

Man, woman found dead on rail tracks

THANE: A young man and a woman allegedly committed suicide by jumping in front of a train near Nilje railway station on Diva-Panvel line on Thursday night, police said on Friday. Senior inspector Uttam Sonavane said the deceased were identified as Gauri Yadav and Rohit Waghe. Further probe was on, he said. — Agencies



Dadar TT repair work goes back to tainted contractor

Deadline to complete the junction work before monsoon leaves BMC with no option

SWEETY ADIMULAM
Mumbai

Currently, the junction has paver blocks and is in bad condition. The paver blocks will be replaced with mastic asphalt material, a mixture of sand or limestone and will cost approximately Rs 10 crore to the BMC

The roads department of the civic body will finally start the most chaotic, congested Dadar TT junction repair work. According to the officials for the last three and half years, road work could not be started as the No Objection Certificate (NOC) from traffic department was pending.

Also to complete the work before the onset of monsoon, the civic body has given the work to Relcon Company who failed to carry out the work in the past three and half years' time span. The officials are of the view, "If BMC will once again call a tender it will be a time-consuming process, therefore, the work has been re-assigned to the previously appointed contractor only, so

the work will finish before monsoon." Surprisingly Relcon Company had been blacklisted by BMC in the year 2016 after the company cheated BMC by doing shoddy roads repair work.

"This junction is considered as one of the busiest point therefore traffic cannot be diverted or can be stopped for an hour, due to this the work got delayed. However, now only during the night, repair works can be undertaken as it is a condition set by the Traffic Department, on what basis the permission has been granted," said the officer. The officer further

added, "Earlier along with junction repair work the storm water and drain de-

SPECIAL REPORT

partment also wanted to replace old pipelines over there. However, later the department found out some other alternative, therefore only the junction repair work will be carried out."

Currently, the junction has paver blocks and is in bad condition. The paver blocks will be replaced with mastic asphalt material, a mixture of sand or limestone and will

cost approximately Rs 10 crore to the BMC. The total area of the junction is of 9,000 square metre which will undergo major renovation and repair work.

Nikhil Desai one of the activist of Matunga who actively time and again raised the issue of pending Dadar TT junction repair work said, "BMC has given the work to a tainted contractor. The previous company work order lapsed in April 2017, still, BMC has extended the work order to benefit them it seems, which in itself is shocking."

He also further pointed that

it also raises doubt how the quality of work will be, when the contractor has been found using bad quality material and doing shoddy roads repair work earlier in the city. Also, as only three months are left for monsoon it seems difficult that they will complete the work before the set deadline.

Meanwhile, according to civic data most of the ongoing roads repair work are in eastern suburb compared to western suburb. There are 310 project roads and 11 junctions at eastern division were currently work is going on. While in the western suburb there are 257 project roads and 38 junctions. In addition, there are total 379 roads in priority 2 out of which 203 roads repair have already been completed and 116 are pending and expected to be complete by April end.

Prez Shah will attend BJP foundation day on April 6

FPJ POLITICAL BUREAU
Mumbai

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is all set to celebrate its biggest foundation day on April 6 in Mumbai in presence of national president Amit Shah. With an aim to make its 39th foundation day a grand event the party has planned a rally expected to be attended by around three lakh workers across Maharashtra.

State BJP president Raosaheb Danve on Friday said that the rally will be a part of the party's organisational activity and it should not be linked with its poll preparations. "We celebrate the foundation day every year. It is not right to say that we are sounding a poll bugle," he said replying to a question. He, however, denied a possibility of early elections.

Danve said Shiv Sena will remain with the BJP even if its president Uddhav Thackeray has announced to go for the election on its own. "We were in alliance for 25 years. Barring the last election we were always together."

He declined to answer whether the Shiv Sena will follow the TDP's steps and walk out from the government as well as the National Democratic Alliance. "It is proved that NDA's both governments, one under Atal Bihari Vajpayee and another under Narendra Modi, are capable to hold on its allies. We are trying to keep the allies with us."

Danve said the party has changed its strategy in terms of number of workers per polling booth so that it can reach to maximum number of booths.

Officers will stop working for fire prevention and compliance: FBOA

ZAREEN SHARIF / Mumbai

Fire brigade officers of BMC have decided to stop working for fire prevention and compliance under Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Life Safety act 2006 declared Mumbai Fire Brigade Officers Association (FBOA) on Friday. The decision has been taken as none of their demands have been resolved even after the association's brief meeting with the Municipal Commissioner Ajoy Mehta in Feb. The association claims that there is no Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for issuing No Objection Certificate (NOC), The Trade Licenses issue by Medical Officers of Health (MOH) and Superintendent of licenses (SL) of BMC.

During the interaction the FBOA President, Adv Prakash Devdas alleged that the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) of Mumbai, Prabhakar Rahangdale, who is also the Director of Maharashtra Fire Services is most of the time engaged in Maharashtra Fire Service work and hence cannot pay attention Mumbai Fire Brigade. "It is a pity that a Metropolitan city like Mumbai does not have full-time fire officer. Offi-

cers are unable to get the guidance immediately during the time of an emergency. As the CFO is not always available," he said. The FBOA also claimed the work of prevention cannot be done effectively as officers are not experienced and the BMC chief, as well as the CFO, are to be blamed. "None of the laws are being followed nor there is a proper procedure. While the process of NOC is in motion there are many departments involved but when a tragedy occurs Fire Officers suffer and it also adds to their burden. How can we expect anyone to work on the field when they are undergoing continuous stress," said Prakash Devdas.

Meanwhile, The Chief Fire Officer Prabhakar Rahangdale has responded to the issue saying "We have received their letter; Cognizance will be taken on the matter".

RTI is slowly being strangled in Maharashtra, says ex-CIC

FPJ BUREAU / Mumbai

The former Chief Information Commissioner, Shailesh Gandhi has written to the chief minister Devendra Fadnis, highlighting the fact, the Right to Information Act (RTI), a right of the citizens is being deliberately strangled. Gandhi said, the very fact the posts of information commissioners is lying vacant is enough to ensure no information is given out.

Gandhi in his letter said, "RTI is being strangled in Maharashtra by not appointing information commissioners. There is a vacancy in Maharashtra of one Chief Information Commissioner and three other commissioners. These are not being filled despite repeated reminders," reads the letter. Gandhi says in his letter, he had sent two reminders to the CM since last eight months at least, which have gone unheeded.

"I had also brought this to your attention in my meeting with you in July and again sent a reminder in October last year. But no action has been taken," reminded Gandhi. The importance of these regions is obvious, since Mumbai head office has no information officer, followed by other important cities. The pending applications of important matters has piled on to over thousands of cases which need replies.

State govt collects ₹14,047 crores as Profession Tax in last 7 years

But there's no info on where the collected funds are utilised

MUMBAI: The Profession Tax (PT) collect is done through the Sales Tax department in Maharashtra. In the past 7 years government has collected Rs 14047 crores as Profession Tax, this was revealed in a response to an RTI query filed by RTI Activist Anil Galgali, but in a shocking response the department has further informed that they have no information about where the funds collected as Profession Tax was utilised. RTI activist Anil Galgali, had sought info from the Finance department of the State

govt about the details of collection of the PT by it. The Finance dept in its response informed Galgali that, the PT collection was done through the Sales Tax department and in the past 7 years it has collected Rs 14047 crores from the professionals working in Maharashtra. Galgali had further sought info about the deployment of the funds collected through Profession Tax. In its response, the Finance dept informed that, the tax collected is deposited in the consolidated fund and hence it is not possible to

Cold chain: The next sunrise sector

STAFF REPORTER
Mumbai

Cold chain is going to create more jobs as it would need more manpower than technology. Consequently, making it a sunrise sector, explains Ravichandran Purushothaman, President, Danfoss India. He said this at the 'Cold chain solutions for tomorrow's India' forum organised by Free Press Journal-Moneycontrol in Mumbai.

This is going to be sunrise sector for two reasons. First, it will create more jobs than software. Second, India needs to build more pack-houses and reefer houses," said Purushothaman. At present India has merely 350 pack-houses, but there is a need for about 70,000 pack-house in total.

Adding to it, Pawanexh Kohli, CEO, NCCD said in the future the sector would need more efficient technology like low-cost and green technology and follow fork-to-farm model rather than farm-to-fork model (understand the demand or the market).

Talking about invest-



(L to R) B Thiagarajan, JMD, Blue Star Limited; Ravichandran Purushothaman, President, Danfoss India; Consulting Editor R N Bhaskar; Pankaj Khandelwal, MD, INI Farms; Kiran Malla, director, Corporate Finance Strategy, EY and Pawanexh Kohli, CEO, NCCD at the panel discussion 'Cold Chain Solutions for Tomorrow's India'.

ments into this thriving sector, Kiran Malla, director, Corporate Finance Strategy, EY said, "Cold chain is not a desire but a necessity." He further added that in last 3-4 years, there has been immense investment interest in the sector. "Investment is waiting to happen."

Looking ahead, maybe five years from now, the things in the sector might evolve with more pack houses and lot of investments coming in. B Thiagarajan, JMD, Blue Star

Limited said, "In the next five years, we will see transformation in the sector."

There will be lot of money that will be made in fruits and vegetables. He also advocated the need to attract more modern multi-brand retail like Walmart which could add to grow and development in the sector.

As a responsibility of industries and association, Purushothaman believes that they should intervene at farm level and help farm-

ers to understand the importance of sorting and grading. Adding to it, Pankaj Khandelwal, MD, INI Farms stated there is a massive level of discipline needed in fruits and vegetables which is lacking and that is hurting the freshness factor. "We need to find domestic model to make profits. We are making profits when we export," he added.

Kohli strongly believes for the cold chain to kick start smoothly "there is a need for farmers' participation in co-operative form." This co-operative model will be one like dairy model but one developed for agriculture. One such model is 22,000 rural haats that are converted into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GRAMs). Yet another concern for the industry as a whole is the lack of the marketing ability of the farmers which will be critical in such links. As these GRAMs, electronically linked to e-NAM and exempted from regulations of APMCs, will provide farmers the facility to make direct sale to consumers and bulk purchasers.

RERA safeguards buyers while being strict on agents, say experts

STAFF REPORTER / Mumbai

The Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) also has provisions for safeguarding the allottees and buyers while being strict on promoters and agents, said activists who participated in a talk conducted in the city on Friday. The seminar based on filing a complaint with RERA was conducted by a city Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO).

The topic of the seminar was on 'How to file complaints and get justice using the fast reconciliation for people.' The seminar was conducted by NGO Money Life Foundation.

During the workshop, a city based Right To Information said that RERA has several provisions even for the allottees along with builders or promoter. "RERA is quite strict on promoters and agents and had mandatory compliance provisions," said Sulaiman Bhimani, an RTI activist and Founder-President of Citizens Justice Forum.

Another RERA expert also said the Central government

had provided an alternate dispute redress mechanism, which is turning out to be quite useful for buyers.

Bhimani also added, the promoter or builder are not allowed to advertise, book or sell any plot without registering the project with RERA.

"Validity of registration remains till the date of completion as stated by the promoter. However, if the promoter tries to sell flats without registering the project with RERA, he is levied a penalty of more than 10 percent of the estimated cost of the project," said Bhimani. Experts also said there were certain cases where the promoter is not required to register his project with RERA. "If area of the land to be developed is lower than 500 square meters, or number of apartments are less than eight, then the promoter is not required to register the project with RERA," added Bhimani.

RERA provides a relief for buyers as there are provision like Section 12 which deals with claiming lost sustained due to incorrect statement.

Around the State

Narcotics Dept seizes 4 kg charas; 3 arrested

MUMBAI: In a major crackdown, the officers of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Mumbai made a significant seizure of 4kgs of charas from the possession of three persons at Andheri (West) on Wednesday, March 14. The seized charas was sourced from Himachal Pradesh and investigation indicates the charas is of Malana Cream variety which is highly sought among drug abusers and considered best quality of charas. One 35-year-old carrier from Himachal Pradesh and two receivers from Andheri (W) aged about 30 years had been arrested on Thursday under the NDPS Act, 1985.

Minister suspends FDA staffer over ruckus row

MUMBAI: Minister for Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) Girish Bapat announced the suspension of FDA Class II officer from Bhiwandi, R D Akrupe for creating a scene at the office of Leader of Opposition Dhananjay Munde over moving Calling Attention Notice over ban on Gutka, scented supari and Kharra in the house. Earlier, after the question hour debate over a starred question raised by Girish Vyas (BJP) was over, Leader of Opposition Dhananjay Munde dismissed a FDA Class II officer R D Akrupe came to his office along with a BJP legislator from Udgir and threatened his Officer on Special Duty (OSD) on how could they raise the notice in the house last week. He added FDA probe had proved corruption charges against Akrupe and the matter had reached the office of Vice President of India as the officers post was Constitutional post.

Tarapur fire: Probe ordered by Palghar collector

TARAPUR: An inquiry was ordered on Friday into a massive fire that engulfed some chemical companies in the Boisar MIDC industrial cluster here on March 8, officials said. Four people were killed and several others were injured in the fire. A release issued here said that Palghar Collector Prashant Navare on Friday ordered the district's Sub-Divisional Officer to carry out a detailed inquiry and submit a report in 15 days. It also asked the Labour department, the Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health, the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and Health department to submit the reports of inquiries they had conducted in connection with the fire.

Two rescued after falling into sewage tank

MUMBAI: Police and fire brigade personnels rescued two persons who fell into an open sewage tank in suburban Vikhroli on Friday. The incident took place at Tagore Nagar around 12.30 pm. Fire brigade and police rushed to the spot after being alerted and pulled out the two men after an hour-long effort. Both sustained injuries and were admitted to Rajawadi Hospital, said a police official.

City's 8th Theatre Olympics from Mar 24-Apr 7

MUMBAI: Mumbai is set to be one of the co-hosts for the 8th Theatre Olympics, largest theatre festival in the world, for the first time in India which will be organised by National School of Drama, New Delhi. The Mumbai chapter of the festival is organised by the theatre authority in collaboration with the State Directorate of Cultural Affairs. "People living abroad have asked me whether there is theatre in India. It is shameful to listen to such questions," said Waman Kendre, director, NSD. "We just share our 3,000-year heritage among ourselves and stay happy. Such move was evident if we have to grab attention of world theatre opinion makers," he added. The city will stage 28 performances from March 24 to April 7, thereby presenting diverse range of theatre forms from around the globe. Around 25,000 participants from 30 countries have joined the festival and will perform in over 17 cities of India. Kendre added that the main aim behind hosting a festival of this magnitude is to introspect on where Indian theatre is placed juxtaposed to world theatre.

Taming wild elephants: Karnataka's help sought

MUMBAI: Admitting that wild elephants were causing damage to crops and human life in Kolhapur district in Maharashtra, the state government on Friday said that assistance of trained people from Karnataka has been sought to tame and train such tuskers. Forest Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar made the announcement in the state Legislative Assembly during a debate on the issue raised through calling attention notice moved by NCP member Sandhya Kupekar and others. Mungantiwar said the authorities in Karnataka have conveyed that they would be able to

spare their trained staff only after May-June. The minister said the suggestion would be considered. Mungantiwar also announced setting up of a committee comprising Kupekar, Shiv Sena's Prakash Abitkar and the Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF) to suggest recommendations to tackle the menace of wild elephants and bisons.

CR earns ₹143.21cr from ticketless travellers

MUMBAI: The Central Railway has registered record earnings of ₹143.21 crore between April 2017 and February this year from an intense campaign against ticketless and irregular travellers, the railway ministry said in a statement. In February this year, 2.55 lakh cases of ticketless/irregular travel and unbooked luggage were detected against 1.97 lakh cases in the corresponding month last year, showing an increase of 29.49 per cent, it said. The earnings realised from such travels was ₹ 12.77 crore during February 2018, showing an increase of 44.86 per cent as compared to earnings of ₹ 8.82 crore during the corresponding month last year. CR has detected in all 29.12 lakh cases of ticketless/irregular travel and unbooked luggage during the period April 2017 to February 2018, as against 24.61 lakh cases during the corresponding period last year, showing an increase of 18.35 per cent. In addition, during the month of February 2018, 143 cases of transfer of reserved journey tickets were detected and ₹ 1.38L recovered as penalty.

Hit by GST, demonetisation losses, man kills self

MUMBAI: A 32-year-old businessman on Friday allegedly committed suicide after apparently facing losses due to demonetisation and the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax, police said. Officials informed that Karad-resident Rahul Rajaram Phalke died instantly after he jumped in front of a Miraj-bound freight train near Shirvade station in Satara district in western Maharashtra. Police said that Phalke had sent messages to his friends and relatives on social media platforms like Facebook and WhatsApp stating that he had suffered losses in his jewellery business due to demonetisation and GST and could not find a way to tide over it. Officials said that his mobile phone, from which he reportedly sent these messages, was missing.

—Staff Reporter / Agencies

NOTICE INVITING OFFERS FOR ARCHITECT CUM PMC FOR RE-DEVELOPMENT

Sealed offers are invited from reputed Architects with minimum experience of 8 years in organising and executing Redevelopment projects in compliance of rule 79A of MCS Act, 1960 and well conversant with RERA for position of Architect cum PMC for proposed redevelopment of our society. He/She shall be on the panel of MCGM/Govt. bodies.

Gross Area of Society's property is 9576.50 Sq.Mtrs. with existing buildings having a carpet area of 61,902 Sq.Ft. Conveyance deed and Property Card are in the name of the Society.

Interested parties are requested to submit their offers along with detailed profile including list of projects undertaken and completed successfully to the undersigned on or before 31/03/2018 up to 5 PM.

The society reserves the right to reject any or all offers without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Sd/-
Chairman / Secretary
Chempazhanti CHS Ltd.
Reg. No. B0M/HSG/5624 of 13/10/78,
Sree Narayana Nagar,
P. L. Lokhande Marg, Govandi (W),
Mumbai - 400043.

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BRINDAVAN CHSL
Sealed Tenders invited from Reputed & Experienced Developers by the PMC for the Redevelopment, on behalf of BRINDAVAN CHSL, Yashwantrao Tawde Rd., Near Railway Station, Dahisar (W), Mumbai-400068.
Plot Area: 1364.56 + 545.16 = 1909.72 Sq. Mtrs. Existing Flats: 43. Conveyance: Under Process.
Blank Tender documents are available at the PMC's office from 17-3-2018 to 14-4-2018 between 11.00 AM to 6.00 PM against non-refundable & non transferable cash payment of Rs. 12,000/- (Monday to Saturday excluding holidays) Last Date of Submission: Saturday 21-4-2018, 6.00 PM.
The society in consultation with PMC, reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof. —PMC
YashRaj and Associates
Project Management Consultants
Email: ypmc.in@gmail.com
8655312498, 9223419450
Off: 103, Yashwant Shopping Center, Carter Rd No.7, Near Railway Station, Borivali (East), Mumbai 400066.

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Name of work: Providing Paramedical Services in Kasturba Hospital, OHS and Dispensaries of BHEL Bhopal
Contract period: 1 year (365 days)
Tender cost: Rs. 1000/- (one thousand only) (Non-Refundable)
Due date & time of bid submission: On or before : 26.03.2018, 11.00 hrs.
Due date & time of bid opening: 26.03.2018, 14.00 hrs.
Venue for submission/Tender Room, Ground Floor, Administrative & opening of tender: Building BHEL, Piplani Bhopal - 462022
Note : (1) Tender documents can be downloaded from BHEL Bhopal website www.bhelbpl.co.in and www.bhel.com (2) All corrigendum, corrections, amendments, time extensions, clarifications etc, to the tender notice will be hosted on BHEL website (www.bhelbpl.co.in and www.bhel.com). Bidders should regularly visit website(s) to keep themselves updated.
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