

## Mulund gears up for upcoming **Dahi Handi festival**

### ■ Home Times Network

Dahi Handi, also called Krishna Janmashtami, the popular festival of Maharashtra, will be celebrated on September 7, 2023. On this occasion, to celebrate the festival with harmony and brotherhood, the Mulund police held a meeting with Govinda Mandals on Friday, September 1, 2023. The meeting was held under the guidance of Assistant Commissioner of Police Ravindra Dalvi, Senior Police Inspector of Mulund Police Station Kantilal Kothimbire, and Senior Police Inspector of Navghar Police Station Dattatreya Girap. Also present were senior police inspectors from Traffic Police. The meeting was attended by 35 Dahi Handi festival organisers from Mulund East and West.

During the meeting, the Mulund police chalked out guidelines for every Dahi Handi Mandal so that the festival was



celebrated with enthusiasm and without any untoward incident. A senior police official of the Mulund suburb informed that the Dahi Handi festival is organised on roads by several Dahi Handi organisers in every nook and corner of Mulund. As a result, the traffic is often disrupted by huge human pyramids occupying large chunks of the main road, and the crowd makes the situation more challenging to control traffic. Hence, the traffic police had invited Dahi Handi Mandals to co-operate and follow the guidelines so that traffic on Dahi Handi festival is least affected."

The senior police official further informed, "During the meeting, the Dahi Handi Mandals were strictly cautioned not to include any child below 14 years of age. Also, they were instructed to keep medical first aid handy in case of any untoward incident. In addition, they were advised to ask their activists to be vigilant during the Dahi Handi festival to prevent any troublesome happenings. Besides, the rules of loudspeakers at the spot of Dahi Handi were also explained.

The police appealed to the Dahi Mandals to manage the crowd efficiently so that there was no stampede. The police warned that if any Mandal violates the rules, it will not be allowed to participate next year.

**Deadline Time:** Dahi Handi Utsav must be held until 10:00 PM; after that, any Mandal who continues to celebrate the Dahi Handi with loud loudspeakers will be subject to legal action by the police.

## RTO acts tough on wrong-side driving

### IN 8 MONTHS, REPRIMANDS 53 OFFENDERS IN MULUND AND ITS SUBURBS!

### ■ Home Times Network

As per an estimate by the World Bank, India is responsible for 11% of worldwide road accident fatalities. The prime culprits are drivers violating traffic laws, driving on the wrong side of the road, lane-cutting, or overtaking on express highways. Though the penalty for driving on the wrong side of the road is quite high and even includes a three-month imprisonment, rash drivers give a damn to the traffic law. Hence, to teach a bitter lesson to the rash drivers driving on the wrong side of the road, the Mulund RTO conducted a crackdown on errant drivers and registered as many as 53

cases of wrong-side driving in the last 8 months in and around Mulund.

Ajit Sule, senior officer, of Mulund Transport Department, told HOME TIMES, "The traffic department is constantly taking action in Mulund against the wrong-side drivers because wrong-side driving is hazardous to the lives of the drivers as well as other citizens walking through the road. The pedestrian's lives are unnecessarily put in jeopardy." He urged, "Citizens are appealed to abide by the traffic laws and stop driving on the wrong side of road."

When HOME TIMES

contacted a senior Mulund Traffic Department officer, he said, "It is often seen that many drivers drive on the wrong side of the road in Mumbai to hasten to reach their office or other place on time. But the ill-action of the driver not only puts their lives at risk, but it also becomes lethal for innocent pedestrians passing by the road. Hence, the Mulund traffic department unleashed a crackdown on errant drivers driving on the wrong side of the road." He added, "In July, the Mulund RTO nabbed the maximum number of drivers for wrong-side driving. In the past 8 months, a total of 53 cases have been unearthed."

### HOME TIMES VIEW

Although we know that it is a serious violation of the rules, many of us cut corners and escape either by paying a fine or bribing them. There are many ways we can try to bring them to their senses, like impounding their vehicle on the spot, building strong blockers that stop them from going on the wrong side or cancelling their licence for a year with a heavy penalty. If s/he is not an adult, their parents should face punishment, giving the necessary clearance to the police and traffic police to punish offenders on the spot and placing more cameras in such places.

### An Appeal

The traffic department has appealed to the citizens not to drive on the wrong side to reach their destinations in haste. Secondly, drivers must show sympathy on their lives as well as those of others walking on the road.





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# Govt. allows loudspeakers until midnight for just 3 days during Ganesh Chaturthi

## ■ Home Times Network

Dhol, Tasha, and blaring sounds are the major attractions of Ganesh Chaturthi, the biggest festival in Mumbai. However, the same Dhol, Tasha, and loudspeakers became a major disturbance, with the noise level breaking all records and causing a menace to the senior citizens and patients in hospitals. Hence, to curb the noise pollution, the district magistrate has allowed loudspeakers to play until midnight only for three days in the upcoming Ganesh Utsav.

The decision of the district magistrate has dampened the spirits of Ganapati enthusiasts.

There is displeasure among the Sarvajanic Ganesh Coordination Committee members, who plan to write a letter to the Chief Minister requesting to extend the timing of loudspeakers from 3 days to a minimum of 5 days.

Reacting to the district magistrate's decision on loudspeaker permission, a member of the Sarvajanic Ganesh Utsav Mandal said, "Mumbaikars will be celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi this year with tremendous zeal and enthusiasm as the COVID curbs, which played a spoilsport for the last few years, are lifted.

Hence, there is more excitement among the devotees. However, on the flip side, the District Magistrate in Mumbai has spoiled the mood by limiting loudspeakers to be played late till midnight only for three days during the Ganesh festival." "The office bearers of Sarvajanic pandals are disappointed and are preparing to hold a meeting and submit a memorandum to the government in the coming days," he informed.

Last year, the MVA government permitted the use of loudspeakers until midnight for only four days. CM Eknath Shinde attended a Sarvajanic

Ganapati Mandal committee meeting and assured that Ganesh Utsav would be celebrated grandly and directed concerned government authorities and the police department to ease the restrictions.

According to Supreme Court guidelines, loudspeakers cannot be played beyond 10 p.m. in public places with an exemption for 15 days, which is decided by the local administration. Of the 15 holidays declared by the state government, the collector has the right to declare three of them, which include Ganesh Chaturthi, in consultation with the state government.

# Create help desks at all civic hospitals: Guardian Minister Mangal Prabhat

## ■ Home Times Network

A big relief to the patients visiting the civil hospitals and health clinics is that they will no longer have to wander around the hospital seeking assistance. Moved by the complaints of the citizens that they face immense hurdles while visiting the government, the Guardian Minister of Mumbai's suburban district, Mangal Prabhat Lodha, has ordered the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) to establish 'Help Desks' at the main

entrance of civil hospitals and suburban clinics to provide the basic help required for patients' admission or treatment. The help desk initiative has been named Rogi Mitra (Patient's Friend), and cabins will be set up near the main hospital entrances or registration counters.

Lauding the Rogi Mitra initiative, a Mulundkar said, "It is a praiseworthy step by the government because generally it is observed that patients and their families have to face a lot of problems getting admission or



treatment in government hospitals. Due to a lack of necessary information, a lot of time is wasted, and in emergency cases like a child delivery, a heart attack, or a brutal accident, the golden hour is very important. With

the setting up of the help desk, the patients and their families will now get timely and proper guidance for treatment.

Guardian Minister Mangal Prabhat Lodha announced on Wednesday. BMC Commissioner Iqbal Singh Chahal has issued immediate orders to Additional Municipal Commissioner Dr. Sudhakar Shinde to set up help desk cabins in all civil hospitals. In all major hospitals, there will be three staff in the morning, two in the afternoon, and two at

night at the help desk cabin. Similarly, in the suburban hospitals, there will be two staff in the morning and one staff in the afternoon.

A senior BMC medical officer said, "The staff employed at the help desk cabin will be techno-savvy and will have complete knowledge of Hindi, Marathi, English, and other regional languages to help people of all castes, creeds, and religions. The help desk will also be equipped with computers, telephone lines, registration logs, and informational brochures."



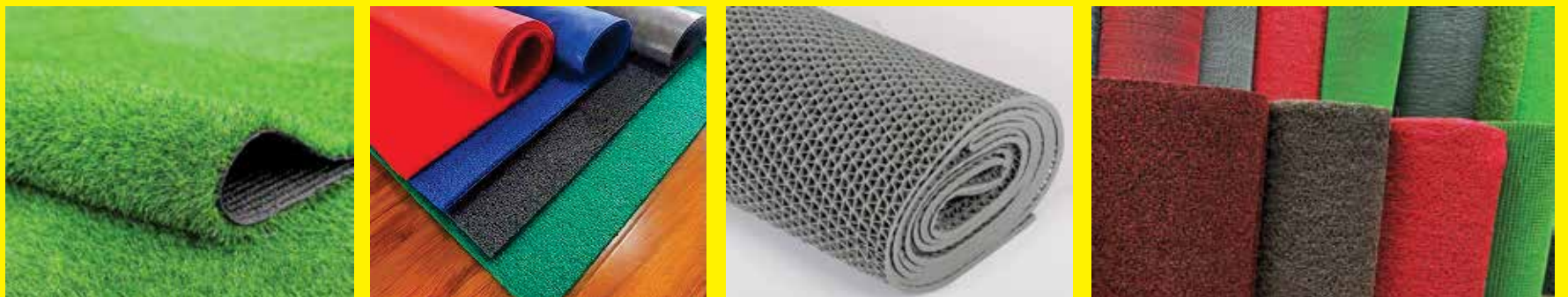


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## EDITORIAL

## Dahi handi organisers must give 'Safety' a priority

*Dahi Handi is one of Mumbai's most vibrant festivals of the year. It will be celebrated next week on the occasion of Krishna Janmashtami. The festival is famous for making human pyramids to break an earthen pot filled with butter or curd and hanging 20–30 feet above the ground. It is the age-old traditional method of observing Krishna Janmashtami in Maharashtra. The group of youth who break the dahi handi are called Govindas.*

*However, the safety of the Govindas is a big challenge. Each year, the media is packed with news of several Govindas being injured; hence, dahi handi celebrations have come under the scanner of the law and social vigilantes. It's a risky business, and several young, naive Govindas have broken limbs and even become paralysed while attempting to break the handi. Hence the Supreme Court stepped in, banning people under the age of 18 from taking part in the dangerous sport and restricting the height of pyramids to 20 feet. Despite that, Mumbai's Govinda refuses to stop their breath-taking efforts.*

*Hence, for the safety of the Govindas, the BJP government in Maharashtra for the first time announced a 2-day holiday so that the Govinda teams get a chance to prepare and they can also work according to the plan. Earlier, Dahihandi was celebrated as a festival, but now it has accorded a status of a sport by the state government. Hence, many organisers have geared up to prioritise the safety of people taking part in a pyramid formation.*

*Earlier, Govinda was celebrated as a festival, but after the state government categorised it as a sports festival, the festival has lost its festival flavour but has become a status symbol and an opportunity to win huge money. The result is that now even young boys dare to participate in the event, risking their lives in the lure of winning the prize money, which has escalated from mere Rs 1001/- or maximum 10,000/- to 1 lakh and 11 lakhs!*

*In the game of Dahi Handi, Govinda's team played against each other in the first place. They showed love and loyalty, but slowly, the question of whether they won or lost has gained prominence. Regrettably, the lax attitude of the government and administration forces the Govinda teams to fall prey to accidents every year.*

*HOME TIMES urges Govindas that even if the organisers do not think about safety, Govindas should not risk their lives and run after this competition. Besides, organisers should provide safety kits to Govindas. Also, the Govindas should play the game with enthusiasm and not keep an eye for competition.*

*Happy Janmashtami to all the readers of HOME TIMES!*

**Hemanshu  
Kothari**



## Mulund Police Station Receives Heartwarming Rakhi Tokens from Dedicated Women Volunteers



### ■ Home Times Network

Recently, the fervour of Raksha Bandhan, a cherished festival that celebrates the enduring bond between siblings, echoed through the alleys of Mulund. Beyond the confines of homes, this significant occasion of sibling affection resonated within the walls of the Mulund Police Station. Here, the customary act of sisters tying rakhis on their brothers' wrists took on a unique twist – women volunteers, driven by a shared sense of community, graced the police officers with rakhis. This heartfelt gesture invoked the spirit of protection and well-being in the fabric of a harmonious society.

Amidst the festive aura that illuminated the markets of Mulund on a vibrant Wednesday, the Mulund Police Station stood as a testament to the unwavering dedication of the police force. Even during this time of sibling bonding, they stood steadfast in their duty. In a heartwarming display of unity, female members of the Bharatiya Janata Party converged at the Mulund Police Station. They revived the time-honoured tradition of tying rakhis to police officers, a gesture that served as a poignant tribute to the force's commitment to upholding law and order, prioritizing the safety of citizens, and placing duty above personal celebrations.

Beyond the façade of festivity,

the police have shown unwavering determination in safeguarding the vulnerable within their community. The establishment of a dedicated "Nirbhaya" squad underscores their proactive stance in ensuring the well-being of women, girls, and the elderly, effectively curbing instances of gender-based injustices. This conscientious effort by the police force has not gone unnoticed. In a touching manifestation of admiration and gratitude, the women volunteers at the Mulund Police Station saluted their uniformed counterparts and tied rakhis, standing in solidarity with their mission to uphold honour and security.

Leading this commendable endeavour is Deepika Ghag, the Mahila Taluka President of the Bharatiya Janata Party. Under her guidance, women activists enthusiastically partook in the ritual of tying rakhis to police officers, pledging their resolute commitment to women's safety and extending heartfelt wishes for the officers' well-being in return.

In its essence, this distinctive celebration at the Mulund Police Station transcends the conventional bounds of Raksha Bandhan, underscoring a connection that surpasses mere familial ties - a connection fortified by duty, protection, and a shared aspiration for a safer society.



# Citizen centric focus through 'Amdar Aplya Dari' initiative

## ■ Home Times Network

Amidst the backdrop of the 'Shasan Aplya Dari' initiative propelled by the Maharashtra state government to elevate citizen engagement, a notable endeavour called 'Amdar Aplya Dari' has sprouted in Mulund. This visionary initiative, inaugurated under the aegis of Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, embodies the essence of enhancing communication between elected officials and their constituents.

Building upon the framework set by the statewide 'Shasan Aplya Dari' campaign, Mulund's MLA, Mihir Kotecha, has pioneered the 'Amdar Aplya Dari' initiative. The inauguration ceremony, graced by Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, underlines the innovation and progress that this initiative encapsulates.

At the heart of 'Amdar Aplya Dari' lies a specially designed mobile unit, replete with essential amenities such as a television, printer, computer,



and seating arrangements, akin to a functional MLA's office. This mobile unit will traverse various sectors, strategically stationed at key intersections, offering citizens an avenue to engage with their elected representatives and address their concerns. Particularly beneficial for those facing challenges accessing the traditional MLA office, this initiative radiates accessibility and responsiveness.

This groundbreaking venture not only minimizes the time and expenses citizens typically invest

in visiting an MLA's office, but also expedites the process of addressing grievances. By bringing legislators closer to the public, 'Amdar Aplya Dari' expedites the resolution of civic issues.

To facilitate effective communication, citizens will receive advance notifications through social media regarding the schedule and location of the 'Amdar Aplya Dari' vehicle. On the designated day, the mobile unit will be stationed at the specified location, primed to engage with constituents.

MLA Mihir Kotecha has elaborated on the 'Amdar Aplya Dari' initiative, underscoring its pioneering nature. He highlights the advanced notification system that empowers citizens to anticipate the mobile unit's presence, complete with all requisite facilities. This initiative aspires to bridge the gap between elected officials and the public, extending communication beyond conventional office confines and nurturing a more inclusive and participatory democracy.

In essence, 'Amdar Aplya Dari' stands as a testament to innovative governance, symbolizing a harmonious fusion of technology, accessibility, and citizen-centric focus. As this initiative charts a course for direct interactions between citizens and their elected representatives, it signifies a significant leap towards responsive and inclusive governance, setting a precedent for future engagements throughout the state.

# Mountaineer Keval Kakka bags State Sports Award

## ■ Home Times Network

Mulundkar celebrated the great news of Mulund's renowned mountaineer Keval Kakka (31), who won the prestigious Shiv Chhatrapati State Sports Awards for being the first Indian male to successfully climb 7 of the 14 highest mountain peaks in the world, including Mt. Everest and Mt. Lhotse, in a record 6 days.

Regarded as the state's highest sports award, Keval received the award at the hands of the honourable Governor

of Maharashtra in a glittering function held in Pune on Monday. The award ceremony was graced by the august presence of eminent personalities, including State Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, and Sports Minister Sanjay Bansode.

Shiv Chhatrapati State Sports Awards for the years 2019–20, 2020–21, and 2021–22 was presented to sportspersons who have achieved remarkable



achievements in sports and other fields. All 118 sportspersons, Divyang (differently abled) sportspersons, and sports coaches were honoured on the occasion.

Keval Kakka made international headlines

and brought laurels to India and Mulund in 2017 when he conquered hoisting the Indian tricolour on the world's highest mountains above 8000 m, i.e., Mt. Everest and Mt. Laotse, in just 6 days and wrote a new record! Besides,

Keval has hoisted the Indian tricolour on the summits of Mount Nachlu Manaslu, Mount Cho Oyu, and Mount Annapurna.

Keval Kakka also owns Beyond Altitude Company, which organises mountaineering expeditions. Keval had organised the Mount Dhaulagiri expedition in collaboration with Imagine Nepal. The expedition had climbers from America, China, Japan, and Canada. Keval Kakka was the only Indian.

# Enhancing Air Quality in Mumbai: A Network of 20 Monitoring Stations

## ■ Home Times Network

Taking a significant stride towards preserving Mumbai's air quality, the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) has initiated a network comprising 20 monitoring stations. This endeavour, seamlessly integrated into a user-friendly online platform, is designed to bolster the well-being of Mumbai's inhabitants by providing real-time tracking of air pollution levels and predictive forecasts. This initiative, encompassing the entire Mumbai metropolitan region, extends its benefits to areas like Mulund West.

Unveiled during the India Clean Air Summit 2023, organized by the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy, this innovative

Air Quality Early Warning System is accompanied by an informative web portal. This digital resource hosts an extensive repository of data, including real-time updates and future pollution projections for 24 locations within the Mumbai metropolitan area. Impressively, IITM has harnessed data from a far-reaching network of 420 air quality monitoring stations spanning prominent Indian cities such as Delhi, Pune, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Kolkata, and, naturally, Mumbai. This endeavour holds global significance due to its rarity in amassing such comprehensive pollution data. Noteworthy challenges were encountered during the system's implementation in Mumbai,

underscoring IITM's dedication to precision. The portal serves as an alert mechanism for citizens, empowering them to take proactive measures against the health hazards posed by pollution. This tool holds particular importance for vulnerable demographics like senior citizens and children, who are more susceptible to respiratory ailments.

Dr. Sachin Ghude, a distinguished scientist at IITM, accentuates the pivotal role citizens can play in reducing pollution. He advocates for housing societies to lead the way by installing cost-effective sensors. This collaborative effort not only contributes to pollution reduction but also empowers local authorities to enforce effective pollution

control measures.

The expansive network of monitoring stations encompasses a total of 24 strategically positioned across the metropolitan area. Among these, 20 air quality monitoring stations are located within Mumbai, encompassing key locales like Navy Nagar, Malad (East), Borivali (East), Deonar, Powai, Mulund (West), Bandra Kurla Complex, and Chakala. The remaining four stations are situated in Mahape, Vasai, Nerul, and Kalyan.

Dr. Pratima Singh, an Air Quality Scientist at Seastep, underscores the indispensable significance of this comprehensive monitoring system in the ongoing endeavours to ameliorate air quality in Mumbai.

## SWIFT LOCAL RESPONSE THWARTS METER CABIN INFERNO

## ■ Home Times Network

A sudden and intense fire erupted within the meter cabin of Girijabai Co-operative Housing Society, located in the Tata Colony area of Mulund East. The blaze engulfed the entire meter cabin, reigniting concerns about safety due to its questionable placement within the building and the usage of subpar materials in its construction.

The incident unfolded during the late hours of the night, catching residents unaware in their slumber. The outbreak of fire caused immediate chaos. While the fire department was alerted and en route, resourceful locals took prompt action to rein in the flames even before the arrival of firefighters. Upon the fire brigade's arrival, a comprehensive assessment of the meter cabin was conducted to ensure complete extinguishment.

The surge in meter cabin fires can be attributed to various factors, including the utilization of inferior wiring materials, abrupt spikes in electrical load, and the often-ill-considered positioning of meter cabins.

This precarious situation was glaringly illustrated by the recent blaze at Girijabai Cooperative Housing Society, nestled near Tata Colony in the Mulund East district. The distressing incident transpired on a Saturday night, precisely on August 26, around 11:00 PM. The fire rapidly engulfed the meter cabin, rapidly expanding its scope.

Witnessing the menacing flames, the local community swiftly evacuated the entire housing society. The ferocity of the blaze necessitated immediate intervention. Thanks to the proactive involvement of local residents,

the fire was partially subdued prior to the fire brigade's arrival. Consequently, power to the entire building was cut off as a precautionary measure.

Although the precise cause of the fire remains enigmatic, preliminary assessments suggest a potential short circuit. In the aftermath of the incident, the affected building endured a subsequent day without electricity, casting a pall over the residents' daily lives. Distressed citizens have expressed apprehensions about the inappropriately positioned meter cabin within the building's structure and the utilization of substandard wiring during its construction.

The citizens have appealed to Mulundkars to kindly check quality and the durability of the wiring in their society so that the same incident does not occur in Mulund.





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Writer of two books on Personality Development (which are taught in Gujarati medium schools in Maharashtra) For personal consultation, You can contact her on: **+91 93234 30355 or desaisunita02@gmail.com**



### Tarot readings, predictions & tips for the week (02<sup>nd</sup> September - 08<sup>th</sup> September 2023)



**Mesh / Aries (A, L, E)**

Prediction: You will be accepted by all your dear and near people. Someone will help you nicely. Advice: (i) Try to be friendly with all known and unknown people. (ii) Be humble and help elderly people. (iii) Pay attention to your memory.



**Kark / Cancer (Da, Ha)**

Prediction: You will face some difficult situation. You will spend money on useless things. Advice: (i) Be optimist and social and selfless. (ii) Feed birds and animals. (iii) Pay attention to insight.



**Tula / Libra (Ra, Ta)**

Prediction: Your satisfaction will give you peace of mind and you will work nicely. Advice: (i) Share your belongings with your dear and near people. (ii) Reading will help you so read and understand what you read. (iii) Pay attention to your profit.



**Makar / Capricorn (Kha, Ja)**

Prediction: You will have to work very hard this week to achieve your goal. Advice: (i) Donate some cash to needy. (ii) Use things indigo in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your love and care.



**Vrishabh / Taurus (Ba, Va, U)**

Prediction: You will not get support from the people whom you trust. Situation will be more powerful than planning. Advice: (i) Take quick decisions and take prompt actions. (ii) Try to follow the time and situation as it is. (iii) Pay attention to new relations.



**Sinha / Leo (Ma, Tt)**

Prediction: You will not be happy with anything or anyone. You will feel bound. Advice: (i) Visit some holy place or temple. (ii) Feeding birds or animals will help you. (iii) Pay attention to your new ideas.



**Vrushchik / Scorpio (Na, Ya)**

Prediction: You will get what you want and some hidden truth will be disclosed by someone. Advice: (i) Listen to the people carefully and clearly. (ii) Do your work yourself. Don't trust anyone. (iii) Pay attention to your responsibilities.



**Kumbh/Aquarius (Ga, Sa, Sha, Sh)**

Prediction: This week is good for you and you will get solutions of many problems. Advice: (i) Take care while crossing the roads and talking. (ii) Use things green in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your work.



**Mithun / Gemini (Ka, Gha)**

Prediction: You will be happy with your originality and flexibility. Someone will try to cheat you. Advice: (i) Your experience will be your teacher remember. (ii) Your feelings and strength will remain stable. (iii) Pay attention to your investment.



**Kanya / Virgo (Pa, Tha, Nn)**

Prediction: You will be strong enough to rectify your past mistakes and that will help you a lot. Advice: (i) You should try to understand the situations. (ii) Take advice from whom you trust. (iii) Pay attention to your will power.



**Dhanu/Sagittarius (Bha, Dha, Fa)**

Prediction: Your greed will become a hurdle in your way of happiness and harmony. Advice: (i) Feed birds and animals. (ii) Use things grey in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your kindness.



**Meen / Pisces (Da, Cha, Tha, Za)**

Prediction: Money fluctuations are there and something unwanted things are there in this week. Advice: (i) Haste is waste so go slow. (ii) Use things yellow in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your faith.



# BMC TO PROVIDE MINI FIRE ENGINES TO MUMBAI FIRE BRIGADE

## ■ Home Times Network

The Mumbai fire brigade, which has been facing problems entering the narrow lanes of Mumbai city, can now heave a sigh of relief as the BMC has decided to provide five mini fire engines by the end of December 2023. The tender process for purchasing these vehicles is complete, and the administration expects to delivery by December 2023. The BMC has spent more than 7 crores on buying mini fire engines.

A senior officer of Mumbai Fire Brigade (MFB) delighted at the approval of the mini fire engines proposal, said, "Better late than

never. It is a big relief, as the fire brigade officers' have been demanding mini-fire tenders since 2014; the civic body-maintained silence. However, after the Kalbadevi fire tragedy, which claimed the lives of four senior fire officials as fire engines failed to penetrate the building; hence, fire officers risked their lives and four officials lost their lives. After the tragedy, BMC woke up from its slumber and gave a nod to mini fire engines."

The highlight of these compact fire engines is that they are specifically designed to navigate through narrow lanes, a common challenge that often obstructs the timely

arrival of conventional fire engines, as explained by a fire department official. These vehicles will have a foamy water tank of one thousand liters. If there is an oil fire at the incident site or it spreads, foamy water can be sprayed, which will control the fire quickly.

Another MFB fire officer said that the tenure of the fire brigade's five big vehicles is 5 thousand working hours or 10 years, and the Mumbai fire brigade has a total of 270 vehicles, including all the small and big vehicles. In the coming days, after the arrival of these vehicles, it will be easier for the officials to put out the fire in the slum area.

## Mulund youth defrauded Rs 1 lakh in a work-from-home scam!

## ■ Home Times Network

For the past several weeks, HOME TIMES has been publishing cyber thug fraud cases and urging citizens to be vigilant and avoid clicking strange and unidentified links. However, people do not pay attention and pay a price. In yet another case, a Mulund resident got into the trap of cyber thugs who initially paid money for a small deposit, but later, when the youth deposited a hefty amount, the company stopped paying the money. The youth lost more than one lakh. The Mulund Police have registered a case.

According to the Mulund

Police, Mulund resident Vipul Upadhyay received a message on his WhatsApp number from a woman called Trisha on August 4. The message invited people who sit idle at home or need a part-time job to increase their monthly income. The message guaranteed to provide good income without doing any marketing or skilled work.

The message provided a link to a Telegram group. Excited at the lucrative offer, Vipul clicked the link. No sooner did Vipul click the link than he was welcomed to join the group and asked to register. Vipul did as instructed and made a small

deposit. Later, to win Vipul's confidence, the company asked him a few simple questions, and Vipul replied with all the correct answers. For every correct answer, money was deposited into Vipul's bank account. In his greed to earn a large sum in a short time, Vipul increased his deposit amount. However, after he deposited a large amount, the company stopped sending him money. When the victim did not get back the money deposited in exchange for the task, he realised that he has been cheated.

Vipul reported the matter to the Mulund police. The Mulund Police have registered a case

against an unidentified person under Sections 419 and 420 of the IPC and IT Act and are searching for the accused.

### An Appeal

In an appeal to the citizens, the Mumbai police said, "The work-from-home scam these days is conning many people. The scam involves attracting victims with work from home and then further luring them to invest huge sums of money. It is often seen that in task jobs, initially, the company pays huge amounts into the bank accounts of the people. Due to this, most citizens trust and deposit a huge amount, only to later pay a huge price for their greed.

## ANOTHER MULUNDKAR BECOMES A VICTIM!

In another similar work-from-home scam, Pragyesh Rokde, a resident of Mulund East, received a WhatsApp message on August 23 around noon from an online company. Like Vipul, Pragyesh was also lured to earn good money sitting at home by doing simple tasks. Pragyesh received a link, which he clicked and filled out.

Prajnesh was asked to join a group on the Telegram app. Initially, Pragyesh was assigned a simple task and won instant money. For each task, Rs 50 was awarded, and thus Rs 150 was deposited in Pragyesh's

bank account. After winning the first stage, Pragyesh was asked to deposit Rs 500, and in exchange, he would be awarded Rs 800. Pragyesh agreed and won Rs 800. The amount was deposited into his bank account.

In the third attempt, Pragyesh deposited Rs 2000 and, in return, won Rs 2500. After a few days, he received a call from an executive of the same company. He asked Pragyesh to pay Rs 91,000 in several instalments in one account and take up the work. He did the same and completed the given task. But alas, the winning money was not deposited

in Pragyesh's bank account.

Hence, Pragyesh contacted that executive, who told him to pay some more and that after the task; money along with the commission would be credited into his account. But Pragyesh suspected that the company had devious plans. Hence, he cancelled all transactions and informed Cyber Cell. After filing an online complaint with Cyber Cell, Pragyesh was directed to file another complaint at Navghar Police Station. The Navghar police are hunting the culprits.



# Mumbai on the verge of water crisis

## ■ Home Times Network

Mumbai, known for its monsoon season and abundant rains, is grappling with a severe water shortage crisis this year. Despite the anticipation of filling up the city's dams during the rainy season, Mumbaikars are facing a challenging predicament.

Historically, August has been the month when Mumbai's reservoirs overflow with rainwater, ensuring a plentiful water supply. However, this year, the situation

has taken an unexpected turn. While the rains have arrived, they have been sporadic and insufficient to replenish the previously depleted reservoirs. Consequently, the spectre of a water shortage looms over Mumbai, even during the monsoon season.

The situation has been compounded by this year's August, traditionally a wet month, turning unusually dry. Typically, by this time, Mumbai's lakes and reservoirs are brimming

with rainwater. Sadly, this year, they are only at around ninety percent capacity. The heavy rains that did come arrived late in the month, further heightening concerns among Mumbaikars.

Acknowledging the gravity of the situation, the Mumbai Municipal Corporation is taking proactive measures to address the impending crisis. They have initiated a project to collect water from the Sanjay Gandhi National Park and redirect it to

the Bhandup complex, ensuring optimal use of available water resources within Mumbai and its surrounding areas.

The seriousness of the situation cannot be overstated. The ongoing rainfall deficit could lead to a significant water crisis, exacerbating the drought conditions already affecting various parts of the state. If the water levels in the seven reservoirs supplying Mumbai continue to plummet, the water crisis facing Mumbaikars will

become inevitable.

In light of these challenges, the civic administration earnestly appeals to all Mumbaikars to use water responsibly. Conserving this precious resource is a collective responsibility during these trying times. The city eagerly hopes for a change in weather patterns and a return to the abundant monsoon rains that sustain Mumbai's water supply. Until then, prudent water usage must remain the priority.

# Resurgence of Gangster Menace: Apprehension Grips Patra Chawl in Mulund

## ■ Home Times Network

The resurgence of terror instigated by a notorious gangster within Mulund's Patra Chawl neighbourhood has once again manifested, underscoring the inadequacy of prior efforts to curtail his influence. This criminal figure has extended his dominion to the audacious point of invading residences and inflicting physical harm upon his victims.

The unsettling presence of this criminal, who had been previously suppressed within the confines of Mulund, has reemerged with an unsettling intensity. He has implemented a stranglehold over property transactions in the vicinity, imposing an edict that no such transaction can transpire without his explicit authorization. Those who dare to contravene this edict are met with severe threats and

brutal attacks. This pervasive atmosphere of trepidation has cast a palpable pall over the local community.

As disclosed by both law enforcement authorities and residents, Swapnil Bohra, a denizen of the Patra Chawl enclave in Mulund's Navghar region, has propagated a reign of terror within the community for a number of years. His criminal record is replete with instances of assault, and he has faced legal ramifications in recent times. Notwithstanding having served a sentence for his actions, Bohra is presently striving to reestablish his hegemony in the Navghar vicinity of Mulund.

On the 23rd of August, 2023, an individual named Ashok Gosavi visited the Anand Nagar sector of Patra Chawl with the intent of exploring rental options on behalf of a friend.

During the course of assessing available accommodations, an unexpected and unwelcome presence manifested in the form of Swapnil Bohra. Bohra proceeded to hurl invectives at Ashok Gosavi and issued menacing warnings, asserting his dominion over property transactions in the locale. Deeply perturbed by this altercation, Ashok Gosavi promptly lodged a complaint against Bohra at the Navghar police station.

Subsequent efforts to mediate the dispute via telephonic communication with Bohra only served to exacerbate matters, further fanning the flames of his anger. Later that same evening, Bohra audaciously entered Ashok Gosavi's residence, launching a physical assault characterized by kicks and wanton destruction of property. In a menacing display, Bohra

even threatened Gosavi that he would be killed by a sword, explicitly threatening Ashok Gosavi's life while referencing the filed police complaint. Fortunately, Ashok Gosavi's associates managed to defuse the situation by assuring Bohra that property transactions would not be pursued without his authorization. This reassurance prompted Bohra to depart from the scene in a state of heightened agitation. The entire sequence of events was promptly reported to the appropriate authorities.

Swift and decisive action by the Navghar police ensued, culminating in the apprehension of Swapnil Bohra on charges of assault and making threats. However, the investigation remains ongoing as efforts are directed toward unearthing additional details and insights pertaining to the incident.



# Four held for transporting cows to slaughterhouse

## ■ Home Times Network

The Navghar Police have registered a case against four people who were illegally trafficking cows to the slaughterhouse and had brutally tied the cows inside a tempo in a cruel state. Navghar Police have also seized the tempo and are

investigating the matter further. According to the Navghar Police, a few days ago they received a tip-off that four cows from Mumbai are being transported in a tempo in a brutal condition to the slaughterhouse. A senior officer of the Navghar police informed, "We

laid a trap as per the tip-off. We did a strict Nakabandi at the Anand Nagar toll booths and patiently waited for the culprit to arrive. After a long wait, we witnessed a tempo (MH 01 CV 3709) and intercepted the tempo for interrogation. On inspecting the temperature, we witnessed

four cows brutally tied and placed in a poor state."

Navghar Police have registered a case against Saif Mohammad Ismail Sheikh and four people. Currently, Navghar Police have taken Tempo into custody and are investigating the matter further.

# Invisible Jewellery theft shocks Mulund resident

## ■ Home Times Network

In a shocking theft case, gold and diamond jewellery worth Rs 48,000/- was mysteriously stolen from the safe cupboard of a Mulund resident without any signs of intrusion or forced entry. The Mulund police are hunting the

invisible jewel thief!

According to Mulund Police, a 45-year-old Mulund West resident residing at MG Road in Mulund West reported jewellery theft in her house after a long spell of the theft. The victim said, "I was not aware of the jewellery theft in my

house until a few days ago, when I opened the safe of my cupboard to wear my gold jewellery. I was shattered to witness my jewellery being missing."

She added, "I did not rush for a police complaint, but I searched meticulously in my

house. However, after I failed to locate my jewellery, I suspected that some stranger may have sought mysterious entry into my house without my knowledge and escaped with the jewellery. Hence, later, after a few days of the theft, I complained."

In her complaint, the victim told the police that the stolen gold jewellery included diamond earrings worth Rs 12,000 and a gold ring worth Rs 36,000. The Mulund Police have registered a case under Section 380 of the IPC and are hunting for the accused.

# Reckless driving kills Biker near Airoli bay

## ■ Home Times Network

Tragedy struck in the vicinity of Airoli Bay, Mulund, as a 34-year-old motorcyclist named Sumit Gauri lost his life in a collision with a rickshaw due to the rickshaw driver's failure to adhere to traffic regulations. The incident occurred as Gauri was heading towards Mulund, leading to the subsequent apprehension of the rickshaw operator, Ved Prakash Sukhlal.

At approximately 10:00 AM on August 28, the Mulund Police received an urgent distress call via wireless communication, reporting a motorcycle accident on the road leading to South Channel Mulund near Airoli Bay. Responding promptly, the police arrived at the scene to find an overturned rickshaw in the middle of the roadway, along with a nearby motorcycle tragedy. Sumit Gauri was found unconscious in a pool of blood beside his motorcycle.

In addition to Gauri's critical condition, both the rickshaw's passengers and the rickshaw driver, Sukhlal, sustained



injuries. Swiftly, the injured individuals were transported to Mulund's Veer Savarkar Hospital. Unfortunately, Sumit Gauri succumbed to his injuries before receiving medical attention, while the rickshaw's passengers and Sukhlal received necessary medical care.

Subsequent interviews with the rickshaw's passengers revealed that the accident occurred due to Sukhlal's reckless driving behaviour. Sukhlal had been weaving erratically at high speed, causing

Gauri, who was trailing the rickshaw on his motorcycle, to lose control. As a result, Gauri's motorcycle collided forcefully with the rickshaw's right side, leading to the rickshaw overturning and Gauri colliding with a road divider.

Tragically, Gauri lost his life at the accident scene. Given the circumstances, the police have registered a case against Sukhlal under the Motor Vehicle Act for reckless driving resulting in a fatality and endangering the lives of others.

This incident serves as a poignant reminder of the peril posed by some rickshaw drivers who neglect traffic regulations and engage in reckless driving. Just days earlier, another incident in Mulund's Anand Nagar toll naka area involved an unlicensed rickshaw driver causing the death of his friend. These consecutive tragic events underscore the pressing need for stringent law enforcement measures to address the issue of reckless rickshaw driving and prioritize public safety on the roads.





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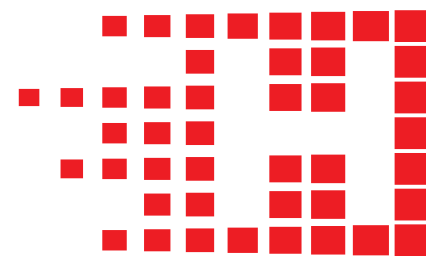
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