sources from the municipal corporation.

Concerns rise regarding radiation from towers

Sixty percent of mobile towers in Pune, installed by various companies, remain unauthorised, as revealed by the Construction Department through a Right to Information (RTI) query. The state government has directed the municipal corporation to allow these towers to remain "as it is" for 5G services, despite their unauthorised status.

The new 5G towers can now be erected in almost any location, including buildings, residential areas, and public spaces. However, concerns about the potential health risks from 5G radiation have not been addressed by either the central or state government. Questions regarding the impact on human health and who will be responsible for any harm caused by radiation remain unanswered.

Lack of structural audits

Mobile towers have been installed atop water tanks on buildings across Pune, often without proper municipal permission. In many cases, these buildings were constructed without structural audits, raising concerns about their stability. If a mobile tower on such a building were to collapse, it could lead to significant loss of life.

Despite this, mobile companies and landowners continue to strike private deals, with the PMC having no control over the process. After the towers are erected, companies then submit proposals for permission to the civic authorities.

Orders to halt removal of unauthorised towers

The Urban Development Department has directed all municipal commissioners to refrain from taking any action against unauthorised mobile towers without prior permission from the Information and Technology Department. This includes halting eviction, property recovery, and penal actions against such towers.

The directive, issued by the Deputy Secretary of the Urban Development Department, requires approval from the IT Department before any steps are taken. Municipal officials have confirmed that a hearing regarding this matter is scheduled in the Bombay High Court on September 26.

App to address mental health issues

Application to provide support to patients in dealing with their condition effectively

Pune Mirror Bureau
feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

The number of people suffering from mental health issues has increased dramatically, with many finding it difficult to cope up with the challenges they face. To help such people, Parivartan Trust, along with Vowels of People Association (VOPA), developed a unique concept — a mobile app titled MYCA - A Digital Ecosystem for Mental Health, which was launched on September 22 in the city.

The initiative is specifically intended to address the rising mental health challenges, particularly in Maharashtra and Assam.

Dr Hamid Dabholkar, director of Parivartan Trust, acknowledged the surge in mental health issues post-COVID and said, "One in five people are now affected by mental health concerns, and the issues cannot be ignored and need urgent attention. The MYCA app is



Veteran actor and psychiatrist Dr Mohan Agashe (C) and Dr Hamid Dabholkar (second from left) were present for the launch of the mobile app

designed to provide crucial support, complementing and not replacing human intervention. It offers authentic information, self-help tools, educational modules, motivation, training, and helplines, all aimed at increasing mental health

awareness."

With a focus on mental health interventions, MYCA aims to reach underserved populations, offering comprehensive support for mental health professionals and the public alike. It is the first app of its kind to

offer such extensive support for mental health in regional languages, he added.

The event was attended by Dr Mohan Agashe, veteran actor and psychiatrist, and Harshal Morde, Director of Morde Foods Pvt Ltd.

With a focus on mental health interventions, MYCA aims to reach underserved populations, offering comprehensive support for mental health professionals and the public alike

Speaking on the occasion, Agashe said, "In today's world, people face difficulty confiding in others. Mental health is as important as physical health, and this app will be a valuable resource in raising awareness." Harshal Morde said, "Apps like MYCA are helpful. They will assist community health workers, doctors, and patients in caring for those in need, while also addressing the stigma surrounding mental health." Prafulla Shashikant, founder of VOPA, said, "MYCA is a one-stop solution for mental health challenges."

'State shielding school mgmt'

Encounter of Badlapur accused: Sanjay Raut launches scathing attack on Mahayuti govt, says last piece of evidence destroyed

#MUMBAI
feedback@punemirror.com

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Tuesday raised doubts over the 'encounter' of Badlapur sexual assault case accused Akshay Shinde and claimed the state government was trying to protect the school management.

Talking to reporters, Raut said the "encounter" is suspicious but there is no need to show sympathy for such an accused.

"But this murder or encounter that has taken place was done to save the main accused (school management). How convincing is it that a janitor snatches a gun from a policeman and fire a locked weapon? This is a basic question," Raut said.

Shinde, accused of sexually assaulting two minor girls at a school in Badlapur town of Maharashtra's Thane district, died in retaliatory firing by police after he snatched a cop's pistol and opened fire on Monday evening.

The incident occurred at 6.15 pm when Shinde was being taken to Badlapur in Thane district from Talaja Jail in Navi Mumbai in a police vehicle.

Raut accused the government of trying to save the Badlapur school management.

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister



Devendra Fadnavis wanted to save the school management and for this they wanted to destroy the main piece of evidence, the Rajya Sabha member alleged.

"This is a big conspiracy. Those who are being saved enjoy patronage of the chief minister and deputy chief minister," Raut claimed.

He also said the CCTV footage of the school, when the sexual assault incident occurred, is missing.

"The school is related to BJP and yesterday's story (Akshay Shinde's killing) was done to save them," Raut claimed.

However, Shiv Sena MP Naresh Mhaske, who is also the spokesper-

son of the party led by CM Shinde, criticised the opposition parties for their protests and comments questioning the police's bravery.

The opposition's actions reflect a 'two-headed snake' mentality, prioritising political gains over justice, he claimed in a statement.

"It is unfortunate to question the bravery of our police when they acted in self-defence," the Shiv Sena spokesperson remarked, urging critics to gather all relevant facts before jumping to conclusions.

"You lauded the Telangana police for their encounter, yet doubt our officers. Is there no shame in this hypocrisy?" he asked. **PTI**

Wrong to say he fired at cop first, claim kin

#THANE
feedback@punemirror.com

The family members of Badlapur sexual assault case accused Akshay Shinde (24) have challenged the police claim that he fired at a policeman first following which cops fired in self-defence which led to his death.

Shinde's kin also claimed that police pressured him for a confession in the sexual assault case.

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Monday night said a high-level probe has been ordered into the incidents leading to Shinde's death.

Shinde's body was taken from the Kalwa civic hospital in Thane to the state-run J J Hospital in neighbouring Mumbai for postmortem on Tuesday morning, a senior Thane police official said.

The autopsy was conducted at the J J hospital, he added. His family members have challenged the theory that Shinde fired at the policeman first and later the cops retaliated.

"It is wrong to say that he first snatched the gun of a policeman and fired at him, and later the police fired at him in self-defence," Shinde's mother and uncle told reporters outside the Kalwa hospital on Monday night.

"The police got the confessional statement written by him under pressure to the effect that he has committed the crime. What they got written from him, he only knows," they claimed.

Akshay Shinde's father Anna Shinde said an inquiry should be conducted into his son's killing.

His mother and uncle alleged it was a conspiracy by police and management of the Badlapur school.

They claimed Akshay had told his kin that he was being beaten up police in custody and he also sent a chit seeking money. His mother and uncle questioned the police version and asserted he could not have snatched the weapon of a policeman. He was not depressed, they added.

"The police have killed our child. The school management must also be probed. The police got him to write something but we don't know what it is, only he knew it," the kin further alleged. "My son was afraid of bursting crackers and crossing the road. How can he shoot at policemen?" Akshay's mother asked.

His family members also said he should have been taken to the court for trial in the case against him, and how did the police shoot him dead.

"The charges (in cases against Akshay) are not proved," they said. **PTI**

HC: Imprisonment doesn't restrict right to education

#MUMBAI

Imprisonment does not take away a person's right to pursue further education, the Bombay High Court has said while permitting Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case accused Mahesh Raut to take admission in a city college for law degree.

Denying opportunity to take admission in the college despite being allotted a seat would be violation of the fundamental right, a division bench of Justices A S Gadkari and Neela Gokhale said on September 19.

The court was hearing a petition filed by Mahesh Raut, who was arrested in June 2018, seeking a direction to the University of Mumbai to grant him admission for the law degree course at the Siddharth College of Law in south Mumbai for the academic year of 2024-25. His counsel Mihir Desai told the court that in 2023, Raut was granted bail by HC but he continued to remain in jail as the prosecution had challenged the bail order.

The Supreme Court stayed the bail order which continues till date. The University of Mumbai and the Siddharth College opposed the plea, claiming law was a professional course which requires a candidate to have compulsory attend-



ance of 75 per cent, which obviously Raut would not be able to fulfil. The court noted that when Raut sought permission to appear for the Common Entrance Test (CET), no one opposed. The purpose of appearing for the CET was obviously to seek admission for the law degree course, it said.

"Imprisonment does not restrict an individual's right to pursue further education. Denying the opportunity to take admission in the college despite a seat being allotted is a violation of the fundamental right of the petitioner," the HC said. Raut had appeared for the Maharashtra CET law examination after taking permission from a special court and ranked 95 in the merit list of state candidates. **PTI**

Prasad issue: Temple trust launches probe

#MUMBAI

Amid the ongoing row over Tirupati laddus, a purported video of mice on the prasad packets of the Siddhivinayak Temple here is making rounds on social media, sparking concerns.

The Shree Siddhivinayak Ganapati Temple Trust (SSGT) has, however, denied the allegation and said it has launched a probe into the matter.

Talking to PTI on Tuesday, Shiv Sena leader and SSGT chairperson Sada Sarvankar said, "Lakhs of laddus are distributed daily, and the place they are prepared is clean. The video shows a dirty place. I can see it is not of the temple and has been shot somewhere outside." The purported video shows mice on torn packets of laddus kept in a blue tray.

"We will check the CCTV, and an officer of DCP rank will be appointed to conduct an inquiry. Action will be taken against whoever is found guilty," he said.

Speaking at a press conference earlier, Sarvankar said the temple makes every effort to ensure the prasad is prepared in a clean place. **PTI**

Maha polls: Anil Desai denies any rift in MVA

#MUMBAI

Ahead of the Maharashtra assembly polls, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Anil Desai (in pic) on Tuesday said there are no differences among the opposition bloc allies, but asserted that winnability factor will be a key criteria for seat-sharing.



Desai, the Lok Sabha member from Mumbai South Central constituency, told PTI Videos that the Maha Vikas Aghadi's (MVA) seat-sharing talks are going on smoothly and the Sena (UBT) will contest maximum seats in Mumbai, which has been its bastion.

"There are no differences among the opposition alliance partners, as projected," Desai said in an interview.

There is no deadlock among the MVA partners -- Uddhav Thackeray-led Sena (UBT), Congress and Sharad Pawar's NCP (SP) -- on any specific constituency and seat-sharing details will be disclosed soon, he said. Elections to the 288-member Maharashtra assembly are likely to be held in November.

Asked whether the Shiv Sena (UBT) will contest maximum seats in Mumbai, Desai said, "Yes. Mumbai is also Shiv Sena's bastion and it will continue to be

so, and so will be MMR (Mumbai Metropolitan Region), Konkan and other parts of the state."

"However, the winning factor is important and it will be an important criteria for seat-sharing irrespective of who gets how many seats," he said.

On whether the Shiv Sena (UBT) will give tickets to Muslims, Desai said the decision on it will be taken by party chief Uddhav Thackeray.

Tickets will also be given to new and young faces as Aaditya Thackeray represents the youth face of the party, he said. On Maharashtra Navnirman Sena president Raj Thackeray's recent meeting with state Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Desai dubbed MNS the "B" team of the BJP and claimed it works as per its directions.

Asked if Uddhav Thackeray will field any candidate against his estranged cousin Raj Thackeray's son Amit Thackeray in the upcoming polls, Desai parried the question and said a decision on this will be taken by his party head. Desai also defended Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's remarks on reservation during his recent trip to the US, which had evoked sharp reactions in India. **PTI**

'BJP tried to label me chor'

Kejriwal steps up attack on Centre, says his fault was making electricity free, setting up good schools

#CHANDIGARH
feedback@punemirror.com

AP national convener **Arvind Kejriwal (in pic)** on Tuesday stepped up his attack on the BJP-led Centre, alleging he was arrested as the ruling party wanted to project him as a "chor" (thief) but even his "fiercest enemy" believes he is not corrupt.

The former Delhi chief minister held a roadshow in the Rania assembly constituency in Haryana's Sirsa in favour of Aam Aadmi Party nominee Harpinder Singh for the assembly polls.

Kejriwal resigned as the chief minister of Delhi after being released from the Tihar Jail last week following his bail in the excise policy case by the Supreme Court. AAP leader Atishi later took oath as the chief minister of the national capital.

Kejriwal said he had to spend five-and-a-half months in the jail for no reason.

"What was my fault? My fault is being the chief minister of Delhi for 10 years, I set up good government schools for children of the poor. Earlier, there were power cuts for 7-8 hours in Delhi. But, now there is round-the-clock electricity. My fault is that I made electricity free in Delhi and Punjab," Kejriwal said.

"My fault is that I started a free 'tirath yatra' for elderly people. So many works were carried out in Delhi and Punjab. No corrupt person could do these," he said.

Kejriwal said his government made electricity free in Delhi which involved a huge amount of money -- "Rs 3,000 crore".

"Had I been a 'chor' (thief), I could have put Rs 3,000 crore in my pocket," he said. "I set up good schools for children of the poor. It

involved expenditure. Had I been corrupt, I could have put it in my pocket," he said.

Attacking the BJP, he said electricity is quite costly in every state the party is in power. "Electricity is not free in Haryana, it is very costly. I want to ask you who is a 'chor' -- the one who makes electricity free or the one who makes electricity expensive."

Lashing out at the BJP, Kejriwal said, "Why did they put me in jail? I am honest. Meri imandari pe chot karna chahte hain. (They want to tarnish my image of honesty. They want to say that Kejriwal is a 'chor' (thief) as he was jailed for five months."

But as he walked out of the jail, nobody was ready to accept that he is a 'chor', he said. "Even my 'kattar se kattar dushman' (fiercest enemy) says that Kejriwal can be anything but not corrupt." **PTI**



NIA charges 2 ISIS radicals

#BENGALURU

The NIA on Tuesday filed a charge sheet against two men for their involvement in radicalising Muslim youth and terror funding among other anti-national activities. The duo have been identified as ISIS radicals, Abdul Matheen Ahmed Taaha alias Taha and Mussavir Hussain Shazib alias Shazib, who were earlier chargesheeted by the NIA in the Rameshwaram Cafe blast case, according to an official statement.

"Residents of Shivamogga district, the two men were engaged in radicalising and recruiting gullible Muslim youths, including the co-accused, in the instant case," said the statement.

NIA filed its third supplementary charge sheet against both the radicals before a special court here. With this, 10 accused have been chargesheeted in the case.

The case, taken over by NIA from Karnataka police in November 2022, relates to the anti-India activities of the Islamic State (IS/ISIS), it said. **PTI**

500 militants lay down arms before CM Saha

'Remaining cadres will surrender in coming days'

#AGARTALA

Around 500 militants belonging to outlawed groups National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) on Tuesday laid down arms before Chief Minister Manik Saha.

While welcoming the militants to the mainstream at a function in Jampuijala in Sepahijala district, the chief minister asserted that militancy is not the solution to any problem. He also declared the northeastern state "completely militancy free" after the mass surrender. "The Centre and the state have



been working for the overall development of indigenous people by launching different schemes. I welcome those who have shunned the path of violence and joined the mainstream," he said. **PTI**

Haryana youth turning to Dunki: Rahul

'Lakhs of families paying price of the disease of unemployment spread by BJP'

#NEWDELHI
feedback@punemirror.com

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha **Rahul Gandhi (in pic)** on Tuesday alleged that the BJP has done "grave injustice"



to the youth of the country, including in Haryana, by snatching employment opportunities and forced them to undertake a "journey of torture" to foreign countries.

He made the remarks as he shared

on social media a video of his recent interaction in the US with some immigrants from Haryana who talked about the unemployment back home forcing them to move to the US and face struggles in a foreign country.

In his post in Hindi accompanying the video, Gandhi said, "Why did the youth of Haryana turn to Dunki?"

"Dunki" is a term given to the illegal immigration technique of taking 'donkey flights' and came into popular usage with a Rajkumar Hirani movie starring Shahrukh Khan releasing last year.

"Lakhs of families are paying the price of the 'disease of unemployment' spread by the BJP by being away from

their loved ones," Gandhi said on X.

"During my visit to America, I met those youngsters from Haryana who are struggling in a foreign country, away from their families," the former Congress chief said.

Gandhi said when he met their families on his return to India, their eyes welled up with pain.

Lack of opportunities has taken away the support of fathers from the children and the support of their old age from the elderly, he pointed out.

"In 10 years, the BJP has done a grave injustice to the youth of the country including in Haryana by snatching employment opportunities from them," Gandhi said. **PTI**

HC setback for Siddaramaiah

Petition challenging Guv's approval for investigation in MUDA scam dismissed

#BENGALURU
feedback@punemirror.com

In a setback to Chief Minister **Siddaramaiah (in pic)**, the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday dismissed his petition challenging Governor's approval for investigation against him in a site allotment case.



The Chief Minister had challenged the approval given by the Governor Thaaawarchand Gehlot for an investigation against him in the alleged irregularities in the allotment of 14 sites to his wife by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) in a prime locality.

After completing the hearings

on the petition in six sittings from August 19, the single judge bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna on September 12 reserved its verdict. It had also extended its August 19 interim order directing the special court for people's representatives that was slated to hear complaints against him in the case, to defer its proceedings till the disposal of the petition.

"The facts narrated in the petition would undoubtedly require investigation, in the teeth of the fact that the beneficiary of all these acts is not anybody outside but the family of the petitioner. The petition stands dismissed," Justice Nagaprasanna ruled.

He said: "interim order of any kind subsisting today shall stand dissolved."

The Governor on August 16

accorded sanction under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and Section 218 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 for the commission of the alleged offences as mentioned in the petitions submitted to him by complainants Pradeep Kumar S P, T J Abraham and Snehamayi Krishna.

On August 19, Siddaramaiah moved the High Court challenging the legality of the Governor's order.

Meanwhile, CM Siddaramaiah said he will not hesitate to face an investigation, but added that he would consult legal experts to find out whether such a probe is allowed under law.

Reacting to the HC order, Siddaramaiah said truth will prevail. He rejected the opposition's demand for his resignation. **PTI**

SC seeks response of 11 states on RTI portals

#NEWDELHI

The Supreme Court has sought responses from 11 states, including Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand, on a plea alleging that they are yet to set up Right to Information (RTI) portals under the transparency law in pursuance of a 2023 judgment.

The top court had on March 20 last year directed all states, Union territories and high courts to set up RTI websites within three months, saying the online facilities would considerably facilitate the fulfilment of the objects of the RTI Act, 2005.

On Monday, a bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice J B Pardiwala took note of the submissions of a lawyer, representing petitioner Anuj Nakade, that as many as 11 states have not set up RTI websites.

"Counsel appearing on behalf of



the petitioner states that the following states and Union territories have yet to comply with the judgment of this court dated 20 March 2023 requiring the setting up of online RTI portals: Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Jammu and Kashmir, Lakshadweep and Arunachal Pradesh," the bench noted in an order. **PTI**

WILL 'THE LEGEND OF MAULA JATT' FIND TAKERS?

The Pakistani film, set to release in India after eight years, faces political opposition

I Debarati Palit Singh
 punemirror.feedback@gmail.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

In 2016, following the Uri attack, the Indian Motion Picture Producers Association (IMPPA) banned Pakistani artists from working in India, citing security concerns and patriotism. This ban led to the exclusion of Pakistani actors, musicians, and singers from Indian films, music concerts, and playback singing.

However, in 2023, the Supreme Court rejected a plea to continue banning Pakistani artists, advising the petitioner not to be narrow-minded. This decision reopened opportunities for collaboration between the two countries.

Last week, social media buzzed with news that The Legend of Maula Jatt, starring Fawad Khan and Mahira Khan, would finally release in India. The film, which released two years ago in Pakistan, had been barred from Indian theatres due to the ban. Now, the critically acclaimed and box-office success is set to reach Indian audiences.

However, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray voiced strong opposition, declaring in a lengthy note on X (formerly Twitter) that his party would not allow the film's release in India. Thackeray warned theatre owners of consequences if they chose to screen the film, reminding them of previous MNS actions

in similar situations. "Theatre owners are humbly requested not to fall into the predicament of screening the film," he wrote, citing potential conflict during the Navratri festival.

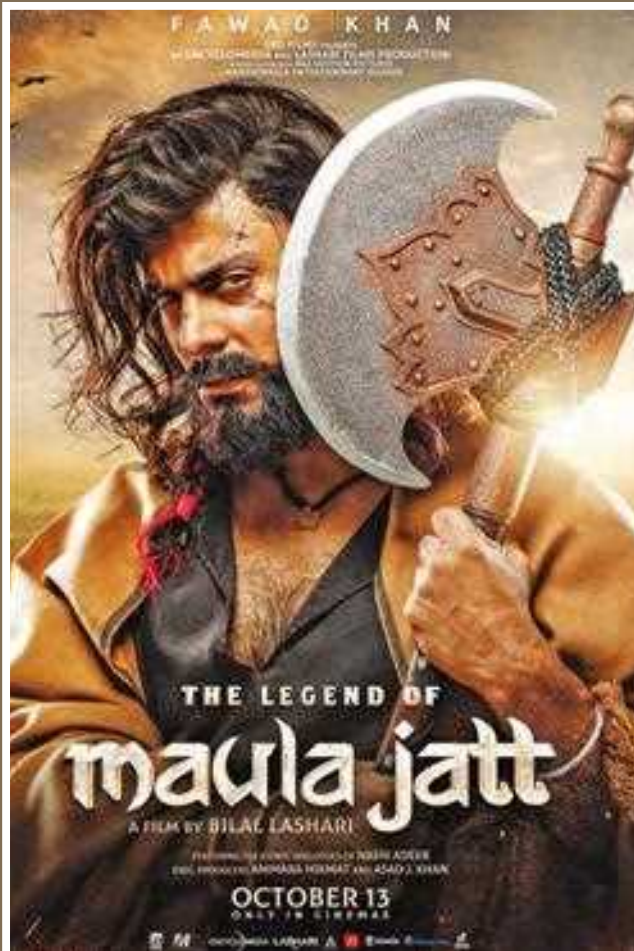
He further urged state governments across India to block the release, adding, "Art knows no national boundaries, but this doesn't apply to Pakistan. How can we promote artists from a country that thrives on hatred towards India?"

Reports suggest that 'The Legend of Maula Jatt' is slated to release only in Punjab on October 2.

Sharing similar views, trade analyst and critic Taran Adarsh stated, "We should align with the emotions of the people. What benefit does releasing Pakistani films in India bring? They add nothing to the box-office numbers, so there's no need."

In addition to the film's release, rumours have surfaced that Fawad Khan has been cast in an upcoming rom-com alongside Ridhi Dogra, set to begin filming early next year. However, Adarsh dismissed these reports, calling them media speculation. "I haven't received any confirmation from any production house. We should focus on promoting Indian talent, which is immense and deserves the spotlight," he said.

Over the years, several Pakistani actors and artists, including Saba Qamar, Javed Sheikh, Imran Abbas, Atif Aslam, Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, and Ali Zafar, have gained popularity among Indian audiences.



Emily Blunt says daughters thought she was 'meanest person'

Actor Emily Blunt says her daughters weren't impressed by her work in the popular comedy drama 'The Devil Wears Prada' as they thought she was the meanest person they ever met.

The 41-year-old actor received favourable reviews for essaying the character of the workaholic Emily Charlton who works at a top fashion magazine in the 2006 film directed by David Frankel.

But Blunt, who shares Hazel, 10 and Violet, 7, with actor-filmmaker John Krasinski, said her children had different thoughts.

"They thought I was the meanest person they've ever met," Blunt told entertainment outlet Page Six.

She also spoke about the love that audiences have showered over the film throughout the years.

"It's incredible that it has such an indelible fingerprint on people... and it's quoted to me every week," she added.

"The Devil Wears Prada" also starred Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway and Stanley Tucci.

The story followed Andy (Hathaway), a young graduate, hired to be an assistant of Miranda (Streep), one of the biggest magazine editors in New York. However, things turn upside down for her after meeting her boss who has a demanding schedule and does not take no for an answer.

Earlier this year, there were reports of the development of a possible sequel of the film.



'LAAPATAA LADIES' PICKED AS INDIA'S ENTRY FOR OSCARS 2025

Kiran Rao's 'Laapataa Ladies' has been picked as India's official entry for Oscars 2025, the Film Federation of India announced here on Monday.

The Hindi film, a light-hearted satire on patriarchy, was chosen from a list of 29 films, including Bollywood hit 'Anima' and Malayalam National Award winner 'Aattam' and Cannes winner 'All We Imagine As Light'.

The 13-member select committee headed by Assamese director Jahnua Barua "unanimously" decided on 'Laapataa Ladies', produced by Aamir Khan and Rao, for reckoning in the best international film category at the Academy Awards.

'Laapataa Ladies', which was released in March to universal praise from the critics, is a heartwarming and empowering take on two brides in rural India in 2001 who accidentally get swapped during a train journey. The film is backed by Rao's Kindling Productions, Aamir Khan Productions, and Jio Studios.

Rao said she is "deeply honored and delighted" that her film will represent India



at the 97th Academy Awards.

"Cinema has always been a powerful medium to connect hearts, transcend boundaries, and ignite meaningful conversations. I hope that this film will resonate with audiences across the world, just as it has in India.

"I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the selection committee and to everyone who believed in this film. It is indeed a great privilege to be selected from among such amazing Indian films this year - who are equally worthy contenders for this honour," the director said in a statement.

'Most prolific star' Chiranjeevi enters Guinness World Records

Megastar K Chiranjeevi was on Sunday honoured by the Guinness World Records, which recognised him as the most prolific star in the Indian film industry in the actor/dancer category.

The most prolific film star in Indian Film Industry-actor/dancer is Konidela Chiranjeevi aka Mega Star (India) achieved on 20 September 2024," said a certificate issued by the Guinness World Records, which was handed over to Chiranjeevi at an event here.

"This moment is unforgettable. I never sought recognition from the Guinness World Records, but it feels incredible to be honoured for my dancing. It is dancing that truly made me a star and brought me so many rewards throughout my career," Chiranjeevi said after receiving the certificate.

"All these years of my film career, dance had become part of my life. I still remember dancing in front of legends like Savitri and my first dance steps on screen. I owe this recognition to the directors, producers, music directors, and choreographers who always



made sure to showcase my dance performances in films," Chiranjeevi said, thanking everyone for the honour.

"Megastar Chiranjeevi has performed 24,000 dance moves in 537 songs in his 156 films in a span of 45 years," sources close to the actor said.

"September 22 also happens to be the day when the megastar made his debut in the year 1978," they said. Speaking on the occasion, Guinness World Records adjudicator Richard Stenning praised Chiranjeevi's extraordinary contribution, stating, "after thoroughly reviewing all 156 films and his dance performances, we found this achievement to be officially amazing."



ASK THE SEXPERT



DR ROHAN JAHAGIRDAR

Psychiatrist & Sexpert

1 I am a 40-year-old female. I would like to know if it is okay to watch a web series while having sex.

Dear Ma'am, it will be very rude and disrespectful towards your partner! It can happen only if you are watching a very interesting series or you have an extremely boring sex life!

2 I am a 45-year old man. I am in a relationship with two women. I have erectile dysfunction with one, but I am fairly okay with the other. Can this happen?

Yes, if the dysfunction is happening due to stress or psychological or emotional issues then you may have difficulty while performing with that person. Otherwise, you should be functioning normally.

3 I am a 34-year-old woman. I normally don't have any desire for sex. But two to three days before my periods, I feel like having it. Is it normal?

Yes. Change in your hormonal levels just before your menstrual cycle can affect the libido. However, you do need to check why you don't have any desire on the other days.

4 I am a 27-year-old woman. I like to keep my partner a little starved for sexual contact. I feel it can make making love that much more exciting and I like to do it after a couple of weeks or months. Is that a good thing?

The desire and intensity may certainly be a little higher if you are doing it after an interval. However, using that as a strategy may backfire as your partner may lose interest completely in chasing you. He may also have a dip in his sex drive since it is very infrequent. Either way I would not suggest not to keep the duration of starvation too long.

SEND YOUR QUERIES RELATED TO SEXUAL PROBLEMS TO sexpert@punemirror.com

In the realm of urban living, where space is a coveted commodity, Gen Z is championing a design movement that's as refreshing as it is practical: minimalist chic.

As these young homeowners embrace smaller apartments, they're discovering the art of creating aesthetically pleasing spaces that not only maximise functionality but also reflect their distinct personalities. The minimalist chic trend is a testimony to their refined tastes, appreciation for simplicity, and the desire to make the most of every square foot.

The beauty of less is more

Minimalist chic homes are a testament to the adage 'less is more.' Gen Z is debunking the notion that smaller spaces are limiting, choosing instead to see them as a canvas for creative expression. By carefully curating furniture, decor, and colour palettes, they create an atmosphere of spaciousness that belies the actual square footage.

Purposeful design

Every element in a minimalist chic home serves a purpose. Gen Z understands that every piece of furniture, every accent, and every decor item should contribute to the overall aesthetic and functionality. This purposeful design approach transforms their living spaces into havens of efficiency, where each element contributes to a harmonious whole.

Neutral tones and soft palettes

The colour palette of minimalist chic homes reflects tranquility and harmony. Neutral tones like whites, grays, and soft pastels dominate, creating a soothing backdrop that allows for easy cus-



FROM CRAMPED TO COOL

By elevating the smallest of spaces into sophisticated, functional havens, they're redefining contemporary living

tomization. Gen Z's penchant for personalisation comes alive through small, well-placed pops of color or unique decor accents that punctuate the serene canvas.

Smart storage solutions

Maximising storage is crucial in smaller apartments, and Gen Z has mastered this art. From under-bed storage to multi-functional furniture with hidden compartments, their homes boast an impressive

array of smart storage solutions that maintain the minimalist aesthetic while keeping clutter at bay.

Balancing aesthetics and functionality

Gen Z homeowners understand that aesthetics shouldn't come at the cost of functionality. They seek out furniture and decor that seamlessly balance form and function. Sofas that convert into beds, wall-mounted desks that fold away, and floating shelves that provide stor-

age without encroaching on floor space exemplify this harmony.

Nature as inspiration

Bringing a touch of nature indoors is a hallmark of minimalist chic design. Gen Z homeowners integrate indoor plants and natural materials like wood and stone to introduce an organic element that adds warmth and authenticity to their spaces. These natural accents create a connection to the outdoors, even in the heart of the city.

Personal expressions

Minimalist chic homes may adhere to clean lines and simplicity, but they're far from sterile. Gen Z homeowners infuse their spaces with personal touches through curated decor items, framed artwork, and cherished mementos. These individualistic accents give their homes character and a sense of belonging.

Tech integration: Less clutter, more convenience

Gen Z's love for technology seamlessly integrates into their minimalist chic homes. By minimising visible cables, incorporating built-in charging stations, and integrating smart home devices, they maintain the clutter-free aesthetic while embracing the convenience of the digital age.

Minimalist chic design isn't just a trend; it's a reflection of Gen Z's discerning tastes and their inclination towards purposeful living. With an eye for detail, an appreciation for simplicity, and a commitment to curated aesthetics, Gen Z homeowners are proving that minimalist chic design is not just a style but a philosophy – one that celebrates the art of living with intention, grace, and enduring elegance.

Work breaks help counter effects of long-sitting

At a time when sitting for long hours at work has become the norm, a new study sheds light on how taking breaks can impact our well-being

According to researchers, office workers are subject to potential harm due to prolonged periods of sitting, which can account for up to 80 per cent of their workday.

This sedentary lifestyle poses significant health risks, ranging from Type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and certain cancers to high blood pressure and increased mortality rates.

More concerning is the fact that remote workers, growing in numbers since the pandemic, might be even more sedentary than their in-office counterparts.

"It's not just about sitting too much, it's also about the pattern of how you sit throughout the day," said research coordinator Madison Hiemstra at University of Western's Ontario, Canada.

"Sitting for long, unbroken periods can also add increased risk for negative health outcomes," Hiemstra added.

The study, published in the journal Translational behavioural Medicine, explored whether providing individuals

with the choice to determine when and how to take breaks from sitting leads to more favourable outcomes than adhering to prescribed strategies.

Participants were split into two distinct groups, those given the freedom to choose their preferred strategies for reducing the time they spend sitting ('choice' group) and those assigned strategies without any choice ('no choice' group). In the 'choice' group, participants could self-select strategies from a list of options or have strategies recommended by experts assigned to them.

Over four weeks, the participants were monitored for the frequency and duration of their breaks from sitting, alongside the overall time spent sitting, standing and moving. The targeted aim was to prompt participants to take short breaks every 30 to 45 minutes, each lasting two to three minutes.

Particularly noteworthy was the 'no choice' group, which not only extended the frequency of their breaks from sitting but also increased their break duration. This outcome shows how people can adapt to break strategies and benefit from them.





Quick



- ACROSS**
- 1 Beginner or learner (6)
 - 4 Pacific island (6)
 - 7 Look furtively (4)
 - 8 WhatsApp alternative (8)
 - 9 Assaults (7)
 - 12 Taxi (3)
 - 14 Hateful; repugnant (6)
 - 15 Consisting of flowers (6)
 - 16 Marsh (3)
 - 18 Popular fast food snacks? (3-4)
 - 22 Ms Chopra of Bollywood (8)
 - 23 Political alliance (4)
 - 24 Erase (6)
 - 25 Fight or wrestle (6)
- DOWN**
- 1 Swindled or cheated (6,3)
 - 2 Surgical procedure (9)
 - 3 Minor film actor (5)
 - 4 Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar ____ (5)
 - 5 Elevated (4)
 - 6 Jewelled head-dress (5)
 - 10 Verity (5)
 - 11 Volley (5)
 - 12 Pupa of the butterfly (9)
 - 13 Complain (slang) (9)
 - 17 Very strange (5)
 - 19 Unit of weight (5)
 - 20 Preliminary plan (5)
 - 21 Cattle shed (4)

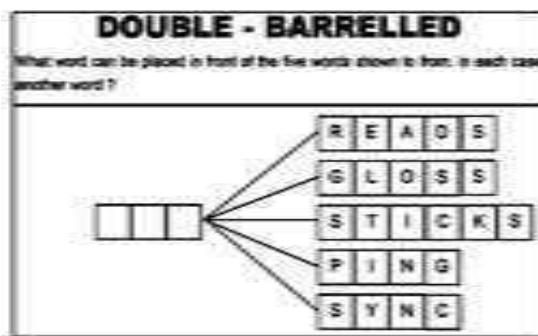
FOR ANSWER SCAN ↓



Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



ANSWER

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY



Aries

March 21 - April 20

You're going to feel adventurous today. You're in for some good luck, thanks to well-calculated risks you've taken. Don't push your luck too far, though, so you don't end up drawing too heavily from your energy reserves.



Taurus

April 21 - May 20

You are optimistic and sociable and on the right road to personal fulfilment. Make sure you eat a balanced diet. It would be a good idea to take up a leisure activity with an art connection.



Gemini

May 21 - June 21

You're learning a positive lesson from the past and it's time to rectify a mistake and take stock. It's only your predilection for the good things in life that could cause you problems. You're tempted to do things to excess... Watch your liver.



Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Business trips and paperwork are the order of the day. Adjust your plans to account for that. You're not going to have much energy, but your high spirits will make up for it. Doing some stretches will help too.



Leo

July 24 - August 23

Chewing over the past comes down to not daring to progress towards the future. You need to refresh your ideas! You would be a lot happier if you dealt rationally with the questions which are worrying you. Time to get them off your chest!



Virgo

August 24 - September 23

You'll more readily seek out people who share your core values, to be able to forge closer relationships. Watch out for indigestion, and take an objective look at what you eat, and how much.



Libra

September 24 - October 22

Now could be a good time to take a short trip somewhere; you need a break from your daily routine, and this could be just what the doctor ordered. You're in excellent spirits, and in the perfect place to make some positive changes to your way of living.



Scorpio

October 23 - November 22

You find it easy to deal with obstacles, and you will particularly know how to avoid others. You're putting all your energy into constructive action. Think about unwinding to maintain balance.



Sagittarius

November 23 - December 22

You will be motivated by youth to press forward, your inner enthusiasm relit. Dramatic swings in your daily rhythm will leave you on edge. Admit that you've been pushing your luck and sort yourself out.



Capricorn

December 23 - January 20

Planetary movement means that things will get tense, to say the least... Some good news will make up for it, though. You're becoming quick to lose your cool, and it'll drain your energy. Get some space, you've got enough time.



Aquarius

January 21 - February 19

You're entering into a new round, in which your emotional life will bring you the most satisfaction - be receptive! The doubts you have are sapping away at your energy, when you really don't have any to spare. Get some space and try to be more optimistic.



Pisces

February 20 - March 20

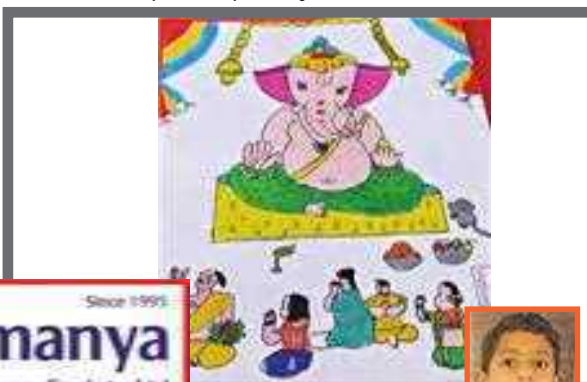
Your good humour makes you popular with those around you. You will be good at disseminating this and will be on top form. Don't try to tackle all challenges at once. Think about your diet.

Kidzone, Pune Mirror, email us at mirrorfeatures@gmail.com

Please send copies of your children's artworks along with a photo of the artist in A4 size. Do mention their age and the name of the school they attend. You can also mail us unpublished poems by children.



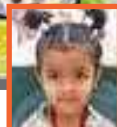
Gaurav Pandey, 8 years, Elpro International, Pune



Hardik Bangera, 9 year, Rising Star, Pune



Hridhaan Gautam Nathani, 8 Years, Alphonso High School, Kalewadi Pimpri, Pune



Risha Bharat Oswal, 4.5 years, Vidyashilp Public School, Pune

PLAN AHEAD

Journey of friendship and laughter

Attend 'Peppa Pig Adventure! Live' and embark on a magical journey with Peppa, George, Suzy, Gerald, and Pedro in this delightful theatrical adventure! Act 1 unfolds at the nursery, where Daisy's first day is filled with playful games, music lessons, and interactive storytelling led by Madame Gazelle. Act 2 whisks the audience outdoors for a camping trip with Daddy Pig, Mummy Pig, and the entire gang. The stage comes alive with a magical UV sequence featuring owls, glowworms, and more. As dawn breaks, join Peppa, George, and friends in splashing through muddy puddles, concluding the show with a lively dance.



🕒 **WHEN:** September 28, 5.30pm 🏠 **WHERE:** Lokshahir Annabhau Sathe Rang Mandir, Yerwada



A melodic tribute

A musical evening titled 'Sahela Re - Aa Mil Gaayen...' is organised to pay tribute to Bharat Ratna Pandit Bhimsen Joshi and the legendary singer Ganasaraswati Kishori Amonkar. The evening will feature the performances of Dr Radhika Joshi, a vocalist from the Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana, and Abhishek Kale, a vocalist from the Kirana Gharana.

They will perform bhajans, thumris, natyasangeet, ghazals, and bandishes. The artists will be accompanied by Ramkrishna Karambelkar (Tabla), Malu Gaonkar (Harmonium), Prathamesh Taralkar (Pakhwaj), and Uddhav Kumbhar (Side Rhythm).



🕒 **WHEN:** September 28, 6pm
 🏠 **WHERE:** Rithwik Foundation for Performing Arts, Kothrud

Upcycle your glass bottles

Artist Chitra Gupta will be conducting a detailed session on upcycling glass bottles to create beautiful lamps and tealight holders, which are perfect decor items for the upcoming festive season. The workshop will cover techniques on how to score, cut, and decorate glass bottles, transforming them into unique light lamps, holders, or even cutlery. Participants will take home a lamp and tealight holder, and they are welcome to bring their own bottles to cut during the class.



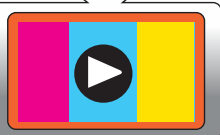
🕒 **WHEN:** September 29, 1pm 🏠 **WHERE:** Largo Pizzeria, Viman Nagar



Relax and create

Join in for a Resin Art Workshop and enjoy a creative and relaxing session. Dive into the world of resin art and create stunning resin wall clocks under the expert guidance of Hirtika. Perfect for both beginners and art enthusiasts, this workshop covers the basics of resin art, including mixing, pouring, and adding vibrant colours. By the end of the session, you'll walk away with your very own resin masterpiece—an eye-catching wall clock that you can proudly display in your home or gift to a loved one.

🕒 **WHEN:** September 28, 11am.
 🏠 **WHERE:** Godaam Specialty Coffee Co., Model Colony



NOW STREAMING

Cameron Britton, Lukas Haas join Nicolas Cage in 'Spider-Man Noir'



Mindhunter' star Cameron Britton and 'The Revenant' actor Lukas Haas have joined the cast of 'Spider-Noir', a live-action series based on the Marvel comic Spider-Man Noir.

The show will feature Hollywood star Nicolas Cage in the titular role, after voicing a version of the character in Sony's Oscar-winning animated film 'Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse'.

The two actors boarded the project along with Michael Kostroff, Scott MacArthur, Cary Christopher, Joe Massingill, Whitney Rice and Amanda Schull, according to entertainment news outlet Deadline.

Besides Cage, 'Spider-Noir' will also feature Jack Huston, Brendan Gleeson, Lamorne Morris, Abraham Popoola and Li Jun Li.

'Noir: was announced by MGM+ and Prime Video in May this year. It will debut on MGM+ linear channel in the US, followed by the global launch on Prime Video.

The series will follow an aging and down on his luck private investigator (Cage) in 1930s New York, who is forced to grapple with his past life as the city's one and only superhero.

Harry Bradbeer of 'Fleabag' and 'Killing Eve' fame will direct and executive produce the first two episodes.

Oren Uziel and Steve Lightfoot will serve as co-showrunners. The duo developed the show with the team behind 'Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse' - filmmakers Phil Lord, Christopher Miller, and Amy Pascal.

