# NATIONAL AWARENESS TO SHOW THE PROPERTY OF TH

Weekly 30 July-5 August, 2025 Price ₹ 20/-

Adani's Project
DHARAVI REDEVELOPMENT





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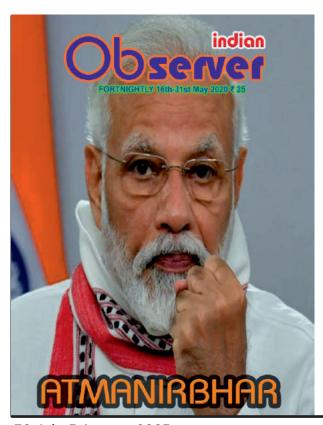








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### **CHIEF EDITOR DESK**



Dear Readers,

On behalf of National Awareness Times (India's National Weekly), the editorial board and the team of our journal would like to wish all the readers a wonderful week ahead to all.

Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani described the Dharavi slum redevelopment as the group's "most transformative" project, reimagining Asia's largest slum into India's "most ambitious urban rehabilitation project".

India and the United Kingdom have taken a major step in building a stronger economic partnership with the signing of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

The Janapada Sampada Division of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, observed its Foundation Day on the occasion of the festival 'Hariyali Teej' at its New Delhi campus.

The third convocation of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya was held in Vadodara Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh joined the function virtually as the chief guest.

Deepak Singh, Chief Editor

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Dr. Nabarun <u>Ghos</u>e



Dr. Sunil Kanti Roy



Gurmeet S. Sodhi



Narasimhan Ramani



Dr. Balbir Singh Verma



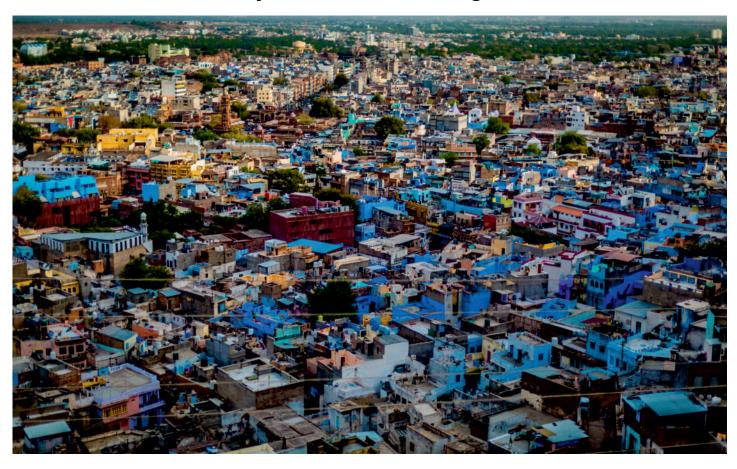
Dr. Anmol S. Kapoor

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#### **ADANI'S PROJECT DHARAVI REDEVELOPMENT**

#### By Editor - Gaurav Singh



dani Group Chairman Gautam Adani described the Dharavi slum redevelopment as the group's "most transformative" project, reimagining Asia's largest slum into India's "most ambitious urban rehabilitation project".

Speaking at the group's Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2025, Adani said, "Our Dharavi Social Mission is uplifting youth through skilling, healthcare and employment programs. Over 1 million people will move from narrow lanes to a township that will feature spacious layouts, dual toilets, open spaces, schools, hospitals, transit hubs and parks."

In the first phase of Dharavi redevelopment project, the government has allocated 40 acres of railway land in Matunga. The land will be used to construct new housing for around 15,000 to 20,000 people who will be relocated during the redevelopment.

The plan also includes construction of multi-story residential and commercial buildings, upgrades to roads and bridges, and development of essential services such as clean water supply, sanitation, hospitals, schools, colleges and recreational centres.

"I promise you that the legacy of the Adani Group will not be reflected in the height of the towers it builds, but in the height of the beliefs we execute on. That is our truth. That is our promise," Adani said at the AGM.

Indeed, as per CPCB's 2021 guidelines for development projects in a "closed" landfill—one that's no longer in operation — facilities such as hospitals, housing and schools cannot be built inside a landfill and a 100-metre no-development-zone from its boundary is mandatory.

But Deonar is no closed landfill; instead, it's an active landfill, spewing toxic gases and discharging leachate (the liquid that drains out of waste

piles, potentially contaminating groundwater, surface water and the soil with toxic organic and inorganic pollutants).

According to a 2024 CBCB report submitted to the principal bench of the National Green Tribunal, an average 6,202 kg of methane is emitted from the Deonar landfill every hour, making it one of the top 22 methane hotspots in India.

Which is why, the state's decision to move Dharavi residents to the Deonar landfill site raises several questions – and eyebrows.

Of the 600-acre sprawl of slums and factories that make up Dharavi, 296 acres have been earmarked for the Dharavi Redevelopment Project (DRP) that aims to transform Asia's biggest slum into a modern urban hub with improved housing and amenities. It proposes to provide in-situ and exsitu rehabilitation to the residents living there. Senior IAS officer SVR Srinivas



is the CEO of the project.

The redevelopment will be carried out by the Dharavi Redevelopment Project Private Limited (DRPPL), now called Navbharat Mega Developers Private Limited (NMDPL), a special purpose vehicle (SPV) in which Adani Properties Private Limited (APPL) holds 80% and the balance 20% is with the state Housing Department's Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA). Srinivas is also the Chairman of NMDPL. As per the records available with the Registrar of Companies, NMDPL's paid-up capital is Rs 400 crore against an authorised capital of Rs 5.000 crore.

Besides Srinivas, BMC commissioner Bhushan Gagrani is also a director in this special purpose vehicle.

There are nine other directors on the board of NMDPL, including Pranav Adani who is also a director on the board of Adani Enterprises. The other eight are senior executives or directors of various Adani Group companies.

Srinivas said while construction work on the Dharavi rehabilitation project will begin by the second half of 2025, NMDPL has a seven-year deadline for rehabilitating the residents, both within and outside Dharavi.

Beneficiaries under the Dharavi project have been divided into two categories: eligible (those who had housing structures built on or before January 1, 2000) and ineligible.

While almost 1.5 lakh "eligible beneficiaries" will get "in situ rehabilitation", meaning free housing units at Dharavi itself, the government announced that nearly 50,000-1 lakh of the 4 lakh "ineligible beneficiaries"

will be given rental units at "nominal" rates at the Deonar dump.

For the remaining "ineligible" residents, the government has earmarked land at Kurla Dairy, Wadala and the salt pans between Kanjurmarg and Mulund.

The BMC handed over 124 acres within the larger 311-acre Deonar landfill to the state government for the rehabilitation project. Since then, no waste has been dumped in the site.

Once the survey of beneficiaries is done, housing department officials said, this land will be handed over to the NMDPL.

The 124-acre land parcel allocated to NMDPL contains nearly 80 lakh MT or 40 per cent of the total solid waste at the dump at present.

The response of each is telling.

DRP CEO Srinivas said that given the "crisis of land" in Mumbai, there are "few options" when it comes to getting large land parcels for development. "In total, we will need an approximate land size of 200-300 acres for the Dharavi Redevelopment Project. Therefore, considering the limitations, we chose the Deonar landfill," he said.

Both the state government and the Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA) said it was NMDPL that selected the site.

Said Mahendra Kalyankar, CEO of SRA: "Even though we own 20% stake, the onus of selecting the land parcel was with DRPPL (NMDPL) since they are a special purpose vehicle responsible for executing the project. The decision of selecting the said site was made by them which was later approved by the Housing

Department." Since the land didn't belong to SRA, he said, the authority did not have much to do when it came to evaluating the norms.

Valsa Nair Singh, Additional Chief Secretary, Housing Department, said, "We only cleared the proposal based on the demand DRPPL (NMDPL) and the CEO (SVR Srinivas) made, as the decision of selecting and allotting a land parcel is being made at the level of project authorities and not at the government level."

A detailed questionnaire was sent to the Adani Group asking why a hazardous landfill at Deonar was chosen for this project. The Adani spokesperson declined to comment.

Having chosen Deonar, an active landfill, as the site for the housing project, another big question remains: who cleans up the site?

Three months after the government directed BMC to hand over the land to the state, it asked the municipal body to carry out bio-mining (scientifically treat the waste) on the 124-acre Deonar land parcel. However, BMC handed over the land parcel in an "asis" condition – with the legacy waste intact—to the state government.

The land on which the Deonar dumpyard stands never belonged to the BMC. It was handed over to the civic authorities by the state's revenue department in the early 20th century, specifically for the purpose of solid waste management. Now this land has been handed back as per the state government's demands in an 'as-is' condition. As a result, the quantity of waste still remains there.

While NMDPL declined to respond to a question on whether it would clean up the site, letters show that it put the onus on the BMC early on.

"Given the land has been used as a dumping ground in the past, appropriate action of cleaning the dump over next two years by BMC may also be tied up and facilitated," read an April 2024 letter from NMDPL's head of land acquisition to Mumbai's Deputy Collector.

What puts another question mark on the proposed housing project in Deonar is its proximity to two upcoming power plants: a Waste to Energy (WTE) plant the state had approved in 2018 and a bio-CNG plant cleared in 2023.

These projects are meant to process

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Deonar's daily waste of 600-700 MT (that's 10 per cent of the solid waste generated by Mumbai daily). In fact, BMC had cited these two plants to express its inability to hand over a larger parcel of land as demanded by NMDPL.

Records show that while the NMDPL had earlier asked for 305 acres for the project, the BMC said it couldn't part with all this land since it required 74 acres for the operation and maintenance of the WTE plant as well as daily solid waste activities.

A December 4, 2023 letter, signed by BMC Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Solid Waste Management, and submitted to the SRA and the NMDPL, reads, "As the MoU (memorandum of understanding) is signed with Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) for the proposed bio-CNG plant at DDG, the transfer of land will attract legal and financial obligations...There is no alternate land available for setting up the WTE plant as well as the bio-CNG plant in Mumbai."

BMC records show that the proposed WTE plant will be less than 50 metres from the DRP site while guidelines of the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs stipulate that such plants must be at least 300-500 m from residential zones —

and located only in land zones dedicated to medium or heavy industry.

WTE plants are bigger and emit ash and smoke, thus affecting the air-quality of a locality, while bio-CNG plants are relatively cleaner.

To why people were being rehabilitated so close to the WTE and bio-CNG plants, Srinivas said, "These parameters will be considered once the EIA (Environment Impact Assessment) is carried out before the construction. The main issue is open dumping of solid waste. Landfills should be sanitary in nature, which means that all waste coming there should be treated scientifically. However, that is not happening at Deonar. The BMC needs to find a solution for that."

However, the EIA that Srinivas referred to is yet to be undertaken. According to replies from the Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA) and the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), no EIA has been done yet.

"No such (EIA) assessments have taken place so far," said the response from the SRA.

The EIA is a mandatory self-assessment that NMDPL was required to do at the planning stage – it's on the basis of this that the government grants an environment clearance.

To a question on the absence of an EIA, Srinivas said, "Before we start construction, we will apply for environmental clearance."

The office of Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, who holds the Housing portfolio, too, said, "All necessary environmental clearances will be taken for construction in the Dharavi project."

When asked why Dharavi residents were being relocated to a land which is so close to a WTE plant — a violation of the CPCB norms – the Adani Group declined to comment.

On the lack of green clearance so far, Avinash Dhakane, member-secretary of the MPCB, the consenting authority for establishments inside landfills, said the state pollution control board was "not consulted before sanctioning the land parcel for the said project".

"The official guidelines state that carrying out any kind of development or infrastructure work that will require an area more than or equal to 20,000 square metres (49.4 acres) will require an environmental clearance, before they can go ahead with it," he said.

### EVENTS



PM receives a rousing welcome by Indian community on his arrival at London, in United Kingdom.

The Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari addressing at inaugural event of the International Sugar Expo 2025 at the 83rd Centennial Annual Convention of STAI at Bharat Mandapam Convention Centre, in New Delhi.





Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh at the flagging off ceremony of Shaurya Bharat Car Rally at Air Force Station, in New Delhi.



The Raksha Rajya Mantri, Shri Sanjay Seth laying a wreath at the Kargil War Memorial, Dras on the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas in Ladakh.

The Director General of Training (DGT), Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Smt. Trishaljit Sethi attends the meeting on Skills study tour of the World Bank team from Central & West Africa at Kaushal Bhawan, in New Delhi.





Goa Shipyard launches ICGS ATAL - the Sixth Fast Patrol Vessel for Indian Coast Guard, in Goa.

### INDIA AND UK SIGN COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC AND TRADE AGREEMENT



ndia and the United Kingdom have taken a major step in building a stronger economic partnership with the signing of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The agreement was signed by Commerce and Industry Minister, Mr. Piyush Goyal and Secretary of State for Business and Trade, Mr. Jonathan Reynolds in the presence of the two Prime Ministers.

This FTA marks a significant milestone in India's engagement with major developed economies and reflects a shared commitment to strengthening economic integration. As the world's fourth and sixth largest economies respectively, India and the UK's bilateral engagement holds global economic significance. The signing of the India-UK CETA follows the successful conclusion of negotiations announced on 6th May 2025. The bilateral trade between the two countries stand at nearly USD 56 billion, with a joint goal to double this figure by 2030.

CETA secures unprecedented dutyfree access for 99% of India's exports to the UK, covering nearly the entire trade basket. This is expected to open new opportunities for labour-intensive industries such as textiles, marine products, leather, footwear, sports goods, toys, and gems and jewellery, alongside fast-growing sectors like engineering goods, auto components, and organic chemicals.

The services sector, a strong driver of India's economy, will also see wideranging benefits. The agreement provides greater market access in IT and IT-enabled services, financial and legal services, professional and educational services, and digital trade. Indian professionals, including those deployed by companies to work in UK across all services sectors, professionals deployed on contracts such as architects, engineers, chefs, yoga instructors, and musicians, will benefit from simplified visa procedures and liberalised entry categories, making it easier for talent to work in the UK.

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Mr. Piyush Goyal, conveyed profound gratitude to the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his visionary leadership and resolute commitment, which have been instrumental in achieving this historic agreement. He stated:

"This CETA marks a milestone in the trade relations between two major economies, setting an ambitious and balanced framework. It unlocks tarifffree access on 99% of Indian exports to the UK, covering nearly 100% of trade value- including labour-intensive sectors advancing the 'Make in India' initiative and setting the stage for bilateral trade to double by 2030. It includes ambitious commitments in goods and services, covering various sectors, while enhancing mobility for Indian professionals by simplifying access for contractual service providers, business visitors, and independent professionals. The innovative Double Contribution Convention will exempt Indian workers and their employers from UK social security contributions for three years, boosting competitiveness and earnings. This FTA will serve as a catalyst for inclusive growth, benefiting farmers, artisans, workers, MSMEs, startups, and innovators while safeguarding India's core interests and accelerating our journey towards becoming a global economic powerhouse."

India has also secured an agreement on the Double Contribution Convention. This will exempt Indian professionals and their employers from social security payments in the UK for up to three years, improving the cost competitiveness of Indian talent. The agreement has been designed to make trade more inclusive. Women and youth entrepreneurs, farmers, fishermen, startups, and MSMEs will gain new access to global value chains, supported by provisions that encourage innovation, promote sustainable practices, and reduce non-tariff barriers.

CETA is expected to boost trade volumes significantly in the coming years, creating jobs, expanding exports, and supporting a deeper, more resilient economic relationship between India and the United Kingdom.

### HARIYALI TEEJ SYMBOLISES FAMILIAL UNITY AND CULTURAL CONTINUITY



he Janapada Sampada Division of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, observed its Foundation Day on the occasion of the festival 'Hariyali Teej' at its New Delhi campus. Marking the onset of the monsoon with vibrant traditions and artistic expression, the celebration featured a range of engaging programmes including exhibitions, folk performances, and a festive bazaar that reflected the rich cultural heritage of Punjab. A special Teej Bazaar was set up as part of the festivities, offering a diverse selection of handicrafts and traditional attire. Stalls showcased indigenous produce from across the country. Stalls featured local delicacies, handmade crafts, and organic produce from various states, ranging from Punjab to Andhra Pradesh. A dedicated mehndi (henna) stall was also arranged for the women employees of IGNCA, adding to the festive spirit. The celebration sought to revive and spotlight regional traditions associated with this seasonal festival. encouraging cultural continuity and community participation. The exhibition titled 'Phulkari: Punjab ke Rang' and the cultural presentation 'Punjab ke Lok Nritya' were among the highlights of the day, offering immersive glimpses into Punjab's vibrant aesthetic and performing traditions.

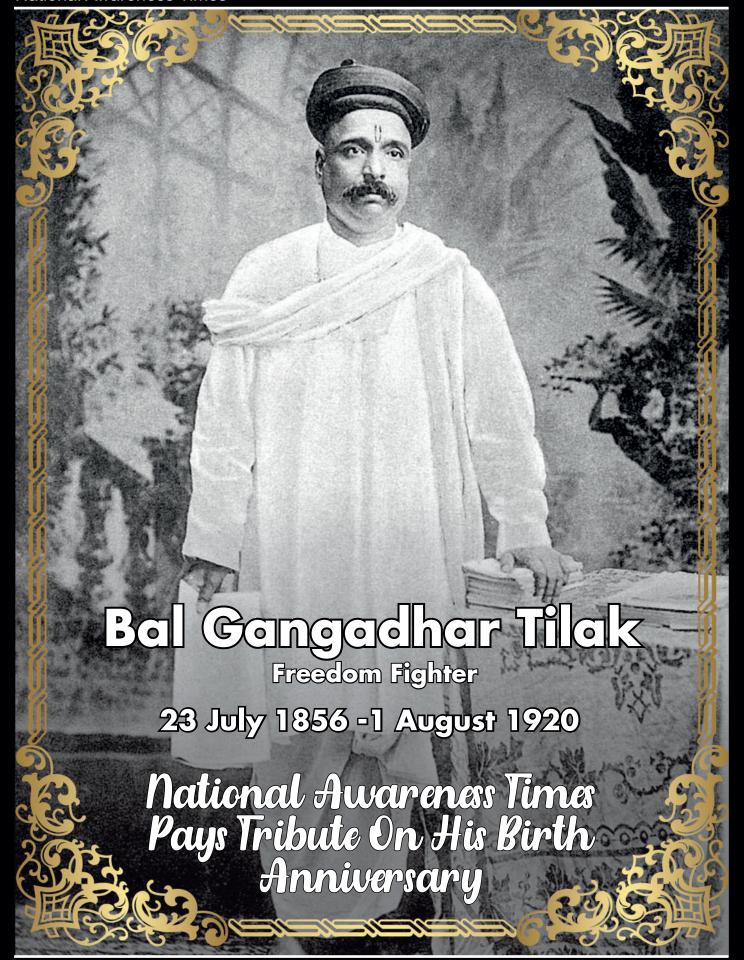
The occasion was graced by Ms. Delina Khongdup, Member, National Commission for Women, as the Chief

Guest. Prof. Subhadra Mitra Channa, Former Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi, attended as the Distinguished Guest, while Smt. Malvika Joshi, noted educationist, storyteller, and writer, was the Guest of Honour. The session was chaired by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, IGNCA. The programme commenced with a welcome address by Prof. K. Anil Kumar, Head of the Janapada Sampada Division, IGNCA. This was followed by a presentation of the division's annual report by Dr. Rembemo Odyuo, who elaborated on the division's work, initiatives, and achievements over the past year.

During his address, Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi remarked that 'Hariyali Teej' stands as a symbol of familial unity. Recalling the legend associated with the festival, he noted that Goddess Parvati observed fasts 108 times to attain Lord Shiva as her spouse, an act emphasizing the deep significance of commitment and togetherness in family life. In the context of contemporary society, where familial bonds and relationships are increasingly fragile and strained, such festivals serve as vital cultural anchors that keep us emotionally and socially connected. Dr. Joshi further emphasised that family and environment are intrinsically linked, and festivals like Teej teach us to remain rooted in these connections, helping us grow from strength to strength. Highlighting the academic vision of IGNCA, he added that even within scholarly pursuits, one division of the institution often undertakes the scale and depth of work that many entire institutions do not attempt-reflecting IGNCA's commitment to both cultural and intellectual richness.

Prof. Subhadra Mitr Channa, former Professor of Anthropology at the University of Delhi, highlighted the deeper cosmological and social significance of Teej, noting that such festivals are often overlooked in academic spaces despite their rich symbolic value. She explained that the festival marks the symbolic union of Shiva and Parvati, representing the cosmic balance between purusha (passive, stabilising energy) and prakriti (dynamic, creative energy). Celebrated during the monsoon, 'Hariyali Teej' reflects themes of regeneration and fertility, yet also serves as a reminder of the need for balance-since unrestrained energy can be destructive. She further observed that festivals like Teej transcend their ritualistic role, serving as markers of time and continuity in societies without dependence on modern calendars. In rural areas, people often reference life events in relation to such festivals, indicating their enduring practical and cultural relevance.

Ms. Delina Khongdup shared that it was a delightful experience to witness the country's diverse and vibrant culture. While 'Teej' is not celebrated in Meghalava, she referred to the 'Behdienkhlam' festival observed during 'Saavan'; as a reflection of the continuity of Indian traditions. Emphasising the need for gender equality, she urged men to be equal partners and called for collective efforts to challenge biases against women. She also stressed the importance of remaining vigilant against crimes and violations of women's rights. Smt. Malvika Joshi congratulated the Janapada Sampada Division for curating vibrant stalls and a thoughtfully designed exhibition. She reiterated the enduring continuity of festivals across India, celebrating their cultural depth.



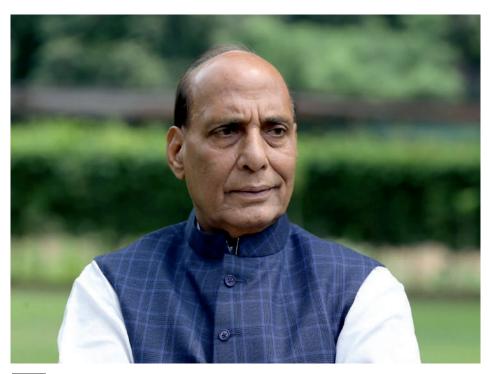
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### STRONGER THE LOGISTICS, STRONGER THE BORDERS: SHRI RAJNATH SINGH



he third convocation of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya was held in Vadodara Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh joined the function virtually as the chief guest.

Addressing the event, Shri Rajnath Singh said that India is witnessing unprecedented transformation in its infrastructure and logistics sectors, which is laying a strong foundation for the country's economic development.\
Further describing the logistics sector as a game changer for 21st century India, Raksha Mantri said that it has immense opportunities for the youth and will play a key role in building a developed India and called upon the youth to take responsibility in building a developed India.

Explaining the importance of logistics, he said that the stronger the logistics services, the stronger our borders remain. When we deliver defence products manufactured in one part of the country or food supplies for soldiers to the border on time, the morale of the border guards becomes strong.

Highlighting the government's initiatives, Shri Rajnath Singh said that initiatives like creating multimodal transport hubs and implementing

mission mode schemes have significantly reduced logistics costs and encouraged data-based decisionmaking.

Addressing the event, Union Minister for Railways and Chancellor of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw highlighted the transformational changes that have taken place in Indian Railways in the last 11 years. He informed that in the last one year alone, the rail network has expanded by 5,300 km, with tunnel construction reaching a total of 368 km.

India has always been among the top economies of the world, barring a period of two and a half centuries in history. He stressed on making India a top economy once again by building human resources focused on every sector through educational institutions like Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya. Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya has signed MoUs with about 40 different industrial and educational institutions. He also suggested preparing research papers focusing on marine engineering in the future and entering into MoUs with marine industries.

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw encouraged

the graduating students to contribute to India's development journey and stressed the importance of innovation in this field. He described Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya as the "engine of development" and urged the students to support the vision of a developed India by 2047.

A total of 194 students received degrees in various subjects at the convocation. One student from each course was awarded the Academic Excellence Award, while Outstanding Project and Best Student Awards were also given.

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Choudhary gave a welcome address and gave information about the institution's performance in the last three years. The programme was attended by Vadodara MP Dr. Hemang Joshi, Rajmata Shubhangini Raje Gaekwad, senior officers of the Indian Army and Railways, students and their parents.

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, a vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is India's first university focused on transport-related education, multidisciplinary research and training. The Prime Minister's vision for Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) is deeply intertwined with the broader objectives of the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan – a plan aimed at revolutionizing India's infrastructure and logistics sector.

The Prime Minister's vision for PM Gati Shakti is to create a holistic, integrated, and efficient infrastructure ecosystem for India, addressing past inefficiencies and propelling the nation towards economic growth and global competitiveness. Core principle of PM Gati Shakti is Integrated planning and coordinated execution, bringing together 16 Ministries on a single digital platform to ensure unified planning and synchronized implementation of infrastructure projects across sectors like railways, roadways, ports, and waterways.



### WAR 2 is India's most EXPENSIVE spy thriller at Rs. 400 crores



The Hrithik Roshan and NTR Jr. starrer War 2 is the most anticipated film in Indian Cinema, and the makers created a storm with the trailer launch just a day ago. There has been tremendous chatter about the visuals and the scale of this YRF Spy Universe Saga, as the makers have crafted six unique action sequences to take the audience on a ride during the Independence Day 2025 weekend. There is a chatter all across of War 2 matching the global standards of filmmaking.

And now we have found the reason for this. A trade source confirms that War 2 is the most expensive and most ambitious film of the YRF Spy Universe. "War 2 is made on a budget of Rs. 400 crores, surpassing the budget of Tiger 3 (Rs. 350 crores),

and Pathaan (Rs. 325 crores). This does not include the marketing budget kept aside for print and publicity," the source told Bollywood Hungama discretely.

We hear that NTR Jr. has drawn a pay cheque of Rs. 70 crores for War 2, whereas Hrithik Roshan has got an upfront fee of Rs. 50 crore, with an additional clause of a back-end deal for profit sharing. Kiara Advani, on the other hand, has got Rs. 15 crores, whereas Anil Kapoor is drawing Rs. 10 crores for War 2. The acting fees alone have resulted in Rs. 150 crores, with Ayan Mukerji getting a hefty cheque of Rs. 30 crores. "The remaining Rs. 220 crores have been invested in mounting the film at an unimaginable scale. The visuals of War 2 will take the audience on an unforgettable ride," the trade source told Bollywood Hungama.

Directed by Ayan Mukerji, War 2 is all set to release on August 14, 2025. The film continues the YRF Spy Universe that started in 2012 with Ek Tha Tiger.

### Disha Patani speaks up for rescued elephant Hari, urges fans to show love and compassion towards animals



In an emotional Instagram story, Disha shared an image of Hari along with a heartfelt message that shines a spotlight on the elephant's painful past and the urgent need for help. Chained and forced to beg for years, Hari's condition is critical. His legs are deformed, his body is fragile, and his spirit bears the scars of long-term cruelty and neglect.

Now in the care of Wildlife SOS, Hari's journey to recovery has just begun. However, the organization has emphasized that time is of the essence. The elephant needs round-the-clock medical attention, specialized treatment, and intensive care to overcome the physical and emotional trauma he has endured.

Disha's gesture is a powerful reminder of the responsibility we all share in protecting voiceless beings. Her call to action echoes louder than ever in a world where animal abuse often goes unnoticed.



# Avocado

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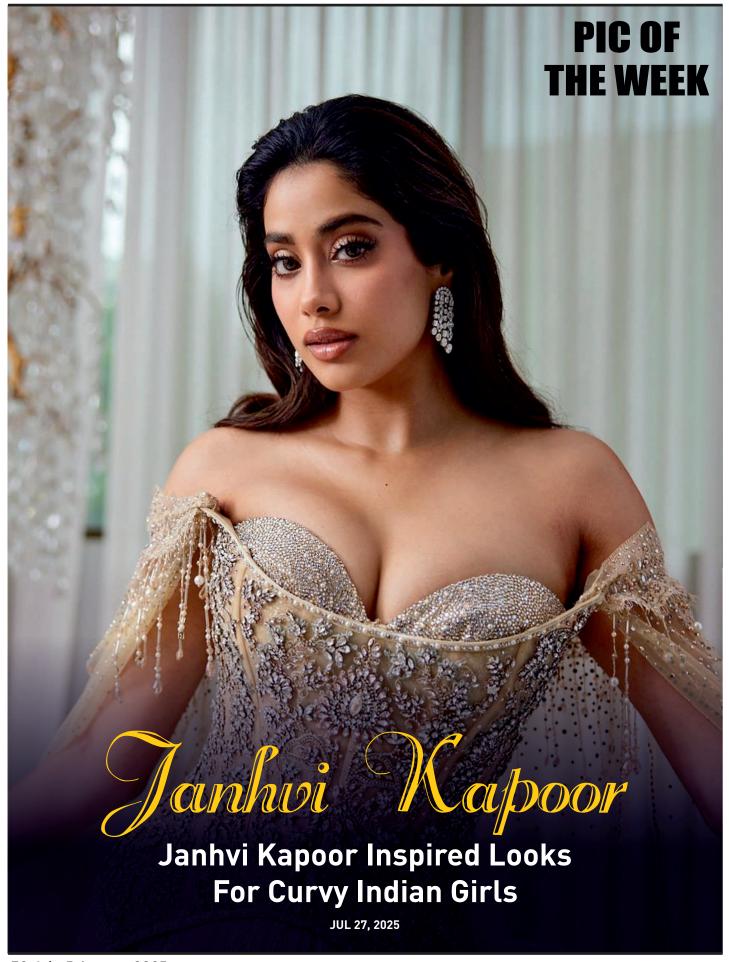
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